

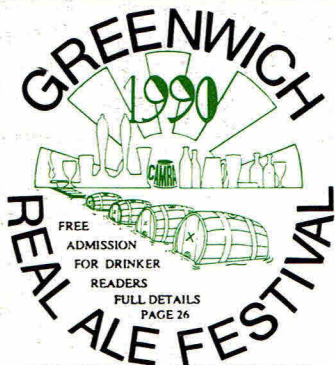
June
1990

LONDON



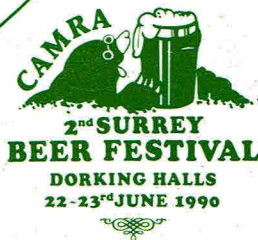
25p

DRINKER



BOROUGH HALL, ROYAL HILL, SE10
28·29·30 JUNE

FULLERS CHISWICK see p8
TRAIL EXTENDED



40 REAL ALES & CIDERS
DORKING HALLS REIGATE ROAD, DORKING
11am-5pm admission £1.00, 5.30pm-11pm £2.50
NO ADMISSION AFTER 10.00pm, OR TO UNDER 18's
SOUVENIR FESTIVAL GLASS FREE ON ADMISSION
HOT & COLD FOOD AVAILABLE AT ALL SESSIONS
NOT FAR FROM APT DORKING STATION

Vol 12

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

No 5

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.

OUTLETS - EAST and SOUTH EAST PUBS

EC1 ARTILLERY ARMS
EC1 BETSY TROTWOOD
EC1 CITY PRIDE
EC1 EAGLE
EC1 HAND & SHEARS
EC1 HORSESHOE
EC1 PLEASANT & FIRKIN
EC1 SEKFORDE ARMS
EC1 THOMAS WETHERED
EC2 FLEETWOOD
E1 FISH & RING
E2 SHIP & BLUE BALL
E9 ROYAL STANDARD
E10 DRUM
E11 NORTHCOTE
E14 QUEENS HEAD
E17 COLLEGE ARMS
E17 COPPERMILL
SE1 ANCHOR & HOPE
SE1 FOUNDERS ARMS
SE1 GEORGE INN
SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN
SE1 HORNIMAN AT HAYS
SE1 KINGS ARMS
SE1 LEATHER EXCHANGE
SE1 MARKET PORTER
SE1 SOUTHWARK TAVERN
SE1 WELLINGTON
SE1 WHEATSHEAF
SE3 BRITISH OAK
SE5 PHOENIX & FIRKIN
SE7 McDONNELLS
SE8 DOG & BELL
SE8 ROYAL GEORGE
SE9 PARK TAVERN
SE9 ROYAL ELTHAM
SE10 ASHBURNHAM ARMS
SE10 BRITISH SAILOR
SE10 FROG & RADIATOR
SE10 HARDY'S
SE13 FOX & FIRKIN
SE16 BLACKSMITHS ARMS
SE16 MANOR TAVERN
SE16 MOBY DICK
SE17 TANKARD
SE18 EARL OF CHATHAM
SE18 GATEHOUSE
SE18 MELBOURNE ARMS
SE18 PRINCESS OF WALES
SE18 VILLAGE BLACKSMITH
SE19 RAILWAY BELL
SE19 ROYAL ALBERT
SE20 ANERLEY ARMS
SE20 HOPE EXCHANGE
SE22 CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN
SE24 COMMERCIAL
SE24 PRINCE REGENT
SE25 GOAT HOUSE
SE25 PRINCE OF DENMARK
SE25 SHIP
SE27 HOPE
SE27 GIPSY QUEEN

BEXLEY, BLUE ANCHOR
CROYDON, LION
THORNTON HEATH, FOUNTAIN
HEAD
THORNTON HEATH, WHEAT
SHEAF

OFF TRADE

E4 Waltham Wines, 72 Sewardstone Road.
SE3 Bitter Experience, 128 Lee 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
WC1 CITTY OF YORKE
WC1 HANSLER ARMS
WC1 LAMB
WC1 MARLBOROUGH ARMS
WC1 MOON
WC1 PERCY ARMS
WC1 PAKENHAM ARMS
WC1 PRINCESS LOUISE
WC1 RUGBY TAVERN
WC1 SUN
WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR
WC2 GEORGE IV
WC2 LYCEUM
N1 COMPTON ARMS
N1 EARL OF RADNOR
N1 FLOUNDER & FIRKIN
N1 GEORGE IV
N1 GEORGE & VULTURE
N1 HEMINGFORD ARMS
N1 KINGS HEAD, 59 Essex Road.
N1 LORD WOLSELEY
N1 MALT & HOPS
N1 MARQUESS TAVERN
N1 PRINCE ALBERT
N1 PRINCE ARTHUR
N2 OLD WHITE LION
N2 WINDSOR CASTLE
N4 MARLERS
N4 MORTIMER ARMS
N4 OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH
N4 WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
N7 ADMIRAL MANN
N7 FAT HARRY'S
N7 FLOUNDER & FIRKIN
N8 TOLL GATE
N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN
N12 TILTED GLASS
N15 GOAT
N15 K. K. McCools
N16 ROSE & CROWN

N16 TANNERS HALL
N17 BOAR
N17 ELBOW ROOM
N17 NARROW BOAT
N19 DOG
N19 J. J. MOONS
N20 BULL & BUTCHER
N20 CAVALIER
N21 DOG & DUCK
N22 MOON UNDER WATER
N22 NELSON
BARNET, ALEXANDRA
BARNET, MOON UNDER WATER
BARNET, WEAVER
EAST BARNET, CAT & LANTERN
ENFIELD, JOLLY BUTCHERS
ENFIELD, KING & TINKER
ENFIELD, KINGS HEAD
ENFIELD, OLD WHEATSHEAF
NEW BARNET, BUILDER ARMS

OUTLETS - NORTH-WEST PUBS

NW1 DUCK INN
NW1 GLOUCESTER ARMS
NW1 VICTORIA
NW3 FLASK TAVERN
NW3 WELLS HOTEL
NW4 CHEQUERS
NW4 WHITE BEAR
NW7 RAILWAY TAVERN
NW8 CROCKERS
NW9 GEORGE
NW9 J. J. MOONS
NW10 GRAND JUNCTION ARMS
HAREFIELD, PLOUGH
HARROW, KINGSFIELD ARMS

OFF TRADE

N1 Beer Shop, Pitfield Street.
NW6 Grog Blossom, 235 West End Lane.

CLUBS

WC1 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
UNION, Malet Street
WC2 L.S.E. Houghton Street

OUTLETS - SOUTH WEST and WEST PUBS

SW1 BARLEY MOW
SW1 BUCKINGHAM ARMS
SW1 FOX & HOUNDS
SW1 MORPETH ARMS
SW1 ORANGE BREWERY
SW1 PAVIOURS ARMS
SW1 RED LION
SW1 UNICORN, Victoria Place (above Station Concourse)
SW2 HOPE & ANCHOR
SW3 ROSE
SW3 SURPRISE
SW4 RAILWAY
SW4 ROSE & CROWN

EDITORIAL

We are very fortunate in our area (S.W. London) to have a heavy concentration of Young's pubs as well as three superb Fuller's houses. All our supporters have their favourite pubs and I am no exception. I deliver this magazine to a dozen pubs and I rarely venture beyond these. Almost without exception they are Young's houses with friendly, conscientious licensees whose premises merit their inclusion in our Good Beer Guide year after year. When the opportunity arose for us to entertain these same landlords at our recent beer festival, it was interesting to hear their comments about the other independent breweries' products. Almost without exception, they said that their company's draught beers would hold their own with the competitors.

However, the Big Six landlords present were looking forward to tasting some beers of real quality for a change. They had the added incentive of being able to offer a guest beer to their customers on May 1st. As a customer who drinks a lot of Courage Best Bitter during the week, I had a vested interest in introducing my own landlord to some of my personal favourites. When a friendly Bass Charrington landlord (usually a lager drinker) found an independent bitter much to his liking and asked us about an order for May 1st we knew that our efforts would be worthwhile. Now at Clapham North the beer hunter can sup quality Exmoor Gold (£1.20) from Somerset in The Railway (Charrington) or top quality Youngs at the Hope & Anchor on Acre Lane. Visitors to Clapham South can venture to the Nightingale (Youngs) The Duke of Devonshire (Youngs) and then to The Prince of Wales, Cavendish Road (Courage) for the superb GFB (£1.10) from the Hop Back Brewery, Salisbury.

Other landlords have more of a restricted choice. Stories and rumours are rife. For example, of tenancy agreements binding for 20 years being rushed through the Big Brewers. If the landlord signs, he might have signed away his right to a guest beer; he might find he now has a barrelage agreement, which means he has to pay the brewery compensation if sales of a guest beer causes the host brewery sales to drop below a certain level. He/She is then offered beers from the brewery's approved list; probably something exciting and unusual like Ruddles, Courage Best or John Smiths.

Unless we are very careful, instead of improving the choice for us, the consumer, we will find that the bully-boy tactics of the Big Brewers, will only restrict that choice. Having been beaten into submission by the representations (and bribes) of the brewers, don't rely on the government to help us again, either.

Even so, this month will prove a very interesting one, for those who travel around the pubs of the capital. If you spot an unusual guest beer, please keep us informed through 'Real Beer in London Update', to be found elsewhere in this issue. For those of us who travel further afield, some real surprises in previously uninspired drinking areas await us. Young's beers in Worthing for instance (Wheatsheaf, Old House at Home and Egremont). The opportunities for Youngs and Fullers should be enormous and, providing their potential outlets have real freedom of choice, their superb beers will give them a real advantage over their rivals.

Chris Cobbold

P.S. Please support us by boycotting all Whitbread beers, which of course now include 'Boddingtons'. (Now Whitbread Manchester).

BRUCE'S BREWERY

'Frog Od's Sake Buy Me A Firkin Pint'

LIVE MUSIC
MOST NIGHTS

SUPERB
HOME COOKED
FOOD
AVAILABLE

BREWERY
TOURS
ARRANGED



HOME BREWED
BEERS

TAVISTOCK
BITTER

BULLFROG
BEST BITTER

DOGBOLTER
STRONG ALE

GUEST BITTERS
ALWAYS
AVAILABLE

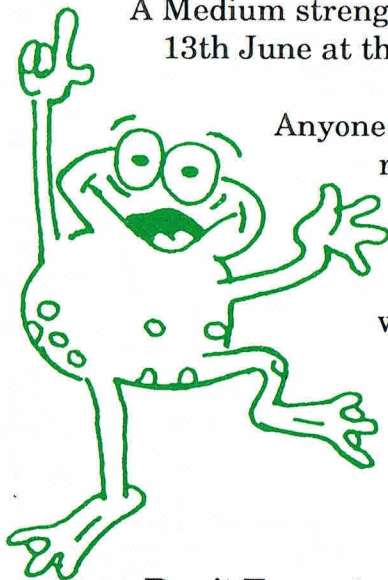
41 Tavistock Crescent, London W11
Tel: 01-727 9250

A NEW BRUCES BEER

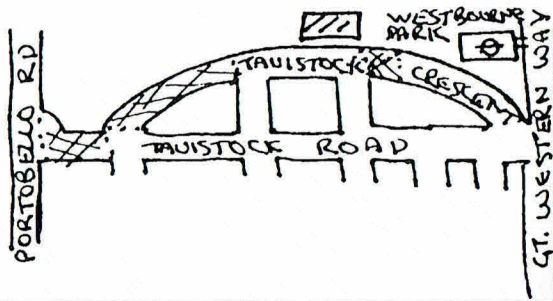
A Medium strength pale ale will be launched on
13th June at the Frog & Firkin

Anyone wearing a standard Firkin T-Shirt will
receive a **FREE** half of the new brew

Anyone lucky enough to be in
possession of a limited edition item
will be **GIVEN A FULL PINT!**



Don't Frog et
to come and try a pint



SPITFIRE ALE TAKES OFF TO BOOST 'REACH FOR THE SKY' APPEAL

Independent Kent brewers Shepherd Neame are promising a boost to the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund's £20 million 'Reach for the Sky' Appeal with the launch of Spitfire Ale premium bitter.

