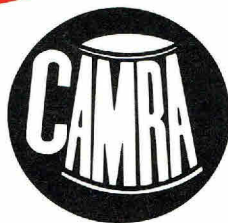


May
97

LONDON



30p

DRINKER



**THE CRAB TREE,
SHOREHAM**
See "Beer & Skittles" inside
(photo: Paul Everitt)

Vol 19

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

No. 4

WHERE TO BUY LONDON DRINKER

The following is a list of all the current outlets for London Drinker of which the editors have been informed. Full addresses are only given where there are two pubs of the same name in the same postal district.

OUTLETS - EAST and SOUTH

EAST PUBS

EC1 ARTILLERY ARMS
EC1 BISHOPS FINGER
EC1 LEOPARD
EC1 MASQUE HAUNT
EC1 O'HANLONS
EC1 PHEASANT & FIRKIN
EC1 SEKFORDE ARMS
EC1 SHAKESPEARE
EC1 SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE
EC3 SWAN
EC4 BLACK FRIAR
E1 LORD RODNEYS HEAD
E2 CAMDENS HEAD
E2 CONQUEROR
E3 COBORN ARMS
E3 IMPERIAL CROWN
E7 OLD SPOTTED DOG
E8 PRINCE ARTHUR
E9 FALCON & FIRKIN
E11 BIRKBECK TAVERN
E11 GEORGE
E15 GOLDEN GROVE
E17 COLLEGE ARMS
SE1 ANCHOR & HOPE
SE1 COPPER
SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN
SE1 GRAPES
SE1 KINGS ARMS
SE1 MARKET PORTER
SE1 PRINCE WILLIAM HENRY
SE1 SHIP, 68 Borough Road
SE1 TRINITY ARMS
SE1 WHEATSHEAF
SE1 WHITE HART, Cornwall Street
SE1 WINDMILL, 44 Lambeth High Street
SE1 ZANZI BAR
SE3 BRITISH OAK
SE3 CROWN
SE3 HARE & BILLET
SE5 PHOENIX & FIRKIN
SE6 BLACK HORSE & HARROW
SE6 TIGERS HEAD
SE7 ANTIGALLICAN
SE7 ROYAL OAK
SE8 CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN
SE8 DOG & BELL
SE8 OLD MANOR HOUSE
SE9 BANKERS DRAFT
SE10 ADMIRAL HARDY
SE10 ASHBURNHAM ARMS
SE10 RICHARD I
SE13 FOX & FIRKIN
SE13 HOGS HEAD
SE16 BLACKSMITHS ARMS
SE16 MOBY DICK
SE18 EARL OF CHATHAM
SE18 ROSE'S (PRINCE ALBERT)
SE20 MOON & STARS

SE22 CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN
SE24 LORD STANLEY
SE25 ALLIANCE
SE25 GOAT HOUSE
SE26 DULWICH WOOD HOUSE
BARKING, BARKING DOG
BARKINGSIDE, NEW FAIRLOP OAK
BEXLEY, BLUE ANCHOR
CROYDON, BUILDERS ARMS
CROYDON, DOG & BULL
CROYDON, GEORGE
CROYDON, PRINCESS ROYAL
CROYDON, ROYAL STANDARD
ILFORD, GREAT SPOON OF ILFORD
LOUGHTON, LAST POST
PURLEY, FOXLEY HATCH
SOUTH CROYDON, RAIL VIEW
WALLINGTON, WHISPERING MOON

CLUBS

SE9 HOWERD CLUB
SE13 LEWISHAM LABOUR CLUB
SE18 PLUMSTEAD RADICAL CLUB
CROYDON, RUSKIN HOUSE
ORPINGTON, JUBILEE SPORTS BAR
OFF TRADE
E18 Gales Off Licence, 204 High Road, Woodford Green
SE3 Bitter Experience, 129 Lee Road
BROMLEY, Bitter End, 139 Masons Hill

OUTLETS - WEST CENTRAL and NORTH PUBS

WC1 CALTHORPE ARMS
WC1 CITTIE OF YORKE
WC1 PAKENHAM ARMS
WC1 PRINCESS LOUISE
WC1 RUGBY TAVERN
WC1 SUN
WC1 THREE CUPS
WC1 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR
WC2 FULMAR & FIRKIN
WC2 GEORGE IV
WC2 HOGS HEAD
WC2 MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY
WC2 MOON & SIXPENCE
N1 179 UPPER STREET
N1 COMPTON ARMS
N1 EARL OF RADNOR
N1 GEORGE & VULTURE
N1 MALT & HOPS
N1 MARQUESS TAVERN
N1 PRINCE ARTHUR
N1 WENLOCK ARMS
N2 WELCH'S ALE HOUSE
N4 TAP & SPILE
N6 OLD GATE HOUSE
N7 TAPPIT HEN

N8 ELBOW ROOM
N8 TOLL GATE
N9 LAMB
N11 BANKERS DRAFT
N12 TALLY HO
N13 WHOLE HOG
N14 NEW CROWN
N16 EBOR ARMS
N16 ROCHESTER CASTLE
N17 ELBOW ROOM
N17 NEW MOON
N19 DOG
N21 DOG & DUCK
N21 HALF MOON
N21 ORANGE TREE
N22 STARTING GATE
BARNET, MOON UNDER WATER
BARNET, WHITE LION
BARNET, YE OLDE MONKEN HOLT
COCKFOSTERS, TRENT TAVERN
EDGWARE, BLACKING BOTTLE
ENFIELD, FALLOW BUCK
ENFIELD, MOON UNDER WATER
ENFIELD, OLD WHEATSHAEF
NEW BARNET, BUILDERS ARMS
NEW BARNET, LORD KITCHENER
NEW BARNET, RAILWAY BELL
OUTLETS - NORTH WEST PUBS
NW1 HEAD OF STEAM
NW1 LORD NELSON
NW1 QUINNS
NW1 SPREAD EAGLE
NW2 BEATEN DOCKET
NW3 DUKE OF HAMILTON
NW3 FLASK TAVERN
NW3 THREE HORSESHOES
NW4 CHEQUERS
NW4 FOOTMAN & FIRKIN
NW4 GREYHOUND
NW8 PRINCESS ROYAL
NW9 J.J. MOONS
NW10 COLISEUM
NW10 GRAND JUNCTION ARMS
NW10 OUTSIDE INN
NW11 WHITE SWAN
HAREFIELD, WHITE HORSE
HARROW, MOON ON THE HILL
HARROW WEALD, SEVEN BALLS
HATCH END, MOON & SIXPENCE
KENTON, NEW MOON
NORTH HARROW, J.J. MOONS
RUISLIP, J.J. MOONS
SOUTH HARROW, J.J. MOONS
STANMORE, MALT HOUSE
WEALDSTONE, ROYAL OAK
WEALDSTONE, SARSEN STONE
WEMBLEY, J.J. MOONS

continued on page 39

EDITORIAL

There are no lager beers listed in 'The Good Beer Guide'. CAMRA's definition of traditional draught beer rules out a beer-style brewed in a distinctively different manner.

That should not be taken to mean that CAMRA is hostile to the beers that are traditional to such great brewing countries as Belgium, The Czech Republic and Germany. The campaign's hostility has been directed against mock British 'lagers' that are weak, overpriced and which often masquerade as being genuinely continental when they are produced in Wrexham, Alloa and Northampton.

A proper lager beer - and the word lager is hardly used abroad; beer is beer and lager merely means 'to store' - uses different malt, different seedless hops and yeast strains, which, after a brief flurry on top of the wort, sinks to the bottom and continues to turn sugars into alcohol during the slow, long lagering period. This is why lager is known as a 'bottom fermented' beer, while the British beer or ale is produced by top fermentation.

The three main types of lager are Pils or Pilsen, Dortmunder and Munich or Munchener. A classic lager beer has a dry, quenching hoppy palate, is lagered for a minimum of one month before it leaves the brewery and usually starts at a gravity of 4%. In sharp contrast, most British brewed lagers are low in gravity, 3%-4% - they are 'lagered' for short periods of not more than three weeks and often no longer than ale, and are served so chilled or heavily pasteurised that what little taste they have is lost.

Like keg beers, British lagers are pasteurised, a process frowned upon by the top European brewmasters because of the cloying, off-taste imparted.

In Europe, lager beers that are sold under pressure either use the natural carbon dioxide produced by the fermentation process, as at the wonderful Zum Verige in Dusseldorf or in Mahr's Brau near Bamberg, or in strictly controlled levels as in The Czech Republic. In Britain, there are no constraints on the levels of applied pressure that can be used to pump the beer to the bar, except the need to

stop 'fobbing'. British style lagers are based loosely on the Pilsen style of beer from the Czech Republic.

There are some excellent lager beers imported into Britain - remember, the difference between the real Budvar and the pale American imitation is what this editorial is all about - but there are poor beers in all the best brewing countries and a tutored tasting at Olympia in August will reveal the delights of the best. However not all these beers will be available at your local pub or off-licence. Most outlets will usually be able to obtain one or more if the demand is there. Therefore you must become the demander! Or, failing this, take the plunge and plan your next holiday round one of the excellent guides that have reviewed in these pages or are available at the product stands.

In British pubs, however, it is our excellent range of traditional top-fermented ales that offer not only good taste but better value for money.

Chris Cobbold

FORTHCOMING FESTIVALS

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1-4 May | 3rd Reading, Kings Meadow, Reading |
| 1-4 May | 10th Ongar, Budworth Hall, High Street, Ongar |
| 14-17 May | 12th Colchester, Colchester Arts Centre, Church Street, Colchester |
| 16-18 May | Yapton, Yapton & Ford Village Hall, Yapton, Nr Arundel |
| 19-24 May | 24th Cambridge, Cambridge City Football Ground, Milton Road, Cambridge |
| 6-7 June | Southampton, Guildhall, West Marlands Road, Southampton |
| 11-14 June | 5th Catford, Lewisham Theatre, Rushey Green, Catford SE6 |
| 21 June | Jazzale 1, Fort Purbrook, Portsdown Hill, Portsmouth |
-

WINDSOR CASTLE

378 Carshalton Road, Carshalton, Surrey
Telephone 0181 669 1191

CAMRA (Croydon & Sutton Branch) **PUB OF THE YEAR**

We present our 3rd Annual
BEER FESTIVAL

Thur May 22nd-Mon May 26th
featuring over 35 Real Ales,
Good Food & Music

*Thur 22nd 7pm Beer Festival opens
Pie & Mash night*

*Fri 23rd Lunchtime & Evening Fat Boys BBQ
Raffle - Brewery Prizes (Evening)*

*Sat 24th BBQ - Norm's Special Sausages
available all day (midday - 10pm)*

*Sun 25th Lunchtime Carvery (midday - 4pm)
Evening Live Music with "QED"*

Mon 26th Fat Boys Curry & Quiz Night

- ★ 4 pint jug promotion - 4 pints for the price of 3!
- ★ Fat Boys bitter available at £1-00 a pint
- ★ Open all permitted hours
- ★ approx 5 minutes from Carshalton or Carshalton Beeches railway stations
- ★ We are in the 1997 CAMRA Good Beer Guide

IDLE MOMENTS

Hello there. The other day I was taking some copies of the London Drinker to one of my local pubs which has a new landlord. Obviously I had to have a chat with him to confirm that he wished to continue taking the magazine and during our conversation he asked whether there were any number puzzles in the new edition (the April one, that is) as he particularly likes them; I had to admit that there weren't as it gets difficult to think up new ones these days. But especially for John at the Hogarth in Teddington I've put the old brain into gear (not always easy these days) and come up with ten new number puzzles. Here they are - and you know who to blame:

1. 4 RP or P in a C
2. 600 A of N at the T of the GF
3. 2 B from W to A
4. 15 M of a SJ
5. 3 AS
6. 5 C have B with GL
7. 4 M of J
8. 2 P for a C in RU
9. 9 I per T in a G of B
10. 42 Y in a B of C

Now just because you've had some number puzzles this month, that doesn't mean that you are going to have to do without the brewery clerihews. Once again I am putting in one each from A.Chessplayer, Brian Fletcher and Robin Bolt respectively. You may notice a certain similarity between the first two:

Shepherd Neame
Have a scheme:
Brew excellent ale
And their name shall not fail.

Messrs Shepherd Neame
Frequently do scream
All these booze cruisers
Make us the losers

Eldridge Pope
Brew with hope
That you won't choke
On Royal Oak.

Now for all (both?) you lovers of the brewery anagrams, here are the... Well you know what's coming next, not that I expect that you need them:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. MR. ROOT MOANS | MARSTON MOOR |
| 2. WON SET | TOWNES |
| 3. HOB SIPS | BISHOPS |
| 4. HOT ALLY | TALLY HO |
| 5. TOP CORN | CROPTON |

And here as usual are this month's. You'll probably have them sorted in two shakes of a lamb's whist (if you don't get arrested first):

1. EVEN REACH MUCK
2. SHAG DEAN
3. WEED OR SONG
4. SLAY MAC
5. TRY THE WIG ON

Those damnable cryptic Underground stations keep rearing their ugly heads as well. It's ugly head rearing time now, starting with (yes that's right)...

1. No, it's not mustard pickle, but it is in the ring - Piccadilly Circus
2. You can't see over it into the garden so you'll have to open it - Highgate
3. Is this a road to get tied up in? - Bond Street
4. Everybody hoots in the wide street - Tooting Broadway
5. The man on the omnibus is most unrefined - Clapham Common

And while it's getting more difficult all the time I've still managed a few more:

1. I thought you said it's built out of beer
2. Wearing his tifter, he's not happy
3. Building materials? Over two thousand pounds of them
4. Toll Road
5. Gettin' better, as muck

This month's 5BY4 is entitled "More Football Grounds" because it does what it says on the tin, no sorry, let's try that again... because, well you know.... Here's the teams:

1. Queens Park Rangers
2. Everton
3. West Bromwich Albion
4. Halifax Town
5. Wolverhampton Wanderers
6. Southampton
7. Coventry City
8. Millwall
9. Blackpool
10. Norwich City

continued over the page

And here's the grounds:

- A. Goodison Park
- B. Carrow Road
- C. Ellerslie Road
- D. Shay Ground
- E. The Den
- F. The Hawthorns
- G. Bloomfield Road
- H. The Dell
- I. Highfield Road
- J. Molineux

Now you just have to match them up, or else give up and look up the answers at the end. Now we shall draw things to a close with the Trivial Knowledge bit, but not until we have had last month's answers (There, I said it):

- 1. Three (Numbers 10, 11 and 12)
- 2. Carly Simon
- 3. Yorick
- 4. Cecil Rhodes
- 5. 92 days - it disintegrated on 4th January 1958 after 1367 orbits.
- 6. 78
- 7. 1979
- 8. City of Truro
- 9. Geoffrey Chaucer
- 10. They are all the same lady (real name Eleanor Hibbert).

Now this really is the last lap:

- 1. We all know that Hong Kong returns to Chinese control this year, but exactly when?
- 2. Still on the subject of Hong Kong, what is the area of the whole colony in square miles?
- 3. By comparison the Portuguese colony of Macau is somewhat smaller; how big is it?
- 4. What is the correct word for the roughly triangular area between an arch and the horizontal, for example under the roadway on a bridge?
- 5. In Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, how did Brutus die?
- 6. We all, of course link the Spitfire with the Merlin engine, but what was the name of the engine, also by Rolls Royce fitted to some later marks (eg the Mark XIV)
- 7. Who wrote the line, "The female of the species is more deadly than the male."?
- 8. By what name is Vladimir Ulyanov better known?

