

LONDON DRINKER



THE FALCON, St John's Hill, SW11 Photo: Andy Pirson

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

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JULY 99

The Sultan July Beer Fest

78 Norman Road, South Wimbledon SW19 Tel: 0181 5424532

UNBEATABLE HOPBACK PROMOTIONS

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WEEK 1 NEW RECIPE CROP CIRCLE ABV 4.2%

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Also Beer of the Month



WEEK 3 G.F.B. ABV 3.5%

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At the Cutting Edge of New Craft Beers

Editorial

A few days after I was asked to write this month's editorial, I read an obituary notice for Brian Cowie. Brian was managing director of Tolly Cobbold and his death is a sad loss to the independent brewing sector.

Some years ago, I went on a CAMRA visit to the Tolly Cobbold brewery. We had a very enjoyable day, calling at the Butt and Oyster at Pin Mill before the visit and calling at two or three country pubs on the way home.

We had an excellent trip round the brewery and, at the end of the visit, Brian entertained us in the boardroom. Brian passed round jugs of the various ales brewed by Tolly Cobbold and at the same time explained the background to the management buy out from Brent Walker. The first obstacle that Brian and his colleagues had to overcome was a plan to redevelop the brewery site and surrounding area. Fortunately, the plan was also opposed by the local council and the local CAMRA branches.

Once the future of the brewery had been secured, the second problem was that the brewery had no tied pubs, apart from the pub which is now incorporated in the brewery building. Fortunately, Tolly Cobbold managed to negotiate a trading agreement with Pubmaster.

Brian told the story in an amusing manner, but it was clear that saving the brewery and finding the outlets had been extremely hard work and required great determination. It was largely due to the efforts of Brian and his colleagues that Tolly Cobbold was saved. We need our independent breweries to provide a range of distinctive beers. In the last month or so, the proposed management buy out of Vaux has been thwarted and Whitbread appear to want to stop brewing. These developments reduce the beer drinker's choice and make the survival of independent breweries even more important. It will be a fitting tribute to the memory of Brian Cowie if breweries like Tolly Cobbold continue to thrive.

Stan Tompkins

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

Beer Festivals

- Head of Steam, Euston, NW1
 2-5 July
 0171 388 2221
- Head of Steam, Euston, NW1
 6-11 July
 0171 388 2221
- Station Arms, Southminster 9-11 July 01621 772225
- Portmanor, South Norwood, SE25 29 July-3 August 0181 655 1308
- Head of Steam, Euston, NW1
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Real Ale & Wine House

Fullers ESB, London Pride and Woodfordes Wherry always available plus three ever changing guest ales

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Brewery News

IT'S OFFICIAL - TWICKENHAM PUBS SERVE A PERFECT PINT OF FULLER'S LONDON PRIDE

The Prince Albert, Hampton Road and The Prince Blucher, The Green have become the latest Fuller's pubs to be presented with a Cask Marque award for serving the perfect pint. Over the coming months more Fuller's houses will receive their plaque.

The Cask Marque accreditation was launched nationally in early 1998 to recognise excellence in the service of cask ale. The award is only granted for excellent ale which is well-kept and served to strict guidelines. Houses are visited twice, unannounced, by inspectors and every beer is tested for temperature, colour, taste and quality. Only if all the beers stocked by the pub pass these rigorous tests does the house qualify for a Cask Marque - and even then the award is only granted for one year, as equally demanding follow up calls are made 12 months later.

Glen Williams from the Prince Albert and James Keogh from the Prince Blucher were presented with their plaques by Reg Drury, during his final weeks of duty before retiring



from the post of Fuller's Brewing Director. Reg is a strong supporter of the award which acknowledges good cellar management as the key to serving cask ales at their very best.

From a Fuller's Press Release



NEW WETHERSPOONS IN OLD CITY BANK BUILDING

new J D Wetherspoon pub now graces the site of a disused bank in The City. The Crosse Keys in Gracechurch Street opened on Wednesday June 23. The pub, which has cost almost £2 million to develop, is one of the largest in The Square Mile, covering almost 8,000 square feet of customer space.

The former Barclay's Bank, a grade II listed building, will also house a corporate hotel on the upper levels and a restaurant in the basement (these will be independently run and are not part of Wetherspoon). The building, which is more than 100 years old, has been completely restored and renovated by Wetherspoon. The pub has a large island bar on the ground level. There is also a mezzanine level.

The Crosse Keys takes its name from a pub of the same name that once stood on the site. It will be run by managers Phil and Lourdes Thomas, together with a team of 60 full and part-time staff. In keeping with other Wetherspoon outlets, it will be completely music-free and have a ban on pool tables. Approximately one quarter of the customer area will be designated non-smoking.

The pub will specialise in cask-conditioned beers, serving six at all times, including a range

of ever-changing guest beers from breweries across the UK. At the opening it will be offering Theakston Best, Fullers London Pride, Shepherd Neame Spitfire, Courage Directors and two guest beers.

The Crosse Keys will be wheelchair accessible and have a specially adapted toilet for customers with disabilities.

Unlike the majority of pubs in The City, The Crosse Keys will be open all permitted hours, including all day Sunday. A full menu will be available from 11am to 10pm (Monday to Saturday) and 12 noon to 9.30pm (Sunday).

Pub manager Phil Thomas said: "We're confident the pub will appeal to a wide range of customers who enjoy a drink or meal in quiet and comfortable surroundings."

From a JD Wetherspoon News Release

Brewery News

BISHOP GETS TO KNOW YOUNG'S

The new Bishop of Southwark has been to visit his local brewery and its pubs as part of a programme of getting to know his diocese.

The Right Rev Tom Butler was shown around Young's 400-year-old Ram Brewery in Wandsworth - the oldest site in Britain on which beer has been continuously brewed - after being greeted by chairman John Young at the Leather Bottle in Garratt Lane, Tooting.

After a pub lunch, the bishop and a party of clergy from the Wandsworth area travelled the two miles to the brewery on board a traditional brewer's dray pulled by two of Young's 14 heavy horses, which still make daily deliveries.

Dr Butler, who was Bishop of Leicester before moving to Southwark eight months ago, is a regular speaker on Thought for the Day on BBC Radio 4's Today programme.

He told John Young after his visit: 'You are very much part of the history and the present life of Wandsworth. Your own commitment to the

area is apparent and deeply valued by all involved in the life of this part of our great city.'



The picture shows a Young's horse-drawn dray outside the Leather Bottle as John Young greets the Bishop of Southwark.

From a Young's News Release



TWICKENHAM PUBLICAN 'MASTER CELLARMAN OF THE YEAR'

Glen Williams, manger of the Prince Albert, a Fuller's pub in Twickenham, has won the coveted title of Fuller's Master Cellarman of the Year. Glen is currently scooping up awards for his beer as the Prince Albert has also been awarded a Cask Marque award for excellence in the service of cask ale, making a pint in this pub one of the best pints around

To achieve the accolade of Master Cellarman, licensees have to attain, and then sustain, a score of over 95% in four visits from the Fuller's Beer Quality Advisers throughout the year. Cellar hygiene and dispense equipment including everything from barrel to glass are thoroughly inspected. As if this wasn't enough, a sample of beer is taken away for analysis, to ensure that the customer is being given the best of the best.

Glen was awarded his certificate by Reg Drury during his final weeks of duty as Fuller's Brewing Director. He also won flights to Prague for all his hard work. Before he jetted off, we asked him if he had any advice for aspiring Master Cellarmen: "Keep it clean!", was his reply.



Purveyors of Fuller's ales are made aware of the standard and quality expected of these products and know how important it is to look after them. The Fuller's Master Cellarman Competition is one of the most important award schemes that Fuller's runs for its managed and tenanted pubs.

From a Fuller's Press Release

Backing Britain

BREWING LEADER ISSUES 'MADE IN BRITAIN' CALL

A call to promote 'Made in Britain' has been issued by one of the brewing industry's leading figures.

John Young, chairman of London independent brewers Young's, says: 'We were once proud to see labels proclaiming 'Made in Great Britain' on the goods we bought but now so few things are made here and we are no longer great.'

He says in his latest company annual report that brewing is one of the few industries that still make something.

'By using British barley and British hops in our beer, we have for hundreds of years supported British farmers, whom our Government no longer supports or encourages and who are now being encouraged and subsidised by Brussels bureaucrats and the monstrous Common Agricultural Policy to leave their fields overgrown with thistles and ragwort', says Mr Young. Instead of helping the brewing industry, he claims: 'Our government, whatever its political persuasion, seems to want us out. 'In the past 33 years, there have been 35 inquiries or investigations into the brewing industry and our rates of excise duty are among the highest in Europe.'

Mr Young has written to the Prime Minister, Chancellor Gordon Brown, Trade and Industry Secretary Stephen Byers, Opposition leader William Hague and Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown, and has sent a copy of his remarks in the company's annual report to all MPs.

The full text of John Young's comments is reproduced here.

Extract from Chairman's Statement in the 1999 annual report of Young & Co.'s Brewery, P.L.C.

If not for the meddling and antipathy of successive governments and the European Union, our results might have been better. We were once proud to see labels proclaiming 'Made in Great Britain' on the goods we bought but now so few things are made here and we are no longer so great.

The brewery has been swarming with Germans and Italians, all doing a good job installing the new bottling equipment, labellers, fillers, packers, all no longer manufactured in Britain.

What do we make any more?

We get up in the morning and brush our teeth

with an electric toothbrush, not made in Britain. We shave with an electric razor, not made in Britain. The wardrobe contains no examples of our once glorious woollen and cotton industries. The kitchen has a cooker, a washing machine and a refrigerator, none of them made in Britain. Nor the television, nor the video recorder. They were all delivered by Japanese-built, Liberian-registered ships, because we don't want to build our own ships any more. We can no longer deliver our beer on Dennis or Bedford lorries.

When this century began, Britain was responsible for a fifth of the manufacturing output of the whole world. As the century draws to a close, we can claim only 3% of global manufacturing, according to the CBI. We no longer have an industrial base so from where in the future is wealth to come?

In contrast, brewing is one of the few industries that still makes something and there are 38 family brewers still brewing. By using British barley and British hops in our beer, we have for hundreds of years supported British farmers, whom our Government no longer supports or encourages and who are now being encouraged and subsidised by Brussels bureaucrats and the monstrous Common Agricultural Policy to leave their fields overgrown with thistles and ragwort.

Foreign beer, mainly from France, is flooding across the Channel at a rate of more than 1.5 million pints a day. That's 1.9 million barrels a year.

Instead of taking action to help the brewing industry, our government, whatever its political persuasion, seems to want us out. In the past 33 years, there have been 35 inquiries or investigations into the brewing industry and our rates of excise duty are among the highest in Europe. In 1899, Britain brewed 35 million barrels of beer. In 1999, the figure will be about the same. The big difference is that the government took only £12 million in duty 100 years ago, which is equivalent to £804 million today. But the government of 1999 will take more than £2 billion from us in duty.