Customers buying a pint of draught Spitfire Ale in a pub or club, or a can of Spitfire Ale in a supermarket, off licence or corner store will be making an automatic contribution to the fund.

For the Faversham company have agreed to donate £10 to the Appeal for every barrel of Spitfire Ale they sell - that's the equivalent of 3.5p per pint of draught Spitfire Ale, or a little under 3p per can (11p per four-pack).

Spitfire Ale is made to a traditional recipe of malted barley and Kentish hops, with an original gravity of 1044° or about 5 per cent alcohol by volume.

Spitfire Ale will be sold into Shepherd Neame's own 264-pub estate, plus free trade customers and take-home trade. The company will be staging Spitfire Ale pub party nights to raise extra funds for the Appeal.

Potential free trade customers include 2,000 other brewers' tenanted pubs in the Shepherd Neame trading area, which will now be able to make their own contribution to the Appeal fund by stocking Spitfire Ale as a guest beer.

Spitfire Ale is expected to sell for around £1.15 per pint in the pub, and about £3.50-£3.75 per four can pack in major supermarkets and off-licences.

Explains Shepherd Neame chairman Robert Neame: "As a true Kentish brewer we are very aware of the tremendous debt of gratitude we owe to wartime RAF pilots - after all, the Battle of Britain was fought in the skies over our county."

Shepherd Neame was founded in Faversham in 1698, and can lay claim to the title of Britain's longest-established brewer.

Shepherd Neame vice chairman Stuart Neame formally introduced Spitfire Ale at RAF Northolt on Tuesday, May 8, 1990 when Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy, Lord Barber and Michael Bentine launched the 'Reach for the Sky' Appeal.

BEER TASTING WITH MICHAEL JACKSON

I recently attended a beer tasting session with Michael Jackson (The Beer Hunter) at The Yorkshire Grey, Theobalds Road WC1. The tasting was arranged by Nick Funnell, who is the head brewer of Clifton Inn Breweries and the participants were almost entirely made up of brewers, publicans and 'friends'. I have spoken to Michael Jackson before, watched the TV programmes and have never been very struck. For the entrance fee, the punter is sat in front of a wide selection of bottled and draught beers of widely differing beer styles. Also in attendance was Dr Keith Thomas of Brewlabs who took the audience through the theories of the taste sense in general, providing 'samples' of liquids to demonstrate the properties of taste.

The first thing that struck me was that each of us would not have very much to taste. With three other thirsty looking people at my table, it wasn't promising, when all of us had to share the bottles, some of which looked very small. However we slaked our thirsts with some

Pilsner Urquell from Czechoslovakia. While knocking this one back, Michael Jackson gave us the history of this beer style and in spite of my reservations I found him a fascinating speaker. As we worked through the bottles and pints of draught beer (Batemans XXXB and Orange Pimlico Porter) his easy style and humorous anecdotes became almost rivetting! Whether it was the beer (average strength seemed to be ESB strength!) or the good company, I thoroughly enjoyed the evening's bash.

We started at 7.30pm and Michael wound up speaking at about 10.45pm, so he was kept hard at it. Nick is planning to host another similar evening at The Yorkshire Grey, with all profits going to charity. The tasting will be open to London Drinker readers and will be advertised before the event in the magazine. Keep your eyes peeled for this strongly recommended event.

Chris Cobbold

The following piece was taken from the pages of "Engineering", the technical journal of the Design Council for February 1990 and passed on to us by Richard Denman of Greenford ...

Membrane saves energy in low alcohol beer making

A technique for creating low alcohol beers has won a PEP energy efficiency award for a small family brewery in Cambridgeshire. Elgood & Sons of Wisbech has pioneered the use of the reverse osmosis process for removing alcohol from beer, by which the alcohol is literally squeezed out of the beer under pressure through a filtration membrane. Elgood reports a 68% reduction in energy consumption compared with removing the alcohol through distillation.

Elgood started experimenting with the new technique nearly five years ago, using equipment supplied by the High Wycombe firm Elga. Reverse osmosis had previously been commonly used for the purification of water, but Elgood's production director Sir Henry Holder perceived the possibility of using it in this new application. Apart from saving energy, the other great advantage it offers is in preserving much more of the original taste, aroma and colour of the beer. The heat necessary for distillation can markedly affect flavour.

The PEP scheme, which is sponsored by the electricity supply industry, has now been running for six years.

According to the Electricity Council the 164 regional winners selected over that time have generated over £40 million worth of energy savings between them. Elgood's award was in the category for firms with no more than 100 staff.

Vaux Buys Pubs

Regent Inns is to pay Vaux £3.16m for four London pubs, the Princess Louise in Holborn, the Rat & Parrot at Barnet, the White Lion in Putney High Street and Crockers in Maida Vale. The Rat & Parrot is being sold-on to the J D Weatherspoon Organisation.

TRAFALGAR

High Path
Wimbledon · SW19

2 mins S. Wimbledon
tube station

A small Freehouse with
traditional atmosphere
and no music

Regular beers include
**BASS, GALES,
FULLERS, YOUNGS,
KING & BARNES,**
plus guest Ales
also **HACKER-PSCHORR**

Try our famous
Steak Sandwich with
your pint



S.W. LONDON NEWS

Will all those members who helped at the 1st Battersea Beerex in February, who would like to accompany the Branch on a weekend to The Wyndham Arms in Salisbury, to award John Gilbert his gongs for winning Best Out of Town Beer and Beer of the Festival, please phone Chris Cobbold on 081-674 0556 and book their place. The Branch will help to defray costs and the dates are Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June. Day trippers are also welcomed.

If you are unable to attend, many thanks from us all and see you next year, same time, same place!

Chris Cobbold

BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned, please ring the Branch Contact. Dates for June of which we have been notified are given below. Branches please send information to Andy Pirson. Branch Contacts page 13.

CROYDON & SUTTON: Tue 5 Crystal Palace Crawl. WHITE HART (dep. 9.00 pm) then CAMBRIDGE and ROYAL ALBERT - Fri 15 Carshalton Crawl. RACEHORSE (dep. 9.00 pm), West Street then RAILWAY TAVERN and COACH & HORSES - Tue 19 (8.00) Branch Meeting. PITLAKE, Waddon New Road, Croydon (in yard if fine) - Thu 28 Greenwich Beerfest Visit. East Croydon Station, depart 19.29 train or 20.15 at Beerfest - Wed 4 Jul (8.00) Independents Day Social. DOG & BULL, Surrey Street, Croydon.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Tue 5 (8.00) Branch Meeting. FOREST GATE, 105 Godwin Road, E7 - Mon 11 (8.00) Chingford Social. ROYAL OAK, 219 Kings Head Hill, E4 - Tue 19 (8.00) Committee Meeting. WHITE HORSE, White Horse Road, E1 - Wed 27 (7.30) City Crawl. Start CITY PRIDE, Farringdon Lane, EC1 then CROWN TAVERN (8.30), Clerkenwell Green; SEKFORDE ARMS (9.30), Sekforde Street - Thu 2 Jul Branch Meeting. Venue to be arranged.

ENFIELD & BARNET: Tue 5 (9.00) Joint Social with North London Branch. NELSON, High Road, Wood Green, N22 - Wed 13 (8.30) BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. GREEN DRAGON, 889 Green Lanes, N21 - Tue 19 (9.00) Two Pub Social in Barnet. QUEENS ARMS, Great North Road then WEAVER, Greenhill Parade, High Road - Thu 28 (9.00) Social. GRYPHON, 9 Vera Avenue, N21.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Wed 6 (6.30) Dorking Beer Festival Crawl of Leatherhead. Start ROYAL OAK - Sat 9 (7.00) Pub Crawl of Southwark. Start GEORGE - Tue 12 (8.30) business Meeting. BEAR, Oxshott - Sat 16 (6.30) Dorking Beer Festival Crawl of Dorking. Start BUSH - Sun 1 Jul (12.00) Sunday Social. TWO BREWERS, Kingston.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Wed 6 (8.30) Real Beer in West London Celebration Social (joint with West London & West Middlesex). EXPRESS HOTEL, Kew Bridge Road, Brentford - Thu 14 (8.30) Committee Meeting. BUILDERS ARMS, 38 Field Lane, Teddington - Tue 19 (8.30) Two Pub Social. MARY O'RIORDAN'S, High Street, Brentford then WHITE HORSE (9.45), Market Place - Mon 25 (8.30) Branch Meeting. CASTLE, 18 Upper Square, Isleworth.

SOUTHEAST LONDON: Mon 4 (8.00) Open Committee Meeting. SHERGAR, 119 Consort Road, SE15 - Thu 7 (7.30) GRAF Publicity Crawl. Start CRICKETERS, 22 King William Walk, SE10 - Mon 11 (8.00) Branch Meeting. SHIP, 68 Borough Road, SE1 - Thu 14 (7.30) GRAF Publicity Crawl. Start ROYAL GEORGE, 2 Blisset Street, SE10 - Mon 18 (7.30) GRAF Publicity Crawl. Start FROG & RADIATOR, 1 Woolwich Road, SE10 - Thu 28 to Sat 30 GREENWICH REAL ALE FESTIVAL. Borough Halls, SE10.

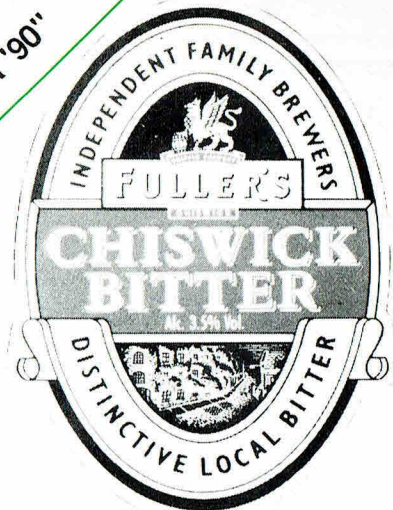
SOUTH WEST ESSEX: Mon 4 (8.00) Quiz Night v.s YE OLDE GREEN DRAGON, Chelmsford Road (junction A1023/A129), Shenfield - Wed 13 (6.30) Gliding & Ale Night. NORTH WEALD GLIDING CLUB, off B181 between North Weald and Epping - Wed 20 (11.00 am at Brewery) Brewery trip to BRAKESPEAR'S, Henley on Thames. Details/bookings to Wendy Benson on Romford 723897 - Mon 25 (8.30) Social. BELL INN, High Road (off B1007), Hornndon-on-the-Hill.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Mon 3 (7.30) Two Pub Social. Start KINGS HEAD, 18 High Street, Merton, SW19; proceed to WILLIAM MORRIS (9.00) - new Pub in new development), Merton Abbey Mills. Note: This is not the William Morris Club - Thu 12 (8.00) Social. ROEBUCK, Ashmole Street, SW8. This Bass Charrington pub is very close to Oval tube station, but very hard to find - Wed 20 (8.00) Social. PRIORY ARMS, Lansdowne Way, SW8 (Newly refurbished free house - please support this venue).

WEST LONDON: Thu 21 (8.00) Branch Meeting. HARCOURT ARMS, 32 Harcourt Street, W1 - Wed 6 (8.30) Real Beer in West London Celebration Social (joint with Richmond & Hounslow and West Middlesex). EXPRESS HOTEL, Kew Bridge Road, Brentford.

Contd. on p.30

"NOW EXTENDED TO
THE END OF SEPTEMBER '90"



The CHISWICK BITTER Trail

Remember the Fuller's Passport?

We are now introducing a Passport with a difference. The Chiswick Bitter Trail will take you around 71 Fuller's pubs and give everyone an excuse (if one is needed!), to try the 1989 GBBF Supreme Champion Beer of Britain.

