

DRINKER



Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1

See Pages 4 and 40 for details

VO1 15

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

10s

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.

OUT	LETS - EAST and SOUTH	BARKINGSIDE, NEW FAIRLOP	N21 HALF MOON
	PUBS		
		OAK	N22 MOON UNDER WATER
EC1	ARTILLERY ARMS	BEXLEY, BLUE ANCHOR	N22 NELSON
EC1	PHEASANT & FIRKIN	CROYDON, BUILDERS ARMS	N22 PHOENIX
100000000000000000000000000000000000000			
EC1	SEKFORDEARMS	CROYDON, DOG & BULL	BARNET, MOON UNDER WATER
EC1	SUTTON ARMS	CARRY COD A TARE	BARNET, OLD MITRE
EC1		OFF TRADE	
	THOMAS WETHERED	E4 Waltham Wines, 72	COCKFOSTERS, TRENTTAVERN
EC3	SWAN	Sewardstone Road.	ENFIELDCRICKETERS
EC4	BANKER		ENFIELD, KING & TINKER
		SE3 Bitter Experience, 128 Lee	
E1	LORD RODNEYS HEAD	Road.	ENFIELD, OLD WHEATSHEAF
E2	APPROACH TAVERN	BEXLEYHEATH, Bitter Experience,	NEW BARNET, BUILDER ARMS
E2	CAMDENS HEAD		NEW BARNET, LORD KITCHENER
		216 Broadway.	
E2	MARKSMAN	BROMLEY, Bitter End, 139 Masons	NEW BARNET, RAILWAY BELL
E2	NELSON'SHEAD		
E8	LADY DIANA	Hill.	OUTLETS - NORTH-WEST
1000000			PUBS
E9	FALCON & FIRKIN	OUTLETS - WEST CENTRAL,	
E9	ROYAL STANDARD	AND NORTH PUBS	NW1 FRIAR & FIRKIN
			NW1 GLOUCESTER ARMS
E10	DRUM	WC1CALTHORPE ARMS	
E11	GEORGE	W C 1 CITTIE OF YORKE	NW1 MAN IN THE MOON
E14	QUEENS HEAD		NW1 QUINNS
		WC1MARLBOROUGH ARMS	NW3 FLASK TAVERN
E17	COLLEGE ARMS	WC1PAKENHAM ARMS	
SE1	ANCHOR & HOPE	WC1PRINCESS LOUISE	NW3 THREE HORESHOES
			NW4 CHEOUERS
SE1	COPPER	W C 1 RUGBY TAVERN	
SE1	FOUNDERS ARMS	WC1SUN	NW4 WHITE BEAR
SE1	GOOSE & FIRKIN	WC2CROWN & ANCHOR	NW4 WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
			NW6 QUEENS ARMS
SE1	GRAPES	WC2GEORGEIV	
SE1	HORNIMAN AT HAYS	W C2MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY	NW7 RAILWAY TAVERN
SE1	KINGS ARMS		NW 8 KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN
		N1 ALWYNE CASTLE	NW8 ROSSETII
SE1	MARKET PORTER	N1 COMPTON ARMS	
SE1	PRINCE WILLIAM HENRY	N1 CROWN	NW9 J.J. MOONS
SE1	SHIP, 68 Borough Road		NW9 MOON UNDER WATER
			NW10 GRAND JUNCTION ARMS
SE1	WELLINGTON TAVERN	N 1 FLOUNDER & FIRKIN	
SE1	WHEATSHEAF	N 1 GEORGE & VULTURE	NW10 OUTSIDE INN
SE3	BRITISH OAK		HAREFIELD, PLOUGH
		N1 HEMINGFORD ARMS	HARROW, MOON ON THE HILL
SE3	HARE & BILLET	N1 KINGS HEAD, 59 Essex Road.	
SE3	PRINCESS OF WALES	N1 MALT & HOPS	HARROW WEALD, SEVEN BALLS
SE3	RAILWAY TAVERN		KENTON, NEW MOON
			RUISLIP, J.J. MOONS
SE5	PHOENIX & FIRKIN	N1 MITRE, Copenhagen Street	
SE6	TIGERS HEAD	N 1 PINT POT	SOUTH HARROW, J.J. MOONS
SE7	McDONNELS		SUDBURY, BLACK HORSE
		N1 PRINCE ARTHUR	WEALDSTONE, ROYAL OAK
SE8	DOG & BELL	N2 OLD WHITE LION	WEALDSTONE, ROTAL OAK
SE8	ROYAL GEORGE	N4 TAP & SPILE	OPE ON LINE
	ADMIRAL HARDY		OFF TRADE
			N1 Beer Shop, Pitfield Street.
SEIO	ASHBURNHAM ARMS	N7 ADMIRAL MANN	
SE10	RICHARD I	N7 FAT HARRY'S	
	FOX & FIRKIN		NW6 Grogblossom, 235 West End
		N 8 ELBOW ROOM	Lane.
SE16	BLACKSMITHS ARMS	N 8 TOLL GATE	Dane.
SE16	MANOR TAVERN	N9 BEEHIVE	CITIDO
			CLUBS
	MOBY DICK	N10 WETHERSPOONS	NW4 MIDDLESEX POLYTECHNIC
SE18	COOPERS ARMS	N11 NORTHERN STAR	SOCIAL CLUB
	(PLAISTED'S)		SOCIALCION
anıa		N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN	OXIMA DIMO GOVIENA MANON
	EARL OF CHATHAM	N12 TALLY HO	OUTLETS - SOUTH WEST and
E18	ROSE'S (PRINCE ALBERT)	N12 TILTED GLASS	WEST PUBS
	VILLAGE BLACKSMITH		SW1 BARLEY MOW
		N13 WHOLE HOG	
	HOP EXCHANGE	N14 WOOLPACK	SW1 BUCKINGHAM ARMS
SE22	CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN	N16 PRINCE OF WALES	SW1 FOX & HOUNDS
	BIRD IN HAND		SW1 MORPETH ARMS
		N16 ROSE & CROWN	
	COMMERCIAL	N16 SHAKESPEARE	SW1 ORANGE BREWERY
SE25	ALLIANCE	N16 TANNERS HALL	SW1 PAVIOURS ARMS
	PRINCE OF DENMARK		
		N17 ELBOW ROOM	SW1 RISING SUN
	GOAT HOUSE	N17 NEW MOON	SW1 ROYALOAK

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SW2 HOPE & ANCHOR

N19 DOG

N19 J. J. MOONS

N21 DOG & DUCK

SE26 DULWICH WOOD HOUSE

ADDISCOMBE, CLARET WINE BAR

SE27 HOPE

EDITORIAL

As a CAMRA member I seem to suffer repeatedly from Deja Vu and it's not at all pleasant. Every now and then I pick up a newspaper or my copy of What's Brewing and think, "Oh no, here we go again!" What am I talking about? It's no surprise really, Whitbread are closing ANOTHER brewery. Not content with having closed a dozen regional breweries in the last decade, now they are axing their largest ale producer, the Exchange Brewery in Sheffield which brews Higson's, Chester's and Bentley's beers as well as being the last remaining supplier of the much maligned Trophy Bitter.

Having spent no less than £17 million in the last five years on modernising the brewery they are now throwing this investment down the drain, "...so that we can continue to be efficient," according to marketing director Steve Philpott, as reported in the February edition of What's Brewing. Do they seriously mean that they spent £17 million of their shareholders' money (raised from money taken from their customers) in order to be less efficient? That would seem to be a logical extension of that argument; or else they are admitting to an almighty great cockup in making the investment. Either way. they seem to be taking the Red Barrel out of somebody.

So what breweries will this closure leave in the Whitbread empire? Well, there is the renowned centre of "badge engineering" at Cheltenham which produces under the Flowers, West Country and Fremlins names. (It also used to produce beers called Wethered's, Strong's and Pompey Royal [Brickwoods] but these are all contracted out Then there is the Castle Eden now.) Brewery which has been hanging on by the skin of its teeth for years but now seems a bit more secure with the recognition that in their Castle Eden Ale there is a true regional beer of quality (not that that made much difference to Wethered's) and there are suggestions that they will be brewing more of the Porter which went down so well last summer.

Then, finally there is the Boddington's Brewery at Strangeways, Manchester which

they bought from Boddington's in 1990 when they got out of brewing to increase their interests in old people's homes. This is now their largest real beer production site producing what was once a really distinctive beer in vast quantities to be shipped all over the place as Whitbread's national cask bland (er sorry, brand).

And what do you buy if you go into a Whitbread pub for a pint of decent beer? In all probability it will be either Brakspear's Bitter or Marston's Pedigree. For the sake of all of us PLEASE don't let them take over either of those breweries; I think I should give up all hope of ever seeing again a healthy brewing industry in this country producing good distinctive regional beers that drinkers want to drink.

On another tack, but still talking about a distinctive beer, you will no doubt have read last month the correspondence between Aidan Kerrigan of Harlesden and Rob McNevin, Marketing Director at Guinness Park Royal. If not, then go back and do so straight away. It was, of course, about the discontinuation of real bottled Guinness which will occur next month unless somebody has a greater change of heart than Dr. Christian Barnard ever performed. Of course the Guinness you buy supermarkets, and anywhere else that it comes in non returnable bottles, has been "pre-conditioned" (that is pasteurised in English) for a long time and it was presumably only a matter of time before this My little story does, however, occurred. show the other side of the coin.

I was in one of my local pubs in late January (last week as I write this) and one of my mates failed to show up. The reason was that the second pedal on his bike (about six months old) had broken and he was walking it back home. He did, however, send his brother on to the pub with the broken pedal as proof of his misfortune.

But to get a bit nearer to the point as they parted, Ron (for such is his name) asked Clive (his aforementioned brother) to take him home a bottle of Bulldog to alleviate his

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CAMRA presents the



10th - 12th March 1993 Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1

Wednesday and Thursday: 11.30am - 3.00pm Free

5.00pm -10.30pm £1.50

Friday 12.00am -10.30pm

£1.50 after 3.00pm

No admission after 10pm

Good Food all sessions
Live music Thursday & Friday evenings
Wednesday night: quiet night

Nearest tube: King's Cross. Beers subject to availability

IDLE MOMENTS

Once again I bid welcome to all of you who have ventured into my page in search of enlightenment. You won't find any but I bid you welcome all the same. And for those of you who have dipped in to see what rubbish I could come up with this time, welcome to you also (or to put it another way - Here's my column and you're welcome to it). And to any of you who my be reading this for the first time and wondering what it is all about, stick with it - it might all become clear as we go along (though I doubt it).

Well, that's that rubbish out of the way; here are the answers to last month's number puzzles:

- 1. 2,592,000 Seconds in November
- 2. 25 Pence is the Price of the Sun Newspaper
- 76 Years is the Periodicity of Halleys Comet
- 4. 180 Degrees is the Sum of the Angles of a Triangle
- 5. 4 Dials on Big Ben
- 6. 600 Feet equals one Cable
- 7. 4 is the Number of the Queen's Children
- 8. 2 Moons of Mars
- 601 was the Last Trolleybus Route in London
- 10. 10 is the Cube Root of a Thousand

I thought I might change things this month to save having the same old number puzzles as the first bit; but then I thought "Why?" and failing to come up with a reason, I left them where they were. So here they are:

- 1. 10 P of C (and 2 T)
- 2. 1979 FE of LDP in M
- 3. 4406 F is the H of BN
- 4. 1940 B of B
- 12 NOH of CR
- 0272 is the DC for B
- 7. 8 S on an O
- 8. 2304 WT by FT
- 9. 4 RB by F
- 10. 1975 Y of CGBE

As you will see from this month's answers an awful lot of the Brewery Anagrams come from near the front of the alphabet. That's usually because when I get my Scabble set and Good Beer Guide out I tend to get fed up (or hungry) before I get very far through the alphabet. Anyway, here are last month's solutions:

- 1. HAVE "B" LEN BELHAVEN
- 2. HIS BOAT, RIK BRITISH OAK
- 3. GLIB MAP BIG LAMP
- 4. OH REAL SAM EARL SOHAM
- 5. WANT A BLOCK? BLACKAWTON

This month I've made a special effort and a couple come from the other end of the alphabet:

- 1. REAPS BARK
- 2. STEWS COAT
- 3. SNOT OAR MAN
- 4. IOU QUARTER ASH
- 5. HER W.I. LIST

If you didn't read the general knowledge questions in last month's Idle Moments, some of the following answers won't make a lot of sense; if you did you have probably been waiting with bated breath for them. Here they are:

- 1. A new heart. He was the first heart transplant patient.
- 2. Sandringham
- 3. There is no fixed number it varies.
- 4. 1983 (4th October)
- 5. Thrust 2.
- 6. Michael Heseltine
- 7. Charles II
- 8. Raymond Chandler
- 9. 1024
- 10. Tin

And just to keep things ticking over here are this month's:

- What is the Capital of Mongolia?
- 2. What is the title of the second book in Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings" trilogy?
- 3. What are stocks, blue brindles and flettons?
- 4. By what name was the country Benin formerly known?
- What sporting competition is played for the Russell-Cargill Memorial Cup?
- By what name is Declan McManus better known?
- 7. Who originated the Penny Post in 1840?
- 8. What duo had two stage shows in the

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Contd. from p.5

sixties called "At the Drop of a Hat" and "At the Drop of Another Hat"?