The great brewing peerage of the past, Allied,

Backing Britain

Courage, Bass, Watney, Whitbread, with the biggest breweries in Europe, great technology and long traditions, surely could have brewed the best British lager. Instead, we have Castlemaine and Fosters from Australia, Carling from Canada, Heineken from Holland and Stella from Belgium.

Britain brews only 19% of all the beer produced in Europe but pays 45% of the excise duty collected. This is bad for British beer drinkers, bad for British pubs, bad for British brewers and bad for British farmers. But very good for bootleggers, a criminal class reintroduced and encouraged by the unconcerned policies of British governments.

British-brewed beer is down, imported wines up, but English wine has stood no chance. Enterprising British farmers planted vines just as the Romans did, but receive no encouragement from government. There is no preferential duty, which cider makers receive, even though most of the apples are imported from France.

I have suggested to both Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer in the last Conservative government, and his successor, Gordon Brown, that they should be more innovative when it comes to taxation rather than milking the same old sources, beer and now diesel, the overtaxed price of which threatens the very existence of our road haulage industry and once again the brewing industry. Why not, for example, replace any lost revenue by taxing all the advertisement hoardings that despoil our countryside and landscape, as they are in the United States?

Young's remains a proudly British and fiercely independent brewer. Whatever the hurdles put before us and whichever direction they may come from, we will fight to maintain the structure, traditions and heritage that have enabled us to survive while many other great British names have disappeared. We have been running the 418-year-old Ram Brewery and its pubs for 168 years and there is no question of us caving in to any pressure that would make us vulnerable to take-over and the inevitable closure of the brewery which would see yet another Made in Great Britain label consigned to the dustbin.

We were once Great Britain; now we are Britain but no longer so great. Recent events might suggest we are no longer even a United Kingdom.

John Young From a Young's News Release

A constantly changing selection of ales from micro breweries up and down the country. Over 2000 different ales served to date with always something new to try.

Adnams Bitter & Broadside plus Harveys Best always available. A good selection of German bottled beer including Wheat beers, Kolschbier and smoked malt Rauchbier. Thatchers traditional cider, Belgian beers and Fruit Wines. Function room for hire. Quiz on Sundays. Cask Marque quality award. Selected for the 1999 CAMRA Good Beer Guide.

CAMRA SW London Pub of the Year

1992, 1994, 1996 & 1998

PIOPY APPS

a genuine free house

83 Lansdowne Way, Stockwell, SW8 (5 minutes Stockwell Tube) Tel 0171 622 1884

-Pub News-

YOUNG'S LAUNCH NEW CHAIN OF BAR-RESTAURANTS

Young's, the south London independent brewers, have unveiled the first of a series of smart, modern, female-friendly bar-restaurants that will combine highclass food with award-winning beers and an imaginative wine list.

Finch's, in Finsbury Square in the City of London, was opened by two of the horses in the team that pull the Lord Mayor's coach on its annual procession through the City of London.



The picture shows Wandle Mascot and Wandle Forte with brewery chairman John Young and manager Brigham Blackborn outside Finch's.

Wandle Mascot and Wandle Forte are two of Young's 14 horses, which still make daily deliveries to pubs in the Wandsworth area as well as appearing at shows and fetes all over the South of England.

Finch's is named after one of London's oldest pub chains, H.H. Finch, founded by Henry Hobson Finch in 1865 and taken over by Young's in 1991.

Young's are planning to open the next two Finch's bars later this year in High Street, Slough, Berkshire, and in Duke Street, Chelmsford, Essex.

From a Young's News Release



LESBIAN AND GAY NEWS

AGRAD is a group of lesbian and gay members of the Campaign for Real Ale organising to extend the Campaign to the lesbian and gay scene. The group meets regularly on the first Wednesday of every month from 7.00 p.m. onwards in the upstairs bar of the King's Arms, 23 Poland Street, London W1. All welcome. Or visit our website at http://www.goldings.demon.co.uk/queerale/JULY EVENTS:

Wednesday 7 (7.00) The King's Arms, 23 Poland Street, W1, (0171-) 734 5907, (Monthly meeting).

Friday 23 (7.30) Southern Pride, 82 Norwood High Street, SE27, (0181-) 761 5200. Not far from West Norwood railway station. Food available all day and an amazing beer garden. Fullers London Pride and Worthington Best Bitter were on offer when we checked out this venue for the first time last year. Recommended – worth the effort – that is if you don't live in SE27 (in which case it's probably your local!).

CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival 3rd - 7th August 1999 Olympia







CHAMPION BEERS OF SCOTLAND



THE DEFINITIVE, CLASSIC 80/-

THE 1998 CHAMPION BEER OF SCOTLAND

"YOU'RE DUE A DEUCHARS"





Business Results

RECORD EARNINGS FOR THE YEAR TO 27 MARCH 1999

n 28 May Fuller's announced their preliminary results for the latest financial year:

Whatever You Do, Take Pride

Pre-exceptional profits up 11%
Pre-exceptional earnings per share up 9%
Dividends for the year up 9%
Own beer barrels up 5%
London Pride barrels up 6%
Capital expenditure at £20M
Net gearing at 7%

CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY (AGF Fuller, CBE)

During a period of considerable turbulence in our industry, and a poor summer, I am pleased to announce another year of record earnings. Preexceptional profits before tax of £14.21M were up 11% from £12.85M. Pre-exceptional earnings per share rose by 9% to 38.50p (1998: 35.44p) and we are proposing an increase in total dividends of 9%. Our two key trading divisions, Fuller's Inns and Fuller's Beer Company, made substantial progress with profits up 9% and 31% respectively. The Fuller's Wine Company contributed a healthy 15% increase in profits to £1.03M.

The normal partial revaluation of our freehold estate shows an increased net asset value of £3.3M. Gearing, despite a record capital expenditure programme of £20M, is only 7% (1998: 3%) though in consequence our interest charge has risen. We made a small exceptional profit on the sale of surplus properties, bringing our total profits before tax for the year to £14.38M (1998: £11.88M) and our basic earnings per share are 39.17p (1998: 31.49p) - a rise of 24%.

The Fuller's Board is recommending an increase in the final dividend of 11% to 8.60p per share on the 'A' and 'C' £l Ordinary Shares and 0.86p per 10p 'B' Ordinary Share which will be paid on 27 July 1999 to shareholders on the Share Register on 25 June 1999.

In our Interim Statement we broke down our profits into the Company's three principal trading divisions and re-stated comparative figures. We have repeated this for our full year and have restated comparative 1998 full year figures. These revised profit splits have been based on a careful

allocation of costs and have transferred substantial profits previously earned under the category 'Brewing' into Fuller's Inns.

FULLER'S INNS - KEY FACTS

Includes Managed Inns, Tenanted Inns and Hotels. Profits increased by 9% to £14.56M (1998: £13.40M).

Most of the Company's capital expenditure continued over the page

PORTMANOR BEER FESTIVAL

Thur 29 July-Tues 3 Aug open all permitted hours

over 25 beers

all priced at £1.40 pint

We are in the 1999 CAMRA Good Beer Guide

Bar food available all day plus upstairs restaurant

Only 2 minutes walk from Norwood Junction station

The Portmanor, Portland Road, South Norwood, SE25 Tel 0181 655 1308

Business Results

over the last few years has been invested in this division (1999: £16M) which is reflected in its increasing profits to the Group.

Total turnover for the division was up 17% at £72.4M.

Managed Inns - Pubs and Bars

Fuller's new retail concepts do not overlap. They reach new audiences and complement the existing classical Ale & Pie pubs, informal English Inn Restaurants and Traditional Quality Locals. Like for like turnover for Managed Inns was level for the year but like for like profit was up 1%.

Six new Fine Line bars were opened in Battersea, Fulham Road, Canary Wharf, Bristol and two in the City of London, and their profits exceeded expectations. The Fine Line was recently voted 'Best Newcomer' by major competitors and peers who described the brand as 'making a difference' in a saturated market. Three further sites, in Clapham, the City and Central London will be opening in the current financial year with other sites planned to open lates in 1999. Pre-opening or start-up costs have been written off the consequent significant costs of these and other openings in the financial

year just ended (1999: £0.7M versus 1998: £0.2M).

Additional outlets include: The Shooting Star, an Ale & Pie pub near Liverpool Street Station, a restaurant/bar in Farringdon and The Broadwalk in Reading. Two further Broadwalks (Port Solent and Slough) opened in the last two weeks. All three Broadwalks combine not only our normal strong wet led offering but also high quality music and entertainment combined with good quality affordable food for a carefully targeted, affluent young market. All have trading areas larger than 3,500 square feet and takings to date have been pleasing.

The financial year just started will see at least eleven new openings comprising three Fine Lines, one Ale & Pie, three other Bars, and four High Street pubs.

Fuller's has also refurbished eleven major existing pubs, adding approximately 7,000 square feet of trading area, though the closures during renovations cost 85 weeks of trading in these outlets.

The team in the Managed Inns business has continued to be strengthened during the course of the year to support the expanding activities and



Business Results-

the Company is well placed to develop further opportunities.

Hotels

The Sanctuary House Hotel, comprising 34 bedrooms and a ground floor Ale & Pie pub in central Westminster opened last September. It has performed better than budget and expectations and has become an instant success in the area. Other openings in the last few years, The Fox & Goose and The Mad Hatter have performed exceptionally well. The Master Spearpoint Hotel in Ashford was closed in March 1999 (re-opening September as The Pilgrims Rest) for a major development into an English Inns restaurant and hotel.

Like for like room rates in hotels were up 5% though like for like occupancy ratios fell by 4 percentage points as less tour operator business was accepted on narrow margins.

Subject to planning, Fuller's will shortly be purchasing a 91 bedroom, freehold hotel site on a waterfront location in the centre of Bristol. Expected opening date will be late 2000. This will increase the number of sites in Bristol to three - a pub, bar and hotel.

The Tenanted Estate

The Tenanted Estate, following the transfer of three large pubs to the managed division, saw profits drop by 7%, though like for like profits were up 1% on corresponding barrelage down 3%. We continue to invest in our Tenanted Estate, although on a much smaller scale than our Managed Inns business.

FULLER'S BEER COMPANY - KEY FACTS

Profits increased by 31% to £2.69M (1998:£2.06M) as a result of both increasing volumes and margins. Cask ale volumes were themselves up 5% against a continued national decline, and London Pride was up 6%. At a time when several breweries are closing, Fuller's continues to invest in production facilities to meet the increasing demand for its beers. Fuller's sales volumes have risen over the last four year period by 37%, where nationally beer sales have dropped.

Managed Inns business saw volume sales increase 9% and sales to the Free On and Off trades were up 6% and 8% respectively. The share of premium bottled ales to supermarkets rose from 9.6% to 10% of the national market, making Fuller's the number two supplier.

Fuller's '1845' was awarded The Guardian

CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) best bottle conditioned ale award at the 1998 Great British Beer Festival.

ESB sales increased by 5% since re-launch earlier this year. ESB was again this year awarded 'Champion Bitter' at the World Beer Championships held in Chicago.

The London Pride advertising campaign on TV and posters (now even expanded to London taxis) has continued to generate awareness and demand for the brand.