- 9. What two buildings link the architects Gilbert Scott and Basil Spence
- 10. During the South African (Boer) War who was the war correspondent for the Morning Post?

If that was the last lap, we shall just breast the tape with the solution to 5BY4...

1C, 2A, 3F, 4D, 5J, 6H, 7I, 8E, 9G, 10B
and I shall be on my way.
Cheerio!

Andy Pirson

LONDON DRINKER – GREAT BRITISH WHEAT BEER CHALLENGE

May 15th sees The White Horse, Parsons Green, hosting the first ever Great British Wheat Beer Challenge.

The aim of the competition is threefold. Firstly, to promote Atlantis wheat, Britain's first ever specific brewing wheat.

Secondly, to promote wheat beer as a style amongst Britain's smaller brewers, as an alternative brew for the summer months when ales become harder to keep and many drinkers turn to lighter more 'refreshing' beers.

Thirdly to showcase microbrewery beers to the retail trade.

Judging of the Challenge will take place during the afternoon of Thursday 15th May, and, after the announcement of the awards there will be a wheat beer festival from 8.00 pm until the last of the 22 firkins of wheat beer have been consumed, hopefully sometime before 10.30 pm on Sunday 18th May.

It is hoped that CAMRA members will attend in their droves to support what will, if the weather is wheat beer weather, be a most enjoyable festival, and the organisers look forward to seeing them over the course of the festival.

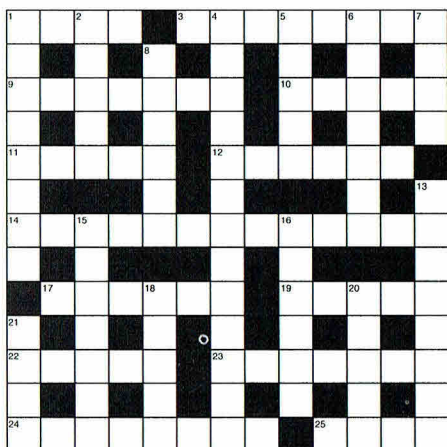
Challenge Judges include Michael Jackson, Martin Cullimore (BATEMANS), Julian Herington (SHEPHERD NEAME), Miles Jenner (HARVEYS), Lorna Harrison (PUBLICAN), and Mark Dorber.

Sponsors include: SIBA, The International Brewers Guild, The Grist, The National Hop Association, East West Ales and The White Horse.

LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

£10 PRIZE TO BE WON



ACROSS

1. Boy - before your first woman [4]
3. Complete sailors with no instrument [8]
9. Disagree on radioactivity [4,3]
10. Protested about material? [5]
11. Cloth ran round most of you. [5]
12. Some frequent ailments follow [6]
14. Starter and finisher; he's never done it before. [5,8]
17. The way water causes stress. [6]
19. Cain having first beer on ship. [5]
22. From here you can see bird in front of church. [5]
23. Speak fast. [7]
24. Hit-and-run is careless. [4,4]
25. It's crazy, revolutionary, knock out. [4]

DOWN

1. Prisoner at back of boat? [4,4]
2. Hold up the Spanish in time. [5]
4. Clumsy goats out of touch? [6,7]
5. Start filming. [5]
6. Never attempted to be somehow reunited without English. [7]
7. Some surgeons take ages. [4]
8. Good French material for a hat. [6]
13. Settle thousands on descendant... [8]
15. ...round at demolition of building. [7]
16. Great war film. [6]
18. Change people in poster. [5]
20. Moan about damaged table. [5]
21. They show resistance to being civil servants. [4]

Winner of the prize for the March Crossword:
Stuart Osgood, Bromley.

Other correct entries were received from:

A; Alison; Pat Andrews; I.W.Ardon; Tommy Atkins; Geoff B; Baldrick; Tom Baldwin; Robin Bolt; Alan Brooke; Martyn Brown; D.A.Bryant; Ben Burfutt; Andy Camroux; A.P.Comaish; Charles Creasey; Kathryn Everett; Mike Farrelly; Eileen Graves; Paul Gray; J.E.Green; Jonty Hawkes; Bill Hernon; Graham Hill; Chris James; Doug, Lisa & Jamie King; Jim Mason; M.J.Moran; Al Mountain; Terry Neill; Rab Noolas; Mick Norman; Super Scooper; Signor Singular; Mrs B.Smith; Brian & Penny Smith; Old Smokey from Badger Country; Guy Standeven; Stephen, Tarnya & Jez; Betty Swallows; Bill Thackray; Tony Watkins; Martin Weedon; Hazel Woodhams; David Woodward; Yak, Ros & Billy.

Name

Address

All correct entries received by first post on 28th May will be entered into a draw for the prize.

Prize winner will be announced in the July 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

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | O | N | T | R | A | C | T | B | R | E | D |
| L | O | E | A | L | S | E | A | | | | |
| A | P | R | I | L | F | O | L | S | D | A | Y |
| Y | M | I | U | A | N | B | | | | | |
| M | A | L | E | T | A | M | B | O | U | R | |
| J | V | S | | | | | | | | | E |
| U | N | I | T | E | D | G | E | N | E | V | A |
| R | N | | | | | R | M | | | | K |
| A | U | S | T | R | I | A | B | U | S | T | |
| S | I | O | N | A | O | E | | | | | |
| S | T | G | E | O | R | G | E | S | F | L | A |
| I | H | M | E | S | V | G | | | | | |
| C | I | T | Y | G | R | E | Y | N | E | S | S |

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BRANCH DIARY

If your branch does not have any events listed, please ring the branch contact given after the branch name. Dates for May of which we have been notified are given below. Branches please send information to Andy Pirson.

LONDON PUBS GROUP. Jeff Primm 0181683 3832 (H) 0171973 3096 (W)

CROYDON & SUTTON. Paul Everitt 0181-686 5053 (H & W): Tue 6 (8.30) Social. **MOON ON THE HILL**, 5-9 Hill Road, Sutton - Sat 10 (6.00) Joint Social with South West London & South East London Branches. **SULTAN**, 78 Norman Road, SW19 - Wed 14 (8.30) Social. **ALLIANCE**, 91 High Street, South Norwood, SE25 - Tue 20 (8.30) Social. **BUILDERS ARMS**, Leslie Park Road, East Croydon (in garden if fine) - Thu 29 (8.00) Branch Meeting. **WINDSOR CASTLE**, 378 Carshalton Road, Carshalton - Sat 31 A Thames Side Ramble. Contact Terry Hewitt for details on 0181-660 5931.

EAST LONDON & CITY. Stephen Harris 0181-519 0163 (H) e-mail: steve@pigsear.org.uk: Fri 2 Evening visit to **ONGAR BEER FESTIVAL**, Budworth Hall, Ongar. Meet at festival or outside Loughton tube station at 6.00pm for bus - Tue 6 (8.00) Branch Meeting. **PRINCE GEORGE**, Parkholme Street, E8 - Fri 30 (7.00) Beer & Curry Night. Meet **ALMA**, Spelman Street, E1 by 8.00pm. Later at **BLACK BULL**, Whitechapel Road, E1.

ENFIELD & BARNET. Derek Smith 0181-805 1436 (H & W): Thu 1 (9.00) Election Day Social & London Drinker Pickup. **NEW CROWN**, 80-84 Chase Side Southgate, N14 - Tue 6 (9.00) Social. **GOLDEN EAGLE** (formerly Goldies), 58 Regents Park Road, Finchley, N3 - Fri 16 (6.00) Visit to Bishops Brewery, Southwark. Meet **WHEATSHEAF**, Stoney Street, SE1. Places limited; details from Branch Contact - Wed 21 (9.00) Social. **KINGS HEAD**, Market Place, Enfield Town - Thu 29 (9.00) Social & London Drinker Pickup. **FELIX & FIRKIN** (formerly Dandy Lion), 31 High Street, Barnet, EN5 - Sat 31 (12.00) "Northern Heights" Ramble with North London Branch. Meet **WORLDS END**, 21-23 Stroud Green Road, N4. Details from Branch Contact. - Tue 3 June (9.00) Social. **DOG & DUCK**, 74 Hoppers Road, Winchmore Hill, N21.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD. Brian Bade 0181-549 7486 (H & Fax): Thu 8 (8.00) Business Meeting. **WAGGON & HORSES**, Surbiton Hill Road, Surbiton - Sat 10 (12.30) Lunchtime Social in West Molesey. Meet **SURVEYOR**, Island Farm Road then **ROYAL OAK**, 317 Walton Road - Sat 24 (provisional) Trip to Rare Breeds Beer Festival. Rare Breeds Centre, Ashford, Kent. Phone Branch Contact for details.

NORTH LONDON. Alison Cox 0181-742 0498 (H) 0181-746 8148 (W)

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW. Alistair Black 01932 780823 (H): Tue 13 (8.00) Committee Meeting (open to all from 9.00). **MOON UNDER WATER**, 51/57 London Road, Twickenham - Sat 7 Jun (advance notice) Visit to Bunce's brewery plus Salisbury (full day). Coach £10; details from Gordon Mills, tel: 0181-560 7406 (H).

SOUTH EAST LONDON. Andy Camroux 0181-854 1538 (H) 0181-331 8510 (W) e-mail: a.camroux@greenwich.ac.uk: Wed 7 (8.00) Branch/Committee Meeting. **BRICKLAYERS ARMS**, 189 Dartmouth Road, SE26 - Sat 10 (6.00) Joint Social with South West London and Croydon & Sutton Branches. **SULTAN**, 78 Norman Road, SW19 - Wed 14 (8.00) Catford Beer Festival Planning Meeting. **CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN**, 105 Tanners Hill, SE8 - Wed 21 (8.00) Catford Publicity Crawl. Meet **PARTRIDGE**, High Street, Bromley - Thu 29 (7.30) Catford Publicity Crawl. Meet **CATFORD RAM**, 9 Winslade Way, SE26 - Sat 31 (12.30) Catford Publicity Crawl. Meet **ADMIRAL HARDY**, 7 College Approach, SE10 - Mon 2 June (7.30) Catford Publicity Crawl. Meet **QUAGGY DUCK**, Lewisham High Street, SE13 - Wed 4 June (7.30) Catford Publicity Crawl. Meet **TRINITY ARMS**, 29 Swan Street, SE1.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX. Andrew Clifton 01708 765150 (H): **Once again, may SW Essex Branch apologise to anybody who tried to attend the AGM on Wed 12 March. Please see below for notice of rearranged AGM.** Tue 3 (8.30) Social. **MALTSTERS ARMS**, London Road (A113), Abridge - Thu 8 (8.30) Out of Area Social. **WHITE HORSE**, 26 High Street, Maldon. Possible coach; details/bookings from Wendy Benson on 01708 723897 - Wed 14 (8.30) **REARRANGED BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. TRAVELLERS FRIEND**,

continued on page 11

CAMRA
GBBF OLYMPIA

RUNNER-UP BITTER CATEGORY 1994 SILVER MEDAL 1996
SCOTLAND'S FIRST EVER AWARD WINNER

~
CAMRA
**CHAMPION BEER OF
SCOTLAND**

RUNNER-UP 1996

~
CAMRA GLASGOW & WEST OF SCOTLAND
'BEER OF THE YEAR'
4 YEARS RUNNING

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Roger Protz - World A-Z of Brewing

Web site: <http://www.caledonian-brewery.co.uk>



continued from page 9

496/498 High Road (A104), Woodford Green. Nominations for new committee and/or points for agenda to Andrew Clifton, 46 Havering Drive, Romford, RM1 4BH (tel/fax as above) - Tue 20 (8.30) Social. TOWER ARMS, Weald Road (opposite the church), South Weald - Thu 29 (8.30) Social. GREAT SPOON OF ILFORD, 114-116 Cranbrook Road (A123), Ilford - Tue 3 June (8.30) Out of Area Social. QUEENS HEAD, Queens Street (off B184), Fyfield.

SOUTH WEST LONDON. Martin Butler 0181-542 3158 (H & Fax): Thu 8 (8.00) BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. PRIORY ARMS, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8 - Sat 10 (6.00) Joint Social with South East London and Croydon & Sutton Branches. SULTAN, 78 Norman Road, SW19 - Tue 3 June Joint Social with Croydon & Sutton Branch. GREYHOUND HOTEL, 2 High Street, Carshalton. **CRICKET FIXTURES:** Sun 4, Parktown - Sun 18, RED LION, Aldershot; both matches at 2.00pm at Haydons Road Rec, SW19 (corner of Quicks Road). Sun 1 June, Loughborough Branch (away). Players please ring Andy Robinson on 0171-410 6302 (work) or 0181-653 8885 (home).

WATFORD & DISTRICT. Tony Smith 01923 221155 (H & W) Fax: 01923 218625: Wed 7 (8.30) Club Social. RICKMANSWORTH HOCKEY CLUB - Thu 15 (8.30) Good Beer Guide Social. LAND OF LIBERTY, Herronsgate - Tue 20 (8.30) Games Night, Bar Billiards at the CRICKETERS, Sarat - Wed 28 (6.30) Early Evening Pub Crawl of Watford. Start PUB ON THE CORNER then WELLINGTON (7.30); ESTCOURT TAVERN (8.30); ESTCOURT ARMS (9.30). WEST LONDON. Di Kehoe 0171-218 3141 (W): Tue 6 (8.30) Social. RISING SUN, Tottenham Court Road, W1 - Thu 15 (8.00) BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. WHITE HORSE, 1 Parsons Green, SW6 (Please note: this AGM must start on time) - Thu 21 (8.00) Covent Garden Pub Crawl. HARP, 47 Chandos Place, WC2 then MARQUIS OF GRANBY (8.45), 51 Chandos Place; ROUND HOUSE (9.30), 1 Garrick Street; LAMB & FLAG (10.15), 3 Rose Street.

WEST MIDDLESEX. Dave O'Driscoll 0181-427 7498 (H) 0171-725 3035 (W): Tue 6 (8.30) Social. FAWNAXE & FIRKIN, Northolt Road South Harrow - Wed 14 (7.45 for 8:00 prompt start) BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. LOAD OF HAY, Villier Street Uxbridge - Thu 22 (8.30) Social. BEACONSFIELD ARMS, West End Road Southall - Wed 28 (9:00) London Drinker Pickup. RED LION, St Marys Road, W5.

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

APPLICATION TO JOIN CAMRA

I/We wish to become members of the Campaign for Real Ale Limited and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Campaign.

Name(s)

Address

.....Postcode

Signature.....Date

I/We enclose the remittance for individual/joint membership:

| | Individual Annual | Joint Annual | Individual Life | Joint Life |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| UK and EEC | £14 <input type="checkbox"/> | £17 <input type="checkbox"/> | £168 <input type="checkbox"/> | £204 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rest of the World | £18 <input type="checkbox"/> | £21 <input type="checkbox"/> | £216 <input type="checkbox"/> | £252 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Student/Unwaged | £8 <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| Disabled | £8 <input type="checkbox"/> | | | |
| Retired | £8 <input type="checkbox"/> | £11 <input type="checkbox"/> | £96 <input type="checkbox"/> | £132 <input type="checkbox"/> |

Send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to:
Membership Secretary, CAMRA Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editors,

My favourite cleriehew is not about beer but the overthrow of the communist regime in Romania in 1989:

The Securitate
were having a party,
So they couldn't rescue
Nicolai Ceaucescu.