All you have to do is visit each pub and have a glass of Chiswick Bitter (or a Fuller's L.A. for the driver), and get your card stamped.

The first 200 people to complete their cards will receive a stoneware Passport jug and two mugs in a presentation box. After 200 have been given away, everyone else will receive a Fuller's Goodie Bag full of gifts.

Remember, there are only 200 jugs and mugs so join the Trail and join the fun!

START: 1ST FEBRUARY 1990 FINISH: 31st JULY 1990

ALL COMPLETED TRAILS MUST BE WITH FULLER'S BREWERY BY 31ST JULY 1990 TO QUALIFY

FULLERS NEWS

CHISWICK ON THE MARCH

Thanks to the good publicity received when Chiswick Bitter won the Beer of the Year award at the Great British Beer Festival in 1989 and the subsequent launch of the Chiswick Bitter Trail in March, consumption of this excellent beer is increasing rapidly. It can now be sampled in many more outlets since the Trail was launched. To give newcomers to Chiswick the opportunity of doing the Trail, the Brewery has decided to extend the time limit until the end of September. Participating pubs will be posting notices telling people about the extension and they will also be getting in extra stocks of the Trail Cards.

AND THEN THERE WERE TWO . . .

You may have read elsewhere in this organ about the Paddington Packet Boat at Cowley Peachey, but if not the news is that the dreaded (and dreadful) Porter-Lancastrian system has finally bitten the dust at this last bastion of Fuller's Top Pressure dispense outlets! Handpumps have now sprouted through the bar top of this very pleasant pub midway between West Drayton and Uxbridge.

Only two Fullers pubs (or three if you count the cocktail bar at the Master Spearpoint Hotel in Ashford, Kent - which I don't!) do not sell any Real Ale. As a warning to those innocent souls who might stray into them, I will warn you where they are. Firstly, the Feathers in Ealing Broadway which is managed by those well known Real Ale and Pub Specialists - Berni Inns - A door policy operates here - whether to keep you out or keep you in, is not known. The other is the Red Lion at Brentford - the "famed" live music pub, where they tell us that Real Ale cannot be kept because the noise of the amplifiers upsets the beer in its cask! I feel no further comment is necessary.

BITS AND PIECES

The Red Lion & Pineapple in Acton W.3. has severed links that go back many years with the multiple tenants Booker & Son Ltd and has gone over to Griffin Inns Ltd., the managed house arm of Fullers.

This month sees the launch of a big advertising campaign by Fullers for their cask conditioned ales. Large poster sites, bus and railway advertising will feature heavily. This all coincides

with the releasing of the beer tie for one "Guest Ale" for the "Big Five" tenants. It is (I believe) the most they have ever spent on advertising.

10,000 SIGN ANTI-WHITBREAD PLEDGE

Ten thousand people on Merseyside have pledged to boycott Whitbread beers if their local brewery, Higsons, is allowed to close.

As was expected following their takeover of Boddingtons, Whitbread have announced that not only Higsons, but also Fremlins brewery of Faversham will close in July. Higsons would be brewed in Sheffield, and Fremlins in Cheltenham, although, as is usually the case, the beers will bear no resemblance to the present brews.

Although you may think it not a difficult job to stop drinking Whitbread's dubious beers, for some people on Merseyside, particularly in the Wirral, there is very little alternative to Whitbread, apart from Greenhalls, possibly. (And we though we had it bad here!) This makes their protest even more impressive.

In an unparalleled fit of generosity, Whitbread have announced that they would consider selling the Higsons brewery site, provided that they retained the name and all the pubs. The new concern would thus be starting from scratch, in much the same way as the successful Caledonian brewery in Edinburgh rose from the ashes of Lorimer & Clark's when that was closed by Vaux.

There's not such good news in Faversham, however. One would have thought that with 1992 and the Channel Tunnel just around the corner, and with the growing popularity of British beers in Europe, a brewery based in Kent, within striking distance of the Continent would be ideally placed to exploit this new market.

Not Whitbread it seems. In their usual short-sighted way, and with their usual scant regard for their customers, the 200-year-old brewery will close with the loss of 162 jobs.

Perhaps the Anti-Whitbread Pledge will indicate to them that they have finally gone too far. Why not show them you care? Write to Miles Templeman c/o Whitbread Breweries, Chiswell Street, London EC1.

TIME GENTLEMEN PLEASE!

"Yes, landlord - three minutes to." Anybody who has served more than one session behind a bar is only too familiar with that and many other wisecracks trotted out ad nauseam when announcing that no more drinks will be served. No matter how long you have been open or what time the speaker arrived, there is frequently some overgrown Oliver Twist who wants more, no matter how often or loudly Last Orders has been called. (Anyway, it doesn't have to be!) During my recent exile far from the native grime of London, I have frequently been called upon to take charge of friends' pubs, often at short notice, and have heard nothing new. "Just one more - only me - forget the rest". "But it's Bank Holiday - pubs stay open till midnight". "Nobody's ever closed here at this time." The latter happened to be true, and to no avail. You can't take liberties with someone else's license and livelihood - in support of which one gent was somewhat displeased about being physically restrained from helping himself. My meagre understanding of Welsh was up to knowing their various opinions of my nationality and parentage. Something so many customers fail to understand is that despite its name, a public house is in fact private. Nobody is entitled to entry, let alone to be served - that is entirely by permission of the management. And irrespective of local licensing hours, they are "Permitted" - by legal definition, not obligatory, and of course outside such hours the sale of alcohol is illegal. The Licensing Act of 1988 gives permitted hours from 11am to 11pm (except when Sunday hours apply) plus such hours outside that period as existed prior to its passage into statute. However, the Licensing Magistrates have discretion to stipulate times during the day when an establishment may not open. A landlord is not

obliged to open at a specific time - or at all - and if he takes it into his head to close without warning at 9.45pm - or whatever - that is his right and privilege.

Another fallacy is the supposed right to 20 minutes drinking-up time. In law, it does not exist. In the Act it is listed in "exceptions" - it is not unlawful to be drinking during this time, though it certainly is afterwards. That period - or ten minutes, even five if he so chooses - is entirely at the discretion of the licensee or his delegate - not compulsory, nor a right of the customer. Naturally this applies to the end of every period of opening including, for instance, Sunday lunchtime. Those who don't like it - can lump it. "If our times don't suit you sir, you might care to find somewhere you like better." Very useful, that, especially if it's the only pub for miles. But when I'm a customer - well, that's a different story

Martin Smith

GUEST BEER UPDATE

Following on from last month's editorial we are pleased to report that the proposed deal between Grand Metropolitan (Watney) and Elders IXL (Courage) has been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. If there is any consistency in that august body then the deal must be rejected; it is likely to be far more damaging to the choice of the customer than the attempted takeover by Elders of Scottish and Newcastle.

However, we wait to see whether Watney and Courage tenants will be permitted to obtain a guest beer of their choice or whether this right will be withheld pending the MMC's deliberations.

AP

LONDON DRINKER is published by the London Branches of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale Limited. Editors: Chris Cobbold, 25 Valens House, Upper Tulse Hill, London SW2 2RX.

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SUBSCRIPTION: (£6.00 for 1 year) should be sent to: Stan Tompkins, 122 Manor Way, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

ADVERTISING: Barry Tillbrook. Tel: (071)403 7500 (W) or (081) 989 7523 (after 7 pm).

Deadline for the July edition, 1st June. Material for August edition to arrive by 2nd July.

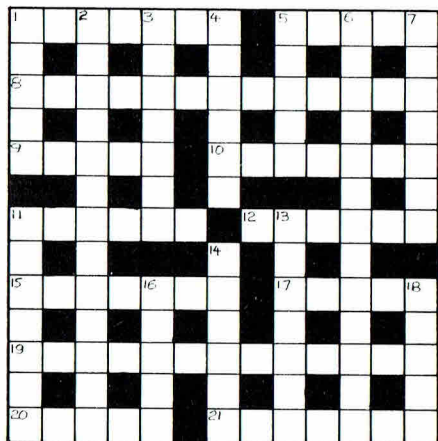
Please be sure to send diary material to Andy Pirson.

Printed by Dasprint Limited, 53 Lydden Grove, Wandsworth, London SW18 4LW

LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

COMPILED BY DAVE QUINTON

£10 PRIZE TO BE WON



ACROSS

1. Falling glass? (7)
5. Is listless when poems don't scan. (5)
8. It's drawn at a certain time. (3,3,7)
9. Fiddle dance. (5)
10. Going off to Capri for fruit. (7)
11. Taxi hesitates after tossers appear. (6)
12. Turn left out of taste. (6)
15. Can I be pleasant? (7)
17. Pull the Spanish rubber. (5)
19. I do pass calmly over now and again. (13)
20. Evil to us is in the head. (5)
21. Provider of clothes for wooden actor? (7)

DOWN

1. It may be caught in a ticklish situation. (5)
2. Insane one (German) having it in mind to obtain goods produced here. (4,2,7)
3. Arsonist is less serious. (7)
4. Talk again about soil. (6)
5. He may do work on the face. (5)
6. The man most likely to succeed. (6,2,5)
7. He may have a house in Rome and Washington. (7)
11. Forms of curly headed girls. (7)
13. Anthea? Indefinite, definite, indefinite. (7)
14. Repaired terminal in sea. (6)
16. Stink made over doctor's droppers. (5)
18. Level of egg producer. (5)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

All correct entries received by first post on 27th June will be entered into a draw for the prize.

The winner of the prize will be announced in the August London Drinker. Solution next month.

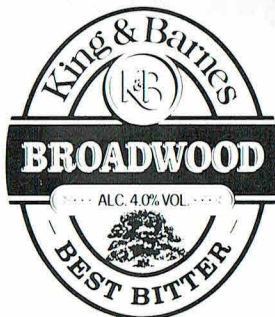
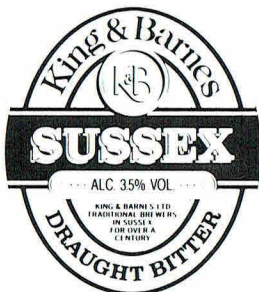
All entries to be submitted to:
London Drinker Crossword
25 Valens House
Upper Tulse Hill
London SW2 2RX

Last Month's Solution



Winner of the prize for the April crossword:
Maura Mullington, The Crown, 49 Bath Road,
Heathrow, Harlington.

Other correct entries were received from:
Beoff B., Blenheim, Brendan Casey,
A.P. Comaish, Ian Fairweather, Eileen Graves,
Alison Henley, Odd John (Colchester),
Martin Weedon, D. Woodward.



WHERE TO FIND OUR BEERS IN LONDON

THE ALBERT ARMS
62 High Street, Esher

THE APPROACH TAVERN
47 Approach Road, London E2

THE BARLEY MOW
Curtain Street, London EC2

BOATERS
Lower Ham Road, Kingston

THE BRICKLAYERS ARMS
63 Charlotte Road, London EC2

CANBURY ARMS
Canbury Park Road, Kingston,
Surrey

THE CLARET WINE BAR
33 The Broadway, Cheam

THE CLARET WINE BAR
5 Bingham Corner,
Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon

THE CRICKETERS
32 Rowtown, Addlestone, Surrey

THE HOLE IN THE WALL
Mepham Street, Waterloo Station

THE HOP EXCHANGE
149 Maple Road, Penge, London

THE LION
182 Pawns Road, Croydon

THE LITTERN
118 Oldfield Lane South, Greenford

THE NEW INN
Walton Road, East Molesey, Surrey

THE ORCHARD
Orchard Road, Shirley

THE OSTRICH
High Street, Colnbrook, Middlesex.

THE RACEHORSE
17 West Street, Carshalton, Surrey

THE RAILWAY TAVERN
Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey

REFUGE WINE BAR
Selsdon Road, Croydon, Surrey

ROSE AND CROWN
333 London Road, Isleworth

THE SHERGAR
Consort Road, Peckham SE15

THE SUN
Lamb Conduit Street, London WC1

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 Storays Gate, London SW1

THE WHEATSHEAF
34 Kingston Road, Ewell,
Surrey

WHEELWRIGHTS ARMS
Southbridge Road, Croydon.