FULLER'S WINE COMPANY

For the third year running Fuller's won the 'Regional Wine Merchant of the Year' award sponsored by *Wine Magazine*. Profits of the division increased by 15% to £1.03M. Last year's profits have been restated to allow for transfer pricing. Profits were up largely on the strength of strong wholesale sales and improved margins. Like for like sales were up 2%.

PROSPECTS

'The current financial year will be more challenging, with £0.5M of extra costs arising out of 'The Working Time Directive' and the Minimum Wage legislation. Our expansion programme with at least eleven new outlets will bring heavy start-up costs which we write off immediately and which are expected to exceed those in the current financial year.

We continue to invest in people and systems to meet the increasing demands on our retail and brewing businesses. In addition, we will have to incur the necessary costs to provide the appropriate contingency planning in the event that our suppliers and customers are affected by the millennium computer problems. We ourselves will be incurring some additional costs in order to modify our computers, though these are only costly in time and not in significant extra expenditure.

The last year saw many exciting developments at Fuller's though for part of the year we saw a reluctance by consumers to spend. I am pleased to report that in March we saw a return of consumer confidence. Like for like retail sales in our Inns Division are 1% up since the year end and beer volume sales are up 4%. Notwithstanding the various additional costs of operating in the new financial year I expect to see 1999/2000 as another year of progress for the Group.'

Whatever You Do, Take Pride From a Fuller's Press Release



Adnams fine Suffolk ales including

Southwold Bitter and Broadside

are regularly available throughout the Nicholson's estate

Crown Tavern, 43 Clerkenwell Green, EC1
Fox & Anchor, 116 Charterhouse Street, EC1
Viaduct Tavern, 126 Newgate Street, EC1
Butlers Head, 11 Telegraph Street, EC2
Magpie, 12 New Street, EC2
Throgmortons, 27a Throgmorton Street, EC2
Red Lion, 8 Lombard Court, EC3
Ship, 11 Talbot Court, EC3
Walkers of Fenchurch, 18 London Street, EC3
Black Friar, 174 Queen Victoria Street, EC4
Old Bell Tavern, 95 Fleet Street, EC4
Walkers of Holborn, Norwich Street, EC4
Williamsons Tavern, Groveland Court, off Bow Lane, EC4

Bloomsbury Tavern, 236 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 Coal Hole, 91 The Strand, WC2 Globe, 37 Bow Street, WC2 Marquis of Granby, 51-52 Chandos Street, WC2

Argyll Arms, 18 Argyll Street, W1
Barley Mow, 8 Dorset Street, W1
Clachan, 34 Kingly Street, W1
Dog & Duck, 18 Bateman Street, Soho, W1
Northumberland Arms, 43 Goodge Street, W1
Shelley's, 10 Stafford Street, W1
Three Greyhounds, 25 Greek Street, W1

Leinster Arms, 17 Leinster Terrace, W2 Catherine Wheel, 23 Kensington Church Street, W8 Devonshire Arms, 37 Marloes Road, Kensington, W8

Clifton, 96 Clifton Hill, St Johns Wood, NW8

Antelope, 22 Eaton Terrace, SW1
Golden Lion, 25 King Street, St James's, SW1
Paxtons Head, 153 Knightsbridge, SW1
Red Lion, 2 Duke of York Street, SW1
Walkers of St James, 32a Duke Street, St James's, SW1
Walkers of Whitehall, Craig Court, 15 Whitehall, SW1
Australian, 29 Milner Street, SW3

Doggetts Coat & Badge, 1 Blackfriars Bridge, SE1 Horniman at Hays, Hays Galleria, Tooley Street, SE1 Old Thameside Inn, Pickfords Wharf, Clink Street, SE1 Southwark Tavern, 22 Southwark Street, SE1



Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors,

Re: AOFB

I was interested to read the piece on the Ancient Order of Froth Blowers in the May issue of LD because I have a pair of the AOFB cuff links. They were given to me some 15 years ago, not because of my interest in real ale but because I was making a collection of links. All I was told by the donor was what the letters stood for. The links are rectangular, of silver-coloured anodised metal, with the letters AO on one part of each link and FB on the other, the letters enclosed within a rectangle. Letters and rectangles are dark blue. Yours sincerely,

Simon Haste, Carshalton



Dear Editors,

Delighted to read your excellent article highlighting the Super ChampionshipWinning Bees and the wealth of good ale to be found around Brentford. LD readers may also like to know that (fairly) local brewers Scanlons of Yiewsley produced a special beer to mark the club's success, called Champion Bees and flavoured - naturally - with honey. At 4.3% it was a superbly tasty way to toast the club's escape from Division Three.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Larkbey, London E17



Dear Editors.

I am writing to let everybody know a better way of getting to the Waters Edge, Tottenham, than the transport particulars in the June issue letter.

The nearest railway and tube station is Tottenham Hale. The pub is about 20 minutes' walk along the River Lea or five minutes on the 363 bus that runs every half hour but not on Sundays.

As you join the towpath of the Lea there is a new boat club opened called the Heron. The bar is worth a visit; it has two or more guest ales.

Yours sincerely, Silvie, Edmonton



Dear Editors,

We have had Desert Island Beers what about Devil's Island Beers? Those beers that never or rarely seem to be in condition no matter where we drink them. I don't believe that brewers brew bad beer but somewhere between the brewery gates and our lips something goes wrong. I'll start the ball rolling with my two favourites Greene King IPA and Theakstons Best. Yours sincerely,

Keith Emmerson

Dear Editors,

For the past few weeks the Moon Under Water in Hounslow has been running a "Price Watch"; small display stands on the tables compare their prices with those in three other pubs in the area - in order Edwards (Bass), Yates's Wine Lodge and D.Shannon (Fuller's). This is an example of some of the price comparisons with the other pubs given in the order above:

Theakston Best (3.8%) - 95p [Worthington (3.6%) - £2.00; Boddington (3.8%) - £1.45; London Pride (4.1%) - £1.90]

Fosters - £1.39 [£2.00 (Carling); £2.05 (Fosters); £2.10 (Carling)]

Guinness (draught, pint) - £1.29 [£2.30; £2.10 (Murphys); £2.25]

Budweiser (330ml bottle) - 99p [£2.50; £2.40; £2.20]

Coke (half pint) - 50p [£1.20 (16oz Pepsi); £1.20 (Pepsi); £1.00 (Pepsi)]

The mark-up by the others is incredible. For some reason the Moon also has much lower food prices than the others in the area and its 2 for £5 deal is available at all times.

We ought to be shouting loudly that prices of alcohol can be lower.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Vickers, Twickenham

THE HEAD OF STEAM



Euston Station London NW1 Tel 0171 388 2221

CAMRA North London PUB OF THE YEAR

HUDDERSFIELD BEER FESTIVAL

2-5 JULY Linfit, Rat & Ratchet, Riverhead, Kitchen & Huddersfield B.C.

NORTHUMBRIA BEER FESTIVAL

6-11 JULY Northumberland, Big Lamp, Border, Hexhamshire & Four Rivers

YORKSHIRE DAY BEER FESTIVAL

1 AUGUST Until beers run out - through the pumps we hope to have 20 rare beers including Sunset, Briscoe's, Barge & Barrel, Ossett, Brown Cow (Barlow) and many more

August 1st is Yorkshire Day!!

- visit us on your way to the GBBF

Branch Update

BRANCH DIARY

Welcome again to our regular branch information page where we have details of Branch Contacts and events as well as general items of news from the various branch areas. This is where branches can tell drinkers across London what is happening in their areas that might be of interest to them. Branch events for July are listed below.

LONDON PUBS GROUP. Eric Martin 0181-697 2147 (H), 01223-582700 (W).

Wed 14 (8.00) Business Meeting. Royal Oak, Tabard Street, SE1, anyone interested welcome.

CROYDON & SUTTON. Paul Everitt 0181-686 5053 (H & W).

Sun 4 (12 noon) Branch 25th Birthday Party. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey Street, Croydon, outside if fine. - Thu 8 (8.30) Garden Social. Royal Standard, Sheldon Street, Croydon. - Tue 13 Cheam Pub Crawl. Meet (8.00) in the Railway, Station Road, then the Claret Wine Bar, the Broadway and lastly the Prince of Wales. - Thu 22 (8.30) Garden Social. Railview, Selsdon Road, South Croydon. - Tue 27 (8.30) Branch Meeting, Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey Street, Croydon, in upstairs function room. - Tue 3 Aug (7.30) Social at GBBF, New Brewery Bar.

EAST LONDON & CITY. Rhonda Neil 0181 520 6417 (H).

ENFIELD & BARNET. Derek Smith 0181-805 1436 (H & W).

Thu 1 (9.00) Social and London Drinker Pick-Up. Madden's (formerly Welch's), 130 High Road, East Finchley, N2. - Tue 6 (9.00) Social. Footman & Firkin (formerly White Bear), 56 The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4. - Tue 13 (9.00) Social. Duck, 36 Queen's Parade, Friern Barnet, N11. - Sat 17 (12 noon) Supplementary Supping Summer Saturday Special. King and Tinker, Whitewebbs Lane, Enfield, EN2. - Tue 20 (9.00) Social. Dog & Duck, 74 Hoppers Road, Winchmore Hill, N21. - Sat 24 Visit to Canterbury Beer Festival. Meet outside WH Smith on Victoria Station to catch 10.05 train to Canterbury East (arr.11.27). Bring CAMRA membership card to ensure free admission. A shuttle bus operates from Canterbury bus station to the festival site. - Thu 29 (9.00) Social and London Drinker Pick-Up.Black Horse, Wood Street, Barnet, EN5.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD. Clive Taylor 0181-949 2099 (H) 01483-714898 (W)

Sat 3 Visit Oakhams Brewery at Peterborough, by train. If interested, contact Brian Bade on 0181-549 7486. - Sat 10 Joint Social with North Surrey Branch. Pub crawl of Weybridge, starting (12 noon) at Jolly Farmer, Princes Road. - Mon 12 (8.30) Branch meeting. Jolly Farmer, Princes Road, Weybridge. - Fri 16 (8.30) Joint Social with Surrey and Hants Border Branch. Jolly Farmer, Princes Road, Weybridge. - Sat 17 (11.30) Surrey Liaison Meeting. Garland, Brighton Road, Redhill. - Sun 18 Train trip (09.52 from Surbiton) to the Watercress Line at Alton for a real ale day on the steam trains, also a bus rally. - Thu 29 Guildford town pubs. Meet (8.00) at White House, High Street, then Star, Kings Head and others, hoping to finish in Sandford Arms. - Sat 31 (7.30) Barbecue. Lamb, Brighton Road, Surbiton, New landlord, four real ales, good quality.

NORTH LONDON. Alison Cox 0181-742 0498 (H) 0181-746 8148 (W). Any social queries contact Gary White 0181-801 9513 (H), 0181-772 6045 (W), email: <g.white@sfxavier.ac.uk>.