To get back to beer, the Bridge House in Goodmayes Road, Ilford (opposite Goodmayes BR station) has an interesting variant on the happy hour. On a Monday night beer is £1 a pint from the scoring of the first goal in the live Premiership match to the final whistle. Real ales available are Greene King IPA and Abbot Ale. Don't bother if Arsenal are playing.

After Wetherspoons have been turning ex-banks into pubs, the banks are now fighting back. The former site of the Cock, High Street North, E6 has been split into two retail sites - one a Barclays Bank, the other a Burger King. Anyone preferring a draught to an overdraft will find it better to go to the Millers Well, the Wetherspoon pub round the corner in Barking Road.

Yours sincerely
Colin Price
Barking

Dear Editors,

Re Idle Moments - April 1997

"Friary Meux

Rhymes with spew,"

Surely not! Have you checked this with the brewery?

The first two lines should surely be:

"Friary Meux
Rhymes with pukes"

However, the rest is correct - there is absolutely no doubt that:

"Only berks
Call it Meux".

Yours sincerely,

Tony Hunt,
East Finchley, London N2.

Editor's comment:

No, I haven't actually checked with the brewery it's more fun to generate correspondence. Has anybody else got an alternative way of pronouncing "Meux"?

Incidentally, on reflection I think you are right. My Dad still talks about "Meux's" brewery before the days of the Friary link. In fact I have just

checked in Norman Barber's bible, "A Century of British Brewers" and I hope he will forgive me for reproducing the appropriate entry in full:

"Meux's Brewery Co. Ltd, Horseshoe Brewery, Tottenham Court Road, WC1. Founded prior to 1764. After a dispute amongst the partners of Reid Meux & Co, Griffin Brewery, Sir Henry Meux left the concern and acquired the Horseshoe Brewery. Registered 1888. Brewing was transferred to Thorne Brothers former Nine Elms Brewery in 1921 and this renamed the Horseshoe Brewery. The former Horseshoe brewery was demolished in 1921 and the Dominion Cinema now occupies the site. Merged with Friary, Holroyd and Healy's breweries Ltd 1956 to form Friary Meux Ltd. Brewing ceased at Nine Elms in 1964."

So now you know - I am sure the "apostrophe S" means that the "x" should be sounded.

Dear Editors

There's been some discussion about the origin of the pub name *The World Turned Upside Down*. According to the *Encarta* computer encyclopaedia it was the name of a popular song in the 18th century and was played by the British army when they surrendered at the end of the War of American Independence so perhaps the first publican was an old soldier. I enclose an extract from *Encarta*:

At the final battle, Yorktown, the British were deflated but retained a sense of humour. They marched to the surrender field with a regimental band playing a popular ditty. "The World Turned Upside Down." The song envisioned a multitude of fantastic events, none more fantastic than the revolution itself:

If buttercups buzzed after the bee,

If boats were on land, churches on sea,

If ponies rode men, and if grass ate the cows,

And cats should be chased into holes by the mouse,

If the mommas sold their babies,

To the Gypsies for half a crown,

If summer were spring, and the other way round,

Then all the world would be upside down."

Best Wishes,

Glyn Thomas

PS: Does anyone know why the Woodman and the Original Woodman in Battersea are so closely named? And which of these neighbouring pubs was the first?

Dear Editors

I read the letter in your April edition of London Drinker, concerning the plastic jugs under the beer pumps in the bar.

I am very surprised that neither Mr Thomas or yourselves bothered to check with me before printing the story in your magazine.

We use the jugs on busy sessions, e.g. Palace and Wimbledon match days, and music nights to try and convince the bar staff they must pull up the pints correctly even if they are under pressure on match days.

It is the best method I have found of monitoring the amount of beer that is wasted when they don't take their time and pull the beer up correctly. I have to be very careful of too much waste as I am a tied house and have very little to manoeuvre my prices.

My guest bitters are my best sellers and I have to make them see how easy it is to waste large amounts of beer.

We have never filtered beer back and we never will, and in the fifteen years I have been here I have built up a good Real Ale trade. The only beneficiary of the beer in the jugs are my roses in the beer garden. The Saturday Mr Thomas came in had been a busy Palace home game and the jugs were probably quite full. I would prefer anyone who has a query or complaint to approach us on the spot and get it sorted out quickly.

Yours sincerely

Dave Harper

Clifton Arms

As Mr Thomas said in his letter, he was sure there was a simple explanation, and there is.

Ed.

Dear Editors

I was very interested to read J.F.R. Griffin's (landlord, Coburn Arms E5) letter and quickly rushed to scribble this reply.

Why does he criticise the article entitled "East End News", March 97, in particular the research aspect.

As I recall, the last time I stepped into the Coburn Arms it was around 7pm on a Thursday evening in the middle of last summer and the place was as dead as a 'Do-Do' save for a few customers at the bar. I wondered why a once bustling pub was so dispossessed of punters, until I tried the beer. First up was Youngs' Oatmeal Stout, which for a stout had a very small head and by the time I was only a third of

the way down my pint, flat as a witch's tit.

Second was Youngs' newest arrival into the pubs, wheat beer. It was fizzy and tasteless, so horrid I only drank about a third. When I complained the barmaid, having dragged herself away from being chatted up by the locals (which she seemed to enjoy) informed me with no apology or compensation that there were problems in the cellar, but she didn't know what. I also found the beer very cold, too cold even for lager, again her excuse was very lame, something about the cellar always being that cold and there's nothing can be done about it - Really? Well, disgusted I walked out and have not been back since.

I don't know, maybe things have improved at the Coburn Arms, but I'll have to have more convincing before I return again!

In answer to the last part of J.F.R. Griffin's letter I have looked long and hard at my local area and still agree with other local CAMRA members, if I want a good consistent standard in a pint, I have to travel to such pubs as the Lord Rodney's Head in Whitechapel, where quality and service have remained. Other pubs in the area are sadly not so good, so when visiting, you have to take your chances - sad, true - but if the general public cannot make the effort to demand consistency, the publicans won't bother to give it.

Yours sincerely

Miss S.J. Connell-Shaw

Editor's Note: *I have personally been in the Coburn many times but confine myself to drinking ordinary bitter which is consistently good.*

Chris Cobbold

Dear Ed.

Re Allan Millington's article in March 'LD': he doesn't know the territory! Down the road from the King William IV in Mickleham he might have found the 'Running Horses' (not to be confused with the 'Running Horse' at Leatherhead). I have not taken children there, but I have definitely seen them in the restaurant section. They are probably not welcome in the bar, but dogs are: they even put out a bowl of water for them! Good selection of guest ales: Brakespear, King & Barnes, Harveys, Marston's Pedigree, Pilgrim, etc.

Cheers!

Tony Watkins

continued over the page

Dear Editors

A Rose & Crown By Any Other Name

'Cheers' times three for Al Ferrier's piece 'The Name Game', (3.97 LD, p.25), which revels in the delicious weirdness of our pub names without getting bogged down in futile speculative etymology.

You know the routine. Late evening in the Jane Birkin & Firkin, real ale having outlasted real conversation, down to trying to out-smart-alec each other with 'interesting' facts. "Did you know that in every tonne of sea water ...?" That kind of stuff.

When all other barrels have been rolled out and scraped, someone chips in with the 'fact' that Pig & Whistle comes from Pyghtle & Wassail, or Elephant & Castle from ... well, who hasn't heard that one?

Names of other things don't arouse such gung ho speculation - consider the tens of thousands of normal, happy people who live unquestioningly in Dorking. Yet pub names get us going in a way which must make non-drinkers want to drive a wooden stake through our anorak.

Two problems with pub names glare forth. Firstly, it's all so open to debate that it would make a neat Hi-De-Hi campers' routine:

Punters on left side of hangar: "Did you know that 'Bag O'Nails' is from 'Bacchanale'?"

Right side: "Oh no it isn't! It's from 'Flagon of Ale'!"

Barman at back: "Maybe it was simply a chippies' pub?"

Boss: "You're fired - no sense of British History!"

Secondly, you can be as 'smart' as you like because no-one can ever prove/disprove anything. London/Londinium was named after a skiffing ancestor of Lonnie Donegan. Make my day, punks - disprove it!

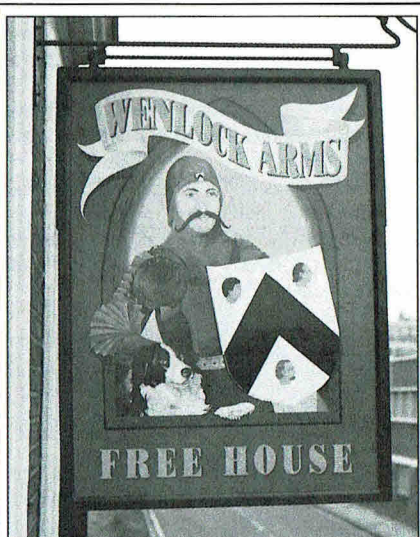
So I throw upon the doms table a radical new theory. Maybe the Tragic Dun Co., or at least the mentality behind it, has always been around. Maybe our beer-bellied ancestors shared our dry-hopped sense of humour, and simply gave pubs silly names for fun.

If this hitherto unthinkable thought kills off a few 'interesting' conversations, then what the heck. Maybe the walk to the library for more gripping facts about sea water might even do us a bit of good.

And three cheers again to Al Ferrier for his genuinely interesting approach to The Red Herring & Chestnut.

With Best Wishes

Steve Bremner



A genuine Free House featuring a selection of the very best in Cask Ales, Traditional Cider and Perry

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- Lined glasses guarantee full pints
- Salt Beef Sandwiches
- Function room free to CAMRA members
- Jazz piano Sunday lunchtimes
- Jazz every Friday and 3rd Saturday evening in the month
- Open all permitted hours

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PUB OF THE YEAR
1995 & 1996

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Nearest Tube stations are Old Street (exit 1) and Angel. Wenlock Road is off City Road via Windsor Terrace

Dear Editors

Brian Bade fans the flames of the 'Burning Martyr'! I thought it might have been possible to get away with a short answer to the expected reply to my letter. However his response shows he has missed the point of my argument and raises yet more topics of contention.

My contention was that if you don't like a pub/landlord/beer, you do not patronise it. Vote with your feet and go elsewhere, which is a viable option in Kingston. Spend your coppers in another pub, preferably a 'local' which needs as much custom as it can get. Personally, I am in favour of the town centre 'themed' pubs, aimed at the younger 'foul-mouthed and abusive brigade' as Brian puts it - it keeps them out of our locals and the bouncers keep them inside!

Brian obviously has a disliking for all things Whitbread, his views on the Druids Head refurbishment, nitro-keg etc. etc. are legendary, so why drink in a pub you obviously detest?

CAMRA, rightly, was concerned about the prolific growth in nitro-keg and other such inventions, but did their erstwhile members consider the 'local' publican, trying to satisfy his niche of the market. CAMRA was concerned, concerned enough to accept advertising from Fullers and Youngs, both having nitro-kegs, but castigated publicans if they put the stuff on sale.

Brian "applauds" Wetherspoons. I could not call the majority of Wetherspoon pubs local community pubs? Themed, bland, numbered tables, 'prohibition' signs everywhere, many without a dartboard/ games area, a propensity to serve rather less than a full pint, and, you cannot buy London Drinker in all of their outlets - but, they do advertise with CAMRA don't they. He "takes great exception" to the inference that CAMRA cannot influence a pub's trade. Rubbish! What is the GBG and PoTY all about then? Don't tell me it's only a 'beer guide'. Why list pubs with comments about their ambience, food etc, and then - vote one top of the class in an area for performance according to the CAMRA criteria and promote it!

In response to Peter Cliffe's letter also last month. Great, well done for what you have achieved at the 'Brewers' but a community

local - no. Where would the community drink on Sundays? Cynics would say that being a town centre pub gov'nor you can afford to take a day off, not a luxury many of my local hostelrys can afford.

Yes, Brian, I was a former member of CAMRA and before, the great Society for Preservation of Beers from the Wood (happy days - are there any of us left?). Yes, I am bemused and concerned about fairness and objectivity, but hypocrisy leaves me sidelined and I won't return to the fold until that is addressed.

Yours sincerely

Steve Quiller

Eds Comment: *This correspondence is now closed.*

Dear Editor

Alan Millington's Editorial in the March issue of London Drinker raises points about pubs, families and children, which should be at the forefront of CAMRA's work.

As someone who has long been in favour of allowing children in pubs I am constantly surprised by the hostility this causes amongst many drinkers.

I am in favour of kids in pubs for three reasons:

- (1) It allows, one hopes, early education in sensible drinking, rather than alcopops at 15.
- (2) It breaks down the male lager culture of far too many pubs.
- (3) It means that women as well as men can enjoy pubs.

The problem, and this is where the complaints come in, is where pubs are not properly set up to deal with families. If brewers and pub companies will not recognise their social responsibility in this respect then it is time for local authorities and licensing magistrates to remind them. The aim should be for several 'family' pubs to exist in all licensing areas.

A final puzzle. In my travels around the country, London seems to be far the worst provided for in terms of family pubs. I don't normally subscribe to the idea of a North-South divide but it does seem to operate here.

Yours

Keith Flett

PS: *None of this is self interest. I am not a family man myself!*

YOUNG'S ALE MARKS RAC CENTENARY

The Royal Automobile Club is celebrating its centenary with a special real ale from Young's, the south London independent brewers. The beer, which is on sale at the RAC's two exclusive clubs in Pall Mall, central London, and Epsom, Surrey, is a version of Young's award-winning Bitter, with extra hops added in the cask.



Jeffrey Rose (left) and John Young toast the new Centenary Ale outside the RAC club in Pall Mall.

The first delivery of Centenary Ale was made to the Pall Mall club by horse-drawn dray from the brewery in Wandsworth. Brewery chairman John Young was on board to hand over the beer to RAC chairman Jeffrey Rose, who was a non-

executive director of Young's from 1976 to 1990. They drank the first pints of Centenary Ale from gold trophies won by John Young's great uncle, Henry Young, at the Brooklands motor-racing circuit in Surrey 90 years ago.

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

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Please be sure to send all Diary material to Andy Pirson.

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The Moletrap

The Moletrap was given its name more than two centuries ago by Joseph Treader, who put a unique type of moletrap on the market and afterwards bought the pub with the proceeds of his invention...



Tawney Common,
Stapleford Tawney,
Epping, Essex
01992 522394

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Winter: 12-2.30, 7-11

Summer: 11-3, 6-11

Directions: At Passingford Bridge roundabout take the A113 to Ongar. Proceed under the M25 and take the next turning on the left. Follow this road for 3 miles.

We are in the 1997 CAMRA
Good Beer Guide (page 107)

A BIT OF A MOAN

The bottom line is that I like real ale. There, I've said it. String me up if you wish. The problem is that Joe Beardless Public thinks it's a load of crap which is fit for nothing. Why is that? Well, the answer is simple, because yes, indeed, far too much of it is just that: a load of out-of-condition crap which is fit for nothing.