THE WHITE HART
70 High Street, Hampton,
Middlesex

WOODIES FREEHOUSE
Thetford Road, New Malden

YE OLDE BRIDGE HOUSE
215 Tower Bridge Road, London
SE1

King & Barnes

FINE SUSSEX ALES

WILLIAM MORRIS

A new pub, the William Morris, has opened at Merton Abbey Mills. Based in the Old Silk Room of Morris's Print works up to five real beers are normally available. The managers, Peter and Eleanor Hunter are currently experimenting with the choice which has included Brakspears Bitter, Boddington Bitter, Courage Best, Marston Pedigree, Charrington IPA, Greene King IPA and Abbot and recently Mansfield Old Bailey. If successful the range may be expanded to around nine beers.

The pub itself is modern but in character with this historic building. The main bar area is comfortably furnished with bar stools and suitable tables and also more conventional tables and chairs. Behind the bar fixed bench type seats and tables overlook the River Wandle. The services to the bar is blocked off lunchtimes to allow children to be present legally in this area (and it is only a minor inconvenience to come round to the front of the bar to be served). A second room of the main bar provides an area for eating. Further work should bring the upstairs bar into use (which may be hired for functions) and outside drinking facilities are planned. The toilets include facilities for wheelchair bound disabled. The decor includes William Morris prints and carpets.

Food is available Monday to Saturday lunchtimes and the pub is open 11-3 and 5.30-11 Monday to Friday; all day Saturday and normal hours



BOROUGH HALL, ROYAL HILL, SE10

28·29·30 JUNE

OPENS: THURSDAY 5:30 to 11pm
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 12 to 11pm
Admission £1·50 after 5pm
CAMRA members free
Free crèche Saturday 12 to 2pm

Sunday.

Merton Abbey Mills is just off the new A24 (Merantun Road) opposite the turnoff for the Savacentre.

Peter and Eleanor were previously at the Cornet, Battersea. We wish them and Regent Fines plc every success in their new venture.

BRANCH CONTACTS

BEXLEY	DES WARD	Erith 457156 (H) Orpington 38321 x29 (Wed-Fri only)
BROMLEY	DAVE FOORD	0689 54798 (H)
CROYDON & SUTTON	TERRY HEWITT	(081) 660 5931 (H)
EAST LONDON & CITY	HUGH SMITH	(081) 519 1743 (E)
ENFIELD & BARNET	LAURENCE FRYER	(081) 203 0710 (H)
KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD	ALLAN MARSHALL	(081) 942 9115 (H) (071) 227 3377 (W)
NORTH LONDON	GARY WHITE	(081) 801 9513 (H)
RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW ..	ANDY PIRSON	(081) 977 1633 (H)
SOUTH WEST ESSEX	ANDREW CLIFTON	Romford (0708) 765150 (H)
SOUTH EAST LONDON	DAVE SULLIVAN ..	(081) 699 8476 (H & W)
SOUTH WEST LONDON	CHRIS MORTON	(071) 499 8931 (W) (081) 874 7661 (H)
WEST LONDON	ROBERT McGOWAN	(081) 691 8019 (H) (071) 242 0262 x2650 (W)
WEST MIDDLESEX	TED BRADLEY	(081) 573 8144 (H) (081) 997 8880 x2153 (W)

IDLE MOMENTS

Before we start the usual rubbish I have just received this (nearly) non-rhyming limerick from a long serving CAMRA member, Mostyn Lewis. It is different from the standard limerick form in that all five lines use the same rhyme - or rather non-rhyme in this case. Anyway, here it is:

**A wonderful bird is the Chough,
I last saw one somewhere near Slough.
It sat on a bough
and said with a cough:
"Now look, aren't five eye-rhymes enough?"**

If you read last month's column you will know that Steve Bremner of Westminster had come up with something a bit new, beer anagrams instead of brewery ones. If you didn't (then shame on you!) at least I shan't have to repeat his explanation as last month's answers speak for themselves. Here they are:

1. RED LION POND = LONDON PRIDE (Fuller)
2. I SIN FOR LOW LAGER = FLOWERS ORIGINAL (Whitbread)
3. NEEDLES CAT = CASTLE EDEN (Whitbread)
4. NEW RAM WRITER = WINTER WARMER (Youngs)
5. REPAY MY POOL = POMPEY ROYAL (Whitbread)
6. ORDERLY BIB WETTER = OLD BREWERY BITTER (Samuel Smith)
7. IVY RATS = VARSITY (Morrell)
8. GLAD HIGH TIME = HIGHGATE MILD (M&B)
9. GREED PIE = PEDIGREE (Marston)
10. DO A GROIN ILL = OLD ORIGINAL (Everard)

Just in case you are thinking, "I'm glad that's over," here are some more to keep you going:

1. CRIB HITS WICKET
2. LONG FAT TOE
3. GRABBED SET
4. TRIM DOLE
5. HIP SINGER FOBS
6. GORDON BUD ALE
7. BEST WARMER
8. PIPE SHIP BOLTS
9. SET FIVE

10. RIPEN OLD NECTAR HAS BITE

11. "XXXXX" (as in Castlemaine Lager on keg)

It strikes me that those might be easier to set than to solve in that you are starting from the fixed point and are free to end up with any semi-intelligible rubbish you like. So how about somebody else out there setting a few? Meanwhile Mr. Bremner also provided our number puzzles for last month; here are the answers:

1. 1 Leg on Robert Louis Stevenson's Long John Silver
2. 2000 less than 20 Years To Go
3. 8 Legs (or Tentacles) on an Octopus
4. 70 Shilling is a Strong Bitter, Jimmy
5. 86400 Seconds in a Day
6. 38 Pence Per Minute (25 Off Peak)
7. 3 Legs on a Tripod (watch the Birdie)
8. 1066 bad Year for England, good Original Gravity
9. 240 Volts of the Electric Mains
10. 70 Speed Limit on Motorways

What is more, he set this month's number puzzles as well (I like this arrangement - it saves me some work):

1. 10 NP in each 1M
2. 1 E and one FTP
3. 28 D in a LM
4. 33 the R (Oi!)
5. 2250 LOP (2200 S)
6. 633 S
7. 8 GFW (on the BS)
8. 144 T a N is "GO"!
9. 91 D in a Q (approx)
10. 5 S in a C (OM)

And now (as they say) for something not quite the same (or something like that). Now we all know that most of the negative words in the English language are formed by putting a prefix on the original word (like un- or dis-). Well I've got this friend John, you see. In fact you may remember him - he was the one who was at the bottom of all this silly mirror writing I had some of you doing a while back. Anyway, to get back to the plot, he pointed out that following this logic there are some negative words that do not have a complementary positive in common usage. Yes, you've guessed it, we

Cont P15

WEST MIDDLESEX NEWS

BEER ON BROADWAY III'

We are glad to report that "B.O.B. 3." was a resounding success. It was nice to be back "at home" in the newly refurbished Ealing Town Hall. The festival goers must have thought so as well for by 9.30 on Saturday evening we had all but run out of beer. The most popular beers as voted by the punters were St Austell XXXX mild and the superlative Golden Hill Exmoor Gold. Oddest beer of the festival had to be the Lundy Pale Ale, which even after 48 hours on stillage either refused to drop bright - or the one cask that did met with a most mixed reception. Claims that ground Puffin Beaks were used as finings can be discounted as scurrilous rumour! A good deal of money and unused tokens were raised for Help the Aged and the RNLI.

WELCOME GUESTS

Although it is too early to get an overall picture of the Guest Beer scene in our "Big 5" tenanted houses, we know of at least one firm of multiple tenants run by Jeff Harden and John Bacallini who have struck up a deal with Hall and Woodhouse to supply their Courage tenancies with Badger Best Bitter and/or Tanglefoot. Both these ales are available at the Three Horseshoes in Southall. The Beaver in Hounslow and North Star in Brentford will also be selling the Badger Best. It is to be hoped that the Civil Engineer in Northolt and the Anglers Retreat in West Drayton (both at present selling no Real Ale at all) will take advantage of the relaxation of the tie and finally "go Real". The Royal Standard at Hayes, already selling Courage Best, should hopefully get the Tanglefoot. A clearer picture should emerge by the next article.

PUB NEWS

Active West Middx branch members were over the moon to learn the news that handpumps have finally arrived at the Paddington Packet Boat, in Cowley Peachey near West Drayton. For some time now this remained the only Fullers pub in that area and one that we could not really enjoy because of the top-pressure beer. Now that horrid system has been laid to rest and London Price and ESB are to be had without gas. (See Fullers News.)

A former Fullers Pub, the Northcote Arms in Southall has re-opened - as a Free-house. At the time of our two visits, real ale was not available, although 6 handpumps are in-situ and the manager assured us that Fullers beers will again be available on draught. We must wait and see.

The only Youngs house in our area, the Bridge Hotel at Greenford should be open once again by the time you read this. It has undergone a massive building programme and now offers full hotel facilities. The bars, however, should have remained little changed. More on this next month.

Chiswick Bitter has finally arrived at the Viaduct, Hanwell, W.7., as promised by the landlord Ken Price. He is very keen to see it take off - and if he keeps it as well as the pint I had in there the other day, everybody should be on it soon - Truly excellent!

IDLE MOMENTS Cont from p.14

are now going to start righting this wrong. (Surely the opposite of wrong ought to be write).

Just to get a flavour of what we mean here are a few definitions for words that previously only existed in the negative:

MANTLE: (n) To put together or assemble [opp. dismantle]

ASTER: (n) Nothing particularly untoward happening [opp. disaster]

DER: (adj) On top of something [opp. under]

VENT: (vb) To consign an idea to somewhere outside the recognition of man [opp. invent]

SIST: (vb) To be not too determined [opp. insist]

TINCT: (adj) Unclear [opp. distinct]

In fact the last word in that list replaces a commonly used double negative; how silly it is to use the word in-dis-tinct when we have a much simpler alternative available. Anyway that's my lot for this month; how about some of you thinking up a few and earning a few moments of glory.

See you soon!

Andy Pirson

“A DICKY IN YOUR BOTTLE ...”

(East London & City News)

Two pub closures occurred recently, one temporary and one permanent. The first was the PRINCESS OF WALES in West Ham Lane, Stratford, which closed early in March “for complete and total refurbishment” and will remain closed for between nine and twelve weeks. This GBG-listed Taylor Walker house was a friendly two-bar pub with a comfortable lounge in which to enjoy a pint (or more!) and was popular with Pig’s Ear beer festival staff.

The permanent closure was the HAT & FEATHERS in Clerkenwell, another Taylor Walker pub, which closed its doors for the last time on Friday 2nd March. The exterior is Grade 2 listed, but the rest of the building is to disappear. The guv’nor said that he had been told that there were no plans for a new pub on the site, but he did not know what would be there instead.

To end on a more cheerful note, the East London & City branch of CAMRA recently

presented Harry King (guv’nor of the APPROACH TAVERN in Bethnal Green) with “The Jack Long Award” in recognition of all he has done for the Real Ale cause over the years. Harry’s pub is popular with all sorts of people, and offers a good range of beers in its two bars. It also has an upstairs function room. The Award is named in memory of the Branch’s late Chairman who died in December 1988.

“East Ender”

P.S. Just in case you’re wondering, the title is abbreviated Rhyming Slang. “A dicky (bird) in your bottle (of beer)” means “A word in your ear” - quite simple really, once you know!