- 9. What number is DLV in Roman numerals?
- 10. Who wrote the novel called Tono-Bungay?

Last month, you may recall, the Brain Teasers came in the form of word puzzles received from Simon Fyffe of Ilford. Here are the answers (and the specific letters are printed in bold type to help you spot them):

- 1. FACETIOUS
- QUEUEING (This word was thrown up as an error by my spell checker which preferred QUEUING. The Oxford English Dictionary - even the full length one - does not say whether the second E should disappear)
- 3. RHYTHMS
- 4. PUSHCHAIR
- 5. CATCHPHRASE
- 6. STRENGTHLESSNESS
- 7. BOOKKEEPER

(SUBBOOKKEEPER)

8. SEQUOIA

Like I said last month, if any of your solutions are different from those given I should be interested to hear from you. I am out of proper Brain Teasers at the moment so if anybody would like the usual little bit of fame (and definitely no fortune) I should love to hear from you with your ideas. In the meantime, see if you can work out the following little (real life) puzzle:

Some time ago I was in a local pub and hearing the call of nature I took a stroll to the gents. In there I saw a roughly written sign bearing a message of two words. On returning to the bar I asked whether the sign was a warning or an instruction, which amused him. What did the sign say?

Well, that's all I have for you this time so I shall wish you a good month. Remember, by the end of March it will be Spring.

Bye for now.

Andy Pirson

ENGELBRÄU COMPETITION

London Drinker has teamed up with the Bavarian Beer Company to bring you this "heavenly" readers' competition. Three readers will each win their own "Angel Kit", comprising: one case (20x halflitres) of Weisse beer; Engelbräu T-shirt; beermats and membership of the Angel Club.

Just answer these two questions on a postcard (including your name, address and daytime phone) and post to arrive by March 25th:

- a. What does a Bavarian mean by an Engel?
- b. What is the ABV of Grünten Weisse?

The first three correct entries drawn on March 25th will win an Angel Kit. Winners will be informed by telephone on March 26, and be listed in the following issue. Open to over 18s only.

RAY POWELL

PAINTER & DECORATOR

INTERIOR & EXTERIOR

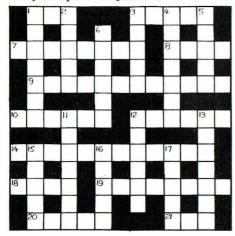
10% DISCOUNT TO CAMRA MEMBERS

OR A FEW PINTS AND A CURRY TO FOLLOW

TEL: 081-959 8191 MOBILE 0831 657261

LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



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All correct entries received by first post on 31st March will be entered into a draw for the prize.

Prize winner will be announced in the May 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

114	Y	0	В		9/		S	0	F	A	R	
	0		E		В		P		A		E	
В	U	L	L	S	E	Y	E		L	0	V	E
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£10 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

1	&	3.	You	can	get	high	on	it	in	a
			pub.	•					[3,!	5]
7		Cua	rdian	101	te n	ine o	rte	an i	line	00

make it. [8]

8. Advantage of going to the limit. [4]

Young man with nothing passes wind to a high degree. [6,2,4]

10. Mail bag has torn inside?
Horrified! [6]

12. A sleep, somehow, may satisfy.

14. Portion of spirit? [5,7

18. It'll make you light-headed.[4]

19. What Alex Higgins may need?

20. Alan put drink before everything. [5]

21. The last word in stories. 3]

DOWN

1.	Is	the	Queen	to	steal	a	pub
	gla	iss?]	4,3]

Tries to disrupt services! [5]
 Oval's delirious over shots.[5]

4. Musical note is cut. [7]

5. Bright beer? [5]6. Having one's mind fixed on

camping? [6]
11. Dry wine you take off here. [7]

12. Quietly lift up worship. [6]
13. He dares to make cut. [7]

13. He dares to make cut. [7] 15. High explosive skill and

courage. [5]
16. Lesson to be learnt from man's

first test. [5]

17. Might he take a pawn? [5]

Winner of the prize for the December Crossword:

Steve Armstrong, 17 Penarth Rise, Sherwood Vale, Nottingham, NG5 4EE. Other correct entries were received from:

Other Coffect many, Anon, Pat Andrews, Mark Antony, 'Armless', Geoff B, Mrs Shamune Baksh, Alan Brooke, K.Burchell, N.A.Canton, Neil Chapman, A.P.Comaish, Charles Creasey, Jame Darnbrough, Robert Day, Kathryn Everett, B.H.Pletcher, Elleen Graves, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Alistair Grills, John Heekin, Alison Henley, Ron Herbert,

Graham Hill, William Hill, P.C.Hinder, Mike Hounslow, Hugh Jampton, Phil Kempton, Doug King & Queen, Pete Large, John Lay, Pat McAleavy, Jim Mason, M.J.Moran, Jan Musson, Terry Neill, Rab Noolas, Steve Piqqott, R.Prince, Mikes Richards/Parrelly, Pinbar Saunders,

A.C.Scutter, Eddie Sissons, Horn Smallpoint, Sue Grabbitt & Runne, Glyn Thomas, David Tyrrell, Neil Walton, Martin Weedon, Tony Whitford, Chris Whithouse, Stephen Williams, Susan Wilson,

David Woodward, Yak.

There was also one incorrect entry.

Existing Establishments

STROUD GREEN
WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
125/127 Stroud Green Road
N4

HARINGEY
OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH
10-12 Grand Parade N4

TURNPIKE LANE
THE TOLLGATE
26-30 Turnpike Lane N8

STOKE NEWINGTON THE TANNERS HALL 145 High Street N16

WOOD GREEN/TOTTENHAM
THE NEW MOON
413 Lordship Lane N17

TOTTENHAM
THE ELBOW ROOM
503-505 High Road N17

ARCHWAY
THE DOG
17/19 Archway Road N19

KINGSBURY
J J MOONS
553 Kingsbury Road NW7

WEST HENDON
THE WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
3 York Parade

West Hendon Broadway London NW9

THE DRUM
557/9 Lea Bridge Road E10

BARNET
THE MOON UNDER WATER
148 High Street Barnet

ENFIELD
THE MOON UNDER WATER
115/117 Chase Side Enfield

NEASDEN
THE OUTSIDE INN
312-314 Neasden Lane
NW10

SOUTH HARROW JJ MOONS 3 Shaftesbury Parade Shaftesbury Circle South Harrow

EAST BARNET THE RAILWAY BELL 13 East Barnet Road East Barnet

CHALK FARM
THE MAN IN THE MOON
40-42 Chalk Farm Road
NW1

HAMPSTEAD
THE THREE HORSESHOES
28 Heath Street,
Hampstead, NW3

WEALDSTONE THE SARSEN STONE 32 High Street, Wealdstone, Middlesex

FOREST HILL THE BIRD IN HAND Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill, SE22

WANSTEAD THE GEORGE High Street, Wanstead, E11 THE MOON UNDER WATER 10/11 Broadway Parade, Coldharbour Lane, Middlesex

BETHNAL GREEN THE CAMDEN'S HEAD 456 Bethnal Green Road, E2 LEICESTER SQUARE
THE MOON UNDER WATER
28 Leicester Square,WC2

HEATHROW JJ MOONS Terminal Four (Airside)

NOW OPEN

THE WHISPERING MOON

25 Ross Parade, Woodcote Road, Wallington, Surrey

JJ MOONS

Heathrow Airport (Landside), Terminal Four

WETHERSPOON'S

Victoria Station, SW1

THE BANKERS DRAFT

36-38 Friern Barnet Road, Southgate N14

OPENING SOON

J J Moons, 80-82 Chiswick High Road, W14

The Hooking Green Inn, 19-20 The Broadwalk, Pinner Road, North Harrow, Middlesex

Moon and Sixpence, 1250-1256 Uxbridge Road, Hayes End, Middlesex

The Lamb, 52-54 Church Street, Edmonton, N9

The George, 17-20 George Street, Croydon, Surrey

The Miller's Well, 419-421 Barking Road, East Ham, E6

179 Upper Street, 178 -179 Upper Street, N1

The Village Inn, 402-408 Rayners Lane, Harrow, Middlesex

The Coliseum, Manor Park Road, Harlesden, NW10

The Spotted Dog, Garrett Lane, Arndale Centre, Wandsworth, SW18

194 Balham High Street

407-409 Brixton Road, SW2

27 Green Lane, Northwood, Middlesex

1327 London Road, Norbury



STREATHAM
J J MOONS
2 Streatham Hill SW2

SHEPHERDS BUSH
THE MOON ON THE GREEN
172-174 Uxbridge Road
Shepherd's Bush W12

PALMERS GREEN THE WHOLE HOG 430-434 Green Lanes Palmers Green N13

COLINDALE
THE MOON UNDER WATER
10 Varley Parade
Colindale NW9

RUISLIP MANOR J J MOONS 12 Victoria Road Ruislip Manor

MITCHAM
THE WHITE LION OF
MORTIMER

223 London Road Mitcham

WEMBLEY JJ MOONS 397 High Road Wembley

TOOTING
JJ MOONS
56a High Street
Tooting SW17

NORTH FINCHLEY THE TALLY HO High Road, North Finchley London N12

HOUNSLOW
THE MOON UNDER WATER
84-86 Staines Road,

Hounslow, Middlesex

CROUCH END

THE ELBOW ROOM 22 Topsfield Parade Tottenham Lane London N8

HARROW
THE MOON ON THE HILL
373-375 Station Road
Harrow, Middlesex

HATCH END
THE MOON AND SIXPENCE
250 Uxbridge Road, Hatch End

WINCHMORE HILL
HALF MOON

749 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill London N21

THE NEW MOON 25-26 Kenton Park Parade Kenton Road, Kenton, Middx

CATFORD
THE TIGER'S HEAD
Bromley Road, Catford, SE6

CRICKLEWOOD

THE BEATEN DOCKET
50-56 Cricklewood Broadway NW2

LIVERPOOL STREET
HAMILTON HALL
Liverpool Street Station EC2

BARKINGSIDE THE NEW FAIRLOP OAK Fencepiece Road, Barkingside

TWICKENHAM
THE MOON UNDER WATER
53-57 London Road

53-57 London Road Twickenham

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors

A friend of mine recently attended the Fullers AGM as he is a minor shareholder. The Chairman announced that he welcomed the increase in shareholding by Whitbread as the two companies have had a long term relationship, and that a director of Whitbread had telephoned beforehand to alleviate any worries on the part of Fullers that there was anything sinister in this move. Whitbread PLC has 9.7% and Whitbread Investment PLC has 4.3%.

I am not surprised by the growing shareholding; this is after all the normal way for Whitbread to gradually infiltrate successful independent breweries, gnawing away like rats at the remaining shareholders until a full bid is almost certain to succeed with the likely result being closure. The callous way Morlands Brewery was thrown to the wolf (Greene King), when a more sensitive dispersal of their attitude. No doubt over the years the directors of Morlands were repeatedly assured by Whitbread that there was nothing sinister in their growing shareholding.

I am, however, amazed that there are still small breweries around whose directors actually believe such bland assurances. The alternative (that the Fullers directors see no long term future for the brewery that they are paid to run successfully) is too frightening to contemplate. Despite all the good work of CAMRA over the years to make the public aware of such actions by the large breweries, this will all come to nothing if the small brewers' directors do not wish to stay independent. When does the Chairman of Fullers think that a growing Whitbread shareholding becomes unacceptable? If I were a shareholder committed to Fullers future then I would be extremely worried by recent events.

Yours faithfully David Kenlock, Richmond

Dear Editors

Reading through the excellent London Drinker, I cannot help but notice that most partaking of real ale, branch meetings and publicity all revolve around public houses.

My own club (Wood Green Labour Club-CIU affiliated) stocks four real ales (not bad for a members club). Invariably all four real ales are on and they are priced around the £1.20 a pint mark. Ales are also changed from time to time.