I am sick and tired of going into public houses all over the country - even those recommended in CAMRA's *Good Beer Guide* - and finding the ale not at its best. The situation is quite unbearable and is forcing me to sup more and more in the unsocial confines of my home where the bottle-conditioned ale can be relied upon. I have to say that other than drinking directly at source, i.e. in the brewery, CAMRA festivals are one of the VERY few places in which you can drink a pint of real ale that tastes and smells as the brewer intended.

I recall a trip to Malton some years ago when I sampled *Malton Pale Ale* in the hotel next to the small brewery. It was delicious, so good that I fully intend to return some day for the sole purpose of having a few beers. And yet I have NEVER had *Malton Pale Ale* in a public house that tasted or smelt anything like it did then. Usually I see the pumpclip, say "AHA" and give it a try to find what every slim, keg-drinker expects - a glass of warm, tasteless tosh.

In the mid-1980s I stayed for a spell in Oxford. I have fond memories of the very drinkable, caramel flavour of Wadworth 6X. Again, the stuff sold in public houses outside the area in which it is brewed bears no resemblance to what I remember and tastes like any other bland ale.

Last year, at the Great British Beer Festival in London's Olympia, everything I tried was a delight to drink. I had *Malton Pale* - as good as it was at the brewery, and a lovely brew; Caledonian's *Murray's Summer Ale* - a wonderfully light and refreshing hoppy ale; Rooster's *Yankee* - out of this world; Vaux's *Lorimer's Best Scotch* - a satisfying Scottish taste; and countless others. The previous year the beers did not taste so good due to a heatwave and inadequate cooling facilities, but all was as it should be on the last occasion.

Temperature would seem to be a major problem for real ale. In the days before cars and

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lorries, the more casual pace of horse-drawn delivery wagons, ships, and the like, meant that at the height of the summer many a cask was spoiled through overheating. Nowadays in public houses the same problem exists. The cellar may be of the correct temperature, but the ale can at times lie for far too long in pipes leading to the counter, all the while warming up and deteriorating. A good barman will know when a tap has lain untouched for a while and will pour off some ale to discard. There are, however, very few good barmen around.

But what is the answer to all of this? If we don't get our act together then the superior taste and smell of real ale will be lost to a world of falseness in which drinkers will be fooled by multi-million pound promotional campaigns into thinking that keg beer served cold with a big, foamy head is a better product. It's not, but right now the man in the street doesn't know that, and the preponderance of out-of-condition real ale can only serve to enforce the big boys' charade. It's all part and parcel of the road society is going down; one in which increased financial efficiency and reduced man power

continued over the page

leads to some supposed better service which is in fact worse. Dead keg, no matter how it is served, is easier for the multinational breweries and their publicans to handle, but it is NOT a better product.

Maybe brewers of real ale should be taking more of an interest in who is selling their wares, and in what condition they are being sold. It does their reputation no good whatsoever to have their beer sold in poor condition. If brewers dealt directly with public houses, as opposed to through a wholesale agent, then they would be able to exercise far greater control, even to the extent of examining cellar environment, the abilities of staff, ale turnover, and the general suitability of the outlet to serve beer in the condition intended by the brewer.

Such a system would of course mean a reduction in choice due to many breweries being unable to deliver to all corners of the country themselves. But ask yourself one question: what is more important - beer choice or condition?

It is pointless, is it not, having a counter lined out to end with handpumps, if what's emerging from most of them is a warm liquid with ambition to be sprinkled on chips. Far better to reduce the choice and increase quality. Choice is important, don't get me wrong. It is, after all, what CAMRA is fighting to retain, but not to the detriment of condition.

I used to wonder about the role of wholesale ale merchants; the length of time casks were stored in their warehouses, and all the extra movement of the ale and yeast in getting it from the brewer to the merchant and onto the publican. But as many ales served at CAMRA festivals come from merchants then clearly this worry has no foundation. It is publicans and their overseers who have to take the bulk of the blame.

Several weeks ago I was informed by a temporary student barman in a well-known watering hole with a typical endless row of taps that sometimes a cask can be open and available for up to seven days. While sat at the counter I overheard a customer asking what such-and-such an ale was like, to which the young barman advised that it was not too good (i.e. practically undrinkable) and recommended something else. The ghastly thing here is that it was still on, no doubt kept

for the undiscerning keg drinker who would wander in later to have his suspicions about real ale confirmed.

I rest my case.

Edward Burns

From 'Glasgow Guzzler'

CHAMPAGNE CELEBRATION AS BEER SALES SOAR

Licensee Peter King has joined an elite band by selling a thousand barrels of Young's beer in one year. It is the first time the 1,000-barrel has been reached since Dirty Dick's pub in Bishopsgate, City of London, was taken over by Wandsworth-based Young's in 1991.



Brewery chairman John Young (left) with Peter King, his son Nathan and daughter Natascha outside Dirty Dick's.

To celebrate Peter's achievement, brewery chairman John Young turned up at the 202-year-old pub with a case of Champagne. One of the beers that has helped push sales up is Dirty Dick's Ale, first brewed two years ago to mark the pub's 200th anniversary and now in its third year as a seasonal ale throughout Young's pubs in London and the Home Counties. Dirty Dick's takes its name from Nathaniel Bentley, who once lived on the premises and who earned his nickname through his refusal to wash.

ROLL OF HONOUR

The following C.I.U. affiliated working men's club assures you that no pour-back beers are tolerated on their premises.

Wood Green Labour Club

3 Stuart Crescent,
Wood Green, N.22

Always 2 real ales available (sometimes 3)
usually served direct from the cellar.

C.J.Richell



Customers 120 miles apart toasted the opening of two Wetherspoon pubs on the same day.

For The Baron Cadogan in Caversham, near Reading and The Picture House, Stafford, opened on March 6. The Caversham pub takes its name from William Cadogan, also known as Baron Cadogan, who lived in a mansion in nearby Caversham Park.

The pub is run by Chris Harkness and Sue Breckell, and one of its more unusual features is a metal weaver bird tree sculpture, a reference to a weavers shed that stood on the site of the pub.

The Baron Cadogan is a few miles from The Back of Beyond and The Monk's Retreat in Reading, and later in the year will be joined by The Hope Tap in the town centre.

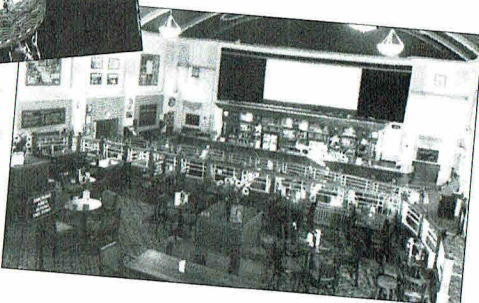
The Picture House, a landmark building in the town, has been beautifully restored from the former cinema.

The cinema theme lives on, with the bar on the stage and the giant screen above it.

As customers enter the pub, they are met by a model of actor Peter Cushing sitting in the cinema's original ticket booth.



Chris and Sue show off their eggs-traordinary sculpture at The Baron Cadogan



The Picture House, Stafford.

ON SITE – APRIL 1997 (ONWARDS)

- The Robert Peel – 5-10 Market Place, Bury (23 April)
- The Lord Rosebery – 85-87 Westborough, Scarborough (April 24)
- The Walnut Tree – 857-861 High St, Leytonstone (April 30)
- The Surrey Docker – 185 Lower Road, Rotherhithe, London (May 1)
- The Yarborough Hotel, Bethlehem Street, Grimsby (May 7)
- Unnamed – 15-16 The Strand, Torquay (May 14)
- The Eight Bells – 19 Cannon Street, Dover (May 14)
- Unnamed – 153 High Street, Burton-on-Trent (June 5)
- The Lion Freehouse – Lumley Road, Skegness (June 11)
- Unnamed – 42 Midland Road, Bedford (June 11)
- The Standing Order – 62-66 George Street, Edinburgh (June 12)
- Unnamed – 164-166 High Street, Cradley Heath (June 12)
- Unnamed – 22-23 East Street Taunton (June 19)
- Unnamed – 198-204 High Street, Lewisham (June 19)
- The Hope Tap – 99-105 Friar Street, Reading (June 25)
- The Archibald Simpson – 5 Castle Street, Aberdeen (July 3)
- The Counting House – 67-71 Reform Street, Dundee (July 4)
- Unnamed – 153-157 Clarence Road, Kingston-Upon-Thames (July 10)
- Unnamed – 1 Marine Parade East, Clacton-on-Sea (July 31)
- Unnamed – No 1 Poultry, Bank Station, London EC2 (August 18)

• The opening dates, in brackets, are only a guide and are subject to change

WETHERSPOON PUB GUIDE

your

BARKING AND DAGENHAM

THE BARKING DOG
61 Station Parade, Barking

THE LORD DENMAN
270-272 Heathway, Dagenham

BARNET

THE MOON UNDER WATER
148 High Street, Barnet

THE WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
3 York Parade, West Hendon
Broadway NW9

THE RAILWAY BELL
13 East Barnet Road, New Barnet

THE MOON UNDER WATER
10 Varley Parade, Colindale NW9

***THE TALLY HO**
749 High Road, North Finchley N12

THE BLACKING BOTTLE
122-126 High Street, Edgware

BEXLEY

THE WRONG 'UN
234-236 The Broadway, Bexleyheath

BRENT

J J MOON'S
553 Kingsbury Road, Kingsbury NW9

THE OUTSIDE INN
312-314 Neasden Lane, Neasden
NW10

J J MOON'S
397 High Road, Wembley

THE COLISEUM
Manor Park Road, Harlesden NW10

BROMLEY

THE MOON AND STARS
164-166 High Street, Penge SE20

THE HARVEST MOON
141-143 High Street, Orpington

THE SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS
109-111 Queensway, Petts Wood

CAMDEN

THE MAN IN THE MOON
40-42 Chalk Farm Road, Camden NW1

THE SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE
29-35 Farringdon Road, Farringdon,
London EC1

THE BEATEN DOCKET
50-56 Cricklewood Broadway,
Cricklewood NW2

THE THREE HORSESHOES
28 Heath Street, Hampstead NW3

CITY OF LONDON

HAMILTON HALL
Liverpool Street Station EC2

CROYDON

THE GEORGE
17-21 George Street, Croydon

THE MOON UNDER WATER
1327 London Road, Norbury SW16

THE FOXLEY HATCH
8-9 Russell Hill Parade,
Russell Hill Road, Purley

THE POSTAL ORDER
33 Westow Street, Crystal Palace

EALING

THE RED LION AND PINEAPPLE
281 High Street, Acton W3

ENFIELD

THE MOON UNDER WATER
115-117 Chase Side, Enfield

THE WHOLE HOG
430-434 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13

THE HALF MOON
749 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill N21

THE BANKER'S DRAFT
36-38 Friern Barnet Road,
New Southgate N11

THE LAMB
52-54 Church Street, Edmonton N9

THE NEW CROWN
80-84 Chase Side, Southgate

EPHING FOREST
THE LAST POST
227 High Road, Loughton

GREENWICH

THE BANKER'S DRAFT
80 High Street, Eltham SE9

HACKNEY

THE ROCHESTER CASTLE
145 High Street, Stoke Newington N16

HAMMERSMITH

THE MOON ON THE GREEN
172-174 Uxbridge Road,
Shepherds Bush W12

HARINGEY

THE OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH
10-12 Green Parade, Green Lanes,
Harringay N4

THE NEW MOON
413 Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17

THE ELBOW ROOM
503-505 High Road, Tottenham N17

THE TOLL GATE
26-30 Turnpike Lane, Hornsey N8

THE ELBOW ROOM
22 Topsfield Parade, Tottenham Lane,
Crouch End N8

THE GATE HOUSE
1 North Hill, Highgate N6

HARROW

J J MOON'S
3 Shaftesbury Parade,
Shaftesbury Circle, South Harrow

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

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

THE MOON AND SIXPENCE
250 Uxbridge Road, Pinner

THE SARSEN STONE
32 High Street, Wealdstone

J J MOON'S
20 The Broadwalk, Pinner Road,
North Harrow

THE VILLAGE INN
402-408 Rayners Lane, Pinner

NOW

- The Postal Order, 18
- The Babington Arms – 1
- The Picture House,
- The Baron Cadogan – 22-2
- The William Jameson – 30
- The Thomas Ingoldsby – 1
- The Opera House – 48-60 Mou

THE MAN IN THE MOON
1 Buckingham Parade, Stanmore

HAVERING

J J MOON'S
46-62 High Street, Hornchurch

THE MOON AND STARS
99-103 South Street, Romford

HERTFORDSHIRE

THE HART AND SPOOL
148 Shenley Road, Borehamwood

THE MOON UNDER WATER
44, High Street, Watford

HILLINGDON

J J MOON'S
12 Victoria Road, Ruislip Manor

THE MOON UNDER WATER
10-11 Broadway Parade,
Coldharbour Lane, Hayes

JJ MOON'S

Terminal Four, (Airside),
Heathrow Airport, Hounslow

WETHERSPOONS

Terminal Four, (Landside),
Heathrow Airport, Hounslow

THE MOON AND SIXPENCE

1250-1256 Uxbridge Road,
Hayes End

THE SYLVAN MOON

27 Green Lane, Northwood

THE GOOD YARN

132 High Street, Uxbridge

HOUNSLOW

THE MOON UNDER WATER
84-86 Staines Road, Hounslow

JJ MOON'S

80-82 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick W4

LAMBETH**THE CROWN AND SCEPTRE**

2a Streatham Hill SW2

THE BEEHIVE

407-409 Brixton Road, Brixton SW9

LEWISHAM**THE TIGER'S HEAD**

350 Bromley Road, Catford SE6

THE BIRD IN HAND

35 Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill SE23

MERTON**THE WHITE LION OF MORTIMER**

223 London Road, Mitcham

WETHERSPOONS

33 Aberconway Road, Morden

THE WIBBAS DOWN INN

6-12 Gladstone Road, Wimbledon

NEWHAM**THE MILLER'S WELL**

419-421 Barking Road, East Ham E6

THE GOLDENGROVE

146-148 The Grove, Stratford E15

REDBRIDGE**THE NEW FAIRLOP OAK**

Fencepiece Road, Barkingside

THE GEORGE

High Street, Wanstead E11

THE GREAT SPOON OF ILFORD

114-116 Cranbrook Road, Ilford

RICHMOND UPON THAMES**THE MOON UNDER WATER**

53-57 London Road, Twickenham

SOUTHWARK***THE FOX ON THE HILL**

149 Denmark Hill SE5

SPELTHORNE**THE GEORGE**

2-8 High Street, Staines

SURREY**THE REGENT**

19 Church Street, Walton-on Thames

SUTTON**THE WHISPERING MOON**

25 Ross Parade, Woodcote Road,
Wallington

THE MOON ON THE HILL

5-9 Hill Road, Sutton

WETHERSPOONS

553-556 London Road, North Cheam

TOWER HAMLETS**THE CAMDEN'S HEAD**

456 Bethnal Green Road,
Bethnal Green E2

WALTHAM FOREST**THE DRUM**

557-559 Lea Bridge Road, Leyton E10

THE KING'S FORD

250-252 Chingford Mount Road,
Chingford

WANDSWORTH**JJ MOON'S**

56a High Street, Tooting SW17

THE MOON UNDER WATER

194 Balham High Road, Balham SW12

THE SPOTTED DOG

72 Garratt Lane, Arndale Centre,
Wandsworth SW18

THE RAILWAY

202 Upper Richmond Road, Putney SW15

THE GRID INN

22 Replingham Road,
Southfields SW18

WESTMINSTER**THE MOON UNDER WATER**

28 Leicester Square WC2

WETHERSPOONS

Victoria Station SW1

THE MOON UNDER WATER

105-107 Charing Cross Road, London WC1

THE LORD MOON OF THE MALL

16-18 Whitehall SW1

THE MOON AND SIXPENCE

185 Wardour Street W1

OUTSIDE M25**AVON****THE COMMERCIAL ROOMS**

43-45 Corn Street, Bristol

THE BERKELEY

15-19 Queens Road, Clifton, Bristol

THE DRAGON INN

15 Meadow Street,
Weston -Super-Mare

• BERKSHIRE**• THE OLD MANOR**

Church Road, Bracknell

THE MONK'S RETREAT

163 Friar Street, Reading

THE MOON AND SPOON

86-88 High Street, Slough

THE BACK OF BEYOND

104-108 Kings Road, Reading

OPEN

Foregate Street, Worcester
1-13 Babington Lane, Derby
Bridge Street, Stafford
4 Prospect Street, Caversham
32 Fawcett Street, Sunderland
5-9 Burgate, Canterbury, Kent
Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells

THE MOON ON THE SQUARE

Unit 30, The Centre, Feltham

ISLINGTON**THE CORONET**

338-346 Holloway Road, London N7

THE DOG

17-19 Archway Road, Archway N19

179 UPPER STREET

179 Upper Street, Islington N1

THE WHITE LION OF MORTIMER

125-127 Stroud Green Road,
Stroud Green N4

THE MASQUE HAUNT

168-172 Old Street EC2

KENT**THE PAPER MOON**

55 High Street, Dartford

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**THE LAST POST**

77 The Broadway, Chesham

THE FALCON

9 Cornmarket, High Wycombe

WETHERSPOONS

201 Midsummer Boulevard, Bouverie Square, Milton Keynes

CAMBRIDGESHIRE**THE COLLEGE ARMS**

40 The Broadway, Peterborough

CHESHIRE**WETHERSPOONS**

78-92 Foregate Street, Chester

CLEVELAND**THE ISAAC WILSON**

61 Wilson Street, Middlesbrough

DERBYSHIRE**THE STANDING ORDER**

28-32 Irongate, Derby

DEVON**THE IMPERIAL**

New North Road, Exeter

DORSET**THE MOON IN THE SQUARE**

4-8 Exeter Road, The Square, Bournemouth

EAST SUSSEX**CLIFTONVILLE INN**

98-101 George Street, Hove

ESSEX**THE ELMS**

1060 London Road, Leigh-on-Sea

THE LAST POST

Weston Road, Southend-on-Sea

THE PLAYHOUSE

4 St. John Street, Colchester

THE MOON ON THE SQUARE

1-15 Market Square, Basildon

GLASGOW**THE COUNTING HOUSE**

24 George Square, Glasgow

GLOUCESTERSHIRE**THE REGAL**

Kings Square, Gloucester

GREATER MANCHESTER**THE MOON UNDER WATER**

68-74 Deansgate, Manchester

THE MOON UNDER WATER

5-7A Market Place, Wigan

WETHERSPOONS

49 Piccadilly, Manchester

THE ASH TREE

Main Street, Wellington Road, Ashton-Under-Lyne

GWENT**WETHERSPOONS**

Unit 10-12 The Cambrian Centre, Newport

HAMPSHIRE**THE STANDING ORDER**

20 High Street, Southampton

WETHERSPOONS

2 Guildhall Walk, Portsmouth

HERTFORDSHIRE**THE CROSS KEYS**

2 Chequer Street, St. Albans

THE THREE MAGNETS

18-20 Leys Avenue, Letchworth

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER**THE GOLDEN CROSS HOTEL**

20 High Street, Bromsgrove

KENT**THE MUGGLETON INN**

8-9 High Street, Maidstone

LANCASHIRE**THE POSTAL ORDER**

15 Darwen Street, Blackburn

THE GREYFRIAR

114 Friargate, Preston

LEICESTERSHIRE**THE LAST PLANTAGENET**

107 Granby Street, Leicester

LINCOLNSHIRE**THE TOLLEMACHE INN**

St. Peters Hill
28 Catherine's Road, Grantham

MERSEYSIDE**WETHERSPOONS**

20 Lord Street, Southport

WETHERSPOONS

Units 1, 2 & 3 Charlotte Row,
Great Charlotte Street, Liverpool

NORFOLK**THE BELL HOTEL**

5 Orford Hill, Norwich

THE TROLL CART

7-9 Regent Road, Great Yarmouth

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**THE MOON ON THE SQUARE**

The Parade, Market Place,
Northampton

THE RED WELL

16 Silver Street, Wellingborough

EARL OF DALKEITH

13-15 Dalkeith Place, Kettering

OXFORDSHIRE**THE EXCHANGE**

49-50 High Street, Banbury

SUFFOLK**THE WOLF**

88-89 St John Street, Bury St Edmunds

SURREY**WETHERSPOONS**

51-57 Chertsey Road, Woking

THE SUN

17 London Road, Redhill

WARWICKSHIRE**THE BENJAMIN SATCHWELL**

112-114 The Parade, Leamington Spa

WEST GLAMORGAN**THE POTTER'S WHEEL**

86 The Kingsway, Swansea

WEST MIDLANDS**THE FIGURE OF EIGHT**

236-238 Broad Street, Birmingham

THE SQUARE PEG

Units 1, 2 & 3 Temple Court,
115 Corporation Street, Birmingham

THE FULL MOON

58-60 High Street, Dudley

THE MOON UNDER WATER

53-55 Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton

WEST SUSSEX**THE RED LION**

North Terminal, International
Departures Lounge, Gatwick Airport
(Airside)

THE JUBILEE OAK

6 Grand Parade, High Street, Crawley

THE HATTERS INN

2-10 Queensway, Bognor Regis

WILTSHIRE**THE SAVOY**

38-40 Regent Street, Swindon

YORKSHIRE**THE BANKERS DRAFT**

1-3 Market Place, Sheffield

THE RHINOCEROS

35-37 Bridgegate, Rotherham

For more information on any Wetherspoon pub or activity write to:

J D Wetherspoon plc, Wetherspoon House, Central Park, Reeds Crescent, Watford, Herts WD1 1QH. or Telephone (01923) 477774

* Children are allowed in these pubs at all times (denoted by asterisk) when accompanied by an adult and only when food is ordered.

BEER AND SKITTLES

For a mere £7.05 (discount with a gold travel card) and a fifty five minute train journey, members of the Croydon and Sutton Branch of CAMRA arrived at Shoreham-by-Sea for a serious pub crawl. Our guide for the day was Mike Jacomb of Brighton and South Downs Branch.

Our first stop was the SIRLOIN OF BEEF just opposite the station; this pub is largely decorated with shocking pink pebble-dash, a common finish for pubs in the area. When we entered, an amazing array of smart handpumps and clips stood proudly before us -including three of them sporting Ballards beers.

The SLOB (Sirloin of Beef) Charter,

*To purvey quality ale at realistic prices

* To offer a real SLOB welcome to all that are welcome

* To create a real friendly drinking atmosphere rang true.

* And to give four weeks notice of real price increases



The Red Lion Inn

A Gales pub was next on the list - the CRAB TREE - a splendid traditional pub with two bars. One is a comfortable saloon decorated with flock wallpaper above the wood panelled walls. There is even a good old fashioned outside toilet. Peter Jones, the licensee a jolly ex-naval man, gave us a very warm welcome, offering us no less than five real ales: HSB, IPA, Best, Forces Strong Ale and Regis (the latter at only 99 pence a pint). Another bargain I could not resist was egg and chips for 50 pence. Yes, you've guessed it, a pickled egg in a bag of crisps, a tasty snack though. Peter was telling us that one whiz kid from Gales wanted to knock the



The Royal Sovereign

dividing wall down and turn it into a single bar; this infuriated Peter who flatly refused the change.

We reached the RED LION INN after a twenty minute walk taking us to Old Shoreham; just before the pub stood two very attractive flint built thatched cottages, thankfully not turned into an up market restaurant. The Red Lion, a 16th Century coaching inn with low beams and an inglenook fireplace was an ideal place to eat and drink, offering food ranging from doorstep sandwiches to full home cooked meals. Butcombe, Marstons Pedigree, Everards Old Original, Directors and Ridleys Spectacular were available and very good they were too in this Good Beer Guide listed pub. The front outside drinking area looks out over the River Adur and the old toll bridge.



Our host, Mike Jacomb demonstrates the finer points of skittles

Suitably refreshed we ventured forth to the LAZY TOAD, a free house on the junction of the Old Shoreham Road and High Street. This converted wine bar, another Good Beer Guide entry, offered no less than eight beers on gravity - rare for this area. All the casks were wrapped in cooling jackets in an arrangement

Continued on page 37

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO the May 1982 edition of *London Drinker* consisted of 24 pages including green cover, its front graced by a cartoon. It depicted an inebriated gentleman wearing a camera confronted by his irate wife, and saying "Honest, love, I thought it was a 'CAMERA' meeting!" Having myself been in conversations in which the similarity of the word has caused confusion, I guess the situation is sometimes exploited in such circumstances. The cartoon is signed "GERRY", whose true identity I have not come across in our back numbers.

A few lines bear repetition from the first item of editorial copy, which at that time bore the main heading "News and Views". When joining the Editorial team less than a year after this edition, one of the first things I pressed to get rid of was that title, which happened also to be that of a veteran-cycle magazine of which I was then Editor. The piece to which this paragraph is devoted is headed "PRICES - IT'S CRUNCH TIME", and the first part runs: "London's beers are at last getting cheaper. An extraordinary statement, with the budget coming on top of massive brewery increases? Perhaps, but the signs are that the facts of life for the majority of the population are at last catching up with the drink industry.

"The *Drinker's* Bargain Beers' section thrives and we have been pleasantly surprised by the commitment with which landlords have stuck to their policies once they have introduced the cheaper beers. We think that the *Drinker* has played a small part in helping the move towards bargains and, again, make our usual plea for information.

"What has happened throughout the country and is beginning to happen here was foreseen at least two years ago. While breweries raised their prices they were admitting privately that profits would fall if prices continued to be raised indiscriminately during a prolonged recession. The recession shows no sign of ending, yet brewers have carried on much as before.

"Pubs have always been advised to avoid getting involved in price cutting wars. Sensible advice, but too often it has been

given in the context of maintaining profit margins at all costs. The impossibility of most pubs doing this today has led to the crunch, with several of them lowering prices in attempts to retain and to win over custom." History sometimes repeats itself.

Several misprints from the previous issue were corrected, but the ever-present gremlins ensured that on the back cover the printing date was shown as 1981! Young's was also referred to as Younger's. An understandable typesetter's error perhaps.

TEN YEARS AGO the May 1987 issue had 24 pages and was printed in blue ink throughout. A second colour of mid-brown appeared on 8 pages including the cover, whose illustration was an advert for the then forthcoming Greenwich Beer Festival. The emblem was a dancing sailor complete with straw boater and mug in the form of the CAMRA logo of that shape. An advert for the Winchester Beer Festival also appeared.

Advertising was giving some headaches, as shown by the perfectly genuine letter to Dear Dipsy - an unusual place - reading "I'm rather upset that this and the next issue will be thin copies. The LLC want them kept short to save money unless we carry enough adverts to fill Yellow Pages. I think a reduction in pages will lose readers. What do you suggest?" One contributor to the column penned a reply of which this is part: "The LLC doesn't practice what it preaches. Some months ago it mandated each of its branches to produce a page or more of advertising for each issue, whereas most of our recent advertising was obtained by two members... The campaigning value of *London Drinker* far outweighs financial profit... The Editors do more than their fair share of work and the last thing they need is to have the job made more difficult ..." Some jocular personal comments were also made about the signatory of the letter but finished with "Seriously, though, to end on a biblical note - whoever has ears to hear, let him hear. Yours sincerely (honest!) DIPSY". I was at the LLC meeting leading up to that and there was an almighty row on the subject, but one good thing did come out of it, Barry

Tillbrook came forward to volunteer as advertising manager, a position he still holds.

Mentioning rows, the Editorial quoted at length an item from The Licensee magazine. The piece quoted began "NEW CAMRA? In the past, many of our members who sold traditional ale have supported CAMRA. But questions are now being asked as to whether they have outlived their original function:. While admitting the part played by CAMRA in the re-emergence of real ale, the writer complained about pressure being used by CAMRA to press for extensions to licensing hours. At the time flexi-hours had not yet come in. The duty Editor commented, in part, "Without us (*the customers*) they (*the pub trade*) are lost. And the sooner licensees begin to consider the convenience and needs of their customers (which, to be fair, the majority do within the strictures of our antiquated licensing laws), the better for all concerned. And as for the inconsiderate - and greedy - few who wish to give the minimum service (and hours) for the maximum price fully deserve to sink while those who support the drinker's right to imbibe when they so desire prosper and flourish. Such pubs - and their proprietors are part of the traditional English scene; and usually serve real ale!" Flexi-hours may be with us now, but some members of the licensed trade still need at least part of the message to sink in.

The last comment was my own opinion, and since it was written all-day opening has been brought in, including Sunday afternoons. I think the point still applies.

The May 1992 issue, FIVE YEARS AGO, sported mid green as second colour on five of its 32 pages, including both covers. The front bore the rather complex logo for the third Cider and Perry Exhibition that month, featuring 50 of those beverages and a mild bar. The central feature of the logo was a rabbit pulling an APPLE logo out of a top hat. The four central pages comprised a programme for the event.

On the back cover was an advert for the 14th Greenwich Ale Festival, to take place that June. Of the other 3 bi-coloured pages, each was an advert - for, respectively, the 4th

Surrey Beer Festival, whose logo was a mole wheeling a cask in a barrow towards Dorking, the venue; a Real Ale Festival in the Princess of Wales, Blackheath; and for the new Nicholson's Best Bitter (ABV 3.5%), available in 34 named pubs.

At the Pub, Club & Leisure Show Young's had announced the introduction of draught Porter. It was available in 49 outlets and would be available in all of their tied outlets by the end of the month.

"Idle Moments" had two innovations to compensate for a lack of beer or brewery anagrams. Firstly readers were challenged to make anagrams of three single-syllable words to make words of three syllables each. They were TRAIPESE, YARNED and YEARNED. The second was from Mike Gigg, co-inventor of the non-rhyming limerick. He called it the "Confuse a child alphabet" and its purpose was (in his words) to "confuse any especially unpleasant and precocious young children by teaching them a most un-phonetic of alphabets". He had managed to cover about half the letters, for

continued over the page

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example: A-Aubergine; C-Chivalrous; E-Ewe; G-Gnome; H-Hour etc. Some foreign ones were also added for good measure. Having spent some time in the teaching profession I can see that such ideas are positively to be discouraged! There were, of course, the usual numbers/initials, trivia and mindbenders puzzles. Andy signed off with a quotation from Michael Flanders: "If God had meant us to fly he would never have given us the railways". Living as I do by a line which has 4 trains each way on weekdays only I wonder how long the late un-lamented Dr Beeching's horns and tail have grown?