Mon 5 (8.00) Social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Road, N1. - Sun 11 Country Walk to Lordship Arms, Bennington, led by Ian Burns. Meet Watton at Stone off 09.21 from Kings Cross. ring 0181-361 0660 if lunch booking required. - Tue 13 (8.00) Branch AGM. Rugby Tavern, 19 Great James Street, WC1. - Tue 20 (8.00) Social. Shaw's Freehouse, 180 Pentonville Road, N1. - Tue 27 (8.00) Social. Salisbury, 1 Gud Parade, Green Lanes, N4; Toll Gate, 26-30 Turnpike Lane, N8. - Mon 2 Aug (8.00) Social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Road, N1.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW. Brian Kirton 0181-384 7284 (H).

Wed 7 (8.00) Two Pub Social in Twickenham. Start at Old Anchor, 71 Richmond Road, then (9.30)

Branch Update

Hogshead, 33/35 York Street. - Tue 20 (8.00) Open Branch Meeting. Coach and Horses, 27 Barnes High Street, SW13. - Sat 24 Visit by train to Beckett's Brewery, Basingstoke. Limited availability, for nformation / bookings contact Roy Hurry (Wk - 0171 495 4490, Home 0181 570 0643).

SOUTH EAST LONDON. Rob Close 0181-659-8067 (H - answerphone), E-mail: rob_close@msn.com.

A very light month is planned as we shall be recovering from the Catford Beer Festival, and catching our breath before Olympia. Normal service will be resumed in September!

Tue 6 (7.30) Committee/Branch meeting. Plume of Feathers, 19 Park Vista, SE10. - Thur 15 (7.30) GBBF Publicity Crawl. Meet at Founders Arms, 52 Hopton Street SE1. - Mon 26 (8.00) Committee/Branch meeting. Crystal Palace Tavern, 105 Tanner's Hill, SE8.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX. Andrew Clifton 01708 765150 (H) e-mail: swessex@clara.co.uk.

Thu 1 (8.00) Brewery Trip. Ford & Firkin Brew Pub, 15 High Street, Romford. - Tue 6 (8.30) Out of Area Social. The Moletrap, Tawney Common, Theydon Mount, Stapleford Tawney (OS: TL 500014). - Tue 13 (8.30) Social. Chelmsford Beer Festival, Anglia Polytechnic University Sports Hall, Park Road, Chelmsford. - Thu 15 (8.30) Social. White Horse, 173 Coxtie Green Road, Coxtie Green during Pub Beer Festival. - Wed 21 (8.30) Presentation of SW Essex Pub of the Year to The Chequers, North Street (junction Billet Lane), Hornchurch – our first pub in Greater London to win Pub of the Year three years in a row! - Thu 29 (8.30) Kelvedon Hatch Social. First @ Shepherd Inn, Blackmore Road and then @ Dog & Partridge, Swan Lane, Kelvedon Common.

SOUTH WEST LONDON. Mark Bravery 0181-540 9183 (H), 0171-438 7181 (W).

On Saturday 3rd we will have our annual crawl of the Wimbledon area, asking pubs to display posters publicising August's Great British Beer Festival. This is an enjoyable day, and a great opportunity to visit some of the fine pubs in SW19. We start at the Hand & Racket (part of the Hogshead chain) near Wimbledon station at about 11.30 am. All welcome.

Sat 3 GBBF Publicity crawl. Meet (11.00-11.30): Hand & Racket, 25 Wimbledon Hill Road SW19 (turn right out of Wimbledon station - 3 mins walk). - Sun 18 (11.00). Open committee meeting and festival committee meeting:. Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8 (upstairs room).

For branch cricket information please phone Andy Robinson: 0171-905 6502 (W), 0181-653 8885 (H).

WATFORD & DISTRICT. Tony Smith 01923 221155 (H & W) Fax: 01923 218625.

Sun 11 (12 noon) Summer Stroll. Start White Bear, Rickmansworth to the Fisheries and Fishermans Tackle. - Tue 13 (7.00) Brewery Visit: evening trip to Rebellion, Marlow. Contact Martin Few, 01923 252412. - Sat 17 (12 noon) Joint Crawl with West Middlesex in St Albans, Details below. - Sun 25 (12 noon) Cricket match at Watford Grammar School.

WEST LONDON. Di Kehoe 0171-218 3999 (W).

WEST MIDDLESEX, Paul Dabrowski 0181-571 9146 (H), 0171-713 3882 (W).

Sun 4 (12 noon) Ealing Countryside Weekend Social. Meet Ballot Box, Horsenden Lane North, Greenford Green, then Countryside Weekend Beer Hall, Berkeley Fields, Horsenden Hill (2.00). - Mon 5 (8.30) Beer Festival planning meeting. Bridge Hotel, Western Avenue, Greenford. - Wed 14 (8.30) Branch Meeting, Duke of York, Steyne Road, Acton. - Sat 17 Joint St Albans Crawl with Watford & District. Skeleton itinerary: Fighting Cocks, Abbey Mill Lane (12.00); Lower Red Lion, Fishpool Street (2.00); Farrier's Arms, Lower Dagnall Street (4.00); Mermaid, Hatfield road (6.00); Farmer's Boy, London Road (8.00) and Duke of Marlborough, Holywell Hill (10.00). - Wed 28 (9.00) London Drinker Pick-Up. Red Lion, St Mary's Road, Ealing.

Deadline for the August edition, 9th July. Material for September to arrive by 6th August. **Please** be sure to send all diary material to Dave Oram.

Foreign Feature

SAMPLING DUBLIN'S NEW BEER SCENE

While passing through Dublin before Christmas en route to the west of Ireland, we managed to sample some products of the Irish craft-brewing 'revival', as it is referred to in those parts. Craft brewing, largely in the form of pub breweries, is now taking off in a big way in the Republic (given the stranglehold still exerted by the 'black stuff'), and trying to attract a new, more discriminating (and younger) market for the beer. According to a local trade paper, ten breweries have started up in the past four years across Ireland including the sizeable Dublin Brewing Company, opened on the old D'Arcy's Anchor Brewery site, and the Porter House brew-pub which will be familiar to readers of What's Brewing.

For those who are planning a visit to the 'fair city' I offer the following suggestions for a mini-crawl. The pubs are all located in the centre off the south side of the river Liffey which, for the uninitiated, bisects the city west to east. Apologies for the lack of public transport details but I did not have time to master the intricacies of Dublin's many bus services. However, the city centre is relatively compact and can be easily traversed on foot. At the outset, it should be noted that will need to attune your taste-buds to the traditional Irish method of dispense, ie. smoothflow and very cold, however I found this did not spoil my enjoyment of the new-wave stouts and porters too much. You will also find the pubs somewhat dearer than in the UK.

The pubs are all close to the 'notorious' Temple Bar area (Dublin's equivalent of Covent Garden) which is a famous drinking circuit with high prices to match. It therefore makes sense to start (and finish?) at the Porter House (on the corner of Parliament and Essex Streets), if only for the fact that this establishment can get extremely busy from early evening onwards and it really is worth exploring the pub's multi-level interior. Its unique award-winning style, which I suppose you could call 'transatlantictraditional', has light wood, backlit displays of old bottles and jugs, tile-fronted bars and so much exposed copper ducting that the market price of copper must have jumped when the pub opened! Assistant manager Ian, who hails from Leeds (and is a CAMRA member to boot) told me that the bar-front ceramics alone cost close to £100,000. But to the beers....

Eight beers are regularly brewed on the premises (you can see the fermenters through a glass window in the floor on entering the pub),

including pilsners, an American lager, two stouts and a porter. Only one of these was available from the cask on our visit, Porterhouse Red (4.3%), described as a traditional Irish Red Ale and with well-balanced fruit and maltiness. American hops are used extensively in the recipes. The manager told me that demand for cask beer had not been enough to justify racking any more than one beer behind the bar at a time, and space for a further two beers was now occupied by cabinets full of bottles. I then tried the international brewing industry award-winning Plain Porter (4.3%). This had an excellent dry and quenching character, and seemed to justify all the accolades it had received. At about the same strength as Guinness, but much hoppier, this seems like the beer to lure seasoned fans away from the 'black stuff'! My partner also tried the Oyster Stout (4.8%), which is rich and very moreish, and the full-bodied Wrasslers 4X Stout (5%), made to an old West Cork recipe.

The Weissbeer had, we were told, been discontinued because 'people kept handing it back thinking the haze meant it was off'. Now where did I hear that before?

It seems there is an even greater need to educate the drinker into accepting new beer styles here than in the UK, but the Porter House deserves full marks for being a market leader.

We now turned down Essex Street and walked straight on towards **The Temple Bar** pub (1 Temple Bar) which is on the right at the junction of these two streets. I had consulted the Dublin Brewing Company's web site before leaving (further details at www.dublinbrewing.com) for details of their 20-plus outlets. All of the company's beers were

Foreign Feature -

listed against this pub so it seemed a good place to try them. The Temple Bar, though obviously renovated and extended, still has the feel of a traditional Irish pub (or as near as you will get it hereabouts) with a huge semi-circular bar and several separate drinking areas. The vast array of taps revealed that Beckett's Gold (3.6%). Maeve's Crystal Wheat and Revolution, a dark red ale (both 4.7%) were on, plus D'Arcy's Stout. Beckett's was a great introduction to the range; superbly hoppy and refreshing - that is, apart from the price (we innocently asked for two halves, which came to the princely sum of IR£3.50!). Please note that the Irish custom of charging more pro rata per half is taken to ridiculous extremes here (the equivalent price of a pint was £2.80, or c.£2.65 UK), so the **Temple Bar** is definitely one for those with deep pockets and a bit of a tourist trap. I found out later that this pub is one of most expensive in Dublin, and probably the whole of Ireland! Nothing wrong with the beer though, and to compensate a little, we did hear one of the best folk bands I have ever heard playing in a pub (I thought it was a CD until entering the back room, and there they were all sat sawing away!). Those of you who wish to try the beers for a smaller outlay can find Revolution and D'Arcy's available in bottle at Oddbins outlets.

Now follow Temple Bar around to where it emerges onto the main road (Dame Street) and crossing this, almost opposite you will find Dame Court. At the end of this narrow lane and on the right you will find the Stag's Head, a real gem of the Victorian 'gin-palace' era and worth visiting for dark wood, mirrors, stained glass windows and marble-top bar. Beckett's beer was supposed to be available here also, but was not on at the time of our visit. Despite showing the ravages of time somewhat, the pub still has a unique atmosphere. It is like stepping back into the last century, and the sort of place where one could imagine rubbing shoulders with the likes of James Joyce and G.B.Shaw. It reminded me a little of Bennett's Bar at Tollcross in Edinburgh (for those of you who know this esteemed drinking emporium) and it was easy to see why my partner had such affection for it as somewhere she used to go regularly when working in the area. She tells me there used to be a pub opposite called the Stag's Tail, which alas has now been renamed. A worthwhile

detour, however, and good Guinness to boot.

We retraced our steps to follow the wide Dame Street east towards the College Green area, famous for the fine Georgian edifice of Trinity College and facing it, the great blank stare of Bank of Ireland's headquarters. Crossing the road here at this busy junction with what seems like all of humanity (or just most of Dublin's students and office workers) can be a hazardous experience, however it is worth dodging the traffic and extensive building works as you head north en route to O'Connell Bridge.