London Drinker quite rightly complains about overpricing in public houses but I am not aware that CAMRA offers any support to clubs who are doing their bit to fly the flag, other than arranging very occasional branch meetings in a local club.

Do the pubs or clubs need your support? Clubs are suffering as much as anyone in this recession and working on a much lower profit margin.

Yours faithfully Colin Richell, London N13

PS The address of Wood Green Labour Club is 3 Stuart Crescent, Wood Green, London N22.

Editor's Comment:

The question of what support to give to a members' club is a difficult one in some ways. By comparison, when we say something about a pub the information is relevant to every one of our members who can make his way to the place and go in and drink there (so long as he doesn't do something to upset the landlord). In the case of a club the audience for our information is restricted to members of other affiliated clubs (such as CIU or British Legion clubs).

Also, a club caters almost totally for its members. If they are not interested in real ale there is no point in an outside organisation like CAMRA coming in suggesting what they should be offering. If, on the other hand, they do want real ale, it is they alone who have the power to get it in.

I think it comes down to whether the active members of CAMRA are members of clubs because, at the end of the day, we are campaigning for our own choice. I campaign for real ale because I like it; if the drinking public as a whole benefit that is a bonus.

Andy Pirson

THEREAL ALEFESTIVAL



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR MAIN ALE SUPPLIERS "WEST COUNTRY PRODUCTS LTD - CLASSIC ALES" FOR ALL THEIR HELP AND SUPPORT DURING OUR FESTIVALS.



WADWORTH











Our real ale festival continues until the third week of March. Amongst our many ales we have on, we are pleased to announce that we are one of the very few pubs in London to stock Fullers newest release:

"FULLERS HOCK"

We look forward to seeing you!









"HEAVENLY" BEER COMES TO LONDON

Heavenly beers have come to London! A new, Ealing-based firm, the Bavarian Beer Company, has been set up to import a range of brews from a small country brewery called Engelbräu (German for Angel Brew).

Engelbräu (pronounced: En-gel-broy) is being aimed at pubs, clubs, off-licences and supermarkets. The Bavarian Beer Company (BBC) also hopes to build up a trade at CAMRA beer festivals. A small amount of its Festbier appeared at the Battersea Beerex last month.

"Engelbräu is exactly the sort of beer likely to appeal to cask beer fans", says the BBC's managing director Forrest Duncan, a member of CAMRA himself.

They are distinct in taste and very high in quality. And each conforms to the Bavarian purity laws, the Reinheitsgebot.

The Engelbräu range currently stands at four:

- 1. Premium Pils (4.9% ABV), a bitter Pilsener
- 2. Grünten Weisse (5% ABV), classic Bayarian wheat beer
- 3. Festbier (5.6% ABV), a seasonal Winter
- 4. Doppelbock (7.8% ABV), powerful dark Bock beer

Adds Mr Duncan: "Apart from the sheer quality, what will set us off against the rest is our commitment to top-class customer service and our marketing of the beers. Outlets selling Engelbräu brands can rely on a very personal and bespoke approach to backing from us".

He is planning a series of Weisse beer roadshows, at which BBC staff will demonstrate the finer points of pouring - and drinking - wheat beers, in a fun atmosphere with lots of give-aways. Another unusual idea is the "Angel Club" for regular drinkers, with special tastings and offers for members. And his own, portable Engelbräu Pils Bar will be available for private functions.

And the brand to take off fastest is the wheat beer, called Grünten Weisse (Grünten is the name of the 5,000 ft mountain that overlooks the brewery) says Forrest Duncan: "This is a Hefe-Weisse, meaning it is naturally-conditioned in the bottles and comes with a good portion of yeast sediment. And it is great to see so

m a n y taking to it

Picture Grüntenwheat beer Engelbräu Vabaria. available in h B e e rGrünten-5% Alcohol and

people so quickly". shows: Weisse, the from brewery in the UK from Bavarian Company. Weisse is by volume

the

naturallyconditioned in the bottle, which means it contains a sediment - to be served along with the rest of the beer to produce a cloudy glass.

U.K. £10

APPLICATION FOR CAMRA MEMBERSHIP

I/We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale Limited, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Campaign. _____DATE ____ NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS_ POSTCODE —

SIGNATURE _ TELEPHONE NUMBER(S) I/We enclose remittance for individual/joint membership for one year:

I/We would like to receive further information about CAMRA Overseas £14

Please send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Limited) with this application form to:

THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, CAMRA LTD, 34 ALMA ROAD, ST ALBANS, HERTS AL1 3BW



NICHOLSON'S NEW BEST BITTER

Available at the

Black Friar
Bloomsbury Tavern
Butlers Head
Crown
Crown Tavern
Globe
Crown & Two Chairmen
Old Bull Tavern
Punch Tavern
Red Lion EC3
Kingsway Tavern

Ship & Compass
Viaduct Tavern
Dog & Duck
Antelope
Argyll Arms
Australian
Ship
Golden Lion
Clachan
Coal Hole
Barley Mow
Unicorn

Devonshire Arms
Williamsons Tavern
George
Harcourt Arms
Leinster Arms
Prince Alfred
Doggetts Coat & Badge
Catherine Wheel
Horniman at Hays
Red Lion SW1
Southwark Tavern



REAL DRAUGHT BEER and where to find it

A LIST OF YOUNG'S PUBS

Duke of Devonshire, 39 Balham High Rd Grove, 39 Oldridge Rd Nightingale, 97 Nightingale Lane BARKING, Essex Britannia, 1 Church Rd BARNES, SW13 Bull's Head, 373 Lonsdale Rd Coach and Horses, 27 High St White Hart, The Terrace, Riverside BATTERSEA, SW11 Castle, 115 Battersea High St Dulse of Cambridge, 228 Battersea Bridge Rd BEDDINGTON, Surre Plough, Croydon Rd BETCHWORTH, Surrey Dolphin, The Street BLOOMSBURY, WC1 Calthorpe Arms, 252 Gray's Inn Rd Lamb, 94 Lamb's Conduit St Three Cups, 21-22 Sandland St BOROUGH SE1 Bunch of Grapes, 2 St Thomas St BOW, E3 Coborn Arms, 8 Coborn Rd Hope and Anchor, 123 Acre Lane, SW2 Trinity Arms, 45 Trinity Gardens, SW9 CARSHALTON, Surrey Greyhound, 2 High St CATFORD, SE6 Catford Ram, 9 Winslade Way Chelsea Ram, Burnaby St, SW10 Coopers' Arms, 87 Flood St, SW3 King's Arms, 190 Fulham Rd, SW10 CHERTSEY, Survey Crown, London St CHISLEHURST, Kent Bull's Head, Royal Parade CHISWICK, W4 Crown and Anchor, 374 Chiswick High Rd CITY OF LONDON Chapman's, the Wine Lodge, 145 Fenchurch St. EC3 City Retreat, 74 Shoe Lane, EC4 Dirty Dick's, 202 Bishopsgate, EC2 East India Arms, 67 Fenchurch St, EC3 Elephant, 119 Fenchurch St, EC3 Lamb Tavern, Leadenhall Market, EC3 Master Gunner, Cathedral Place, EC4 Three Lords, The Minories, EC3 CLAPHAM COMMON, SW4 Windmill, South Side CLAPHAM JUNCTION, SW11 Plough, 89 St John's Hill CLAPTON, E5

Prince of Wales, 146 Lea Bridge Rd

London Spa, 70 Exmouth Market Sekforde Arms, 34 Sekforde St

CLAYGATE, Surrey

Foley Arms, Foley R.

Marquess of Anglesey, 39 Bow St CROYDON, Surrey Dog and Bull, 24 Surrey St Gloucester, 111 White Horse Rd Tamworth Arms, 62 Tamworth Rd DARTFORD, Kent Malt Shovel, 3 Darenth Rd DORKING, Surrey Old House at Home, 24 West St DULWICH, SE26 Dulwich Wood House, 39 Sydenham Hill EAST DULWICH, SE22 Clock House, 196a Peckham Rye EAST SHEEN, SW14 Hare and Hounds, 216 Upper Richmond Rd West EFFINGHAM, Surrey Plough, Orestan Lane EPSOM, Surrey King's Arms, 144 East St ESHER, Surrey Bear, 71 High St ETON WICK, Berkshire Pickwick, 32 Eton Wick Rd FTTZROVIA, W1 One Tun, 58 Goodge St FULHAM, SW6 Duke of Cumberland, 235 New King's Rd CREENFORD, Middlesex Bridge Hotel, Western Avenue GREENWICH, SE10 Richard I, 52-54 Royal Hill HAMMERSMITH, W6 Brook Green, 170 Shepherd's Bush Rd Builders, 81 King St. Thatched House, 115 Dalling Rd HAMPSTEAD, NW3 Flank, 14 Flask Walk Horse and Groom, 68 Heath St HARLESDEN, NW10 Grand Junction Arms, Acton Lane ISLEWORTH, Middlesex Castle, 18 Upper Square Coach and Horses, 183 London Rd ISLINGTON, NI Marquess Tavern, 32 Canonbury St KENSINGTON Britannia, 1 Allen St. W8 Britannia Tap, 150 Warwick Rd, W14 KEW, Surrey Coach and Horses, 8 Kew Green Queen's Arms, 1 High Rd KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES, Surrey Albert Arms, 57 Kingston Hill, Norbiton Bishop Out of Residence, 2 Bishop's Hall, off Thames St Grey Horse, 46 Richmond Rd Spring Grove, 13 Bloomfield Rd LAMBETH, SW8 Plough, 518 Wandsworth Rd Prince of Wales, 99 Union Rd

Surprise, 16 Southville

COVENT GARDEN, WC2

LOUGHBOROUGH JUNCTION, SE5 Wickwood Tavern, 58 Flaxman Rd MARYLEBONE, WI Black Horse, 109 Marylebone High St Wargrave Arms, 42 Brendon St MAYFAIR, W1 Guinea, 30 Bruton Place Windmill 6-8 Mill St MERTON, SW19 King's Head, 18 High St Prince of Wales, 98 Morden Rd MITCHAM, Surrey Bull, 32 Church Rd Cricketers, 340 London Rd King's Arms, 260 London Rd MORTLAKE, SW14 Charlie Butler, 40 High St Jolly Gardeners, 36 Lower Richmond Rd NORWOOD Hope, 49 High St, SE27 Railway Bell, 14 Cawnpore St, SE19 NOTTING HILL, W11 Duke of Wellington, 179 Portobello Rd Hoop, 83-85 Notting Hill Gate OXFORD King's Arms, 40 Holywell St OXSHOTT, Surrey Bear, Leatherhead Rd PIMLICO, SW1 Morpeth Arms, 58 Millbank Rising Sun, 46 Fhury Bridge Rising Sun, 46 Ebury Bridge Rd Royal Oak, 1 Regency St PLUMPTON CREEN, East Sussex Fountain, Station Rd PUINEY, SW15 Castle, 220 Putney Bridge Rd Duke's Head, 8 Lower Richmond Rd Green Man, Putney Heath Half Moon, 93 Lower Richmond Rd Spotted Horse, 122 Putney High St REDHILL, Surrey Home Cottage, Redstone Hill Home Cottage, Redstor REGENT'S PARK, NW1

Queens, 49 Regent's Park Rd Spread Eagle, 141 Albert St RICHMOND-UPON-THAMES, Surre