On the crossword page the name of the March winner was given as Robert Young 436, a Chelsea Pensioner. Whilst the figures were presumably his service number, the names of some runners-up were less clear - to quote some of the more obscure (and some appeared regularly): The Ex-Troglodyte, Rab Noolas (reverse that one); Mr Snodgrass, Dave Spistagen, Stumps, Yak and Steve Zarsold.

Bateman's of Wainfleet had brewed a bottle conditioned ale of 6% ABV to celebrate CAMRA's 21st anniversary. It cost £2.50 a bottle and was available from Branches and certain specialist beer shops, and in crates of a dozen from HQ.

David Kitton, Editor of the Good Cider Guide, presented a learned treatise on real cider and the keg version.

That ends my offering for this month. However, it is only appropriate to compliment L.D. on its 200th edition last month. Since my withdrawal from London to Wales in 1990, I have regarded this magazine as my main contact with my native district. I look forward to seeing the 300th edition 10 years hence - if all goes according to plan!

Cheers,

Martin Smith.

EAST END COMMENT

By now most branches will have decided which of their pubs will be in the 1998 edition of the Good Beer Guide. The survey forms seem to want more information every year. Publicans are asked whether they use a

cask breather and occasionally it makes refreshing change to be met with a blank stare. This happened to me in the Britannia in EC1. Sometimes I wonder whether we should ask more relevant(?) questions. How long do you keep the beer before sale? Is there any point in having a wonderfully clear pint if it has no conditioning? Do you use a hard spile. I am reminded of the story when this was asked of a landlord during a cellar tour. "What are they?" he asked. A description of a hard wooden peg was given, explaining its use overnight so that CO2 can build up over the ale creating a blanket to protect it from the air. "So that's what they are" he said pointing to a bag in the corner.

I'm not sure from John Dowding's letter what he considers the 'right approach' in response to my article in the April LD on the pubs in E3 (Bow). Pubs not interested by my definition are those that don't sell a guest beer, of course there are those pubs whose brewery do not allow a guest beer. I'm not sure what the Lord Tredegar sells these days, at one stage they sold three beers then none, now? To his list I would add the Unicorn and the Beehive. By the way, ten pubs have closed/been demolished/changed use since the local guide was published, only two of which sold real ale. Could we read something into that?

Two things surprise me in all the years I have been involved with the local CAMRA branch: the lack of interest shown by most branch members, the 20 or so active souls cannot be expected to know what is in all our pubs and despite pleas a year ago for members to come forward to look after an area that was a response of one, from whom we have heard nothing since. Updates to the local guide are now up to 21 but nobody from the East End appears to want to know what the changes are. Least of all is the lack of interest shown by publicans. I'm sure if I was selling a pint of good beer the local CAMRA branch would be the first mob I would let know, yet I'm damned if I can recall the branch receiving any such letters but then the number of publicans in our area that are CAMRA members are but a handful.

Keith Emmerson

POUR BACKS?

In the Dec/Jan issue of *London Drinker* I wrote an article at the request of Chris Cobbold, one of its editors, condemning the widespread practice of recycling waste beer. This article coincided with the launch of *The Roll of Honour*, in which my pub was included. On reading the following issue of this magazine, I came across the following rather cryptic sentence in the editorial by Tony Hedger - "I am not quite as all-encompassing as Chris in his definition of this (pour-backs) and am happy to follow the line in CAMRA's cellarship manual."

My view on this is indeed all-encompassing, as I assume is Chris's, and hopefully the other publicans whose pub names appear in the roll of honour. It is simply this - the customer when he purchases a pint of ale is entitled to expect it to be served as the brewer intended and on no account should the retailer add or feed anything back into the cask. This should be a basic consumer right, so I was intrigued by Mr Hedger's statement. If CAMRA's position is not all-encompassing it seems to infer that CAMRA approved of pour-backs in certain circumstances. This I found astonishing. Could it be that this organisation, that is so concerned about how the flavour of beer is destroyed by being pulled through a swan neck, sparkler, really think that it is acceptable to serve beer to customers that has previously passed through a paper filter?

So what if not all-encompassing is CAMRA's position? Mr Hedger knows and agrees with it. Unfortunately he doesn't feel inclined to share this knowledge with his readers. If they are curious as to what this policy is they are advised to go to the Battersea Beer Festival and read it in CAMRA's cellarship manual. The boon to which he refers is I believe "The CAMRA guide to Cellarship" by Pat O'Neill. I did attempt to purchase a copy at Battersea, only to find that it had sold out. When I attempted to get a copy from CAMRA direct, I discovered it was out of print. So I never managed to fathom-out what Mr Hedger was talking about.

The Cellarship Guide has since been revised by Ivor Clissold and republished. Chapter fourteen of this excellent book is entitled "Returning Beer to the Cast." The

first sentence reads "It is always bad practice to return beer to a cask". The second paragraph begins "Filtering back is the most common reason for poor quality in traditional beer". It then inexplicably describes the methodology of returning beer and even provides a nifty diagram.

The CAMRA guide to cellarship is not itself a policy document, but it is reasonable to expect it to be a reflection of CAMRA policy. So, why if returning beer to the cask is the most common reason for poor quality, have they not campaigned to have this practice outlawed? And why if they consider it bad practice to return beer to the cask do they not disqualify pubs that indulge in this practice from the Good Beer Guide!

One reason why this problem has not been tackled successfully in the past is that many CAMRA activists and beer writers may have been reluctant to bring the matter out into the open, fearing that highlighting the situation will only bring real ale into disrepute, thus doing more harm than good. I do not subscribe to this chain of thought for three reasons.

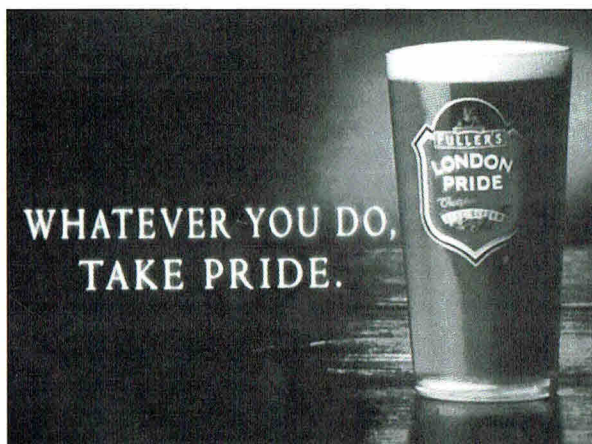
- (1) You can not hope to resolve a problem unless you first acknowledge it exists.
- (2) The practice of pour-backs is so common it will come as no great revelation to the drinking public who have been suffering its consequences (sometimes literally) for as long as they can remember.
- (3) The only justification for pour-backs are economic. If the ceasing of beer-recycling resulted in higher beer prices, it's a price the public would willingly pay given the true facts.

So why are pubs who permit pour-backs in *The Good Beer Guide*? I don't know but any CAMRA member who thinks he knows, perhaps he would tell me through the pages of *London Drinker*.

Although the roll of honour is not purported to be comprehensive the *London Drinker* has only so far managed to locate, with the notable exception of all J. D. Wetherspoons houses, a handful of pubs in the whole of the Greater London area who don't indulge in this practice. Cheers.

Dave the Landlord

Name and address supplied



Fuller's has just successfully completed its debut in the world of television with the Brewery's first ever TV advertising campaign. It is part of the second phase of the £2 million campaign aimed at raising the profile of London Pride across a wider audience. Last October the Brewery launched the highly acclaimed "Whatever You Do, Take Pride" campaign with a series of 14 separate poster executions displayed

on more than 1500 sites in the south east and complemented by adverts in the Evening Standard. Research proved that this initial phase successfully drew on the fondness and warmth consumers hold for London Pride, but, that posters are limited in terms of the size of audience they reach. Fuller's then took the momentous decision to elevate awareness by advertising on TV for the first time in the Brewery's 152 year history. Four 20 second adverts were shot, bringing examples of the poster work to life. Shown on Carlton and Channel 4 at strategic times throughout April, a massive audience of over 8 million adults were enticed into trying a pint of the 1995 CAMRA Champion Best Bitter. The campaign continues this month with posters displayed on highly visible, prime sites along major road routes, on railway and underground stations and other areas of heavy foot traffic. As well as some of the old favourites from the last wave, there will also be some new amusing executions, such as:

Your best mate says his new girlfriend looks like a babe.

Don't tell him you saw the film.

WHATEVER YOU DO, TAKE PRIDE.

As John Roberts, Fuller's Marketing Director explains, "The total investment behind the 'Whatever You Do, Take Pride' campaign is significant and on a par with national brewers' support for major lager and ale brands in the South East. It clearly demonstrates our long term commitment to our leading ale brand." So, next time you're in the pub, just remember whatever you do, take Pride - and drink it!

WEST MIDDLESEX NEWS

Regular attenders at previous Ealing Beer Festivals will probably recall last year's sponsorship by CentreWest, London Buses, which had followed on from support which we had invariably received from this company publicising the festival on its buses. This year, however, West Middlesex CAMRA have considered this to be no longer appropriate for the following reasons.

Coupled with so-called improvements to the Uxbridge Road corridor services, which were publicised at last year's festival as "Bus home with us" and were implemented last October, came the downside. Those of us who regularly drink along the Uxbridge Road but need an eastbound bus afterwards found that they no longer had a 207 at twenty five past eleven to take them as far as Acton. This bus had simply been removed from the schedules with no replacement whatsoever. The only alternatives were an N207 fourteen minutes later or a choice of two buses running in parallel at six and nine minutes past eleven, the now last 207 and an N207 respectively. The problem with the former was that it meant that after last orders there was too long a wait only to find that one's onward connections with other services home had been missed (at Hayes End, Southall, Hanwell and Ealing), whilst with the latter pair the difficulties were both unnecessary duplication and both running too early for last orders. Another problem with the N207 was (and still is) that one day passes and Travelcards etc. were not accepted on them, thereby making purchase of these tickets even more marginal for occasional public transport users like many CAMRA members.

Over the last ten years or so there has been a deliberate emasculation by London Transport, eroding late night bus travel across the whole of London in favour of all night journeys on certain key routes. In 1985, for instance, the last 207 ran at 00.39 from Uxbridge and now, in 1997, it runs 1½ hours *earlier*. It was unheard of to have as much as a thirty minute gap in the service on what was (and supposedly, should still be) a trunk route along the Uxbridge Road, but today one is effectively *scheduled* between N207s at 23.09 and 23.39.

West Middlesex CAMRA felt that it had to protest and organised photocalls with the local press to highlight the difficulties being encountered. Contact was also made with both the body which sets the overall level of service,

London Transport, and the passengers' watchdog, the London Regional Passengers' Group, pressure which in mid December brought a measure of success inasmuch as an additional N207 journey was introduced at 23.24 ex-Uxbridge but on Friday and Saturday nights only. Whilst CentreWest would maintain that it is only a *service provider*, it was their proposals which were rubber stamped by London Transport, creating the problems outlined above and which have been reflected all over the capital by other bus operators. If you live on a major route or depend on it to reach other services to take you home, you have effectively been subjected to a back door fares increase at every schedule change as the times of the last daytime buses have been progressively brought forward at every instance.

Far from bringing promised "improvements", such alterations have created unnecessary problems with homeward travel at times when all incentives should be being given for people *not to drink and drive*, problems with which West Middlesex CAMRA wishes to disassociate itself.

Paul Dabrowski

THE HEAD OF STEAM



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EASTWOOD'S, COMMERCIAL, CLARK'S,
BLACKMOOR, BLACK HORSE, BARNESLEY,
GLENTWORTH, KELHAM ISLAND,
CONCERTINA, YORK, SELBY, RUDGATE,
ROOSTER'S, OLD BEAR, MARSTON MOOR,
MALTON, HAMBLETON, EASINGWOLD,
DALESIDE, CROPTON, BLACK SHEEP.

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 123

Eldridge Pope, having sold its brewery to the management, are embarking on a programme of pub acquisition including two so far in London - in EC2 Bishopsgate and N1 Islington. Morlands have acquired a pub in N18 Upper Edmonton and Shepherd Neame have bought a pub in Kingston. The details of the Gibbs Mew pub in Brentford recorded last month are also included. Several more renamings have taken place including two non-brewing Firkins in SE3 Blackheath and SE10 Greenwich.

The numbers in brackets after each entry refer to the page number in the following guides: E - East London & City Beer Guide, 3rd edition; K - 'Real Ale Drinkers Guide to Kent Pubs', 8th edition; N - North London Beer Guide, 3rd edition; SE - South East London Pub Guide, 4th edition; 3SE - 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.

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

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC2, SLURPING TOAD, 232-238 Bishopsgate. Draught Bass. Courage: Best Bitter. Hardy: Popes Traditional Bitter, Country Bitter, Royal Oak. Webster: Green Label (labelled Toads Tipple). The first of a planned chain of "ale houses" opened by Eldridge Pope in former wine bar premises. Traditional decor with bare floor and exposed brickwork. Stairs rise to upstairs seating area. Food. Open 11-11 Mon to Sat only.

W1(S), ATLANTIC BAR & GRILL, 20 Glasshouse Street. No real ale. Well appointed and expensive basement bar under Regent Palace Hotel with connections with owner of Freedom Brewery, SW6. Draught Belgian beers.

SOUTH EAST

SE10, STUDIO BAR, 174 Greenwich High Road. Renamed **FUNNEL & FIRKIN**. Firkin: Shipshape Ale (3.5%), Funnel Ale (4.3%), Sets Ale (5.0%), Dogbolter (5.6%). Addlestone Cider. The latest Allied Firkin conversion in this relatively small bar has seen the reintroduction of real ale. The beers are believed to originate at the Flag & Firkin brewery in Watford. Usual Firkin decor with a rather muted nautical theme. Food. Open all permitted hours. (SE102, U104)

WEST

W3, EXCHANGE, Royal Leisure Park, Kendal Avenue. No real ale. New "bar &

diner", part of a chain acquired recently by Morlands from Allied.

W3, MULLINS BAR, Royal Leisure Park, Kendal Avenue. No real ale. New Irish bar.

W3, RUFFY BAUMANN, Royal Leisure Park, Kendal Avenue. Boddington: Bitter. Flowers: Original Bitter. Fuller: London Pride. New Whitbread Brewers Fayre pub adjacent to leisure complex. A variety of seating and eating areas and indoor children's play room with admission charge. Felix Ruffy and Edouard Baumann were early aviation engineers believed to have been employed at an aircraft factory previously on the site.