Turn right at the end of the street before reaching the bridge and cross over the wide intersection at Westmorland Street towards Burgh Quay, for what awaits you should not be missed. Past a rather unpromising looking bar on the right is the newly-opened Messrs. Maguire (1 & 2 Burgh Quay). This is also a brew-pub, set in historic premises by the river and taking in what used to be the home of Dublin's Library Society. The sight of mash tuns greets you through a plate glass window on your way in, and these are also visible from the ground floor bar. Owned by the entrepreneur Sean Quinn, the building has had a vast sum spent on its refurbishment (I gather c£2.5m) and it shows. The decor and staircase are what first catch the eve, a sort of Georgian 'retro-chic', if that's possible. There are four floors in all, with bars on three levels and roaring fires. The superb Conversation Room at the top of the pub has fully-restored ceiling roses dating from 1808.

We had intended to make it a brief stop on our way to the central bus station but decided to prolong our stay when we saw what the pub had to offer. It has to be said that this is very much a 'foodie' establishment of the 'sit down and I'll take your order' type (or choose what you'd like from the carvery) with drinking at the bar discouraged at lunchtimes, however when we explained that our prime interest was in the beers the brewer was summoned to make our acquaintance. He turned out to be another 'exile', one Christopher Reid, late of Firkin in the West Midlands. He had been lured away to run the brewery from start-up and develop the Maguire's portfolio of beers and was just getting to grips with the new plant supplied by the same 'turnkey' suppliers who built the

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Foreign Feature



Join us for fun and beer as we promote the greatest beer event there is!

24th June, East End Crawl Hamilton Hall (Bishopsgate) @ 6.30 All Bar One (Cannon St.) @ 8

10th July All day crawl Jack Horner (Tottenham Court Road) @ 11am

21st July: West End crawl Freemasons Arms (Long Acre) @ 6.30

Moon Under Water (Charing Cross Road) @ 8

Anyone making any of the following crawls will receive a 21st Great British Beer Festival lapel badge as a small thank you. Also, every time you attend your name will be entered into a prize draw for £15 worth of beer, cider etc at the Wenlock Arms, Wenlock Road, London N1. So manage all three crawls and get three times the opportunity to win an excellent session at this well-known free house.

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Porter House brewery.

Chris showed me round the brewhouse's rather cramped layout, which is of reasonable capacity (c.10 barrels) and can brew two/three times a week when demand picks up. There are no plans at present to make the beers more widely available, and they are trying hard to encourage people away from Guinness, which they don't stock! Five beers are brewed on the site: two stouts (Plain (4.3%) and Extra (5%)), a red ale called Rusty (4.6%) and German and Americanstyle lagers. The lagers are also served in 8oz. 'shots'. The beers are served at immaculate temperatures from designer t-bar fonts, and I particularly liked the red beer, which had a wonderful mouthfeel. They are also marginally less expensive than the Temple Bar pubs. Chris would be happy to show any visiting CAMRA members around, and if you find yourselves in Dublin I can thoroughly recommend a relaxing afternoon at Messrs. Maguire. It is a remarkable example of what can be done in the pub business given the wit, imagination and sensitivity to the origins of the site (and no expense spared).

Brian Bade



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Brewery Visit

ORGANISED CHAOS ON VALE BREWERY TRIP

I had never been associated with a CAMRA brewery trip before. The organisation looked impressive on paper so I had forked out £10 and made the commitment in advance.

The actual day began well. A shared taxi ride to a London BR station that nobody had ever heard of. My trepidation began as pirates began to occupy the station platform. Beards, weskits and all, they had fortuitously left their patches and cutlasses behind. These were 'CAMRA people'.

On the train, I became engaged in a light conversation with one of the more friendly brigands. This passed the time conveniently since my original travelling companion, Pete 'Slaphead', had become comatose the instant he hit his carriage seat. Some sort of "debauchery last night," he explained as he passed out.

I shall skip over the surprise switch of trains, mid journey, not mentioned in the paperwork. It was a good job we remembered 'Slaphead', otherwise he could have gone on to Aylesbury and missed being deposited at a country station which, to a Londoner, looked like it was in the middle of nowhere. It was verdant. Very verdant. Nothing but verdant.

Trip organiser, Paul Dabrowski (Social Secretary of the West Middlesex branch), offered the gathered company a choice. They could stroll into the nearby village and occupy a local hostelry until he returned (or wait there until a bus for Thame became due). The alternative was to join him in a short walk through the countryside, take a bus or two, and return later for the Vale Brewery visit itself. Sensibly, everybody opted for the short walk. Otherwise, one could have found oneself in a 'local hostelry' for about five hours. Warning! Danger! That could be 15 pints to a drinking man! My kind of leader this Paul. It was clear to everybody which choice to make!

It was a pleasant, sunny day. Birds sang. Buttercups bobbed. It was overpoweringly natural. The so-called 'short walk' was at least a million, seemingly vertical, miles (actually, only 21/2 miles - Ed). I got puffed, my feet hurt, but, I did acquire a raging thirst. There's a up side to everything. Slaphead's bald patch went red; that was how sunny it was.

Various pubs in Long Crendon were visited, but my memory becomes a tad slurred hereon. I remember one of the pubs was called 'The Churchill' and it was there that a large contingent remaindered itself until the bus for Thame should arrive. Beer excellent. These Camra people may look like thieves and footpads, but they know something about beer. Through the inebriated haze I can recall following our leader's heels closely. He seemed to know where he was going. I pursued this philosophy for the duration. This was wise.

When the time came to catch the bus, the Social Secretary et al caught the scheduled bus from a pub at the other end of the village. We next observed Jerry running across the road waving his arms to hail the bus he had espied from the bar lounge of 'The Star'. Jerry is not given to running but lucky for him the bus was crawling behind a tractor, so he caught it. Country life, eh?

The next stop was the Village Square near 'The Churchill'. Alas, Maurice and "The Remainders" were running for the Village Square as the bus pulled out. We waved. Maurice told me later that they were compelled to spend some time waiting for the next bus in 'The Chandos'. A local convinced them that the 'next bus' did not exist. This was a lie but they believed him, which meant two extra hours in 'The Chandos' instead of one. With the local inebriate bus guru attached to their number, they ultimately caught a cab and we all met up again in 'The Swan' in Thame.

History repeated itself in Thame. Following on the organiser's heels, a small contingent and I caught the bus for Haddenham. But Maurice and "The Remainders" were seen running for the

continued over the page



Brewery Visit

continued from previous page

town centre as the bus pulled out. We waved again. We didn't half feel smug.

But it didn't last. We had caught an earlier service bus which took a detour to pick up small adolescents from a local school. The bus conked out at the school gates. Sweaty old elephants amongst youthful gazelles, we waited for the bus to find a gear, which it was reluctant to do. The driver wandered off returning after twenty minutes to his hotter passengers and his cooledoff, now working, bus. When we neared the Vale Brewery, the Soc. Sec. dismounted a stop early – he was to meet up with more CAMRA people who were coming only for the brewery visit. As soon as he departed, our party fell into disarray. An old wife on the bus told us that the brewery was two stops on. Never believe what an old wife tells you. She was wrong. We had to retrace our way back along the road towards the brewery and found it as - eventually - did the others we'd left behind in Thame.

At the Vale Brewery we saw pipes, tanks and aromatic froth floating about in large vats. Somewhat the worse for wear, I cannot remember much. I recall that they did not 'Dry Hop' and I can report that they did not do any hopping, wet or dry, while I was there. What they did do was disgorge bountiful amounts of beer in our direction. I was thankful for this but, by that time, I was registering 'tank full' and amazingly found myself declining their generous hospitality as the visit came to an end.

I should like to say we walked to the pub - the 'Rising Sun' - where the grub was laid out but it was more of a meander. By this time we were taking casualties. It was an excellent buffet, much needed, and lots of it!

Thank you Camra for a pleasant day out and Mark & Phil Stevenson at the brewery. Special thanks go to the organiser, Paul Dabrowski, of West Middlesex CAMRA.

Neil Riley

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Crawl -

POSTAL DRINKER 3

This is the third month of my year's crawl round the London postal districts. Before I detail April's pubs there are some points arising from earlier articles. In my first article I commented on the quality of the quiz team at the Manor Arms in Clapham. Since then I read in the Evening Standard that they had won the Standard's all London pub quiz. The same edition of the Standard also had an article about the retirement of Reg Drury, the head brewer at Fullers. May I wish Reg a long and happy retirement.

For early April I decided to make a start on North London. This is not an area I know very well but I was able to borrow a copy of the last North London guide to make a few notes before I started. There does not appear to be a great variety of pubs and the main relief from the main brewers is the Wetherspoon chain. It appears from the guide that the Old Ale Emporium, the pub I visited in N4, used to be the Mortimer Arms, a Wetherspoon pub.

I start in South Tottenham (N15) have taken the Gospel Oak train to South Tottenham station. The two pubs nearest the station, the Dutch House and Molly McGuires, no longer sell real ale, the latter having twelve unused handpumps. Before I can find another pub I arrive at Seven Sisters station so I give up on N15 and get a train to Lower Edmonton (N9). Turning left outside the station into Church Street brings me to the Lamb a medium sized pub opposite the Jolly Farmer.

This is one of the pubs that Wetherspoon have sold to the Ambishus Pub Co although there has been little apparent change. There are about half a dozen beers on and I have a pint of Greene King

IPA for £1.35. There are also promotions on Courage Best (99p per pint) and various brands of spirits (£1.50 per double). As I leave the pub appears to be filling up for lunchtime.

I head south to Upper Edmonton (N18) and walk down Fore Street, the main shopping centre. At the bottom end of Fore Street is the Gilpen's Bell which is a large Wetherspoon pub. Here I take advantage of Wetherspoons current promotion and have a pint of Theakstons best for 99p. The Bell appears to be the type of superpub that Wetherspoon are concentrating on. Personally I find them too large and a bit impersonal but it seems quite full with a lunchtime crowd and I have difficulty getting a seat to read the paper.