[That’s funny, we always thought that Bottle was short for “Bottle and Glass” which relates to a more fundamental part of the human anatomy - Ed]

Ask your local publican to give us a ring -

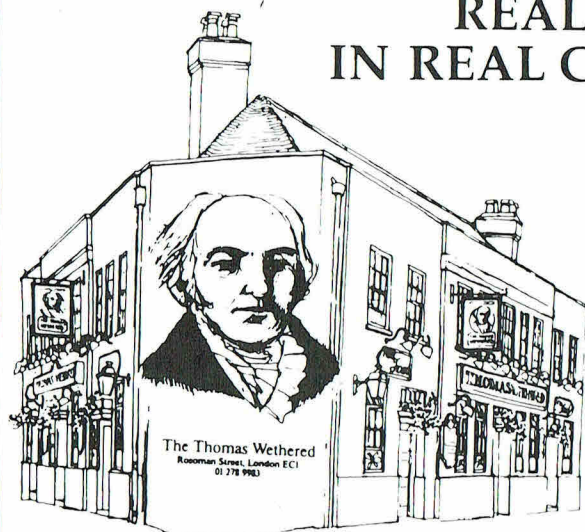
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Marston Pedigree

McMullen Country Bitter

Traditional Cider

Monthly Guest Beer
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Hot & Cold food always available

Full cold buffet

Salted Beef Sandwiches

Carvery roast · Sunday lunch

Open all licensed hours

Office parties/functions a speciality

Happy hour 5.30 · 6.30pm

All beers at £1 pint

GREENALL TO FOLLOW BODDINGTON?

Greenall Whitley is considering selling its breweries in a similar deal to that under which Boddington's disposed of its breweries to Whitbread. In this case it is stated that the likely purchaser is the Canadian company Labatt's.

Already Labatt's Canadian Lager and Labatt's Strong Canadian Lager are being brewed at Greenall's Wilderspool Brewery in Warrington and the Canadian Lager is claimed to be the third largest selling ordinary lager in pubs in the Granada television region. Whether this latter fact is a measure of the effect of advertising or the brewery tie is not stated but the implication is that the former is relevant.

Labatt's, who together with Molson form a virtual duopoly in the Canadian beer market (45% and 51% respectively), presumably wish to get into the UK market before the great rush which will probably start when the Single European Market comes into force in 1992. Greenall's, on the other hand, are reported to be looking for a capital injection to boost their De Vere chain of hotels. Already, they have recently sold the marketing rights for Vladivar (the Vodka from Warrington) to the whisky firm of Whyte and Mackay.

After closing the Wem Brewery in early 1988 and Davenport's brewery in Birmingham last year, Greenall have two breweries, the aforementioned Warrington site and Shipstone's in Nottingham. Who is to say that Labatt, primarily a lager brewer will be any kinder to Shippo's than Whitbread have been to Higson's?

ADDLESTONE'S WARNING

The Apple and Pear Product Liaison Executive (APPLE), which exists to promote traditional cider, has issued a warning that customers drinking Addlestone's cider may be getting conned.

Addlestone's cider is served using a fake handpump, which serves a fizzy pint under gas pressure. The group point out that the use of a handpump has come to be recognised as a symbol of serving cider and beer without the use of additional gas, and that customers who think they are getting real cider are being deliberately misled.

Several breweries who have used fake handpumps have been forced to remove them from pubs after complaints to trading standards offices.

HAPPY DAYS

South Thames college, opposite Wandsworth town hall on a hot midweek afternoon. The soporific effect of the lecturer's monotone voice, reinforced by the lunch I had often just consumed in the 'Brewery Tap', adjacent to Young's 'Ram' brewery would leave me struggling to support the ever increasing weight of my eyelids.

Earlier that day, on my walk from Wandsworth town station, I would round a corner and pass the huge billboard always advertising Young's wares. The advert I can still see, is a picture of a Clydesdale, the caption beneath reminding you that, 'our beer is still delivered on foot'. The motivation which often drove me to the pub later, would begin much earlier in the morning. The most deliciously hoppy aroma would permeate the room, always that more pungent in the summer.

An interest in learning engineering principles would now evaporate to be replaced by the vision of a pint or two of 'special'. Drinking a pint next to the brewery was, to me, reminiscent of eating cod and chips on the sea front. You could enjoy the enhanced quality. The benefit of consumption at source.

In the winter months I would change my lunchtime tittle to 'Warmer and Special'. This heavier combination would make the afternoon battle against the influence of Morpheus even greater.

Close to my place of work, at the London Bridge end of Borough High Street, the Kings Head, in Kings Head Yard, so easy to pass unless you looked up for the swinging sign overhanging the pavement kept an excellent pint of Courage Directors in the days when it was still brewed at Horselydown, only half a mile up the river. It had a wonderfully busy atmosphere at lunchtimes, but died a social death in the evening.

Good ale was supplemented with good food, and the attentive bar staff were automatically pulling up a pint of Directors for me, as I entered through the thick door curtains, after only my second visit.

I have not returned since I stopped drinking there about eleven years ago. I would love to revisit the place, and keep meaning to, but I am

terrified that it will have changed beyond recognition.

Before the atmosphere of Clink Street was exorcized by re-development the brickwork was sandblasted, the cobblestones were unearthed and re-pointed, and the warehouses turned into smoked glass offices, you could slip past Southwark Cathedral into truly, one of the last remnants of Victorian London. The cobbled streets, set between a canyon of warehouses, were evocative of both Jack the Ripper (a few scenes from the film, 'Murder by Decree' were shot here), and Dickensian stories. A thick clammy fog would have set the scene to perfection. I would take this route to the Anchor, a Courage pub, a superb pint, and a lovely place to be in the summer. It seemed to be on many different levels. Two bars downstairs, the smaller, with a lethal step down to the bar, and a third upstairs. The toilets were, I think, at some intermediate level in between.

Outside on the pavement, standing slightly askew, stood thick iron bollards. I was told many times, that these were Napoleonic cannon. Each one was topped with what did, indeed, looks like a cannon ball. I may to this day be wrong, but I was never convinced.

Before the construction of the Founders Arms, it was the only pub for miles on the South Bank with a waterfront view, facilitated by a small wooden pier opposite, nestling just under Cannon Street railway bridge. Sadly, it collapsed into the river about ten years ago, a larger, brick built replacement has now superseded it.

After opening, again, about ten years ago, the Founders was a favourite Sunday lunchtime watering hole. To be honest, I always found the quality of both the ordinary and special, rather lacking. Very thin. But, you had a superb view on the waterfront.

At low tide an army of moles, in the shape of treasure seekers with metal detectors would be digging in the mud, racing against the incoming tide.

One very warm summer night, after a 'session' in the Founders, I lay spread eagled on the grass bank outside Bankside Power Station, and fell asleep. I had finished off the evening's

Cont on P28

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 53

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 welcome two new Fullers pubs, one ex Courage in Islington, N1, the other brand new in Surrey Docks, SE16 and one new Sam Smiths pub, ex Watney, in Soho. Eleven new free houses are recorded, of which a brand new riverside pub at Colliers Wood, SW19 and the latest Liberty Taverns conversion at Finsbury Park, N4 are the most notable. Reductions in the range of beers available in Clifton Inns "Free Houses" continue to be reported. Information is welcome on any further acquisitions by Control Securities for the Belhaven estate.

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 CENTRAL

EC1, DRUM & MONKEY, 167 Whitecross Street. Flowers: IPA, Original Bitter. Whitbread: Castle Eden Ale. Formerly **BRITISH QUEEN** (reinstatement). (E14, U30)
EC2, WINDMILL, 27 Tabernacle Street. Bass. Charrington: IPA. New Charrington pub created behind facade of former free house closed in October 1988. Nothing of the original character remains. (E30, U42)
W1 (S), CAIRO'S, 10 Beak Street. No real ale. New free house/eaterie basement bar named **BUTLERS**. In former commercial premises.

EAST

E2, DUNDEE ARMS, 339 Cambridge Heath Road. Ind Coope: Burton Ale., Tetley: Bitter. (E72)
CHADWELL HEATH, CHADWELL ARMS, High Road. Ruddle: County. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. Reverted to original name after a period as **CHADS**. (X25)
DAGENHAM, SPOONERS, Goresbrook Road. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. New one-bar Free House in former shop premises, opened 1988/9.
NEWBURY PARK, FARMHOUSE TABLE, Eastern Avenue/Horns Road. Charrington: IPA. Formerly **GREEN GATE**. (X76)
NOAK HILL (Harold Hill), BEAR, Noak Hill Road. Bass. Charrington: IPA. Tolly Cobbold: Original. Note new title. (X77)
ROMFORD, DOLPHIN BAR, Dolphin Centre, Main Road/Mercury Gardens. Adnams: Bitter. New Free House/Bar attached to leisure centre, open to general public.

ROMFORD, MAWNEY ARMS, 44 Mawney Road. Tetley: Bitter. Reverted to former name after a period as **RAFFLES**. (X83)

NORTH

N1, EARL OF RADNOR, 106 Mildmay Grove. Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, London Pride, ESB. Formerly the **RADNOR ARMS**, a Courage pub, acquired and refurbished by Fullers. (N46)
N4, WORLDS END, 21 Stroud Green Road. Bateman: XXXB. Everard: Tiger. Liberty: Best Bitter (OG 1036), Old Habitual (OG 1047). Ruddle: County. Formerly **EARL OF ESSEX** (Watney), converted into spacious Free House by Liberty Taverns. Origin of house beers unknown. Jazz. Food. Open all licensed hours. (N53)
N10, HEIGHTS (THE), 259 Muswell Hill Broadway. No Real Ale. A new cocktail bar/free house in former shop premises.
N19, BOSTON ARMS, 180 Junction Road. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. A Free House. (N103)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, FINAL FURLONG, 162 Grange Road. Ruddle: County. Good value. (SE21)
SE1, GRANGE, 103 Grange Road. Ind Coope: Burton Ale. A Belhaven pub. (SE25)
SE1, HENRY COOPER, 516 Old Kent Road. Courage: Best Bitter. (SE25)
SE1, RED LION, 160 Union Street. Ruddle: Best Bitter. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE36)
SE5, IVANHOE, 28 Ivanhoe Road. Courage: Best Bitter. John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter (reinstatement). (SE57, U41)
SE10, CROWN, 176 Trafalgar Road. Flowers: Original Bitter. Wethered: Bitter. Reopened after refurbishment. (SE83, U46)

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 53 Continued

SE13, **SPORTS**, 162 Lee High Road. Ruddell: Best Bitter. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE105)

SE14, **HATCHAM ARMS**, 92 New Cross Road. Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. Now a Free House, ex Watney. (SE111)

SE15, **HAVELOCK ARMS**, 38 Meeting Place Lane. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. Beware John Smith Yorkshire Bitter only on keg despite pump clip. (SE119)

SE16, **MOBY DICK**, Russia Court, Greenland Dock, off Omega Gate. Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, London Pride, ESB. Brand new Fullers pub overlooking Greenland Dock. Ground floor terrace bar & upstairs lounge. Small car park. Food. Opens 11-3, 5-11 Mon to Wed; 11-11Thu to Sat; normal Sunday hours.

SE16, **NEW CONCORDE**, 96 Keetons Road. Courage: Best Bitter. Note correct address. (SE131)

SE16, **RAYMOUTH TAVERN**, 302 Southwark Park Road. Courage: Best Bitter. (SE132)

SE18, **GEORGE IV**, 120 Rectory Place. Courage: Best Bitter (reinstatement). (SE146, U41)

SE18, **RED LION**, 95 Plumstead High Street. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. (SE149)

ER17, **RAILWAY TAVERN**, Forest Road, Slade Green. Courage: Best Bitter (reinstatement). (SE256, U42)

SOUTH WEST

SW2, **KING OF SARDINIA**, 19 Somers Road. Charrington: IPA (SW19)

SW19, **WILLIAM MORRIS**, Merton Abbey Mills, off Meranton Way (opposite exit from roundabout for Savacentre). Boddington: Bitter. Brakspear: Bitter. Marston: Pedigree. Plus guest beers. New pub on banks of the River Wandle in restored print works building. Part of Merton Abbey Mills complex. Run by Regent Inns. A selection of real ales available from 5 handpumps. Open 11-3, 5-11 Mon to Fri; 11-11 Sat; normal Sunday hours.