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

EAST

E13, VILLAGE (AT PLAISTOW). Free House, closed, future uncertain. Delete also from 1997 Good Beer Guide. (E137, U69, U78, U82, U93)

E15, WOODMAN. Grand Met (ex Watney), closed, future uncertain. (E156)

NORTH

N1, BLUE CAT. Free House, closed, future uncertain. Formerly SUTTON ARMS. (N58, U112, U120)

NORTH WEST

NW1, DRUMMONDS. Renamed **O'NEILLS**, H removed. (N164)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, BUNTERS. Grand Met (ex Watney), closed, future uncertain. (SE12, U102)

BEER BRIEFING
LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 123
continued

SE7, WATERMANS ARMS. Grand Met (ex Watney), now demolished. (SE74, U121)

SOUTH WEST

SW3, SHUCKBURGH ARMS. Renamed **FINNEGANS WAKE**, Scottish & Newcastle, H removed. Irish theme pub conversion and another loss of historic name. (SW23, U39, U74, U107)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

NORTH

N1, BAR CENTRAL. Renamed **BARTIZAN**, still fizz. (U113)

N1, CROWN, 116 Clouesley Street. -Fuller: Hock, Chiswick Bitter. +Fuller: Seasonal beer. Despite concerns, most of the internal decorative features and screens have thankfully survived an insensitive and inappropriate renovation which has imposed a garish blue name board, ghastly blue and green lights and pastel shaded panels. The emphasis is even more on food. Let us hope that someone at Fullers has the courage to accept that the changes do not work and carry out the sort of renovation that befits a Victorian and listed building. (N40)

N1, HUNTINGDON ARMS. -Beers listed. +Draught Bass. +Courage: Best Bitter. +Hardy: Country Bitter. Free House acquired by Eldridge Pope. Emphasis on food, restaurant upstairs. (N48)

N12, MOSS HALL TAVERN. Renamed **ELEPHANT INN.** Now has restaurant area selling Thai food. Yet another loss of a historic pub name. (N111)

N18, RISING SUN. Acquired by Morland from Whitbread, still fizz. (N139)

NORTH WEST

NW4, GREYHOUND. -Beers listed except Ushers seasonal guest. +Ushers: Best Bitter, Founders Ale. (N193, U110)

SOUTH EAST

SE3, RAILWAY TAVERN. Renamed **FAIRWAY & FIRKIN.** -Beers listed. +Firkin: Birdie Bitter (3.5%), Fairway Ale (4.3%), Above Par Bitter (5.0%), Dogbolter (5.6%). +Addlestone Cider. Historic pub completely "firkinised" with bare polished floors, tables & chairs etc. Intrusive video games and wide

screen TV for sporting events. Beer believed to come from Flag & Firkin in Watford. A list of former licensees from 1851 to 1975 is about all that remains to commemorate its previous incarnation. The golfing theme reflects the fact that Blackheath open space was the home of the oldest golf club in Britain, the Royal Blackheath Golf Club which moved to Eltham in 1923. Food. Open all permitted hours. (SE48)

SE10, CRICKETERS. -Beers listed. +Banks's: Bitter. +Marston: Bitter, Pedigree. Now a one-bar Saxon Inns pub, ex Bass. Beware Banks's Bitter also on fizz and the price of half pints rounded up to exceed half the price of a pint. (SE93)

SE10, MITRE, 291 Greenwich High Road. -Courage: Directors Bitter. -John Smith: Bitter. +Draught Bass. +Greene King: IPA. The shop units on Roan Street have been absorbed into the pub to create "O'Sullivan's Bar" in Irish style without real ale. (SE98, U102)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(W), REGENT ARMS. -Charrington: IPA. Now a Free House, ex Bass. (SW17)

SW3, PHOENIX. renamed **RESIDENT.** -Beers listed. +Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. +Greene King: IPA. Refurbished in cafe-bar style with emphasis on food. (SW22, U38, U107)

SW5, CLARENCE. Renamed **DUKE OF CLARENCE.** -Beers listed. +Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. +Greene King: IPA. +Theakston: XB. (SW25, U53, U107)

SW6, IMPERIAL, 6 Lillie Road. Renamed **IMPERIAL ARMS.** (SW28, U74, U80, U104)

SW9, BEDFORD ARMS. Renamed **HOGSHEAD.** -Beers listed except Marston: Pedigree and Wadworth: 6X. +3 Guest beers (2 on gravity. Converted in characteristic Hogshhead style. (SW36, U39, U57, U63, U105)

SW12, PRINCE OF WALES. Now an Ascot Estates pub, ex Innpreneur (originally Courage). (SW43, U51, U55, U78, U121)

KINGSTON, BARONS PUZZLE. Renamed **PUZZLE.** (U106, U109)

KINGSTON, BULL & BUSH. -Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. +Courage: Best Bitter. (SW138)

KINGSTON, LAMB. -Beers listed. +Shepherd Neame: Bitter, Spitfire. Now a Shepherd Neame pub, ex Courage. (SW66, U60, U68)

KINGSTON, OUTRIGGER. -Beers listed. +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire. +Theakston: XB.

BEER BRIEFING
LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 123
 continued

(SW66, U119)

WEST

BRENTFORD, ALBANY ARMS. -Beers listed. +Gibbs Mew: Wiltshire Bitter, Salisbury Bitter. Now a Gibbs Mew pub, ex Free House, originally Courage. (W97, U83, U101)

TEDDINGTON, LION. -Beers listed. +Brakspear: Bitter. +Courage: Best Bitter. (W147, U91)

TEDDINGTON, TIDE END COTTAGE. -Boddington: Bitter. +Courage: Best Bitter. +Greene King: Abbot Ale. +Guest beer. (W147, U94, U98, U101, U117)

TWICKENHAM, NELSON. Renamed **FISHERMENS HUT.** -Courage: Directors Bitter. +Young: Bitter. Now operated largely as a fresh fish and organic restaurant but retaining a small bar area for non-eaters. Still displays a small "Nelson Inn" sign on the corner. (W151)

WHITTON, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE. -Beers listed except Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. +Young: Special. (W162, U61)

WHITTON, WHITE HART. -Smiles: Best Bitter. +Morland: Old Speckled Hen. (W162, U56, U69, U77, U101)

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 120

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

SE1, JUGGLERS ARMS. Delete entry - pub has not reverted to LEATHER EXCHANGE and remains JUGGLERS ARMS.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 121

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

KINGSTON, HUNGRY HORSE. Delete entry - pub has not been renamed WILLOW TREE and remains HUNGRY HORSE.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 122

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

The - (minus) sign was omitted in error by the printers before all named beers or the words "Beers listed" under each entry where the + (plus) sign does not appear. We apologise for this omission.

BRENTFORD, ALBANY ARMS. Details of changes were omitted in error by the printers and are included in the listings above.

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Editorial Team or the Campaign for
Real Ale Limited*

TOP COMMUNITY PUB

I was pleased to report in the Feb '97 edition that the Wagon and Horses in Surbiton had won the regional final of the Pub with a Heat competition, thus receiving £1000 towards local charities.

It has recently been announced that Joe Reilly and his wife Brigid have beaten off all comers to win the national final and hence a further £10,000 towards their charities. I understand that it is Joe's intention to distribute this sum by a large number of small, rather than one or two large, donations.

A presentation ceremony was held recently at the pub and we offer our heartiest congratulations to Joe and Brigid, this success being a fitting tribute to their 30 years at the pub, which is a superb example of a local community pub and Joe keeps a quite excellent pint of Youngs as evidence of his numerous appearances in the Good Beer Guide

Ian Amy



COACH TO CLARE

A trip round an award winning small brewery or waving Union Jacks made in Taiwan at the Lord Mayor's Show? I think we made the right decision.

Amazingly, the sun came out although it was slightly chilly and the coach picked me up at the bottom of my road at 9.30 in the morning. There were then pick-ups for other branch members at Barnet, Oakwood and Enfield, twenty five of us altogether. Maps of Clare and the Suffolk/Essex border and even of Colchester, where we were going later, were furiously studied and surprisingly, seeing it was Saturday, there was very little talk of football.

We were soon driving through fields and little villages of Beatrix Potter style cottages and hopefully unspoilt picturesque pubs before reaching the market town of Clare on the Essex/Suffolk border. It turned out that there was an antiques fair on; cars parked on both sides of the very narrow streets and we got slightly lost trying to find the brewery. I had been informed by Will at the Wenlock that it was tricky to find but we suddenly spotted a blue lorry with "Nethergate" on the side. "That's where it is," we cried in unison. The coach ground to a halt, I jumped out and said that I would report that we had arrived.

From the outside it was the strangest brewery I have ever seen; it looked very like a nineteen fifties rural garage, which quite likely it once was. I walked through a very narrow door and found myself in the magical world of a brewery. There didn't seem to be any trace of a reception area, or in fact sign of life (except for yeast).

"Hello, anyone there?" We had said Saturday the ninth, hadn't we?

Ah-ha, who's that climbing up to a mash tun in the white laboratory coat, a shock of grey hair, long beard and smoking a pipe? Ian Hornsey, the Head Brewer (No the Brewer - Ed).

"Hello, I'm Robin from Enfield & Barnet CAMRA."

"Oh, you've arrived! I'm a bit busy at the moment, er - get them all in and I'll find some glasses. There are three firkins over there, help yourself."

Back to the coach. "All right folks - follow me!"

Ian was doing a David Bellamy

impersonation with a bucket of yeast. "Hello, yes just help yourselves."

Nethergate IPA, 10th Anniversary "Decadent" and Old Growler all straight from the cask. Most of our members, well used to brewery trips, were dumbfounded. Not for long though. After a while Ian, sucking his pipe, a pint of IPA in one of his lab coat pockets, joined us. He answered our questions as we all stood in a group around the casks. Nethergate is a thirty barrel plant, has one tied house, the Cambridge Blue in Cambridge (that we wished we had time to visit) and has just won the champion beer award at the Norwich Festival. Ian was well chuffed that they'd beaten Woodfordes Wherry! We were also joined by Carolyn Grierson, Nethergate's PR lady who also said winning at Norwich had really made Ian's day. Nethergate, incidentally are looking for other outlets in the London area - any ideas?

You might wonder why we didn't sample any of their famous coriander beers, Umbel Ale or Umbel Magna. Well, basically it's the wrong time of year; they are more summer brews. However, we were intrigued to find out that the coriander is imported from Russia! Is Umbel Magna Boris Yeltsin's favourite tippie after vodka?

Time was marching on and we had arranged to have lunch at the Belf Hotel on Market Hill.

Ian sidled up to me. He re-lit his pipe. "Um, Robin, do you think anyone really wants a trip round the brewery?" Looking round at the merry ensemble, I rather wondered.

"Well, I would and I'm sure some others are interested." Out of twenty five, about ten of us looked around. Slightly cramped but fascinating all the same; I'm sure that is about the number of people that could be shown round at any time.

Just after two we all went across the road and down a little alley to the Bell Hotel for lunch. Ian had kindly gone across himself and told them we would be there for lunch. A friendly Elizabethan hotel serving three Nethergate ales including the 4% ABV Bitter. We all ate in the conservatory/restaurant area. A varied menu and an excellent steak & kidney pie with chips cooked in Old Growler (not an Aga, nor a dog!).

Sadly, it was time to clamber back on the

Continued on page 38



IT'S SOMETHING SPECIAL

Young's - No Ordinary Beers
Want to be in the Special club? Call 0181 875 7000

GAME OF THE NAME

'The World Turned Upside Down', which puzzled Al Ferrier (March 1997) is a biblical phrase, from Acts 17.6, referring to the preaching of Paul and Silas proclaiming that Jesus was Christ. There is an earlier occurrence in Isaiah 24.1. It was also a phrase much heard at times of disorder, especially in the seventeenth century when the ancient divine authority of the King was overturned in the Civil War. Inn signs sometimes indicate a quite different interpretation, showing a man walking at the South Pole.

It was also the name of the tune played when Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown in 1781, marking the success of the American Revolution - and I presume you know, as Lady Bracknell might have put it, to what that unfortunate movement led: the abandonment of English beer, English pubs, English cricket, in short the ordinary decencies of family life. Despite this slight mishap, Cornwallis gave his name to quite a few pubs. There were six in London in 1864, and two are listed in the telephone directory today (not a comprehensive guide to pubs). History and popular esteem are often at variance as with the ubiquitous Marquis of Granby - there were eighteen in London in 1864, and are said to be at least twenty today. The man himself, Commander in Chief of the British army in 1766, was apparently a courageous soldier, but the frequency of his name may be due to large numbers of his ex-soldiers becoming publicans rather than his military exploits.

Quite a lot of names date from the eighteenth century, when the country was becoming very prosperous from foreign trade and many people could afford leisure pursuits such as cricket and racing as well as drinking. The Bat and Ball at Hambledon, where the famous club was founded in 1750, was of course far from the first regular cricket venue. But it did sell ale 'such as would put the souls of three butchers into one weaver. Ale that would flare like turpentine - genuine Boniface! - This immortal viand (for it was more than liquor) was vended at twopence per pint' - so John Nyren tells us. There are many other Bat and Balls, Cricketers or Five

or Eleven Cricketers, an Umpire, a Test Match, etc. Balls alone however, sometimes coloured as Golden, Blue and so on, are usually former shop signs, but occasionally the venue for dances.

Historical names have always been subject to change in response to topicality; the Bull and Mouth in Holborn became the Falklands at the time of the war. Sometimes fame causes confusion. The Lord High Admiral in Victoria for a long time had a sign showing Horatio Nelson. He never held that title, and could not have done as by his day it has ceased to be an active rank. It was assumed by the sovereign, the present holder being Elizabeth II. It was held by Lord Howard of Effingham when the Spanish Armada was defeated in 1588, and he too has given his name to a few pubs.

The present rash of changes to silly names perhaps has its forerunner in the Frog and Nightgown in the Old Kent Road. I believe it originated in the fictitious local of Ted Ray in the long-running radio sit-com "Ray's a Laugh". A particularly maddening change a few years ago was when the Mother Red Cap in Camden Town suddenly became the World's End. The original name had been there for at least two hundred years - it also occurs elsewhere. It may have been a general term for an alc-wife; in former times brewers were often women. The World's End is also widespread, such as the well known example in Chelsea. It usually meant a house on the outskirts of a town or village - hardly appropriate for Camden.

Some changes have occurred when two names have been amalgamated; most likely one pub closed, and the other took on the name in the hope, no doubt, of attracting its customers also. This may be true of two mentioned by Al Ferrier, the Green Man and French Horn, and the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower. All four separate names have been popular in their own right. The French Horn may have originated in the sign of a musical instrument shop; while the Green Man has an ancient and complex history and multiple meanings. In the other example, there

continued on page 37

A SOUTHWOLD WEEKEND

It was early November and after months of planning the three of us were off. We'd heard a lot about Southwold from a friend and decided it was about time we had a look for ourselves.

Not only is Southwold a historic picturesque unspoilt fishing town untouched by developers but more importantly the home of Adnams Brewery, producers of some of the finest ales in the country and therefore the world (who's biased??!!).

We departed Worthing early Friday morning and after a break on the A12 for a fry up we arrived in Southwold at lunchtime – perfect timing. We'd booked into the Cricketers (a hotel pub/restaurant owned by Adnam's in Reydon a small village which is only a 10 minute walk from the centre of Southwold).