Mitre, 20 St Mary's Grove

Old Ship, 3 King St Orange Tree, 45 Kew Rd Red Cow, 59 Sheen Rd

White Cross, Riverside ROEHAMPTON, SW15

ROTHERHITHE, SÉ16

Angel, 11 High St Maltese Cat, Aubyn Square

Ship, 39-47 St Marychurch St SHERE Surrey Prince of Wales, Shere Lane

Shaftesbury Arms, 123 Kew Rd

Shakespeare, Lower Richmond Rd Waterman's Arms, 12 Water Lane

Crown, 117 Burnt Ash Hill

Queen's Head, 8 Flamborough St, E14 STREATHAM, SW16 Bedford Park, 223 Streatham High Rd Pied Bull, 498 Streatham High Rd SURBITON, Surrey Black Lion, 58 Brighton Rd Victoria, 28 Victoria Rd Waggen and Horses, 1 Surbiton Hill Rd SUTTON, Surrey Lord Nelson, 32 Lower Rd New Town, 7 Lind Rd Robin Hood, 52 West St SYDENHAM, SE26 Bricklayers' Arms, 189 Dartmouth Rd TEDDINGTON, Middlesex Abercorn Arms, 76 Church Rd Queen Downger, 49 North Lane THORNTON HEATH, Surrey Fountain Head, 114 Parchmore Rd Lord Napier, 111 Beulah Rd Railway Telegraph, 19 Brigstock Rd TOOTING, SW17 Castle, 38 High St Gorringe Park, 29 London Rd Leather Bottle, 538 Garratt Lane Prince of Wales, 646 Garratt Lane TWICKENHAM, Middlesex Old Anchor, 71 Richmond Rd Pope's Grotto, Cross Deep WALTON-ON-THAMES, Surrey Royal George, 130 Hersham Rd Swan, 50 Manor Rd WALTON-ON-THE-HILL, Surrey Chequers, Chequers Lane WALLINGTON, Surrey Duke's Head, 6 Manor Rd WANDSWORTH SWIS Alma, 499 York Rd Brewery Tap, 68 Wandsworth High St County Arms, 345 Trinity Rd Grapes, 39 Fairfield St Hallway House, 521 Garratt Lane Hamway House, 321 carratt Lane King's Arma, 95 Wandsworth High St Old Sergeard, 104 Garratt Lane Pig and Whisle, 481 Merton Rd Queen Adelaide, 435 Patrop Bridge Rd Ship, 41 Jews Row Spread Eagle, 71 Wandsworth High St Two Brewers, 147 East Hill Wheatshead; 30 Patrop Bridge Rd PESTMINNITES, SWI Fox and Goose, 327 Petersham Rd, Ham WESTMINSTER, SWI Buckingham Arms, 62 Petty France WIMBLEDON, SW19 Alexandra, 33 Wimbledon Hill Rd Crooked Billet, 15 Crooked Billet Dog and Fox, 24 High St Hand in Hand, 6 Crooked Billet

Founders' Arms, Bankside, 52 Hopton St Prince William Henry, 217 Blackfriars Rd

Hollands, 7-9 Exmouth St, E1

STEPNEY

Rose and Crown, 55 High St

BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned below, please ring the branch contact. Dates for March of which we have been notified are given below. Branches lease send information to Andy Pirson. Branch contacts page 36.

CROYDON & SUTTON: Thu 4 Broad Green Crawl. Start HALF MOON (dep. 9.00), London Road then STAR and RISING SUN - Mon 8 (8.30) Branch Annual General Meeting. DOG & BULL, Surrey Street, Croydon (GBG 1994 entries to be finalised) - Fri 19 Cheam Crawl. Start RED LION (dep. 9.00), then CLARET WINE BAR and RAILWAY - Thu 25 (8.30) Social. GEORGE, George Street, Croydon (New Wetherspoons pub) - Tue 30 (8.00) Branch Meeting. HORSESHOE, Thornton Heath Pond.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Wed 10 (8.00) Two Pub Social. UNICORN, Vivian Road, E3 then VICTORIA (9.00), Grove Road, E3 - Wed 24 (8.00) Social. COLLEGE ARMS, 807 Forest Road, E17 - Mon 5 Apr (8.00) Branch Meeting and Annual General Meeting. OWL & PUSSYCAT, Redchurch Street, E2.

ENFIELD & BARNET: Tue 2 (9.00) Two Pub Social in Edmonton, N9. JOLLY FARMER, 17 Church Street then LAMB (10.00), 52-54 Church Street - Wed 10 (5.00 onwards) Social at London Drinker Beer Festival. Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, NW1 - Thu 18 (9.00) Informal Branch Meeting. CAVALIER, 67 Russell Lane, N20 - Tue 23 (9.00) Two Pub Social in Enfield Town. ENFIELD ARMS, 2 Genotin Road then STAG (10.00), Little Park Gardens - Thu 1 Apr (8.30) Social & London Drinker Pick-up. MOON UNDER WATER, 10 Varley Parade, NW9.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Thu 4 (8.30) Joint Social with Richmond & Hounslow Branch. MOON UNDER WATER, London Road, Twickenham - Tue 9 (8.00) Good Beer Guide Selection Meeting. NORTH STAR, Chessington - Thu 18 (8.30) Branch Meeting. ASHLEY PARK HOTEL, Walton on Thames.

NORTH LONDON: Tue 2 (8.00) Beer Festival Leafleting Social. THREE HORSESHOES, Heath Street, Hampstead, NW3 - Tue 16 (8.00) Post Festival Recovery Social in Camden Town, NW1. Start CAMDEN STORES, 25 Parkway then SPREAD EAGLE (9.00), 141 Albert Street (corner Parkway) - Tue 23 (8.00) Two Pub Social in St Johns Wood, NW8. BLENHEIM, 21 Loudoum Road then ABBEY ROAD ALE HOUSE (21.30) (formerly Belgrave, now free), 63 Abbey Road - Thu 1 Apr. (8.00) New Members' Social (cold buffet) & London Drinker Pick-up. RUGBY TAVERN, Great James Street, WC1 in function room - Tue 6 (7.30) Open Committee Meeting followed by Branch Meeting (at 8.30 to discuss National AGM motions). CALTHORPE ARMS, Grays Inn Road, WC1 (corner Pakenham Street). Committee meeting in bar, branch meeting in function room - Tue 13 Apr (8.00) Neasden Social, NW10. OLD GRANGE TAVERN, 151 Neasden Lane then OUTSIDE INN, 312-314 Neasden Lane.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Tue 2 (8.30) Committee Meeting. BEEHIVE, 333 Staines Road, Bedfont - Thu 4 (8.30) Joint Social with Kingston & Leatherhead Branch. MOON UNDER WATER, London Road, Twickenham - Mon 15 (8.30) Branch Meeting. JOLLY COOPERS, 16 High Street, Hampton - Thu 25 (8.30) Two Pub Social. WINDSOR CASTLE, 152 Bath Road, Hounslow then QUEEN VICTORIA (9.45), 121 Bath Road - Tue 27 Apr (8.30) Branch Annual General Meeting. Venue to be announced. Note change of day.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Mon 1 (8.00) GBG Selection Meeting. ST GEORGES TAVERN, 44 Lambeth Road, SE1 (now a Free House) - Mon 8 (8.00) Open Committee/Branch Meeting. MAPLE TREE, 54 Maple Road, SE20 - Thu 1 Apr (8.00) Branch Social. SYDNEY ARMS, 122 Lewisham Road, SE13.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX: Thu 4 (2.30) Brewery Trip to SHEPHERD NEAME, Faversham. Meet at brewery. Details/bookings from Wendy Benson on Romford 723897 - Wed 10 (8.30) Social. CRICKETERS, 299/301 High Road (A11), Woodford Green - Mon 15 (8.30) Good Beer Guide Selection Meeting. PLOUGH INN, off Sabines Road, Navestock Heath (OS: TQ538970) -

Contd. on p.15

Contd. from p.14

Wed 24 (8.30) Social. TWO BREWERS, 57 Lambourne Road (near A1112), Chigwell Row - Thu 1 Apr (8.30) Social. SHIP, 58 High Street, Aveley - Tue 27 Apr (6.30pm) Brewery Trip to RINGWOOD BREWERY. Meet at brewery. Details/bookings from Wendy Benson on Romford 723897.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Sun 7 (10.30am) Open Branch Committee Meeting & Open Festival Committee Meeting. PRIORY ARMS, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8 - Mon 22 (7.30) Crawl of Wimbledon Village. Start KING OF DENMARK, Ridgeway, SW19 then HAND IN HAND (8.15); ROSE & CROWN (9.15); DOG & FOX (10.00).

WEST LONDON: Thu 18 (8.00) Branch Meeting. WHITE HORSE, 1 Parsons Green, SW6 - Wed 10 (8.00) Paddington Pub Crawl. Start ORIENT EXPRESS, Praed Street, W2 then GREAT WESTERN ARMS (9.00), Praed Street; MONKEY PUZZLE (10.00), Sussex Gardens.

WEST MIDDLESEX: Thu 4 (8.30) Social. NEW MOON, 25-26 Kenton Park Parade, Kenton - Tue 9 (8.30) Two Pub Social. MILITIA CANTEEN then LOAD OF HAY (9.30), both in Villier Street, Uxbridge - Wed 17 (8.30) Branch Meeting. THE ROSE & CROWN, Church Place, St Mary's Road, Ealing W5 - Fri 26 to Sat 27 (11.00-11.00) BEER ON BROADWAY. 6th Festival of Real Ales at Ealing Town Hall. Be There! See beer festival listing for full details.

Deadline for the April edition, 1st March. Material for May to arrive by 1st April. Please be sure to send all diary material to Andy Pirson.

CAMRA ANGER OVER HESELTINE CLIMBDOWN

Michael Heseltine has announced that there is to be no official review of the much-criticised 1989 Beer Orders. CAMRA described this as "the mother of all climb-downs".

In a letter to Michael Hesltine, CAMRA points out that an official review was promised when the Beer Orders were initially conceived, July 1989, and has been promised at regular intervals ever since.

"Tenants, brewers, MPs and consumer organisations have all raised concerns with the DTI, only to be told these matters would form part of the review. Now, there is no review" commented CAMRA Campaigns Manager Stephen Cox.

"The Government was keen to intervene in 1989 in the consumer interest. Now, they are walking away from the problem. This is an abdication of their responsibilities.

"We will urge the Commons Agriculture Select Committee to continue their enquiry into the Beer Orders, and to recommend to the House that there is a full and official review.

"Otherwise the customer will pay with higher prices and less choice".

'OLD SARKY' IS BACK!

John Goldsmith, known as Old Sarky by his fellow CAMRA members, is returning to South East London as organiser of its 17th annual beer festival. John, who is now running the Wheatsheaf at Borough Market London, SE1, organised the 1991 Greenwich Festival which was probably the most successful ever held by South East London CAMRA.

As we reported last month the Greenwich Festival is no more following the closure of the Borough Hall. A new venue has now been found for this year's event; the Lewisham Theatre in Catford town centre. We are pleased to say that CAMRA is receiving excellent assistance from the theatre management in planning the details and it already looks as if the beer festival, which will be held 16th to 19th June, is going to be a sell-out so make a note of the dates in your diary now.

More details will be published in the London Drinker in due course including a special easy to enter competition for all Drinker readers even if not able to attend the festival.



The County Arms

2 Hall Road, Isleworth. Tel: 081 560 3971

Eric & Caro Peacock

(Ex Bruce's Brewer & Guvnor's of the Ferret & Firkin) have at last got their own Freehouse.

"The Peacock & Dragon over a Barrel in the Sticks"?
How big? Two bars (one with music and the other always quiet)
a family room and an acre of gardens in which to discretely
imbibe and forget the concrete jungle.

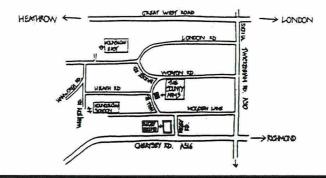
What beers? Always a Mild and a constantly varying range of Real Ales, Porters, Stouts and at least one real Cider or Perry. We've sold over thirty different Ales and four different Ciders in our first four months.

Ambience? Pure unspoilt 1930's and very realaxed.

No Pool, Jukeboxes, Computer tills, black bow ties or polyester shirts here.

We also do real food, real music (Jazz & Blues) and real Fireworks (Summer the time!)

"Of all the bars in all the world This has to be it".



LONDON DRINKER BEER FESTIVAL

Welcome to the London Drinker Beer festival. This now annual event is organised by the North London branch of CAMRA with help from branches all over London and the country, all whom are volunteers.

As in past years we will be featuring on Wednesday evening a Capital Mild night, mild is now more widely available in London, and I like to think that C.A.M.R.A. HAS PLAYED a significant part in this.

The M.M.C. report has freed a lot of pubs to sell the beers from other Brewers, however an unfortunate side effect has been an awful amount of boarded up pubs.

Yet again we hope to offer you the best possible range of beers at the best possible prices, with some unusual beers and some old favourites. Don't forget to visit the side hall for excellent food and foreign beers.

I hope you enjoy the Festival and will come again.

IAN HASSELL (Festival Organiser)

FESTIVAL FOOD

This year Peter and Lordana Beasley will be varying our menu throughout the festival with freshly cooked daily specials. Provisionally: Wednesday - Lasagne and Chilli Con Carne; Thursday - Lamb Rhogan Josh and Friday - Beef in Ale. These will be supplemented by various hot and cold vegetarian dishes. Food will be served at lunchtime from 12.30 - 2.30pm and in the evening from 5.30pm - 9pm.

As always, O'Hagan's Real Ale Sausages will be served every session and we have ordered extra this year to last longer into the evening. Onion Bajis, Vegetable samosas, Cornish Pasties and giant Cheese baps will make appearances too.

Finally, hearty thanks to John and Jane Conen who have organised the food operation at the last seven London Drinker Festivals.