MITCHAM, **DONNY'S**, 238 London Road. No real ale. A Free House/Bistro Bar with only keg beers on draught.

WEST

BRENTFORD, **BRICKLAYERS ARMS**, 67 Ealing Road. Courage: Best Bitter. (W97)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE CENTRAL

EC1, **VICTORIA**. Taylor Walker, closed - future uncertain. (E23)

WC1, **DUKE OF WELLINGTON**. Charrington, H unused. (N15, W46)

EAST

BARKING, **HARROW**. Charrington, H unused. (X14)

CHADWELL, **HEATH, MOBY DICK**. Watney, H removed. (X26)

DAGENHAM, **MONARCHS (SOUND & LITE)**. Taylor Walker, closed & boarded up. (X38)

HORNCHURCH, **MADISON EXCHANGE**. Free House, H removed. Already recorded as fizz in Essex Guide but not previously deleted in Updates.

NORTH

N1, **PRINCE REGENT**. Courage, renamed **REGENTS (OF ISLINGTON)**, H removed. (N40)

N1, **RISING SUN**. Charrington, closed - future uncertain. (N41)

N1, **SHAFESBURY ARMS**. Taylor Walker, H unused. (N41)

N6, **WELLINGTON**. Watney, demolished. (N61)

N7, **BUTCHERS ARMS**. Courage, closed - future uncertain. (N63)

N7, **DUKE OF WELLINGTON**. Charrington (fizz), demolished several years ago. (N69)

NORTH WEST

NW5, **JOLLY ANGLERS**. Watney (fizz), closed - future uncertain. (N146)

NW8, **LORD HIGH ADMIRAL**. Courage, H unused. (N157)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, **MARQUIS OF WELLINGTON**. Belhaven, H removed. (SE30, U47)

SE1, **PAGODA**. Charrington, H removed. (SE35)

SE1, **THOMAS A'BECKET**. Courage, H unused. (SE42)

SE6, **GOVERNOR GENERAL**. Watney, closed & boarded up. Incorrectly listed under Bromley in SE Guide.

SE11, **RISING SUN**. Watney, H removed. (SE95)

SE14, **COACH & HORSES**. Belhaven, reopened but H removed. (SE109, U46)

SE14, **FOX**. Free House (fizz), closed, now a tyre shop. (SE111)

SE14, **WHITE HART**. Watney, H removed. (SE113)

SE15, **GLOBE**. Charrington, H unused. (SE119)

BROMLEY, **ROYAL BELL**. Truman, H unused. (SE220)

SOUTH WEST

SW3, **CROWN & SCEPTRE**. Free House (Clifton Inns), demolished. The sad loss of a historic pub built in 1766. (SW22)

SW4, **SPRINGFIELD**, 155 Larkhall Lane. Watney, H removed. SW25

SW7, **NELSON**. Renamed **TWENTY 4**, now a "piano bar." H removed. (SW31)

SW8, **BATTERSEA ARMS**. Watney, H unused. (SW33, U39, U46)

MIDSUMMER OUTCOME CLOSE AS FORMER DIRECTOR SAYS YES

A former director of Midsummer Leisure, the pubs, discos and snooker clubs group, has strongly urged the company's shareholders to accept the current offer from European Leisure.

Mr Ron Hart, who resigned from Midsummer on March 27 after disagreements with the rest of the board, argued that the company had lost its way entirely and would struggle to maintain profits or make disposals.

Mr Hart said he felt he had to make his position clear after being referred to in Midsummer's defence documents and being misrepresented in the press.

But Midsummer rejected Mr Hart's claims and questioned how he could know about the company's prospects without privileged information.

The outcome of the battle looks close. At the first close last week, European Leisure had received acceptances for 34.33 per cent of Midsummer's shares, but one big institutional shareholder, Scottish Amicable which owns 11 per cent, has made it clear that it will reject the bid.

Meanwhile, Midsummer Leisure's shareholders have been deluged by a flood of circulars from both sides as the takeover offer entered its final week.

European Leisure wrote to Midsummer's shareholders urging them to accept its 140p per share offer by the final close on May 11.

Mr Michael Ward, European Leisure's chairman, said the combination of the two companies would create a soundly-financed company with excellent growth prospects.

But Midsummer's board, which originally accepted the approach, repeated its advice to shareholders to reject the all-share offer as its value has fallen in line with the market's decline.

Mr Adam Page, Midsummer's chairman revealed, however, that he would relinquish his executive responsibilities when the offer lapsed and that Mr Paul Reece, currently deputy chairman, would become chief executive.

**Whatever your taste
whatever your style**

The Albion
34/36 Bridge Road
East Molesey
Surrey



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

CHARRINGTON
house.

Gerry and Mary Langan
invite you to sample
John Gilbert's award winning GFB
from the
Hop Back Brewery
now on sale at:

**The Prince of Wales
270 Cavendish Road
Balham**

*'Brewed using only
Malt, Hops and Water'*

GFB £1.10 per pint

BEER BRIEFING /

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 53 Continued

SW15, DRUMMONDS. Charrington (fizz), closed following fire. Formerly RAILWAY. (SW27, U29)

WEST

W8, KENSINGTON ARMS, 84 Pembroke Road. Watney, closed for redevelopment behind the facade as offices. (W82)

FELTHAM, PRINCE OF WALES. Courage, now demolished. (W100)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC2, FLEETWOOD. + Fuller: Chiswick Bitter (E27)

W1 (S), COACH & HORSES, 29 Greek Street. + Young: Special. (W41)

W1 (S), DE HEMS, 11 Macclesfield Street. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Tetley: Bitter. Note correct address. (W42)

W1 (S), DEVONSHIRE ARMS. - beers listed. + Everard: Tiger. + Ruddle: Best Bitter, County. + Wadworth: 6X. + Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. A Clifton Inns pub now with predominantly Grand Met beers. (W42)

W1 (S), DUKE OF WELLINGTON. + Theakston: Best Bitter. (W42)

W1 (S), FALCON. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. (W42)

W1 (S), GLASSBLOWER. - beers listed except Brakspear Bitter; Greene King Abbot; Ruddle County & Webster Yorkshire Bitter. + Adnams: Bitter. + Greene King: IPA.

+ Ruddle: Best Bitter. + Wadworth 6X. A significant reduction in choice in this former beer mecca. (W42)

W1 (S), JOHN SNOW. - beers listed.

+ Samuel Smith: OBB, Museum Ale. The latest Sam Smith pub, ex Watney. (W43)

W1 (S), LEICESTER ARMS. - beers listed. + Everard: Tiger, Old Original. + Ruddle: Best Bitter, County. + Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. Now predominantly Grand Met beers. (W43)

W1 (S), SPICE OF LIFE. + McMullen: Original AK (Mild). (W44)

WC1, QUEENS HEAD, 66 Acton Street. + Bass. + Fuller: ESB. Refurbished (N20, W50)

WC2, GILBERT & SULLIVAN. - beers listed except Boddington Bitter. + Marston: Pedigree. (W54)

WC2, IMPERIAL. - beers listed except Ruddle Best Bitter & Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + Everard: Tiger. + Ruddle: County. Now predominantly Grand Met beers in this Clifton Inns house. (W54)

WC2, TWO BREWERS TAVERN. + Brakspear: Bitter. (W57)

EAST

E15, THEATRE ROYAL BAR. + Boddington: Bitter. + Brakspear: Bitter. + Mansfield: Riding Bitter. + Wadworth: 6X. (E150)

BARKING, CAPTAIN COOK. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Young: Bitter. (X12)

BARKING, WHITE HORSE. - Ruddle: Best Bitter, County (X14, U42)

DAGENHAM, BG'S BAR. renamed COPPERFIELDS. (X37)

DAGENHAM, CROSS KEYS. - Charrington: IPA. + Tolly Cobbold: Original. (X38)

HAVERING-ATTE-BOWER, ROYAL OAK, Renamed WILLOWS. - Wethered: Bitter. (X59)

HORNCHURCH, BULL. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Friary Meux: Best Bitter. + Ind Coope: Burton Ale. (X64, U42)

HORNCHURCH, RAILWAY HOTEL. - beers listed. + Tetley: Bitter. + Young: Special. (X64)

RAINHAM, YESTERDAYS INN. Reopened & reverted to original name, ANGEL INN. Now a Free House, H removed. (X80, U43)

ROMFORD, AMALIAS. - Adnams: Bitter.

+ Tetley: Bitter. (X82, U33, U42)

ROMFORD, BIRDCAGE. Renamed LIBERTYS.

Reference to a name change to ROBINS in U42 was incorrect - "Robins" was the name of one of the Birdcage's bars! Still fizz. (X82, U42)

ROMFORD, MORLAND ARMS. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Ind Coope: Burton Ale.

+ Tetley: Bitter. + Young: Special. (X83, U42)

NORTH

N1, CARPENTERS ARMS. Renamed RUSHTONS. (N29)

N1, TRAFFIC. Renamed CITY APPRENTICE. Original name, CITY OF YORK, also visible. (N46, U32)

N7, CITY OF ROME. - beers listed. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. + Tetley: Bitter. A Belhaven pub. (N64, U47)

N7, EAGLET. Renamed SWANN & LAMBE. (N69)

N8, PALACE. Renamed OLD SHILLELAGH. (N73)

N19, CLUB HOUSE. Reverted to original name, TOTNES CASTLE. (N101)

NORTH WEST

NW1, CHESTER ARMS. Renamed CHESTERS. (N116, U39)

NW1, GLOUCESTER ARMS. - Benskins: Best Bitter. + Young: Bitter, Special. (N118)

NW5, MOTHER SHIPTON. Renamed FIDDLERS ELBOW. (N146)

NW5, NEW MITRE. Reverted to MITRE. (N146)

NW5, PINEAPPLE. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Friary Meux: Best Bitter.

+ Marston: Pedigree. Now a Free House, ex Taylor Walker. (N145)

NW8, NEW INN. - Courage: Directors Bitter. (N159, U39)

PINNER (Eastcote), CASE IS ALTERED.