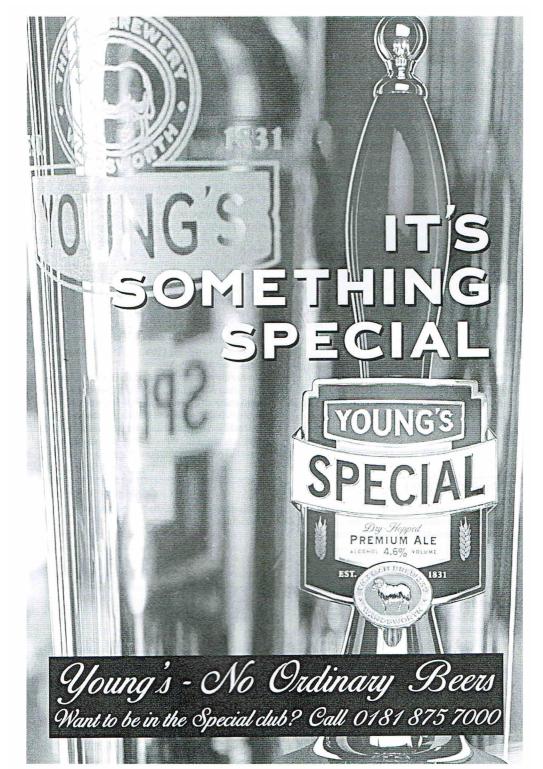
Leaving the Bell I head south into Tottenham (N17) and down Tottenham High Street which is a more inner-city area. Passing White Hart Lane and an old Whitbread brewery frontage I come to the Elbow Room which is another pub Ambishus have bought from Wetherspoon. It is quite small and crowded for a weekday lunchtime with a lively

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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				
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	Annual	Annual	Life	Life			
UK and EEC	£14 🔲	£17 🗌	£168	£204 🔲			
Rest of the World	£18 🗌	£21 🔲	£216 🔲	£252			
Student/Unwaged	£8 🔲						
Disabled	£8 🔲						
Retired	£8 🗌	£11 🗌	£96 🗌	£132			
Send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to: Membership Secretary, CAMRA Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts Al. 1 4I W.							



Crawl

continued from page 23

atmosphere. Like the Lamb it has a good range and I have a pint of Smiles Golden Brew. This is a most pleasant surprise, a very pale sharp hoppy beer reminiscent of the Boddingtons of old.

Heading further south down Tottenham High Street brings me back into N15. I head down West Green Street and the second pub I come to is the Fountain which advertises itself as a Crowndale pub. The deserted bar is cluttered with numerous artefacts and the bar has one handpump. This provides Websters Green Label for 99p. As it has taken four pubs in N15 to get this far I decide to have a pint so I do not have to waste any more time in the district.

This brings me back to Seven Sisters station so to do a couple more pubs for the day I get a Victoria line tube to Finsbury Park and then a Piccadilly line tube to Arnos Grove in New Southgate (N11). The Bankers Draft in Frien Barnet Lane is another medium sized pub that Ambishus have taken over from Wetherspoon. Six real ales are on and I have a pint of Hook Norton Old Hookey. I did ask the manager about the transfer of pubs from Wetherspoon to Ambishus but it turns out he is only a temporary relief as the manager is away on holiday.

To finish off for the day I get the tube another station north to Southgate (N14). As I know nothing about Southgate I try the nearest pub to the station which is the Rising Sun. Both Courage beers are usually sold but tonight only Best is available. The pub has a large food range and presumably gets a lot of passing trade on the way home from the station.

Later in April I have an interview in the Baker Street area so afterwards I take advantage of my Travelcard to try a few more pubs. I start by walking north into Marylebone, the western part of NW1, which is separated from the main part, Camden Town, by Regents Park. The pub I have chosen is the Windsor Castle which is Brakspears only tied house in London. It has been refurbished in a modern wine-bar style with wooden floors and an emphasis on food. There is also an upstairs bar that, somewhat incongruously, has a pool table. Both Brakspears bitters (bitter and special) and their seasonal beer, currently Three Sheets, are available. Despite the special half price offer on Three Sheets I have a pint of the ordinary bitter. Brakspears does not seem to be as widely available in London as it used to be so it is a pleasure to have a pint of an old favourite.

Leaving the Windsor Castle, I head back to Baker Street Station and get the tube to Paddington were I get a train to Hanwell (W7). This is the most westerly postal district in London and its most westerly pub and therefore the most westerly pub in the London postal districts is the Fox in Green Lane. This is a medium sized one bar pub which is by a lock on the Grand Union canal. The pub also has a garden and is opposite some allotments and a city farm which gives a bit of a rural feel to a suburban pub. Although the Fox advertises itself as a free house all the beers appear to come from Courage and the real ales on are Courage Best, Directors and Marstons Pedigree. As I have already had Best and Pedigree in earlier months of the crawl I have a pint of Directors. While the Fox deserves its GBG listing it could be improved by a more imaginative beer selection. Between the Fox and the station there are two other GBG pubs, the Dolphin (free) and the Viaduct (Fullers).

For the next pub I walk east along the mainly publess Uxbridge Road into West Ealing (W13). By West Ealing station is a Fullers pub, the Drayton Court. This is a large three bar pub, including a pool room which also has a conference room and a balcony overlooking a large garden. A sponsored walk organised by Fullers and starting and finishing at the brewery in June is advertised. The full Fullers range is on and I have a pint of Honey Dew, their current seasonal beer. This is vaguely similar to London Pride although the honey appears to give it a softer edge.

By an amazing coincidence I finish my pint just in time to get a train from West Ealing to Ealing Broadway (W5) which spares me a walk. Ealing town centre seems to be full of the usual town centre style superpubs but I head south into St Marys Road to the Red Lion. This is a small one bar pub with well polished wooden furniture which is opposite the old Ealing Film Studios and is decorated with numerous photos relating to the studios. This is another Fullers pub with the full range on and I have a pint of Chiswick.

The next district into London is Acton (W3) and the pub I choose is the Duke of York in Steyne Road, off the High Street. This is a small, well furbished, ex-Watneys pub which is now a free house with three real ales, Courage Best, London Pride and Brakspears bitter so I have a second pint of Brakspears for the day. The Duke of York is GBG listed and is used as a meeting place by the Acton branch of the Society for the Preservation of Beer from the Wood. Within sight are two other pubs, the Kings Head (Fullers) and the Red Lion and Pineapple (ex Fullers now Wetherspoon).

This brings me up to eleven pubs for April and thirty two for the whole year so I will finish for April here and do another eleven in May.

Great British Beer Festival YET MORE REASONS TO VISIT GBBF

If more beers and ciders than it is ever possible to drink isn't enough, and top quality live music and entertainment with a family room still doesn't persuade you to visit the greatest beer event in the country, then we have yet more things to offer.

For the first time this year if you buy a season ticket granting you unlimited entrance to the festival for the entire run, you also get the chance to attend the trade session where you can sample the delights on offer before the general public are allowed in. At this session you get to hear the Champion Beer of Britain (CBoB) results being announced to the anxious brewers.

Then there is another first this year, the CBoB bar where you can see if you agree with the judges decision. All the beers from the final rounds of the competition, will be available side by side on one bar so you can drink the best from around the country without moving more than 10 metres.

For non-CAMRA members who sign up to join CAMRA at the event we have a chance to win a Lexmark printer in a free prize draw.

For those that are already members we have a lounge area reserved for your comfort with its own bottled beer bar and, naturally, reduced festival admission prices on production of your

membership card.

Another way to come out with something for nothing is to fill in a survey form at the end of your visit (these will be available on the membership stand); this enters you into a draw to win a case of Firkin Brewery bottle conditioned beer. It will also help us improve the festival for you in future years.

Finally, when you've sampled from the wide range of beers on offer, particularly the stronger beers from around the world on the Bieres sans Frontieres bar, you will be in need of something to soak it all up. The only problem is that then you will have another choice to make, deciding which type of food to go for. From German sausages to Thai meals there is everything you could possibly want including a good vegetarian variety, plenty to try over your many visits to the festival!

With all this on offer the only decision left to make is which days to go. We are open from Tuesday 3rd August until Saturday 7th.

See you there!



PUB QUIZ



AT THE

GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 7TH AUGUST 1999 OLYMPIA, LONDON Only 25.00 per team to enter 15 GREAT PRIZES!

A meal for 4 at a Fuller's pub, 4 Minipins, Cases of bottled beer, ESB & London Pride T shirts, umbrellas, ties, sweat shirts, polo shirts & free beer £30 worth of beer, cider or imported beer at theWenlock Arms, Wenlock Street, N1

Plus 4 Fullers Glasses for the Team with the best name

Contact 01727 867201 for further details

Entrance fee for the Festival: £4 (£3 for CAMRA members)

Crossword

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

		1		2	3		4	5		
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	23									

Name	
Address	

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

Prize winner will be announced in the September 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

R	Α	М	Р	Α	G	E	S		0	P	U	S
U		I		G		N		P		Α		Т
М	1	L	D	Α	N	D	В	1	T	T	E	R
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В				S		E				C		C
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Α	R	С	Н	1	٧	E		E	В	В	S	
N		K		В		N		R	1	R		S
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S	Е	W	Ν		Р	L	Α	Ν	G	Ε	N	Т

TWO SEASON TICKETS TO GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL TO BE WON

ACROSS

1.	Nurse head, being sore.	[10]
7.	Average crop of vegetable.	[7]
8.	Firm I am in traded.	[5]
10.	First genuine Russian consumer increas	sing.
		[7]
11.	Staggers from dances.	[5]
12.	Take in sailors' ball.	[6]
15.	Get drunk at second-rate bingo.	[6]
	Evil American gets it in the nose.	[5]
	Break item?	[4,3]
21.	It'll raise your standing.	[5]
	City less than clean.	[7]
	He'd give his right arm for a pint.	[5,5]
DO	WN	
1.	Get short in Battersea Beer Festival.	[5]
2.	Music group unsupported?	[5]
3.	Supreme power of politician in Ireland.	
4.	Right tonsil infected? Very nearly.	[7]
5.	Waterway around Venezuela's capital is	
-	to be sniffed at.	[7]

Agent takes on good girls as viewers' aids.

[3.7]Dance on military encampment causes trouble. [10]

13. Timekeeper laid back under newspaper.

14. Arise, sir, to go back and forth for meal.

16. Ultimately Marxist idols turn out to be unemotional. [6]

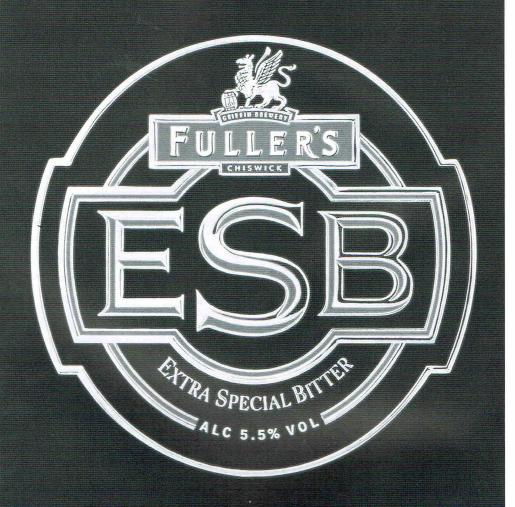
19. Regret short time on vessel. [5]

Some long haired romantics rejected regulation. [5]

Winner of the prize for the May Crossword: Sheerluck Holmes, The Uxbridge Arms, W8

Other correct entries were received from: Pat Andrews, Geoff B, Sheila Blige, John Blundell, Alan Brook & Jim Allen, Ted Brownlips, Ben Burfutt (with a little help from his friends), Brendan Casey, Chris Fran & a Spotty Dog, A.P.Comaish, Charles Creasey, Kathryn Everett, Mike Farrelly, Michael Flynn, Goat of Mendes, Eileen Graves, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Reg Hallett, Jonty Hawkes, John Heath, Bill Hernon, Tom Kemp, Terry Lavell, M.J.Moran, Al Mountain, Rab Noolas, Mick Norman, David Oddy, Derek Pryce, Lyn Randall, Richard & Rosy-Joy, Geoff S, Bryan Smith & Isa, J. Taylor, Bill Thackray, Paul Tiffany, Fred Vere, Tony Watkins, Martin Weedon, Susan Wilson, Yak.