FESTIVAL BEERS

Bar A (left)	<u>(</u> .	Bar B (Stage)						
Black Sheep		Coach Horse						
Best Bitter	1038	Coachmans Best Bitter	1037					
Special	1047	Squires Gold	1042					
Brains		Holts						
Dark	1035	Mild	1033					
Crouch Vale		Bitter	1040					
Mild	1036	Moorhouse						
Best Bitter	1039	Black Cat Mild	1034					
Millenium	1041	Premier Bitter	1036					
Exmoor		Pendle Witches						
Ale	1039	Brew	1050					
Gold	1045	Oak						
Stag	1050	Best Bitter	1038					
Beast	1066	Old Oak	1044					
Fullers		Double Dagger	1050					
Chiswick Bitter	1034	Wobbly Bill	1060					
Mild	?	Taylors						
London Pride	1040	Golden Best	1033					
Holdens		West Coast						
Mild	1037	Dark Mild	1032					
Bitter	1039	Best Bitter	1038					
Special	1051	Guiltless Stout	1039					
King and Barnes		Big Heavy Jimmie	1045					
Mild	1034	Yakima Grande Porter	1050					
Otter								
Bitter	1036	Bar C (Right)					
Otter Ale	1044	Batemans						
Otter Head	1055	Mild	1033					
Ridley		Blackawton						
Mild	1034	Bitter	1036					
Bitter	1034	Conciliation	1042					
Summerskills		Black Diamond	1050					
Best Bitter	1042	Cains						
Whistle Belly Vengence	1046	Mild	?					
Wickwar		Bitter	1038					
Brand Oak Bitter	1039	Formidible Ale	1048					
Olde Meryford	1049	Friar and Firkin						
Woodforde		Mild	?					
Norfolk Nog	1049	Gales						
		XXXD	1032					

Hop Back		NID All bears subject to					
GFB	1035	N.B. All beers subject to					
Summer Lightening	1050	availability. Stronger beers will					
Larkins		not be available on the first day of					
Best Bitter	1045	the festival because it is a					
Porter	1055	'Capital Mild Night'.					
McMullen							
AK	1033	Champion Beer of Britain is					
Country Bitter	1041	Woodforde's Norfolk Nog (BAR					
Mansfield		A)					
Riding Mild	1035	Champion Beer of Britain (Mild					
Riding Bitter	1036	_					
Old Baily	1045	category) Finalists are:					
Oakhill		Batemans Mild - BAR C					
Bitter	1038	Brains Dark - BAR A					
Black Magic	1044	Gales XXXD - BAR C					
Yeoman Strong Ale	1049	Holdens Mild - BAR A					
Youngs		King and Barnes Mild - BAR A					
Bitter	1036	Taylors Golden Best - BAR B					
Special	1046	Taylord Collecti Dest Di III D					
Winter Warmer	1055						

PUTTING YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR TASTE BUDS ARE!

In London there is plenty of real ale and so many people think that to join CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale is a waste of time. But ask yourself if you are satisfied with the price or the quality of the real ale available in the city.

The price is close to CAMRA's heart. Every year there is a price survey conducted across the country. The press coverage of this, and the bad publicity that some breweries get as a result, makes the brewer think twice about extraordinary price rises. And CAMRA is also at the forefront of lobbying the Chancellor when it comes to excise duty increases. But if the price is acceptable, what about the quality? CAMRA has long recognised that to look after a good pint of beer needs training care, hence CAMRA's badgering of brewers to provide help and training to their tenants and managers. The Campaign also takes a practical approach and had produced a second edition of its book, Cellarmanship, which offers guidelines to producing a decent pint.

But does CAMRA's campaigning have an effect? Well, after many years of lobbying, the Government has finally agreed to introduce tax at the factory gate. It means that breweries will no longer pay tax on beer that is being

So if that's what is happening why join CAMRA? In order to be an effective lobby group we need numbers. Even if you do not wish to become active and attend branch meetings and socials, by adding your voice to ours you are helping us campaign for drinker's rights.

Join any beer festival and you will get £2 off the membership fee making it £8. If you join at London Drinker you will even get any entrance fee back. That can save you another £1.50 and you will get 2 free pints so saving another £2.50. This makes the cost of membership only £4 and if you go to a few CAMRA beer festivals during the year you can soon get all your money back as all CAMRA beer festivals give discounts for CAMRA members.

Can you afford to miss such an offer to support something your taste buds clearly delight in?

THE BREWERIES AT THE FESTIVAL

Bar A1

Black Sheep

Masham, N. Yorks

New brewery instigated just seven months ago by Paul Theakston, member of Mashams famous brewing family.

Brains

Cardiff, S. Glamorgan

A traditional brewery which has been in the Brain family since 1882. Now the largest independent brewery in Wales, supplying real ale to all it's 125 tied pubs plus a substantial free trade.

Crouch vale South Woodham Ferrers, Essex

Started in 1981, Crouch Vale has a single tied house - the Cap and feathers at Tillingham, a former CAMRA Pub of the Year, but also supplies some 60 free trade outlets in Suffolk, Essex and Greater London. The nearest outlet to the Camden Centre is the Mitre, Copenhagen Street. N1.

Exmoor Wivelscombe, Somerset.

Operating from the former Hancock's Brewery in Wiveliscombe (closed1959), Exmoor Ales supplies real ale to over 150 pubs in the region but owns no tied houses. A regular guest beer in the J.D. Wetherspoon chain of free houses.

BAR A2

Fullers

Chiswick, London.

One of the two surviving London Independent brewers after the 1960's takeover spree. Uses the CAMRA logo in advertisements for its cask beers; this is not surprising as they are regular CAMRA award winners. At this years's festival you will also have the opportunity to try their cask conditioned mild, after a long absence.

Holdens Dudley, W. Midlands

One of the long-established family breweries of the Black Country, producing a good range of real ales for its 19 pubs and around 40 free trade customers.

King and Barnes Horsham, Sussex.

Long established brewery, dating back almost 200 years, its "Five Sussex Ales" are served in all 60 country pubs. The nearest outlet to the Camden Centre is The Square Tavern, Tolmer Square, NW1.

Summerskills Plymouth, Devon

Summerskills was relaunched by new owners in 1990 and now supplies free trade outlets in Plymouth and nationally via wholesalers.

BAR A3

Otter Honiton, Devon.

New brewery, which uses local malt and water from its own spring. Around 30 local pubs are supplied.

Ridley Chelmsford Essex

In 1992 Ridleys celebrated 150 years of brewing. Their dry, bitter beers are supplied to 64 tied houses over 300 free trade outlets.

Wickwar, Avon

Launched in May 1990 by two Courage tenants with the aim of providing guest beers for their three pubs. Wickwar is now producing 30 barrels a week for up to 35 other outlets. The brewery operates from a cider mill which is on the site of the Arnold, Perett Co brewery.

Woodforde Woodbastwick, Norfolk

Founded in 1980 in Norwich to bring much needed choice to a long Watney dominated region. Moved to picturesque Woodbastwick in 1989. Brews an extensive range of beers, including seasonal and occasional brews for its three pubs and 170 free trade outlets in Norfolk, Suffolk and Lincolnshire.

BAR B1

Coach House Warrington, Cheshire

New brewery founded in 1991 by ex-Greenalls employees when that company ceased brewing. Supplies some Greenalls pubs plus free trade outlets all over the country.

Holts Cheetham, Manchester.

Successful family brewery, founded in 1984 which produces probably Britain's cheapest pint for its strength. All 102 tied houses serve real ale and only one pub does not sell Mild. The popularity of the beer is such that it is often delivered in Hogs heads - 5k gallon casks.

Moorlands Burnley, Lancs

A long established producer of hop bitters which in 1978 began brewing cask beer. They now supply around 120 free trade outlets in addition to their five tied pubs.

Oak Heywood, Manchester.

Established in Cheshire in 1982, the move to North Manchester took place in the summer in 1991.

BAR B2

Timothy Taylors Keighley, West Yorkshire

Founded in 1858, Timothy Taylors Championship Beers can be found in over 200 free trade outlets in addition to their 29 pubs in the Keighley area. Deservedly popular at beer festivals.

West Country Brewery Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester

Enterprising brewery set up in 1989 by consultant brewer Brenden Dobbin to serve his own pub, the Kings Arms. Currently supplying 20 free trade outlets, the beers are also brewed under licence in Bulgaria, Norway and Nigeria!

BAR CI

Batemans Wainfleet, Lincolnshire

A family owned and run brewery whose 'Good House Ales" can now be found all over the UK in around 400 free trade outlets. All 66 tied houses serve real ale.

Blackawton Totnes, Devon

This small family brewery was only founded in 1977, yet it is the oldest in Devon. The additive-free beers can be found in around 50 free trade outlets.

Butterknowle, Co. Durham.

Launched in August 1990, Butterknowle has gained popularity at beer festivals all over the country. They now supply 29 free trade outlets and can be found as regular guests in many more.

Cains Liverpool

Some of the last Liverpool - brewed Higsons beers were on sale at London Drinker in 1990, just before Whitbread closed the brewery and moved production to Sheffield. Now, the premises are the home of Robert Cain, Merseyside's only commercial brewery, which is owned by a Danish brewing company.

BAR C2

Friar and Firkin Euston, London

Formerly, 'the Rising Sun', this brew pub which opened late last year is just a short walk along the Euston Road from the Camden Centre.

Gales Horndean, Hants

Hampshire's major brewery, founded in 1847. All 154 tied houses serve real ale and the Mild Passport scheme, run in conjuction with CAMRA provides a good excuse to visit them.

Hop Back Sailsbury, Wilts

Set up in 1987 as a brew-pub, Hop Back brewery now produces around 40 barrels a week for its two tied houses and 40 free trade outlets.

Larkins Edenbridge, Kent

Started in 1986 but moved to a converted barn at the owners farm in 1990. Larkins additive free beers can now be found in some 65 pubs in the South East. Only Kent hops are used, some from the farm itself.

BAR C3

McMullens Hertford, Herts

Hertfordshire's oldest independent family brewery was founded in 1827. real ale is served in all its 147 pubs in Hertfordshire, Essex and London and supplied to 150 free trade outlets.

Oakhill Oakhill, Bath, Avon

Situated in the Mendip Hills in Somerset the brewery was set up by a farmer in 1984 in part of the original Oakhill brewery (est. 1767) which was destroyed by fire in 1925. About 70 free trade outlets within a 35 mile radius are regularly supplied.

Youngs Wandsworth, London

The Ram brewery was founded on the banks of the Wandle in 1675 although the young family were not involved until1831. Youngs were the only London brewer to continue to produce real ale throughout the keg revolution of the 1970's and they continue to brew their award winning beers in the traditional manner. Some of the deliveries to their 170 pubs are still made by horse-drawn drays.

CIDER and PERRY

As usual we will have available a selection of eiders and perries from both the West Country and Kent, showing the wide variety of these drinks that are still available.

In London, it is almost impossible to find perry in pubs, and it is only at CAMRA festivals where a variety is usually available.

It is hoped that the following ciders and perries will be on sale, but remember, both drinks are stronger than ordinary bitter, so mind how you go!

PERRY

AYLTON - Aylton, Herefordshire

Made by the lady who organises Blossom Time at Putley Women's Institute! FRANKLIN - Little Hereford, Herefordshire

Producer who started about six years ago. Sometimes produces a sage perry.

GOVERD - Compton, Dando Made by ex-consultant at Long Ashton Research Station.

CIDER

CHAFFORD - Fordcombe, Kent Small producer, not usually sold in London

CROSSMAN - Hewish, Avon

Family producer made, as usual, from a variety of cider apples.

GIBBON STRANGLER - Bromley, Kent

Produced in small quantities by David Kitton, Editor of the Good Cider guide.

HECKS - Street, Somerset

Family company in middle of the town. has won many prizes at Devon County Show.

LONG ASHTON - Bristol, Avon Produced at ex-government research

station for eider fruit. Secret
Orchard Cider is made from just that apples from recently discovered
orchard.

RICH - Watchfield, Somerset

Farm producer whose cider is sometimes available in London pubs. STOTT - Wookey, Somerset Local producer, difficult to find on the Somerset Levels.

THEOBOLD - Stourmouth, Kent

Typical Kent eider, using a mixture of eating and cooking apples. Has won several CAMRA awards.

TORRE - Somerset

Local producer discovered by CAMRA last year.

WILLIAMS - Tytherington, Avon Small producer, who has been going for some time.

ENTERTAINERS AT LONDON DRINKER FESTIVAL

THURSDAY EVENING EASY STREET

Popular Fiddle and guitar duo. Easy Street have played at several beer festivals for a number of years. They play a mix of electric folk, jazz, rag-time and blues. You will probably recognise most of the tunes and your feet will soon be tapping along.