- Tetley: Bitter. + Young: Special. (W135)

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 53 Continued

SOUTH EAST

SE1, BUGLES. Renamed FORT, originally ROYAL FORT, still fizz. (SE18)
SE1, SULTAN. - Shepherd Neame: Stock Ale. + Shepherd Neame: Best Bitter, Bishops Finger. (SE42)
SE3, WAT TYLER. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Young: Bitter. (SE51)
SE15, ASYLUM TAVERN. - Courage: Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. Note correct title. Nearest BR station is Queens Road. (SE117)
SE15, BEEHIVE. - Shepherd Neame: Stock Ale. + Shepherd Neame: Best Bitter. (SE117)
SE15, CLAYTON ARMS. - Ruddle: County. (SE117)
SE15, GLENGALL TAVERN. - Courage: Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE119)
SE15, KELLIES. - Everard: Tiger, Old Original. - Young: Bitter. (SE120)
SE15, MAISMORE ARMS. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE120)
SE16, LION. - beers listed. + Everard: Tiger, Old Original. (SE131)
SE18, TWO WORLDS. Renamed DOWD'S. (SE150)
BECKENHAM, COACH & HORSES. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE204)
BECKENHAM, THREE TUNS. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE205)
BROMLEY, BIRD IN HAND. + Tetley: Bitter. (SE216)
BROMLEY, FARWIG. + Bass. Note correct title. (SE218)
BROMLEY, OAK. - Flowers: Original Bitter. - Wethered: Winter Royal. + Brakspear: Bitter. (SE218)
ORPINGTON (Green Street Green), BUFF ORPINGTON. - Wethered: Bitter. + Greene King: Abbot Ale. (SE265)
ORPINGTON (Chelsfield), HEAVY HORSE. - Tetley: Bitter. (SE266)
ORPINGTON (Green Street Green), QUEENS HEAD. - Ind Coope: Bitter. + Tetley: Bitter. (SE267)
ORPINGTON (Green Street Green), ROYAL OAK. - Fremlin: Bitter. (SE267)
ORPINGTON, WHITE HART. + Young: Bitter. (SE267)
ST MARY CRAY (St Paul's Cray), PARTRIDGE. - Wethered: Bitter. (SE270)

SOUTH WEST

SW3, COOPERS ARMS. + Everard: Tiger. (SW21)
SW3, MAN IN THE MOON. + Everard: Tiger. (SW22, U51)
SW5, CLARENCE. + Everard: Tiger. (SW25)

SW6, WHEATSHEAF. - all beers listed except Flowers Original Bitter and Greene King Abbot Ale. (SW31, U49)
SW8, DUKE OF CORNWALL. - beers listed. + Young: Bitter, Special. Still a Free House. (SW33)
SW8, ROEBUCK. + Regular guest beer. (SW35, U37, U49)
SW11, WOODMAN. - beers listed except Hall & Woodhouse Badger Best Bitter. + Adnams: Bitter. + Gale: HSB. + Hall & Woodhouse: Tanglefoot. + Wadworth 6X. (SW41)
SW13, SUN INN. + Young: Special. (SW43, U34)
SW14, RAILWAY TAVERN. + Wadworth 6X. (SW45, U51)
SW16, GENEVIEVE. - beers listed. + Ruddle: Best Bitter, County. + Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (SW48, U39)
SW16, GRUNTS. Renamed CENTRAL PARK, still fizz. Formerly NORBURY. (SW48, U44)
SW19, ROYAL SIX BELLS. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. - Tetley: Bitter. + Young: Bitter. (SW56, U29, U34)
SW19, SULTAN. - Tetley: Bitter. + Ind Coope: Burton Ale. (SW56, U48)
MITCHAM, HORSE & GROOM, 341 Tamworth Lane. - Ind Coope: Burton Ale. + Tetley: Bitter. + Young: Bitter. Note correct address. (SW68)
MORDEN, BEVERLEY. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. (SW70, U34)
RICHMOND, RAJ. Reverted to original name, THREE PIGEONS. (SW73)

WEST

W4, GEORGE IV. + Fuller: Chiswick Bitter. (W69)
HOUNSLOW, NORTH STAR. - Courage: Best Bitter. (W128)
ISLEWORTH, MILFORD ARMS. - Brakspear: Bitter. - Younger: IPA. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. Another Clifton Inns "Free House" reverts to Watney range beers. Reclassify as a Watney house. (W131)
TWICKENHAM, GEORGE. - beers listed. + Fuller: London Pride. + Greene King: IPA. + Marston: Pedigree. Now an Inn Leisure Free House, ex Whitbread. (W150)
TWICKENHAM, PAVILION BAR. - Young: Special. (W151)

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 51

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

W1 (Mar), BRICKLAYERS ARMS. King & Barnes: Festive Ale should be deleted.
W1 (S), ADMIRAL DUNCAN. Reference should read (W41).

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 52

NEW PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

N22, WELCOME INN. Delete comment, formerly LORDS. (U43)



PUB OF THE MONTH

BLOOMSBURY TAVERN
236 SHAFTESBURY AVENUE
WC2

071 240 8390

A beautifully restored West End Pub in the best Nicholson's
tradition offering Tetleys, Marstons, Wadworths, Youngs Ales
and Premium Sandwiches
(Roast Beef, Smoked Salmon, Prawns)

All Day

Open 11.00 am - 11.00 pm

GREENWICH REAL ALE FESTIVAL

The Greenwich Beer Festival, London's longest running beer festival, will take place on 28th, 29th and 30th June. The event, now in its twelfth year, will be at the usual venue the Borough Hall, Royal Hill, Greenwich SE10. The festivities commence at 5.30pm on Thursday and on Friday and Saturday you will have from 12 noon to 11pm to sample all 42 cask conditioned beers.

This year there will be a slight emphasis on beers from the West of England with such classic favourites as Donnington SBA, Hall & Woodhouse Tanglefoot, Palmers Tally Ho and St. Austell H.S.D. There will also be some lesser known beers from that area including Bunces Old Smokey and Uley Old Spot. We will be featuring 11 milds including Sarah Hughes Ruby - if you can call a beer at its strength a mild! The Continental bottled beer stand will include some which featured in Michael Jackson's recent TV series. There will also be a range of traditional ciders but as we go to press we cannot name the brands since our cider experts are still scouring the bye-ways to ensure that you have the best available.

Live Music - Only For Those Who Want It!

There will be entertainment with Ken Sims Dixieland Jazz Band on Friday evening and the ever popular Fulham Brass Band on Saturday night. We are well aware that many festival goers do not like to mix beer and music so, as ever at Greenwich, the bands will perform in a separate beer hall. On Saturday from noon to 2pm there will be a free supervised crèche for children under five.

The Products Stall will have a wide range of CAMRA items including some recently published guides which you may not have seen before. The Brewery Name Game stall, always an attractive feature at Greenwich, will have some very special prizes this year which will appeal to collectors of breweriana as well as those who simply want to have an enjoyable flutter. As ever souvenir glasses will be available and we are pleased to say that despite rising costs we have managed to hold the refundable deposit at only £1.

Free Admission For Drinker Readers

Admission to the festival will be £1.50 from 5pm onwards but CAMRA members - with their current membership card - will be admitted free at all times. For those of you who are not yet members there are two excellent options. If you show this copy of London Drinker at the door you will be allowed free entry on Thursday evening. Alternatively if you join CAMRA at the festival for £7 you will receive £2 of beer vouchers and will be given free admission to all sessions - a possible saving of £6.50. So you could in effect join for just 50p! Incidentally at the recent CAMRA A.G.M. it was decided to raise membership to £10 so our offer is terrific value. So, if you wish to join the continuing campaign against the likes of Whitbread see Jeff Sturrock and his team in the entrance foyer: Jeff accepts Access and Visa!

All admissions, either free or at £1.50, are subject to the fire regulations limits so come early to avoid queuing - especially Friday evening which is always popular. The Borough Hall is very conveniently situated near Greenwich BR Station, close to the Greenwich one-way system and is on the 1, 177, 180, 188, 286 and N77 bus routes. Via the Greenwich foot-tunnel, it is also very accessible from the Docklands Light Railway (Island Gardens Station).

BACK NUMBERS To date 124 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 1990: 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.

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 53 Continued

CORRECTIONS TO NORTH LONDON BEER GUIDE (2ND EDITION) 2ND SUPPLEMENT (MARCH 1990)

A supplement was published by CAMRA North London Branch in March 1990 containing a consolidated list of new real ale outlets, major changes and deletions to the North London Beer Guide since its publication in March 1987. These details have either been included in previous Updates or are included in the listings above.

A few errors and omissions occurred in the supplement as follows:

N1, LONDON APPRENTICE. Should read **CITY APPRENTICE** (see above).

NW4, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER. Should be listed under **NW9**.

NW7, EVERGLADES. Should be listed under **EDGWARE**. (N152)

See also corrections to 1st Supplement listed in Update 39.

THE ALCOHOL ROW THAT MAKES EC BUREAUCRATS' HEADS SPIN

Forget for a moment the Government's worries about inflation. Forget the delicate balancing act required of Mr Major tomorrow. And forget the health lobby's powerful arguments that Britain's taxation of alcoholic drinks is neither consistent nor sensible.

If 1992 and all that - the creation of a truly common market with no barriers to trade between the EC's member states - is to become reality, the way we tax alcohol is going to change profoundly over the next few years.

Post-Budget headlines about tuppence on a pint of beer will pale into insignificance. And the ritual dusting off of the family shopping trolley in early December for a day-trip to Boulogne to stock up with cheap booze for Christmas could become a faint and fond memory. At least, that's the theory.

The EC has made three attempts to draw up proposals for the community-wide harmonisation of duty on drinks.

At the moment, it takes no part in determining national rates of duty on alcohol. (The only qualification is that member states should not use their taxation system to favour domestic producers: it was this principle which forced Britain in 1984 to reduce the duty on wine by about a quarter.)

Hence the variation in rates between different countries is huge: Denmark, Eire and Britain levy high taxes; in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece, the rates of duty are very low. Broadly, speaking, it is cheaper to get drunk in the South than it is in the North.

Last October, after two sets of proposals had met serious resistance, Christiane Scrivener, the new commissioner for taxes, announced a compromise. In essence, she proposed minimum levels for duty which must be levied from 1993. Then, she said, there should be non-compulsory targets for governments to work towards over the unspecified longer term.

This seemed like a classic compromise: from a British point of view, for example, the 1993 minima are well below the levels already being levied so would force no immediate action. The Scrivener suggestion allows as much or as little action as the Government would like over as long a time-scale as it wishes.

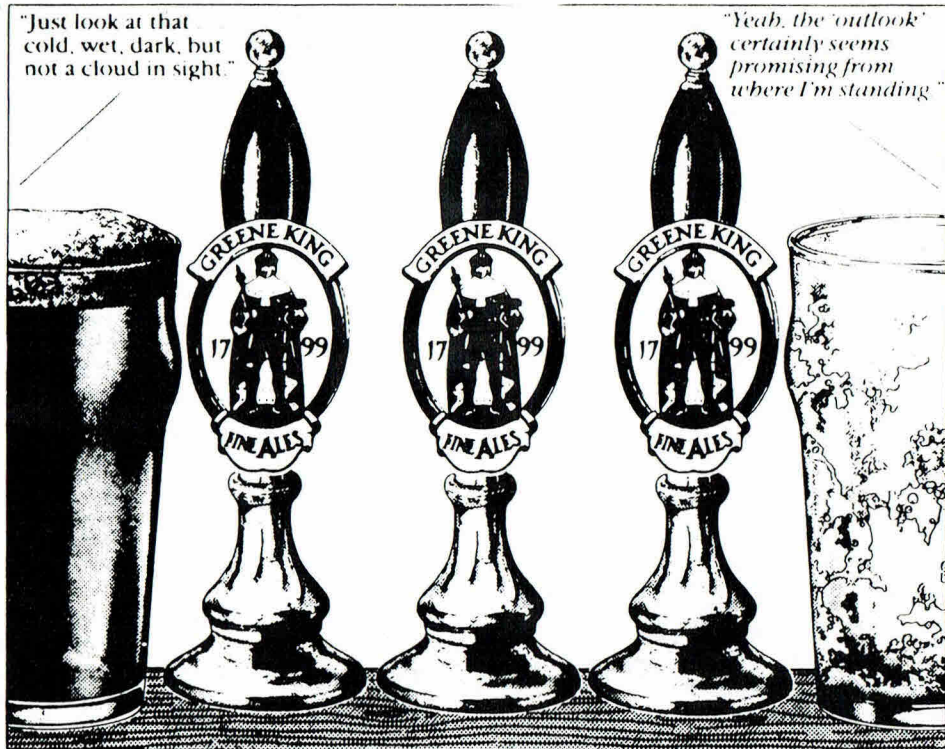
Others are less happy. For Portugal, Italy and Spain, meeting the 1993 charges would mean sharp and sudden price rises: they would be inflationary. And France and West Germany, who currently levy little or no duty on wine, would anger their wine-producers if they acceded to the Scrivener plan.

But there is a more fundamental flaw. The Scrivener proposals allow duties between member states to remain out of synch indefinitely, and a barrier-free Europe without approximate uniformity of taxes is a nonsense. Mike Foster, managing director of Courage, said at a conference organised by Barclays de Zoete Wedd recently: "The scope for fraud, illegal supply chains and so on would be enormous."

The Institute of Fiscal Studies commented recently: "If plans to abolish border checks are implemented, it will be possible for UK citizens to buy as much alcohol as they wish in, say, France and transport it all back to the UK." A study in Eire indicates that there is already substantial cross-border shopping for alcohol, especially for high-value drinks such as spirits.