EXTRA SPECIAL BITTER



THREE WORDS YOU CAN BELIEVE IN.

SOUTHWARK STATION CRAWL NO.2 SOUTHWARK STATION TO CANNON STREET STATION

Starting as in the last crawl opposite the new Southwark Station at The Ring, corner of Blackfriars Bridge Road and The Cut. Burton (210p), Young's Bitter and Pedigree. Burton Cellarmanship no. 3501 resides here.

Cross the road down Union Street.

Every now and again you come across a pub that knows how to keep real ale. Turning up for the first session of the day can be hazardous in some pubs but when the lines have to be cleared of water before a pint can be served you should be on a winner. So it was in the Lord Nelson. Young's Bitter 180p bangers, mash & onions was the special for £3.

Cross the road and go up Gambia Street.
Just under the railway arch is The Hop Pole
Young's Bitter and Special. Hops adorn the walls
in this recently refurbished wine barish pub.

Continue north

Turn right at the bottom and the White Hart is on the left. Adnam's Broadside and London Pride 195p. Lunchtime food. Roast lamb and three veg or chilli and rice for £3.50 were the specials. The "paint wood to look like wood" (scumbeling?) decorators handiwork was in evidence. Maybe they were responsible for the sign that read "Food available all day 11.00 to 3.00". Short day chaps?

Take the main road back south

The Union Jack. London Pride 190p and Greene King IPA. Cottage pie veg and fries £3.75. Dartboard cabinet seems unused as the chairs and tables beneath it may cause a problem as might the fag machine on the wall in front of it.

Continue down Union Street.

The Charles Dickens was once the Red Lion and now only sells London Pride 230p. Another wine barish pub. Steak, kidney and mushroom pie will cost you £4.25 whilst mussels in white wine £4.95.

Continue down Union Street.

On the left is the Three Jolly Gardeners. Three times I have peered through the door only to be confronted with handpumps with their clips turned away so a slight divert needs to be made.

Continue east along Union Street

Instead of turning left toward Southwark Bridge turn right after crossing the road and take the first turning on the left into Clennam Street. Looking south you catch sight of the now defunct Fox & Hounds. The Lord Clyde has five handpumps and sold Webster's, Hogsback TEA, Courage Best all

at 190p with Speckled Hen (210p) and Young's Special (200p). Young's Bitter (190p) was dispensed via a barrel on the bar. Much food was being eaten and wine drunk. Chilli and rice was £4. Steak and kidney pie £3.75, were two items on an extensive menu. If anyone is running an empty pub maybe they should visit this one to see why it's always full. It's what a London pub is all about. A display of water jugs was in evidence and I particularly noticed the one displaying the words "Senior Service Satisfy". For the younger reader this was not a reference to something lubricated and ribbed, and for the older person, more a reference to something you stick in your mouth and set fire to. What do you mean it smells rubbery? Whatever turns you on...

The last pub south of the water was to be the Shakespeare Tavern but poking my nose through the door I am greeted with the same sight as the Three Jolly Gardeners. The two handpumps in the lower bar also had their clips turned in. Sq. turn left outside the Lord Clyde and make your way up Ayres Street into the Rose & Crown. Despite the "Real Ales" sign they only sell Courage Best.

Continue north past the Shakespeare Tavern and over Southwark Bridge where Fullers beers can be had in the Vintry (formerly the Queens Arms) in Queen Street and the Banker (formerly the Bouncing Banker) in Cousin Lane.

Happy drinking Keith Emmerson



Elsewhere south of the water the Queens Arms in SE11 has replaced Courage Best with Hancock's. The Black Dog has been renamed Lavender and sells Young's Special and Bitter. The George is closed. I couldn't find the Lambeth Tavern (ex French Horn) has it been demolished? In SE1 is the Hercules Tavern now Kipling's Indian Restaurant? O'Leary's (Winchester) is closed and boarded. The Dover Castle is closed if the padlock on the door, intercom and signs saying the site is being monitored on CCTV are anything to go by whilst the Abbey is also closed if the dirt on the windows is anything to go by.

Looking Back

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

They say lightning doesn't strike in the same place twice, but that is a fallacy in metaphorical terms. I've come across the situation twice when compiling this column. My article for September 1992 failed to reach Ian through the post, and exactly 5 years later its successor did precisely the same. Now I see from the May 1999 edition, received as I was preparing this, that three lines of the Archives had been put in the wrong order, as had happened 5 years before, but garbled differently. It was of the first example of mirror writing to be published in 'Idle Moments', and to be fair to the typesetters involved who would not have been conversant with the idea, I reproduce it here the right way round, so if you care to see what it looked like in the original form, in May 1989, try reading it through a mirror: 'MUMMY - I AM WITH MY MAMMOTH (TIMOTHY) WHO HIT A HOT OX WITH A HAM'. (OHW cares; YHW bother? - Ed)

Now, to get down to serious nostalgia: TWENTY YEARS AGO the cover of the July 1979 London Drinker portrayed an unidentified Whitbread pub. This tied in with an article on Whitbread's by Robin Bence who at that time was presenting a weekly radio programme on LBC relating to beer and pub issues. 'Tusker' from Fremlins of Faversham had begun to appear in London, replacing Winter Royal then brewed by Wethereds in Marlow.

CAMRA Investments had opened its second London pub, the Village Blacksmith in Woolwich. Ind Coope KK Mild was under threat, available in real form in only nine London pubs and being replaced with a keg version.

Roger Mayhew presented a ten pub crawl of Chislehurst, Kent.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO the cover frame of the July 1984 issue enclosed a photograph taken at the pickup of the previous month's issue, showing two members of the new printing firm, four London Drinker operatives and the official delivery bike. The back cover bore a full page advert, unusually in landscape format (i.e. facing sideways), for David Bruce's 7th pub, the Phoenix & Firkin, also featured in an article explaining the name. The exterior was an exact replica of the Denmark Hill Station building which had burned down in 1980 leaving only ground floor walls standing. Bruce's had also recently bought the Highbury Tap, N5 and readers were invited to guess its eventual name - it was to become the Flounder & Firkin, having been used as the HQ of a fishing club.

In his Editorial, Chris lamented the price of beer in London compared with the rest of the country, and the continuing demise of London's public bars, with consequent price increases. Godson's had introduced Wilmot's Hop Cone Bitter, while two Taylor Walker houses had trialled Chudley Local Line Bitter. Courage was meanwhile investing in fermenting vessels and a racking plant at Tadcaster for real John Smith's. At Whitbread's Luton plant, striking workers were warned that their long-term dispute might lead to its closure.

'Rail Rover' was the title of a crawl - with historical notes - of the North London Line and its adjacent pubs. A seven pub crawl of Farringdon was also described. The Jolly Gardeners, Clapham was the subject of a Pub Profile which incorporated a summary of the history of Hoare's Brewery, its original owners. who in 1933 were swallowed by Charrington's.

In 'Out of Town' Chris Cobbold, a keen cyclist. described three of his favourite pubs encountered on his travels - one in Oxfordshire and two in Sussex.

TEN YEARS AGO the front cover panel of the July 1989 London Drinker featured the logo of the 11th Greenwich Real Ale Festival. a 'Jolly Tar' in a boat full of casks, holding a CAMRA logo as a mug. The back cover advertised the Great British Beer Festival.

The full printing operation had been transferred from Kimbers of Long Ditton, after less than a year, to Dasprint of Wandsworth. who produced the finished article from the final script stage onwards. This is, as I understand it, the system that remains in use today, despite other changes of printer, and at the time it relieved me of duties of 'pasting-up', though I still do so when compiling these articles, with amendments to their predecessors inserted. The first contact was made by Ian Amy, who then became the Editorial Team's

Looking Back

liaison with that company, and took my place on the team following my moving to Wales at the turn of that :year.

'A Treatise of Cider' dated 1676 and copied from a pub wall display quoted a case of a Morris dance performed some time previously in Essex, by eight cider drinkers whose age averaged a century each.

Grand Met had recently sold 46 London pubs. Purchased by Brent Walker, their signs indicated Belhaven ownership.

Merton presented an Historicrawl of Canterbury covering 26 pubs, mostly within the bounds of the mediaeval walls, interspersed with the usual quota of historic and gruesome facts. It was written to coincide with the Kent Beer Festival two miles outside the City, at a location fortuitously named Merton Farm. The author challenged visitors there to identity him on the staff. None succeeded - I know: I was there.

Andy Pirson discussed at length the suitability of pubs for a family outing. 'The Best Pubs in London' had recently been issued by CAMRA. Written by Roger Protz, it was naturally a subjective selection of 102 pubs, and was not intended as a comprehensive guide.

FIVE YEARS AGO in July 1994 the front cover bore a photo of the Prince Albert, otherwise Rose's, in Woolwich. The pub, and the company of the latter name, were the subject of an article by Kevin Reeve. The back cover comprised an advert for the forthcoming GBBF in Olympia, with a panoramic photo of the hall during the previous year's festival.

Tony Hedger's Editorial, highlighted the value and quality of local beer guides.

The CAMRA pub prices survey for 1994 showed the average price for a pint of real ale to be £1.47 compared to £1.63 for lager. One in six pubs was running a regular happy hour or similar, while one in 10 was breaking the law by not displaying price lists. In the past year the price of real ale had risen by 5% - twice the rate of inflation. The £2.00 pint had reared its ugly head, for strong beers, and it was thought(!) that that price would not apply to the average beers for some time.

Caption Competition' invited an appropriate saying to complement a photo of John Gilbert in deep conversation with Miles Jenner, Head Brewer of Harvey's of Lewes. Chris Cobbold and Dave Quinton - names featured more often than any other in these pages - contributed a crawl of eight

pubs in South Wimbledon, finishing in the Sultan, John Gilbert's London pub.

The Trinity Arms, Southwark as the subject of a pub profile. It had graduated from a good Courage, pub through Banks and Taylor's to an excellent free house with a wide range of independent cask beers.

In ''Reflections on Beer Quality', Keith Emmerson wrote of his own experiences and the content of two CAMRA publications, the Real Ale Drinker's Almanac, and Cellarmanship-Caring for Real Ale. Keith also wrote, in another article, about visits with friends to pubs in Yorkshire, using Bradford as a base.

Reg and Jill Standen had celebrated 21 years in the East India Arms, Fenchurch Street - the City's longest serving licensees. Young's, who own the pub, had just bought its 182nd tied house, the Square Tavern in Euston.

The former Duke of York in Richmond had reopened after a £20,000 refurbishment as Arkwright's Wheel, and was reported to be a great success.

Here endeth this month's history lesson - Cheers!