We checked in a thought it wise to check out the beer in the hotel bar before we strolled into Southwold. After ordering pints of 'Old' the barman informed us that Adnams had just produced a limited amount of stout to celebrate CAMRA's 25th anniversary, the local pubs being allocated two barrels each with most of it going to the Norwich beer festival. The barman very kindly poured a glass of stout for us to try – very pleasant!

We commented on the friendly nature of the locals, necked back our pints of Old (delicious) and with mounting anticipation set off for Southwold in a determined fashion, we were men on a mission!

For the first timers Southwold is an amazing sight, a strange mix of imposing period houses and quaint old Dutch gabled cottages and homes for the brewery workers. If you removed the cars from the streets you could easily imagine you were back in the 19th Century. Someb ody has managed to sneak in a Chinese take-away though, much to the dismay of the locals. The main street is dominated by the Crown & Swan Hotels both owned by Adnams. The town centre has eight separate greens.

The brewery really dominates the place as do its numerous pubs, the best ones in our view were the Nelson (cheapest). The Solebay Inn (next to the lighthouse – bit overdone with the copper pots) and the Red Lion (very friendly).

We checked out the sea first to get our bearings and then decided to sample a few doing the sightseeing in between pubs (its called time management).

The Landlord in the Red Lion, after a chat, mentioned the stout and that he didn't have much left, so after a couple of pints of bitter we decided to try the stout (be rude not to really), however, tragedy! Only 1 1/2 pints left in the barrel. The landlord gave us his last 1 1/2 pints on the house – happens all the time doesn't it? Or am I dreaming!!?

With the Stout no more, we had to carry on with the Bitter and Old, a nasty job but somebody got to do it. Oh, by the way, prices! Pint of bitter in the Nelson was £1.50 and £1.65 for the Old. Realising how much money we were saving we decided to have a few – as you do!!

A quick trip back to the hotel to freshen up, food and then back to Southwold for the evening. One strange thing struck us – the place seemed to be deserted – no traffic and nobody walking around – yet the pubs were busy. Thinking about it there isn't much to do in the evenings except go to a pub. We spent most of the evening in the Nelson seems to be the most popular pub in town.

Saturday morning and after a good breakfast we drove down to the harbour to stretch the legs and blow the cob-webs away. We had a quick look around the brewery shop a very impressive wine selection.

We then had a 30 minute drive to Laxfield to visit a very special pub – The Kings Head/Low House. There probably isn't another pub in the country like it. It was built in the 15th Century, open fires and high backed settees – marvellous. Thankfully, the landlord told us that three local people had bought it to ensure it remains unspoilt. The beer comes straight from the barrels (Adnams of course plus Greene King IPA), there is no bar. The Landlord explained that anyone wanting a refill was encouraged to keep the tradition going of tapping their empty glass on the table to get served – try that down your local!!!

We soaked up the atmosphere for a while and then made our way back to the Hotel. On the way back, driving through the forests and

continued on page 38

Continued from page 23

similar to that used these days at the Great British Beer Festival. The cheerful guv'nor pointed to the chalk board listing Spitfire, King & Barnes Oatmeal Stout, Ice Breaker, Morrells Graduate, Tanglefoot, Badger, Greene King Abbot and Fullers London Pride - a pleasant choice. We sampled at leisure.

The last three pubs on the crawl had distinctly different frontages. The ROYAL SOVEREIGN (Whitbread) has an upper flint and brick cladding and an ornate sign depicting a ship in full sail. On the lower deck there are glazed tiles and leaded glass windows.

The MARLIPINS (Bass) has raised lettering on a rendered surface and a curious pub sign; glazed tiles on the ground floor level with Georgian style windows. This pub has quite an impressive menu and serves food from 10am to 2pm (12 noon to 2pm on Sunday).

The last pub was the CROWN AND ANCHOR. This has a smart exterior with a large figurehead of a seaman standing on the prow of a boat - approximately twelve feet tall! Each of the last three pubs had at least three real ales to sample.

Before returning to the station for the train home we paid a return visit to the Crab Tree where we had a go on the skittle alley in the public bar, cheered on by the friendly locals.

More out of town rambles are planned - watch the Branch Diary page for details.

Paul Everitt

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are many; pubs named after items of food and after fruit and vegetables. In at least one case, in Bristol, the rather unlikely Cauliflower seems to have begun as a nickname, from a badly painted sign of a Rose. Legs of Mutton, like the perhaps more frequent Shoulders of Mutton, and Rounds of Beef, etc, have the more obvious meaning of the food available within.

I wonder if other readers have their own name on a pub? There is a Radford Arms near Coventry, Radford (red ford) being a place name there and elsewhere. Some individuals of the name have been armigerous, though not connected to me, but the coat of arms the pub displays is probably fanciful.

John Radford

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REVIEW OF "THE BEER DRINKER'S GUIDE TO MUNICH"

by Larry Hawthorne, 3rd Edition

Published by Freizeit Publishers, 47-475 Hui Io Street, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

This guide describes some fifty of the author's favourite bars, beer-halls and beer-gardens in the Munich area rated on a scale of one to ten and indicated by half and whole beer mug symbols. Starting with an essential chapter on the workings of Munich's public transport system which includes details of the principal railway and tram stops, ticketing systems, signs that you may expect to see and a map of the city's rail network the guide goes on to embrace drinking etiquette covering such things as paying the bill and tipping, determining whether waiter or bar service is in operation and the dangers of sitting uninvited at the reserved for regulars "Stammisch" table. Each entry is prefaced by details of the public transport and a route map from the Hauptbahnhof (Main Railway Station). The address, telephone number, beers available, opening and closing times and the seating capacity are also given. Note that some of the telephone numbers given differ to those in the Graham Lees guide. Maybe Deutsche Telecom is in the throes of change in the manner of our own dear BT.

A description of the history, specialities and things to look out for such as where to watch or indeed join a party whooping it up on a log raft floating down the River Isar or where you can find an Asian beer garden serving sushi.

A guide to Munich would be incomplete without mention of the world famous Oktoberfest. This it does but included are details and dates of some less well known festivals such as the Auer Dult, the Fruhlingsfest and the Fasching to name just a few.

The locations are listed according to such criteria as best tasting beer, the cheapest, biggest, closest to the main station, best with kids etc. and for the rich and thirsty a list of "after hours" drinking establishments and the clientele catered for. And for those who wish to join in there is a section with the words to some twenty-one songs such as "Eviva Espana" in the "original German".

A minor reservation regarding this guide is that as it seems to originate from the USA I assume it has been written with an American audience in mind and as such some of the references may not be familiar to the British

reader but, this notwithstanding, I would recommend it be added to your preholiday shopping list.

Mike Moran.

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park land. we spotted a white deer (spooky) also spotted by the driver who had been on the tomato juice so Adnamitis hadn't set in yet!

Lunch back in Southwold – whole plaice and chips in the Red Lion washed down with a couple of pints of bitter. After a stroll up the seafront the beer inspection continued.

In the evening we decided to settle down in the hotel bar after dinner, after all they had some stout left. The Cricketers is obviously popular with the locals and the bar was nice and busy in the evening.

Sunday morning, another hearty breakfast and it was time go to. We looked in at Sizewell 'B' Power Station which is just down the coast from Southwold.

They do guided tours around the place but we didn't have time as we were hoping to get back to Worthing in time for a couple of pints of Harvey's Old in the Vine we made it.

Dave Yeandle

Continued from page 33

coach and say our farewells to Ian, Carolyn and Clare.

From Nethergate to the nether regions of Colchester. By sheer luck the coach driver managed to drop us off at exactly the street we wanted - Crouch Street, where you will find two popular Good Beer Guide listed pubs with a good selection of beers: the Kings Arms/Hogshead and the Tap & Spile. Both were visited and we sampled the Whitbread "Pumpkin" in the former and Crouch Vale Millennium Gold in the latter. We also wanted to try another recommended pub, the Odd One Out in Mersea Road but decided that it was just a little too far the other side of town. Another time.

Eventually I managed to muster everyone and once more it was back on the coach, sing-song and laughter. Again I was dropped off at the end of my road. A better time than Nethergate has to be de-Clared!

Robin Forshaw-Wilson

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OFF TRADE

Beer Shop, Pitfield Street
NW6 Grogglossoms, 235 West End Lane

CLUBS

NW4 HENDON SOCIAL CLUB, Middlesex University Bus. School

OUTLETS - SOUTH WEST and WEST PUBS

SW1 BARLEY MOW
SW1 BUCKINGHAM ARMS
SW1 FOX & HOUNDS
SW1 MOON ON THE MALL
SW1 MORPETH ARMS
SW1 ORANGE BREWERY
SW1 PAVIOURS ARMS
SW1 ROYAL OAK
SW2 HOPE & ANCHOR
SW2 CROWN & SCEPTRE
SW3 COOPERS ARMS
SW3 CROWN
SW3 SURPRISE
SW4 BREAD & ROSES
SW4 MANOR ARMS
SW6 DUKE OF CUMBERLAND
SW6 WHITE HORSE
SW7 ANGLESEA ARMS
SW8 PRIORY ARMS
SW8 SURPRISE
SW10 FERRET & FIRKIN
SW11 BEEHIVE
SW11 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE
SW11 WALSH'S
SW12 PRINCE OF WALES
SW13 COACH & HORSES
SW13 RED LION
SW13 ROSE OF DENMARK
SW14 HALFWAY HOUSE
SW14 HARE & HOUNDS
SW15 FOX & HOUNDS
SW15 GREEN MAN
SW15 RAILWAY
SW16 PIED BULL
SW17 CASTLE
SW17 J.J. MOONS
SW18 OLD SERGEANT
SW18 SPOTTED DOG
SW18 SPREAD EAGLE
SW19 BREWERY TAP
SW19 KINGS HEAD
SW19 HAND & RACKET
SW19 PRINCE OF WALES, Morden Rd
SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL
SW19 SULTAN
SW19 TRAFALGAR
SW19 WIBBAS DOWN INN
CARSHALTON, GREYHOUND
CARSHALTON, RAILWAY TAVERN
CARSHALTON, WINDSOR CASTLE
CHESSINGTON, NORTH STAR
CHEAM, RAILWAY
HAM, HAND & FLOWER
KEW, COACH & HORSES
KINGSTON, ARTFUL DODGER
KINGSTON, CANBURY ARMS
KINGSTON, COCOANUT
KINGSTON, CRICKETERS

KINGSTON, FIGHTING COCKS
KINGSTON, FLAMINGO BREWERY CO.
KINGSTON, KELLY ARMS
KINGSTON, NEWT & FERRET
KINGSTON, PARK TAVERN
KINGSTON, RAM
KINGSTON, TWO BREWERS
KINGSTON, WILLOUGHBY ARMS
KINGSTON, WYCH ELM
LONG DITTON, NEW INN
MITCHAM, QUEENS HEAD, Cricket Green
MITCHAM, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
MORDEN, WETHERSPOONS
NEW MALDEN, ROYAL OAK
RICHMOND, BELVEDERE
RICHMOND, DYSARTS
RICHMOND, ORANGE TREE
RICHMOND, SHAFESBURY ARMS
RICHMOND, TRIPLE CROWN
RICHMOND, WATERMANS ARMS
RICHMOND, WHITE CROSS
SURBITON, DENBY DALE
SURBITON, NEW PRINCE
SUTTON, FIELDER & FIRKIN
SUTTON, NEW TOWN
WALLINGTON, WHISPERING MOON
W1 BEEHIVE, 7 Homer Street
W1 CLEVELAND ARMS
W1 JACK HORNER
W1 MOON & SIXPENCE
W1 MORTIMER ARMS
W1 PRINCE ALFRED
W1 WINDMILL
W2 ARCHERY TAVERN
W2 ROYAL STANDARD
W3 KINGS HEAD
W5 RED LION
W5 ROSE & CROWN
W5 WHEATSHEAF
W6 ANDOVER ARMS
W6 BROOK GREEN HOTEL
W10 VILLAGE INN
W11 FROG & FIRKIN
W12 CROWN & SCEPTRE
W12 MOON ON THE GREEN
W13 DRAYTON COURT
W13 THE FORESTER
W14 WARWICK ARMS
BRENTFORD, MAGPIE & CROWN
CRANFORD, QUEENS HEAD
FELTHAM, MOON ON THE SQUARE
HAMPTON, WHITE HART
HAMPTON COURT, KINGS ARMS
HAMPTON WICK, WHITE HART
HAYES, MOON UNDER WATER
HAYES END, MOON & SIXPENCE
HOUNSLOW, BEAVER
HOUNSLOW, CROSS LANCES
HOUNSLOW, MOON UNDER WATER
HOUNSLOW, SUN
ISLEWORTH, COUNTY ARMS
ISLEWORTH, RED LION
ISLEWORTH, VICTORIA
SOUTHALL, BEACONSFIELD ARMS
TEDDINGTON, HOGARTH
TEDDINGTON, LION

TEDDINGTON, QUEEN DOWAGER
TEDDINGTON, RAILWAY HOTEL
TWICKENHAM, KINGS ARMS
TWICKENHAM, NELSON
TWICKENHAM, PRINCE ALBERT
UXBRIDGE, PRINCE OF WALES
WHITTON, ADMIRAL NELSON
WHITTON, WHITE HART
OFF TRADE
W11 Grogglossom
CLUBS
W1 Polytechnic of Central London
S.U. Bar, 104 Bolsover Street
ISLEWORTH, Western Atlas Social Club
OUTSIDE LONDON
ADDLESTONE, CRICKETERS
ASCOT, CRANBOURNE TOWER
BRIGHTON, EVENING STAR
BRIGHTON, SUSSEX YEOMAN
CATERHAM ON THE HILL, KING & QUEEN
CHERTSEY, CASTLE
COLCHESTER, ODD ONE OUT
CROXLEY GREEN, SPORTSMAN
DENHAM (Bucks), LAMBERT ARMS
EAST MOLESEY, KINGS ARMS
EGHAM, JOLLY FARMERS
EGHAM, PRINCE OF WALES
EGHAM, WHITE LION
KNEBWORTH (Herts), LYTTON ARMS
KNOWL HILL (Berks), OLD DEVIL
LALEHAM, FEATHERS
LEWES, GARDENERS ARMS
MANCHESTER, JOLLY ANGLERS
MORTIMER WEST END (Hants), RED LION
OUTWOOD (Surrey), DOG & DUCK
OXFORD, WHARF HOUSE
POTTERS BAR, CHEQUERS
READING, HOBGOBLIN
READING, HOP LEAF
READING, HORSE & JOCKEY
ROFFEY (Horsham), NORFOLK ARMS
ROTHERWICK (Hants), COACH & HORSES
SALISBURY, WYNDHAM ARMS
STEVENAGE, RED LION
SOUTHAMPTON, WATERLOO ARMS
STAFFORD, STAFFORD ARMS
STAINES, BEEHIVE
STAINES, CAVALIER
STAINES, PHOENIX
STOW MARIES (Essex), PRINCE OF WALES
STRATFIELD SAYE (Hants), NEW INN
SUNBURY, FLOWER POT
SUNNINGDALE, ROYAL OAK
TILLINGHAM (Essex), CAP & FEATHERS
WALTON ON THAMES, REGENT
WATFORD, WEST HERTS SPORTS CLUB
WEST HORSLEY (Surrey), KING WILLIAM IV
WEYBRIDGE, JOLLY FARMER
WORTHING, VINE
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