Meeting the EC targets - rather than the 1993 minima - might be welcome for British drinkers: the price of a pint would fall by 15p, that of a bottle of wine by 65p and of a bottle of Scotch by nearly £2.

Cont on p29



carousing with one or two bottles of 'Old Nick', ignoring the advice I had once been given by an adherent to the stuff; "A few of those and you'll see the devil". I awoke at three in the morning, as stiff as a varnished eel, and with a dewy moisture on my clothes. I had a long wait at London Bridge station for the 'milk train' to take me home.

On one of the last occasions I drank, or tried to drink there, I never even made it to the bar. On hot summer lunchtimes, this deservedly popular pub is a seething mass of thirsty Londoners. It was at least three deep at the bar, and after waiting an age to progress to within hailing distance of the frenetic barstaff, it was announced that they had completely exhausted their supply of pint glasses. I hope by now that they are laying in extra glasses for the summer trade.

I now live and work in a part of the West Country dominated by Whitbread. Drinking in these places has improved vastly since Marstons 'Pedigree' has been available in most outlets, and in some, you can enjoy a delicious pint of Hook Norton. Such is the improvement after

that tiresome selection of West Country PA or Flowers original. Both were invariably appalling, and I might get a surprise one day, when I get served a well kept example of either of these beers.

Notwithstanding, how I thirst after a drop of Young's 'Special', or better still, a glass of Fuller's 'Pride'.

My drinking teeth were cut on both these London ales, and I respect both breweries for holding out against, what must have been hard times in the early seventies, seeing profits fade away, eroded by the incoming tidal wave of 'Fizz'.

In short, the rusticity of the pubs I now drink in is charming, and it's always true to say that one can never enjoy the best of both worlds, but I still wish I could find a place within walking distance where both of the worlds I have in mind could collide head on.

West Country surroundings, and London beer.

Andy Brown

DEAR DIPSY



Dear Dipsy,

The national newspaper which I read is regularly plagued by one Keith Flett, one of those people with an opinion on everything and a seemingly insatiable desire to inflict it on others via the Letters page. So frequent are his appearances that I now suffer from the hallucination of seeing his wretched name everywhere. Indeed, so bad has this become that I could have sworn I saw a letter AND an article by the man in April's London Drinker. Even copious intakes of Young's Special or Fuller's London Pride cannot make these visions go away, and I am miles from my usual cure-all, a pint of Brains SA. Please help me you're my last hope. Yours in despair,

A. Fortescue
Brentford

Dear A. Fortescue

There are four possible explanations for the condition from which you are suffering:

- 1. Your sighting of the so-called Keith Flett is actually exacerbated, not eased, by the consumption of the excellent beers you mention.*
- 2. He really did get a letter AND an article published in the April London Drinker.*
- 3. It was April after all.*
- 4. All of the above.*

As I don't have time to read The Guardian I don't even know which national newspaper you are referring to. It probably proves one thing though: London Drinker is so desperate for copy it will publish almost anything.

Dipsy

Dear Dipsy,

Being a serious minded citizen, I am a firm supporter of any measures to reduce, or even eliminate, the problem of drinking and driving. Being a man who likes a pint or two and living rather more than a comfortable walking distance from my favourite pub (and, incidentally,

**YES, WE HAVE
NO KEG BITTER -
ONLY THE REAL STUFF!**

ADNAMS BITTER
BODDINGTONS BITTER
RUDDLES BEST
WEBSTERS YORKSHIRE

T I L T E D G L A S S
TALLY-HO CORNER
359 BALLARDS LANE
FINCHLEY
LONDON N12

OPEN ALL DAY 11-11
PUB GRUB AVAILABLE
TUBE: WOODSIDE PARK
BUSES: 26, 125, 236

being quite keen on preserving my driving licence) I have bought a bicycle for my trips to the pub. It is great; I can now drink my (moderate) fill without worries.

There is just one problem though! Do you know a surefire method for disentangling my shirt collar from the chainwheel?

Wat A. Tangle

Dear Wat

My advice is to buy a tandem and hire a chauffeur/mechanic. He may also be useful in helping to spread the spokes just enough to help you get your leg back from through the wheel.

Dipsy

Cont from p27

This will not happen for a long time. Meanwhile, the proposed 1993 minima will leave cross-border shopping as a worthwhile occupation. There is a moral here: keep the wheels on your shopping trolley oiled; you will need it for some time yet.

WETHERED BITTER ● MARSTON PEDIGREE ● CASTLE EDEN ALE

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear London Drinker

I agree with much of what the ubiquitous Keith Flett says about more social pubs. Where I part company with him is over children. There are enough places for these noisy animals to run wild without letting them into pubs as well.

If parents find it irksome that their children are not welcome, the remedy lies in their hands. Let them train their offspring to at least the standard of discipline that is routinely expected of a dog.

Yours etc.

David Woodward
London E17

Tit for Tat?

Villagers in Coleford, Somerset, didn't take it too kindly when they discovered that Grand Metropolitan had plans of a terminal nature for their local, the King's Head Inn. The company sought permission from Mendip District Council to turn the pub itself into three cottages and to build another five homes on the car park and lawn. Well. The regulars only found what was afoot when they read about it in the local paper. So their action committee went into, errh, action. Off goes a letter to the company. The King's Head committee has made a planning application to Westminster City Council to demolish Grand Mets, headquarters building in Hanover Square, London W1. It is seeking approval to replace it with a pub. Well fairs fair.

Contd. from p.7

WEST MIDDLESEX: Wed 6 (8.30) Real Beer in West London Celebration Social (joint with Richmond & Hounslow and West London). **EXPRESS HOTEL**, Kew Bridge Road, Brentford - Sat 16 Day Trip to Brighton (joint with Brighton & South Downs Branch). Meet 09.45 at Victoria Station (outside Number Nine Bar) to catch the 10.05 (arrives 10.57). Ring Branch Contact for further details - Wed 25 (8.30) Social. **PADDINGTON PACKET BOAT**, High Road, Cowley Peachey (Recent Fullers conversion) - Wed 4 Jul (8.30) London Drinker Pick-up & Social. **VIADUCT**, 221 Uxbridge Road, Hanwell, W7.

Deadline for the July edition, 1st June. Material for August edition to arrive by 2nd July. **Please be sure to send diary material to Andy Pirson.**

Where to buy Continued

SW6 DUKE OF CUMBERLAND
 SW6 WHITE HORSE
 SW7 ANGLESEA ARMS
 SW8 SURPRISE
 SW8 PLOUGH
 SW8 PRIORY ARMS
 SW10 FERRET & FIRKIN
 SW11 BEEHIVE
 SW11 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE
 SW11 WINDSOR CASTLE
 SW11 WOODMAN
 SW12 DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE
 SW12 NIGHTINGALE
 SW12 PRINCE OF WALES
 SW14 RAILWAY TAVERN
 SW15 FOX & HOUNDS
 SW15 JOLLY GARDENERS
 SW15 WHITE LION
 SW16 GREYHOUND
 SW16 PIED BULL
 SW17 CASTLE
 SW17 LEATHER BOTTLE
 SW18 THE GRAPES
 SW18 SPREAD EAGLE
 SW19 ALEXANDRA
 SW19 GROVE
 SW19 KINGS HEAD
 SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL
 SW19 PRINCE OF WALES, 98
 Morden Road, S. Wimbledon
 SW19 TRAFALGAR
 CHESSINGTON, NORTH STAR
 KINGSTON, CARDINAL
 KINGSTON, COCOANUT
 KINGSTON, DRUIDS HEAD
 KINGSTON, KELLY ARMS
 KINGSTON, NEWT & FERRET
 KINGSTON, WYCH ELM
 MITCHAM, RAVENSURBY ARMS
 MITCHAM, KINGS ARMS
 NEW MALDEN, RAILWAY
 RICHMOND, ORANGE TREE
 RICHMOND, RED COW
 RICHMOND, SHAFTESBURY
 ARMS
 RICHMOND, WHITE CROSS
 RICHMOND, WHITE HORSE
 SURBITON, BUN SHOP
 SURBITON, VICTORIA
 WEYBRIDGE, PRINCE OF WALES,
 Outlands Park
 W1 ARGYLL ARMS
 W2 ARCHERY TAVERN
 W2 ROYAL STANDARD
 W3 KINGS ARMS
 W3 KINGS HEAD
 W3 RED LION & PINEAPPLE
 W4 BELL & CROWN

W4 WINDMILL
 W5 PLOUGH
 W5 RED LION
 W6 BLACK LION
 W6 BROOK GREEN HOTEL
 W6 RICHMOND ARMS
 W6 SALUTATION
 W7 VIADUCT
 W8 UXBRIDGE ARMS
 W10 NARROW BOAT
 W10 VILLAGE INN
 W11 FROG & FIRKIN
 W12 CROWN & SCEPTRE
 W13 THE FORESTER
 BRENTFORD, BREWERY TAP
 BRENTFORD, LORD NELSON
 BRENTFORD - NEW INN
 BRENTFORD - NORTH STAR
 CRANFORD, QUEENS HEAD
 GREENFORD, BLACK HORSE
 HAMPTON HILL, WINDMILL
 HAMPTON COURT, KINGS ARMS
 HARLINGTON, CROWN
 HARMONDSWORTH, CROWN
 HAYES, ROYAL STANDARD
 HILLINGDON, RED LION
 HILLINGDON, STAR
 HOUNSLOW, BEAVER
 HOUNSLOW, CHARIOT
 HOUNSLOW, CROSS LANCES
 HOUNSLOW, EARL RUSSELL
 SOUTHALE, BEACONSFIELD ARMS
 SOUTHALE, SCOTSMAN
 SOUTHALE, THREE HORSESHOES
 SUDBURY, BLACK HORSE
 TEDDINGTON, QUEEN DOWAGER
 TWICKENHAM, EEL PIE
 TWICKENHAM, POPE'S GROTT
 TWICKENHAM, PRINCE ALBERT
 WHITTON, ADMIRAL NELSON

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 S.U. Bar, 104 Bolsolver Street
 W3 LT District Line Social Club,
 Park Place

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 Road
 BRIGHTON, HAND IN HAND, Upper
 St James Street.
 BRIGHTON, QUEENS HEAD, Opposite
 Station.
 COLCHESTER, ODD ONE OUT, 28

Mersea Road.
 ELLAND (Yorks), BARGE &
 BARREL.
 HITCHIN (Herts), NEW FOUND
 OUT INN, Stevenage Road.
 LEWES, BREWERS ARMS, High
 Street.
 MANCHESTER, JOLLY ANGLER,
 Ducie Street
 PETERBOROUGH, BOGART'S,
 North Street
 POTTERS BAR (Herts), CHEQUERS,
 Coopers Lane.
 READING, WARWICK ARMS,
 Kings Road
 SALISBURY (Wilts), WYNDHAM
 ARMS, Estcourt Road.
 SHREWSBURY, ADMIRAL
 BENBOW,
 10 Swan Hill
 STEVENAGE (Herts) RED LION,
 High Street, Old Town.
 STOTFOLD (Beds) - FOX & DUCK,
 Arlsey Road
 SOUTHAMPTON, JUNCTION INN,
 Priory Road, St Denys.
 SUNBURY - HARE & HOUNDS, 132
 Vicarage Road
 TILLINGHAM (Essex), CAP &
 FEATHERS, South Street.
 WINCHESTER, BELL,
 St. Cross Road
 WORCESTER, BREWERY TAP &
 BREWERY, 50 Lowesmoor
 WORTHING, VINE,
 Tarring High Street
 WORTHING (Sussex), WHEAT-
 SHEAF, Richmond Road.

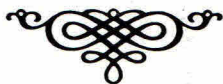
Do you have difficulty in getting your copy of London Drinker? If so, please ask your local outlet to increase its order. It helps us greatly to know of increased orders before printing as we work to a tight budget. It also ensures that potential readers are not disappointed.





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