FRIDAY EVENING TRANTERS FOLLY

A popular West Country Folk group consisting of Roger Trim, Eddie Trim and Nick Thomas. All are versatile instrumentalists and vocalists having performed at a variety of venues. Performances include lively Folk Music, songs and West Country humour. The instrumental line uo includes Fiddle, Guitar and Accordian. Other featured instruments are Mandolin, Banjo, Flute and Musical Saw. Their songs and music create a happy atmosphere which can be enjoyed by young and old alike.

START TIMES FOR MUSIC ABOUT 7.30 pm

WEDNESDAY EVENING

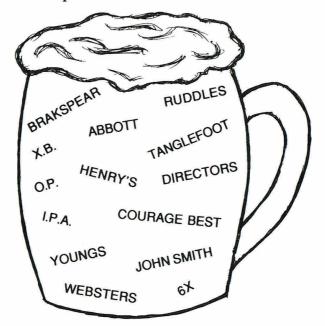
Quiet evening! ie no music

THE GREAT BRITISH BEER WEEK

at

THE SUN

63 Lambs Conduit Street Holborn · London WC1 Telephone: 071-405 8278



22nd - 27th March 1993

See Blackboards for Special Events

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

TEN YEARS AGO the green cover of the 24 page March 1982 issue bore a cartoon whose significance only became apparent just over halfway through the copy with a short story entitled Animal Crackers - it depicted a chimpanzee drawing a pint of beer (presumably real) from a water-main standpipe. in its last appearance before being superseded by an Editorial, the News & Views page - the first inside the cover to meet the reader's eye - reported that Charrington was trying out Springfield Bitter in London, while Whitbread was testmarketing Castle Eden, which had for some time been creeping southwards, taking the place of other cask beers.

The Stop Press in the previous edition to the effect that Fullers was to be sold in Charrington houses has proved a false alarm. By hindsight, perhaps this was in fact a premonition?

The Editors of the time, Mike Hammersley and Ron Atkins who had been involved with London Drinker since its outset 4 years previously in various roles, made their farewells and wished success to the incoming Editorial team, two of whom - Chris and Andy - still serve in that capacity.

In a half-page advert, the Malt & Hops, Kings Cross, claimed to be the cheapest pub in London, with ten traditional ales always available at a 20% discount all weekend and for three hours other days, plus a guest beer at 55p a pint each Tuesday.

In the centre-page spread Mostyn Lewis provided a "Family tree" of Whitbread in London over the previous 90 years. This showed the names of 42 breweries taken over during that period, one by another to end up as a huge conglomeration, with relevant dates, which led to a network of 289 pubs in Great London. Mostyn pointed out that the number of breweries taken over throughout the country during that period was around 300. The diagram was embellished with labels from the Forest Hill Brewery (taken over 1924), Fremlins of Faversham (1967), Strong of Romsey (1969), Lacon of Great Yarmouth (1965), Jude Hanbury of

Wateringbury (1927), Flitton of Stotford (1948), West Kent Brewery of Beckenham and Fulham (1908, via Notting Hill in 1920), Nicholls of Lewisham (1891) and Mackeson of Hythe (1929).

FIVE YEARS AGO the 36 page March 1988 issue also used green as its theme colour appearing on 8 pages including both covers. The front featured an advert for the forthcoming London Drinker Beer Festival, and two headlines: "Truman gets the Chop" and a splash "STOP PRESS - Bruce's selling up." This was indeed an issue of many last-minute changes. In the first paragraph of his Editorial Andy stated: "Numerous stories are currently going around about what is happening in the Watney, Mann, Truman empire and very little of it is good news for the drinking public. Firstly we heard that Combes Bitter, which has been brewed at the Truman Brewery in Brick Lane, is to be scrapped almost immediately - it may well be no more by the time you read this. This was followed up straight away by news that all Truman cask beers are to go the same way, with all Truman beers to be dropped by late spring." This was supplemented by a "camera ready" article (i.e. typed mechanically and photographically reduced) some pages further on, from Ian Worden, stating "As this issue went to press we had confirmation of plans by Watney Mann and Truman to HALVE its range of real ales produced in London and cease cask production altogether at the Mortlake brewery which will thus go back to the keg-only Red Barrel days.

Only five or six years ago Grand Met was pushing regional beers as part of its retreat from those days, when it was the only brewer to be comprehensively ridiculed by Monty Python and getting little better media treatment from there onwards. Truman started brewing four real ales over at Brick Lane and the ultra-modern Mortlake site was even renamed the Stag Brewery after a long-gone predecessor once in Westminster.

On 22nd March 1984 came perhaps what

was the high point when Combe's Bitter was launched on to the London market at a Capital Beer Night organized in conjunction with London Drinker.

Since then things have gone downhill. Truman's Mild didn't last long and the light Antler seems to have died from lack of interest. Webster's Yorkshire crept into more outlets followed by Ruddle's County which even replaced Mortlake's "Name beer", Stag. Now Combes and Truman "Green" bitter are to follow, leaving only the Truman Best Bitter ("Red") and Sampson as local beers for the London area."

The relevant illustration on the cover was the Truman emblem - the side view of an eagle poised for flight. It WAS to have appeared decapitated and flat on its back; I spent ages cutting up, re-touching and pasting for the artwork. However for reasons best known to himself the Printer re-assembled it in its original order. The best-laid plans of mice, men and especially Editors . . .

In a camera-ready STOP PRESS was the announcement "Bruce's Selling UP!" the first paragraph read: "On 11th February David Bruce announced the sale of his eleven pubs. The news reached us too late to cover the story properly - in fact at the time the artwork for this issue was in the hands of our printer. A full appraisal of the situation will appear in due course."

It was rather a fraught period - at first appearance, with three non-rhyming limericks. In the words of Andy, who has compiled the column ever since, it " probably strikes you as a complete waste of time, it probably is but we must add that the limerick when written down must look like it rhymes it's just that with the vagaries of pronunciation in our language (or other people's) it doesn't sound that way." One of the examples included non-rhymes of wallet/ ballet/mallet and river/fiver. Earlier in this historical "first" Andy explained the purpose of such an idea as "some silly exercises to keep the mind ticking over in idle moments and to keep conversation going when you realize you have nothing in common with your drinking companions."

In "Underground Drinker", Eastender - by

profession a tube driver - outlined the history of the world's first underground railway, the Metropolitan, from Paddington to Farringdon, visiting real ale pubs along its route.

Cider again cropped up in a big way, in a Letter to the Editors and two articles, one about tracking down and visiting real cidermakers' premises, and one classic Cider pub.

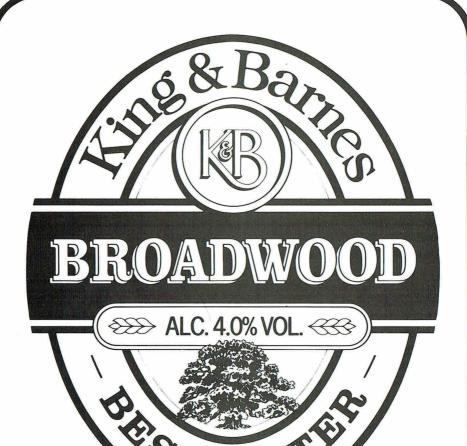
Bargain Beers cited two examples of Courage Best at 87p and 90p respectively and the same brew, at £1.10, was cited as a rip-off along with Taylor Walker Bitter at £1.15, the same price as Ind Coope Burton at the same establishment.

Famous Last Words were used under the heading "EEC Offers Cheaper Drinks Cheer". It read in part: "Significant cuts are likely next year in the price of cigarettes, spirits and wine as a result of Common Market proposals on the harmonisation of tax, according to a report by a Commons select committee on European legislation. The committee says that the reductions raise important social and health issues.

The Treasury forecast a tax reduction of 10 per cent on tobacco, leading to 12p off the price of a packet of 20 cigarettes. The price of a 75cl bottle of spirits would fall by £.2.30 because of a cut of 40 per cent in duty; wine would fall by 70p per 70cl bottle as a result of an 85 per cent cut. British beer would be taxed at a higher rate than foreign wine". The last bit proved not far short of the truth.

In "The Fleet Street Pound" Pat Hanson analysed the prices in the six pubs of that thoroughfare, breaking down the cost of the 18 different beers available and the price in pence per degree of original gravity above 1,000 (which is the same as water) - i.e. value for money. It went from 2.18p at the cheaper end of the scale for Truman Sampson at the Olde Cock Tavern at the Olde Cock Tavern - a Watney house (o.g. 1055, at £1.20) to 3.20p for Boddington's Bitter at the Punch Tavern and the Old Bell-both Nicholson's free houses (o.g. 1035 at £1.12).

Probably the strangest advert to appear in Contd. on p.37



King & Barnes Fine sussex ales

CLUTTERBUCKS ALE HOUSE

One of the pubs in Romford that has undergone several transformations is the Old White Hart Inn. This inn was a famous coaching inn in the days of the Harwich flyer and the coaches to Colchester.

It is a splendid building of late Victorian architecture, but a pub of this name has been here for quite a number of years. The present building dates from 1896, but was established in the 15th Century. At the rear in the yard were the farrier, blacksmith and stables and coach houses.

There really is a vast amount of room in the building, and the cellars go out under the Romford Road. Just along from the pub is the splendid main entrance to Romford Brewery, which is a listed building like the White Hart. Of course, this old place has its ghosts, and one of them is a Royal Ghost. She was Caroline of Brunswick, Oueen of Greta Britain, wife of George IV. She was the second daughter of Charles William, the Duke of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel. It was a disagreeable marriage and she was sent to Shooters Hill and Blackheath to live in isolation. She had a lot of feeling in her favour in general, and the King tried to divorce her, even though she had his daughter, Charlotte. But he failed in his bid and caused the Ministry to give up the divorce bill. She had also refused to be paid off and renounce her title and to live abroad. She was turned away from the door of Westminster Abbey at the Coronation of George IV. A few days later she died. Her body was unceremoniously sent on an open wagon to Harwich where the carters left it outside in the rain at the White Hart. It is here that the soul of the poor Queen walks about, no doubt wondering why she was treated in such a shabby way.

Formerly the Bitter End and a fizz-only pub that was fraught with problems from the lager louts, we now have in its place a pub for the real ale connoisseurs. The name derives from Thomas Clutterbuck who owned the Cannon brewery in Rickmansworth. His decendant is Jasper Clutterbuck, managing director of the Morland brewery at Abingdon in Oxfordshire. The Cannon brewery was bought by Allied in the twenties, due to the

family having to pay high death duties. Mine host is Trevor Wood, from the Castle at Wickford in Essex. Trevor has been in the trade for many years and looks to providing a good range of beers. Well, he does have twelve beer engines CO² pump assisted via a micro switch under the bar and the beer does not come into contact with the beer at all. His wife Leigh will provide the food at the servery in the rear of the pub.



Addlestones beer engine is stored in a cask and kept at 10lb per sq. in. pressure. CO² gas pressure and the cellar temperature is kept at 52°-54° fahrenheit. Beer lines are the smaller 3/8" bore pipe.

Among the beers available upon my visit on the opening day, 16th December, there was Clutterbuck Ale £1.25, which I thought was Bruces NOB but was told it was Taylor Walker bitter, Adnams bitter, Tetley (Leeds) bitter, Friary Meux, Theakstons Mild £1.42 a most welcome addition to the

Contd. on p.30

Contd. from p.29

mild desert of Essex, Old Bailey (Mansfield brewery), Coachmans bitter, (Coach House brewery Warrington Cheshire). Due on were Nutcracker from Hanby, Wem. It is envisaged that there will be four real ale festivals a year at the premises, plus a Clutterbucks Society, to bring real ale drinkers together and to liaise with CAMRA, plus give the regulars a chance to vote for beers they would like to try. There are no restrictions on the types of real ales available from the British beer industry. There will be tasting nights for registered members so that a free drink from a pin or firkin, will be available from time to time. This will take place approximately once a month.



Membership is free, but there will be promotions for membership of CAMRA as well, to show that there is a real ale society. There is a good selection of Daily Newspapers at the pub for visitors to peruse. Extra beer is Woods Christmas Cracker OG 1060.

Nigel Cowdery, Taylor Walker's Retail Area Manager, is in charge of this project. He tells me that he would like to see a micro brewery on the site of the pub, there seems to be plenty of room for such a project in these premises too. It would be most welcome as a replacement for the old Romford brewery which is closing on February 4th. He said that a proposition would be made to Romford brewery to fund the project, whose costs would be in the 65-70 thousand pound mark. All in all, there looks to be a very good future

for Clutterbucks in Romford. The interior is of basic pub decor with some wonderful chalk drawings depicting the beers. An old horse drawn plough does take up some space that could be better used as seating in the dining area. Biggest complaint was the use of swan necks with Angram Pips on the end. The beer was at times dished up like the famous Coronation Street pint. I pointed out that the head did not constitute a part of the liquid measure, so if you visit, politely ask for a full measure. I would personally rather see the old style of dispenser, that we associated with Gaskell and Chambers.

Opening times are as follows:

Mon - Fri: 12 noon - 11 pm on non-market days. Wednesday & Friday - Market days -10 am - 11 pm. Sundays are the usual national times

Special opening days are prior to Christmas, when the market is open all week, and the pub has market opening times.

We can only thank Trevor and Leigh for bringing life to Romford's drinkers again, without having to drive for miles.

Clutterbucks Ale House (formerly Harts), 15 High Street, Romford, situated near A118 and A125. Tel: 0708-742923.

Ten minutes walk up South Street from Romford station. Nearest bus from London, 86 from Stratford or 251 from Wood Green. Trains to Romford from Liverpool Street station.

I would like to mention the book I took a few quotes from. It is called:

ESSEX BREWERS and

THE MALTING AND HOP INDUSTRIES OF THE COUNTY

ISBN 1-873 966-02-4

Price £9.95. By Ian P. Peaty, published by The Brewery History Society 102, Ayelands New Ash Green Kent DA3 8JW.

A really super book available at W. H. Smiths branches.

Keith Langridge

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The following is a selection of beer related events occurring all over the place which has been culled from a larger list sent to us by Richard Larkin of north London Branch. Among the sources he acknowledges are the publications of PINT and OBP, equivalent organisations to CAMRA in The Netherlands and Belgium respectively and with which CAMRA has close ties. No responsibility can be accepted for errors.

- 6 March: DEN HELDER, Netherlands. Breweriana Sale organised by BAV. Info from D. Pronk, +32 2230 43462.
- 6 March: BRUSSELS, Belgium. Open Brewing Day, Brouwerij Cantillon, Gheudestraat 56, Andecht. From 06.00; admission BFR 90; free breakfast if you arrive before 08.00.
- 7 March: HAAKSBERGEN, Netherlands. Breweriana Sale, Cafe-restaurant 't Hoogeland, Eibergsestraat 157. 11.00-16.00; details R. Zimmer, +32 53 331777.

- 7-9 March: NEW YORK, NY, USA. Wine America 93.
- 7-12 March: LIMBURG, Netherlands. Commercial tour of Belgium & The Netherlands, including Arnhem, Bruges and Maastricht; 219 from UK. Organised by Magic Compass, 31 Temple Hill, Whitwick, Leics, LE67 5BD (0530 815353).
- 12-14 March: BURTON ON TRENT, UK. Weekend Break for Beer Lovers; includes visits to breweries and beer museum. Details from Burton Tourist Information Centre, 0283 516609.
- 14 March: LISSE, Netherlands. Regional Breweriana Sale, 't Poelhuis, Vivaldistraat 4 (in the Poelpolder shopping centre). Details: G. Lascaris, +31 2521 16200.
- 14-18 March: The Belgian Ardennes. Commercial tour including five brewery visits. Organised by Magic Compass, see above.
- 19-21 March: LONDON. Sunday Times Wine Festival. Royal Horticultural Halls.



Fuller's Passport Scheme Returns!

Following the success of the Passport scheme some years ago, Fuller's are running it again to give you the opportunity of discovering all their pubs, both new and old.

The pubs have been divided up into three areas of equal size, loosely grouped into North, West and South and these may be completed in any order.

All you have to do to qualify for your Passport prizes is to visit each Fuller's pub and have your Passport stamped after you have purchased a pint of Fuller's beer.

There are exclusive prizes to be won on the completion of each stage!

Section 1 One minipin of London Pride.

Section 2 One Passport T-shirt and one minipin of London Pride.

Section 3 A personalised engraved Pewter Tankard and a Passport tie for the men and a scarf for the ladies.

Pick up an application form at your nearest Fuller's pub NOW!

WETHERSPOON NEWS

We have received the following news from the J D Wetherspoon Organisation. A couple of years ago we drew much comment from our readers by reporting JDW's claim to be selling the country's cheapest beer so with some trepidation we report their reduced claim relating to this year:

J D Wetherspoon is selling what it believes is the cheapest pint of beer in the Capital until March 1. At 46 of its 51 houses, Younger's Scotch Bitter is on sale at 89p per pint. The exceptions are its sites at Victoria Station, Heathrow Airport, Liverpool Street Station and Leicester Square, where it is 99p per pint.

It is also selling a pint of Courage Directors Bitter at £1.29 per pint and Guinness at £1.49 a pint until the same date. These prices apply to the same 46 pubs, with 10p added to the price in the other five outlets (as above).

Retail director, Keith Lunn said: 'We are proving that it is possible to offer customers a good beer in comfortable surroundings without charging ridiculous prices.'

According to a CAMRA prices survey of July 1992, the average price of a pint of bitter in London was £1.44.

While on the subject of the J D Wetherspoon Organisation, we have been sent an extract from a recent edition of the Romford Recorder by our regular correspondent in that area, Colin Price. It refers to local opposition from locals to the go ahead to a new Wetherspoon outlet in Hornchurch town centre.

We understand opposition from the licensee of an existing pub a few doors away but the paper also quotes Cllr Barbara Reith, chairman of the Hacton and St. Andrews Wards of Hornchurch Residents' Association. She is reported by the Romford Recorder as saying, "We already have three well established pubs in close proximity. I hope this new outlet doesn't have a detrimental effect on them, to say nothing of the inevitable parking nightmare".

We hope that Councillor Reith is not losing sight of the fact that the residents that her organisation represents are consumers. While we have sympathy for licensees who may be hidebound by costs imposed upon them by their breweries, we consider it important to support an organisation that is bringing value for money to the consumer.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW NEWS

Since February's "Drinker" went to press, consent has been granted to Young & Co. to convert the POPES GROTTO into an hotel. However, the good news is that the Brewery Chairman, John Young has confirmed in a letter to the Branch that the Public bar, the last in Twickenham, will remain.

An hotel is desperately needed in Twickenham and, although the pub will be closed for some time during rebuilding, it may prove an asset to the area and introduce visitors to the delights of Youngs' beers. Our thanks go to John Young for his interest and concern.

In Isleworth, the Iron Bridge has changed its name to the BRIDGE INN. The pub has been extended and now includes a No-Smoking room as well as offering bed & breakfast facilities. On the guest beer front the Tetley Bitter which was selling at 1.15 a pint has been replaced by John Smith's at 1.30.

STOP PRESS: The second Feltham Beer Festival has been provisionally booked to take place between Thursday 30th September and Saturday 2nd October, subject to licence and budget approval. The venue will again be the Feltham Assembly Rooms which have undergone a reasonable amount of building work since last year which will improve facilities for visitors and staff.

Doug Scott

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 Limited

BEER BRIEFING LONDON BEER GUIDE UPDATES 80

A relatively quiet month with just three new Wetherspoon Free Houses opening in Brixton, Croydon and East Ham! Many pubs from Grand Met's former Watney estate have switched from Ruddles and Websters to Courage and John Smith beers, following the disposal of Ruddles to Grolsch - few will lament the change. Various big brewery owned 'Free Houses' have changed beer ranges within predictably conservative boundaries.

The numbers in brackets after each entry refer to the age number in the following guides: E - East London & City Beer Guide, 3rd edition; N - North London Beer Guide, 2nd edition; SE - South East London Pub Guide, 3rd edition; SW - Real Beer in South West London; W - Real Beer in West London; X - Essex Beer Guide, 8th edition. U refers to earlier updates. # indicates a guest beer.

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

EAST

E3, OLD DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, 158 Devons Road. Has now reopened. (E91, U72)

E6, MILLERS WELL, 419-421 Barking Road. Courage: Directors Bitter. Theakston: Best Bitter, XB. Wadworth: 6X. Younger: Scotch Bitter. Another new Wetherspoon Free House in former furniture store premises, more recently a wine bar. Decorated in typical style. Food. Open all permitted hours.

E7, MICKEY FINNS, 76 Woodgrange Road. Reopened and renamed GATSBY. (E108, U79)

E10, OLIVER TWIST, 90 Church Road. Boddington: Bitter. Flowers: IPA. (E125)

E16, ROYAL OAK, 67 Barking Road. Courage: Best Bitter. (E160)

SOUTH EAST

CROYDON, GEORGE, 17-20 George Street. Courage: Directors Bitter. Theakston: Best Bitter, XB. Wadworth: 6X. Younger: Scotch Bitter. Yet another very large Wetherspoon Free House in former furniture store. Named after a famous pub which once stood in George Street. Over 3,000 dusty books adorn the pub at the insistence of the magistrates! Food. Open all permitted hours.

SOUTH WEST

SW9, BEEHIVE, 407-409 Brixton Road. Courage: Directors Bitter. Theakston: Best Bitter, XB. Wadworth: 6X. Younger: Scotch Bitter. λ further Wetherspoon Free House in former shoe shop premises. Famous former Brixton residents are featured, including Fred Karnow and Herbert Morrison. Food. Open all permitted hours. Note correct postal district, not as shown in pre-opening publicity.

SW19, JJ's, 105-109 The Broadway. No real ale. New Free House in former shop premises. "JJ's Lager" is Schwierner from Eastern Germany (cold & fizzy). Also has Henri Funck Pils on draught from Luxembourg.

WEST

HEATHROW AIRPORT, JOHN BULL, Terminal 2. Tetley: Bitter. Second floor bar, formerly a Tapas bar.

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

EAST

E1, OLD BASING HOUSE. Courage, closed, future uncertain. (E83)

SOUTH WEST

SW6, FULHAM TAP. H unused (SW27, U31, U66)
SW15, MR MICAWBERS. H removed, converted to restaurant. (U61, U67)
SW19, WAY INN. Free House/Hotel, H removed. (U43,

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

U48)

EC1, BULLS HEAD. Now a Free House, subtitled MONAGHANS. (E13)

EC1, GEORGE & DRAGON. - Courage: Directors Bitter. + Ruddle: County. (E16, U79)

EC1, SHAKESPEARES HEAD, 46 Percival Street. - Bass. + Charrington: IPA. (E24)

EC2, DR BUTLERS HEAD (YE OLDE). + Ansells: Mild.

EC2, SIR PAUL PINDAR. - Worthington: Best Bitter. + Fuller: London Pride. + Greene King: IPA. (E36, U66)

REAL PUBS

KINGS ARMS

081-977 1729 Lion Gate, Hampton Court (GBG Page 202)

EEL PIE

081-891 1717 Church Street, Twickenham (GBG Page 203)

WOODMAN

071-228 2968 High Street, Battersea

NEWT AND FERRET

081 546 3804 Fairfield South, Kingston

DOG AND DUCK

034 284 2964 Outwood, Surrey (GBG Page 274)

COACH AND HORSES

03256 762542 Rotherwick, Hampshire (GBG Page 125)

RAILWAY TAVERN

081-878 7361 Sheen Lane, Mortlake (GBG Page 197)

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BEER BRIEFING LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 80 continued

EC4, COACH & HORSES. + Fuller: London Pride. (E47)
EC4, QUEENS HEAD, 31 Black Friars Lane. - Young:
Bitter. + Greene King: IPA. + Marston: Pedigree.
+ Wadworth: 6%. Note correct street spelling. (E52)
W1(F), GREEN MAN (IN FITZROVIA). + Fuller: London
Pride. + Worthington: Best Bitter. (W29)
W1(Mar), CASK & GLASS. - Beers listed. + Courage:

W1(Mar), CASK & GLASS. - Beers listed. + Courage: Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (W34, U51)

W1(May), COACH & HORSES, 5 Hill Street.
- Charrington: IPA. Fuller: London Pride. + M&B: Highgate Mild. + Robinson: Best Bitter. (W38)

W1(May), PUNCH BOWL. - Ruddle: County. + Courage: Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (W39, U50)

W1(May), SAMUEL PEPYS. - Charrington: IPA. (W40)

W1(May), WATERLOO DISPATCH. - Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + Courage: Directors Bitter. + Fuller: London Pride. (W40)

W1(S), ARGYLL ARMS. - Adnams: Bitter. - Arkell: BBB.
- Boddington: Bitter. - Marston: Pedigree.
+ Brakspear: Bitter. + Greene King: IPA. + Nicholson:
Best Bitter. + Wadworth: Farmers Glory. (W41)

W1(S), BLUE POSTS, 18 Kingly Street. - Brakspear: Bitter. - Flowers: IPA. + Greene King: Abbot Ale. (W41)

W1(S), CLACHAN. - Adnams: Bitter. - Boddington: Bitter. - Friary Meux: Best Bitter. + Brakspear: Bitter. + Greene King: IPA. + Nicholson: Best Bitter. (W41)

W1(S), HANDSEL TAVERN. - Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. + Boddington: Bitter. + Marston: Pedigree. (W42)

W1(S), KING OF CORSICA. + Fuller: London Pride. (W43) W1(S), OLD COFFEE HOUSE. - Ruddle: County. - Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + Courage: Best Bitter. + Young: Special. (W43)

W1(S), SHAKESPEARS HEAD. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter. + Ruddle: County. + Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. Reclassify as Grand Met 'Watney' pub. (W44) W1(S), THREE GREYHOUNDS. - Ind Coope: Burton Ale. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Adnams: Bitter. + Greene King: Abbot Ale. (W44)

WC2, GREEN MAN & FRENCH HORN. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (W54)

WC2, LAMB & FLAG. John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. W55)
WC2, LEMON TREE, - Ruddle: Best Bitter. + Courage:
Directors Bitter. + Marston: Pedigree. + Young:
Special. (W55, U58)

WC2, MARQUIS OF GRANBY, 142 Shaftesbury Avenue.

- Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors
Bitter. + Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale.+ John Smith:
Yorkshire Bitter. (W55)

WC2, SUSSEX. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter, John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter (W56, U58)

WC2, TWO BREWERS TAVERN. - Beers listed except Brakspear: Bitter. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter (W57, U53)

EAST

E1, PEACOCK. Now a Free House, ex Watney. (E71)
E3, LORD CARDIGAN. Now in Taylor Walker livery (E91)
E4, BULL & CROWN. + Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. (E97,
U73, U79)

E14, AFRICAN TAVERN. Renamed <u>AFRICAN QUEEN (BOGARTS)</u>.

now a Free House, ex Taylor Walker, still fizz.
(E139)

E14, PHOENIX. + Wadworth: 6X. (E147)

E17, FLOWER POT. + Charrington: IPA. + Worthington: Best Bitter. (E167)

E17, PLOUGH. - Ruddle: Best Bitter. + Courage: Best Bitter. (E168)

E17, QUEENS ARMS. - John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. + Younger: IPA. Now a Free House, ex Courage. (E168)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(SJ), UNICORN. Renamed <u>WALKERS OF ST JAMES'S</u>.
- Boddington: Bitter. - Fuller: London Pride.

- Harvey: Best Bitter. + Ansells: Mild. + Tetley: Bitter. Now run by Nicholsons. (SW15)

SW1(P), WARWICK ARMS. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. (SW16)

SW1(W), CARDINAL. - M&B: Highgate Old. + Young: Bitter. (SW16, U67, U79)

SW1(W), COACH & HORSES. + Fuller: London Pride. (SW17)

SW1(W), ELEPHANT & CASTLE. + Tetley: Bitter.
+ Wadworth: 6X. (SW17)

SW1(W), GREENCOAT BOY. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. (SW17)

SW1(W), KINGS ARMS. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. (SW17)

SW1(W), OLD ROSE. + Courage: Best Bitter. + John
Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. + Ruddle: County. (SW17)

SW1(W), STACE DOOR. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SW18, U76)

SW3, CADOGAN ARMS TAVERN. - Beers listed. + Courage:
Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. + John Smith:
Yorkshire Bitter. (SW21)

SW3, CROSS KEYS. + Wadworth: 6X. (SW21)

SW3, FRONT PAGE. + Boddington: Bitter. (SW22)

NORTH WEST

NW8, NEW INN. - Beers listed in Update 39. + Greene King: IPA, Rayments Special Bitter, Abbot Ale. Now a Greene King tied house, ex Courage. Food 12-10. Open all permitted hours. (N159, U39)

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 80 continued

SW3, MAN IN THE MOON. - Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SW22,U51, U53)

SW3, ROSE. - Fuller: Chiswick Bitter. (SW23, U31)

SW6, COCK. - Truman beers. + Ruddle: Best Bitter.
(SW27)

SW6, GEORGE. + Boddington: Bitter. (SW27)

SW6, IMPERIAL. + Hook Norton: Bitter (@ fl.15 a pint) (SW28, U74)

SW6, NELL GWYNNE. Renamed <u>COME THE REVOLUTION</u>.

- Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + Wadworth: 6%. (SW29)
SW6, WEAVERS ARMS. - Wethered: Bitter. + Fuller:

London Pride. (SW29, U69, U74) SW8, ROYAL ALBERT. Has 5 real ales from the Whitbread

list, constantly changing. (SW35, U56)

SW10, MAGPIE & STUMP. - Magpie & Stump: Bogwash. + Magpie & Stump: Blarney (OG 1037, origin unknown).

+ Young: Winter Warmer. (SW38, U64, U74)

SW10, SPORTING PAGE. - Ruddle: County. + Wadworth: 6X. (SW38, U43, U74)

SW10, WORLDS END DISTILLERY. - Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + A varying range of real ales including Adnams: Bitter; Brakspear: Bitter; Everard: Tiger and Wadworth: 6%. Now a Regent Inns Free House, ex Watney. (SW38, U74)

SW11, CHANDLER. - Charrington: IPA (U43, U78)

SW14, QUEENS ARMS. - Charrington: IPA. - Bass.
- Fuller: London Pride. + Marston: Pedigree.

+ Robinson: Best Bitter. Now a Free House, ex Charrington.SW45, U63, U70)

SW17, RAILWAY BELL. Now operated by Standwood Taverns but still has Courage sign. (SW50, U29)

SW19, SWAN. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. (SW56, U28, U70)

SW19, TOWN HOUSE. + Young: Special. Formerly BERNI INN (U67, U73)

BROMLEY DAVE FOORD

SW20, RAYNES PARK. + Ruddle: County. (SW59)

WEST

W2, GRAND JUNCTION ARMS. Renamed <u>ORIENT EXPRESS</u>.

- Beers listed. + Courage: Best Bitter, Directors
Bitter. + Fuller: London Pride. Now a Free House,
ex Truman. (W59)

W2, GREAT WESTERN. - Courage: Best Bitter. - Fuller: London Pride. + Marston: Pedigree. + Wadworth: 6X. (W59, U55, U73)

W2, GREEN MAN. - Ruddle: County. (W59)

W6, CRABTREE. - Ruddle: County. + Courage: Directors Bitter. (W74)

W6, DARTMOUTH CASTLE. - Ruddle: Best Bitter, County. (W74)

W14, SEVEN STARS. - Fuller: Chiswick Bitter. (W95) FELTHAM, ROSE & CROWN. - Ruddle: Best Bitter, County (W100)

FELTHAM, THREE HORSESHOES. - John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. + Young: Special. (W100)

HOUNSLOW, BELL. - Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + Courage: Best Bitter. (W126, U52)

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 79

Pages 35 and 36 of the February London Drinker, containing Update 79 were inadvertently reversed.

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE E1, MORGAN ARMS. Should read E3.

E1, QUEEN VICTORIA. Should read E3.

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

BRENTFORD, SIX BELLS. Reference omitted. (W99, U46)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

EC1, COACH & HORSES. Should read +(plus) Wadworth: 6X.

E1, KATHERINE WHEEL. Reference should read (E68, U73)

W2, DUKE OF YORK. Should read W3.

0689 54798 (H)

BRANCH CONTACTS

CROYDON & SUTTON ANDY GRAY (081) 683 1211 (W) EASTLONDON & CITY ROY JENNER (081) 806 7605 (H) 0245 226511 (W) ENFIELD & BARNET DENNIS O'ROURKE ... (071) 430 5269 (W) KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD ALLAN MARSHALL .. (081) 942 91 15 (H) (071) 227 3377(W) NORTH LONDON MICK LEWIS (081) 452 6087 (H&W) (071) 935 1350 (Messages) RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW DOUG SCOTT (081) 560 8503 (H) SOUTH WEST ESSEX ANDREW CLIFTON Romford (0708) 765150 (H) SOUTH EAST LONDON ANGELA SMITH (071) 430 5081 (W) SOUTH WEST LONDON MARTIN BUTLER (081) 542 3158 (H) 081-862 6154 (W) WATFORD & DISTRICT MARTIN FEW 0923 52412 (H) ROBERT McGOWAN .. (081) 691 8019 (H) (071) 242 0262 WEST LONDON x2650 (W) WEST MIDDLESEX IRENE DIX (081) 573 8144 (H)

Contd. from p.3

woes, this being a Courage pub that also sells Brakspear's Bitter (and now King & Barnes Bitter and Marston's Pedigree as well). When it came to buying the Bulldog it was found to be about a month past its sell by date and so it was obtained for half price.

Chatting later to the landlord he mentioned that he was down to the last half dozen bottles and he would not be getting any more in because there was no demand for it. He then went on to say, quite unprompted in any way, that he was dropping Guinness as well because of low demand "and it only has a three months shelf life."

Now, I don't pretend to know what the answer should be to such a situation, but I can't help feeling that advertising has a lot to do with it. Advertising only sells you the idea of some nebulous message you will give the world about your image if you buy a product; it doesn't tell you about the product itself. Perhaps if people were told how good a drink real bottled Guinness is (while it still exists) maybe people would not denounce it as a drink for invalids and old age pensioners while drinking their exorbitant, flavourless Mexican (and other) pale liquids because they come in a bottle with a smart screen printed, rather than paper, label.

I also have a sneaking feeling that the short sell by date on the Guinness bottle is a good deal shorter than it need really be. Of course the beer should be kept in reasonable storage conditions otherwise it might suffer, but I don't see why they have to put a sell by date that assumes that the beer will be badly kept. On a slightly lighter note, but still on sell by dates, there is a brewery in Belgium (I wish I could remember which one) that to abide by EC regulations has to put a use by date on its bottles no more that 12 months after the date of bottling. However, much to the chagrin of the authorities the brewer also insists on printing on the same bottle the advice that the beer will improve if kept for at least five years before drinking. Who says that these regulations are there to protect us? They certainly don't do much for my sanity!

Andy Pirson

Contd. from p.27

London Drinker (barring April hoaxes) was for a "Beer" powered watch from a company in South Norwood. The sales pitch included the claims "Amazing new technology . . . L.C.D. Quartz accuracy . . . Hours, minutes, seconds, month and date . . . No battery needed . . . Runs on most forms of liquid, even LAGER!" I acquired the complimentary sample - price to the public £6.75, and although it worked, its accuracy can best be compared to the Mad Hatter's watch at the Tea Party in Alice in Wonderland - which the Doormouse had lubricated with the Best Butter, but spread with a bread knife. In other words, it was hopeless. On the other hand, I had used Bass . . .

On which sobering thought I will take my leave. Opening time (and the postal collection, simultaneously) approacheth.

Cheers

Martin Smith

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. Tel: (081) 647 0556. Andy Pirson, 13 Belvedere Close, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0NT. (081) 943 5344. Ian Amy, 89 Woodfield Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey KT7 0DS.

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Deadline for the April edition, 1st March. Material for May edition to arrive by 1st April.

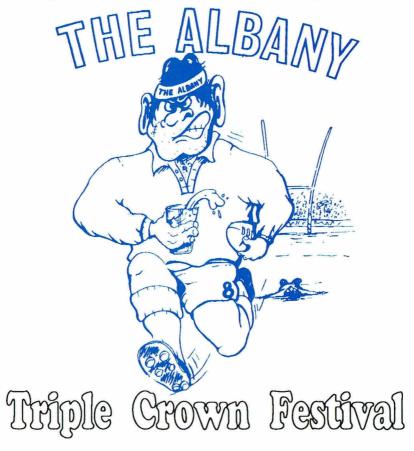
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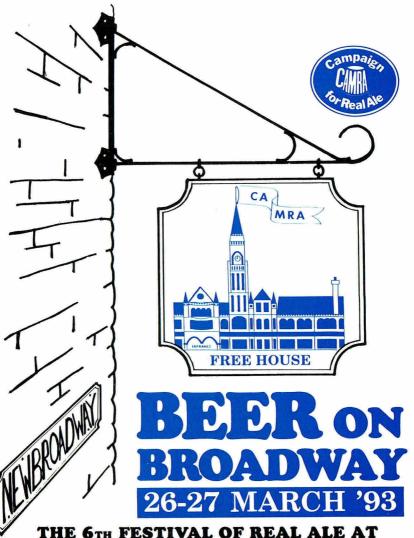
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