Martin Smith



-Idle Moments

IDLE MOMENTS

Hello again, or if you haven't come across this little farrago before - hello. It being Ladies Day at Ascot I thought I would ignore that (I didn't have the hat) and do this instead - apart from going to work, that is. Anyway, enough of that nonsense; it's time for this nonsense.

I shall start as usual with a quotation; this time it is by that well known writer of remarkable longevity, Anon. In this case he was practising his art on the walls of a London Underground station with this bon mot:

Life is a sexually transmitted disease.

Right that's that out of the way so here are the answers to last month's number puzzles:

- 1. 17 is the Minimum Age to Hold a Driving Licence (for a Car)
- 2. 4 Bows in a String Quartet
- 3. 4,201 Miles is the Diameter of Mars
- 4. 180 Degrees Celsius is Gas Mark 4
- I Canada Square (on Canary Wharf) is the Tallest Office Building in Great Britain
- 6. 1966 Year of Simon and Garfunkel's First Top Ten Hit (Homeward Bound)
- 66,705 Miles Per Hour is the Speed of the Earth Around the Sun
- 8. 2 Planets are Inside the Earth's Orbit
- 32 Feet Per Second Per Second is the Acceleration Due to Gravity
- 27 Points for Clearing the Coloured (not Red) Balls in Snooker

And here are some more for you to be getting on with:

- 1. 79 is the AN of G
- 2. 250 M is the L of the PW
- 3. 19 NOH for PH
- 4. 3 Hon a T
- 1925 MTB in G
- 6. 207 DC is the MP of L
- 7. 24 Hof the LM "GPd'E"
- 8. 99 RB by N (NOH in 1984)
- 9. 3 GB in the BG
- 10. 666 M of the B

Not many silly comments to make so far this month, you'll no doubt be please to know, so we shall just have the solutions to last month's brewery anagrams:

- I. RAN IN BAIT
- 2. TOOK MINT SAW
- BRITANNIA
- TOMOS WATKIN
 3. UNDERSTAND ICI ANCIENT DRUIDS

- 4. PLACE FOR WINES PRINCE OF WALES
- 5. TRISH, BEL TEACHER

LEATHERBRITCHES

And hey! Guess what? I've got some more brewery anagrams for you! And here they are:

- 1. FANCY BROWN PIMP FELT GRIEF
- 2. NOR BIG BUT RED
- 3. DROLE IN GAIN
- 4. SPEAK? BELCH!
- 5. TENDS SOIL

People sometimes ask me why the next bit is called 5BY4. I think the answer is too boring to inflict on all (or is that both?) of my readers so if you really want to know, I suggest you send 50p to Stan Tompkins (address elsewhere in this estimable magazine) and ask him for a copy of the March 1994 edition of London Drinker. Anyway, all you have to do this month is match the car makers (1 to 10) with the models (A to J) - a piece of cake if you remember cars of the 50's and 60's. The answers will be given at the end of the column.

- 1. Singer
- 2. Humber
- 3. Ford
- 4. Armstrong Siddeley
- 5. Wolseley
- 6. Austin
- 7. Triumph
- 8. Daimler
- 9. Vauxhall
- 10. Sunbeam
- A. Wyvern
- B. Alpine
- C. Conquest
- D. Gazelle
- E. Zephyr
- F. Hornet
- G. Sapphire
- H. Mayflower
- I. Atlantic
- J. Super Snipe

Idle Moments

Now we enter the last section of this evening's entertainment. Yes folks, it's Trivia Time! Please, please! Contain yourselves! Here are last month's answers:

- 1. The distance between the Earth and the Sun (about 93 million miles)
- 2. Saturn
- Proxima Centauri (also called Alpha Centauri C)
- 4. A.E Housman
- 5. Freedom of Speech, of Worship, from Want and from Fear
- 6. Paper Moon
- 7. 1983 (22nd February)
- 8. The flea
- 9. Red castle
- 10. November 1917

And here are this month's questions. I did think of getting them all from the G section of my Concise OED, but I got fed up with that idea after question 3:

- The initials G.O.M. stand, as we all know, for "Grand Old Man" but to whom was the epithet first applied (according to the OED)?
- 2. Still in the G's section of the OED, what in Ireland is a gombeen man?
- 3. Before we leave the G's, the gorcock is the male of what bird
- 4. Who, in literature, are Mistress Ford and Mistress Page?
- 5. There are 277 Munros in Scotland (peaks over 3,000 feet high) listed by named after Hugh Thomas Munro, as we all know. How many of them had Munro climbed when he died?
- 6. What poem contains the phrase, "Nature red in tooth and claw"?
- 7. In Welsh it is "Y Widdfa" meaning "Great tomb"; what is it's name in English?
- 8. What is the correct name for that symbol of the Raj, the pith helmet?
- 9. What is the purpose of a sudorific drug?
- 10. What book has the main characters Napoleon, Snowball and Boxer?

Right, so that's it then; just the answers to 5BY4 then we can all do something worthwhile, like a bit of synchronised nose blowing or something.

1-D, 2-J, 3-E, 4-G, 5-F, 6-I, 7-H, 8-C, 9-A, 10-B.

So there we are then. I'll see you next month - unless you come to your senses.

Andy Pirson

MAGPIE & CROWN

PUB OF THE YEAR CAMRA Richmond & Hounslow

128 High Street Brentford 0181 560 5658

- * House Bitter:
 Brakspear's Bitter at £1.75 a pint
- * Traditional Cider
- * Draught Hoegaarden
- * Draught Czech Budvar
- *Foreign bottled beer selection
- *Bed & Breakfast
- Selected for the 1999 CAMRA Good Beer Guide
- *Open all permitted hours Ever changing guest beers from micro and small regional breweries



-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.

~	re amount and the busine poor		
OUT	LETS - EAST and SOUTH	SE16 BLACKSMITHS ARMS	WC1 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
EAST	ΓPUBS	SE16 MAYFLOWER	WC1 YORKSHIRE GREY
EC1	O'HANLONS	SE16 QUEBEC CURVE	WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR
EC1	PHEASANT & FIRKIN	SE16 SURREY DOCKS	WC2 FULMAR & FIRKIN
	SEKFORDE ARMS	SE18 EDINBURGH CASTLE	WC2 GEORGE IV
EC1	SHAKESPEARE	SE18 ROSE'S (PRINCE ALBERT)	WC2 HOGS HEAD
ECI	SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE	SE20 MOON & STARS	WC2 MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY
EC3	SWAN	SE22 CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN	WC2 MOON & SIXPENCE
E1	BLACK BEAR	SE25 ALLIANCE	N1 179 UPPER STREET
E1	HALF MOON	SE25 GOAT HOUSE	N1 COMPTON ARMS
E1	LORD RODNEYS HEAD	SE26 DULWICH WOOD HOUSE	N1 EARL OF RADNOR
E2	APPROACH TAVERN	BARKING, BARKING DOG	NI MARQUESS TAVERN
E2	CAMDENS HEAD	BARKINGSIDE, NEW FAIRLOP	N1 WENLOCK ARMS
E2	CONQUEROR	OAK	N6 OLD GATE HOUSE
E3	COBORN ARMS	BEXLEY, BLUE ANCHOR	N9 LAMB
E7	OLD SPOTTED DOG	CHADWELL HEATH, EVA HART	N11 BANKERS DRAFT
E8	PRINCE ARTHUR	CHELSFIELD, FIVE BELLS	N12 ELEPHANT
E9	FALCON & FIRKIN	CHISLEHURST, SYDNEY ARMS	N12 TALLY HO
E11	BIRKBECK TAVERN	CROYDON, BUILDERS ARMS	N13 WHOLE HOG
E11	GEORGE	CROYDON, CRICKETERS ARMS	N16 EBOR ARMS
E15	GOLDEN GROVE	CROYDON, DOG & BULL	N16 ROCHESTER CASTLE
SE1	ANCHOR & HOPE	CROYDON, GEORGE	N17 ELBOW ROOM
SE1	GOOSE & FIRKIN	CROYDON, PRINCESS ROYAL	N17 NEW MOON
SE1	GLOBE	CROYDON, ROYAL STANDARD	N19 DOG
SE1	GRAPES	CROYDON, SKYLARK	N21 HALF MOON
SE1	JUBILEE TAVERN	DAGENHAM, LORD DENHAM	N21 ORANGE TREE
SE1	KINGS ARMS	ILFORD, GREAT SPOON OF	BARNET, MOON UNDER WATER
SE1	LORD CLYDE	ILFORD	BARNET, WHITE LION
SE1	MARKET PORTER	LOUGHTON, LAST POST	BARNET, YE OLDE MITRE INN
SE1	PRINCE WILLIAM HENRY	PURLEY, FOXLEY HATCH	EDGWARE, BLACKING BOTTLE
SE!	ROSE AND CROWN	SOUTH CROYDON, RAIL VIEW	EDGWARE, CHANGE OF HART
SE1	ROYAL OAK		
SE1		WALLINGTON, WHISPERING MOON	ENFIELD, OLD WHEATSHEAF
SEI	SHIP, 68 Borough Road SHIPWRIGHTS ARMS	CLUBS	OUTLETS - NORTH WEST PUBS
SE1			
SE1	WHEATSHEAF	SE9 HOWERD CLUB	NW1 HEAD OF STEAM
	WHITE HART, Cornwall Street	SE13 LEWISHAM LABOUR CLUB	NW1 QUINNS
SE1	WINDMILL, 44 Lambeth High	SE18 PLUMSTEAD RADICAL	NW1 SPREAD EAGLE
CEI	Street	CLUB	NW2 BEATEN DOCKET
SE1	ZANZI BAR	SE28 BELMARSH PRISON	NW3 DUKE OF HAMILTON
SE3	BRITISH OAK	CROYDON, RUSKIN HOUSE	NW3 FLASK TAVERN
SE3	CROWN	ORPINGTON, JUBILEE SPORTS	NW3 THREE HORSESHOES
SE3	FAIRWAY & FIRKIN	BAR	NW4 CHEQUERS
SE3	HARE & BILLET	OFF TRADE	NW4 FOOTMAN & FIRKIN
SE5	FOX ON THE HILL	SE3 Bitter Experience, 129 Lee Road	NW4 GREYHOUND
SE5	PHOENIX & FIRKIN	SE3 Oddbins	NW11WHITE SWAN
SE6	BLACK HORSE & HARROW	BEXLEYHEATH, Maison Maurice	HARROW, MOON ON THE HILL
SE6	TIGERS HEAD	(beer & wine wholesalers)	HARROW WEALD, SEVEN BALLS
SE7	ANTIGALLICAN	BROMLEY, Bitter End, 139 Masons	HATCH END, MOON & SIXPENCE
SE7	ROYAL OAK	Hill	KENTON, NEW MOON
SE7	VICTORIA	GRAVESEND, AVS (beer wholesalers)	NORTH HARROW, J.J.MOONS
SE8	CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN	The second secon	RUISLIP, J.J.MOONS
SE8	DOG & BELL	OUTLETS - WEST CENTRAL and	SOUTH HARROW, J.J.MOONS
	OLD MANOR HOUSE	NORTH PUBS	STANMORE, MALT HOUSE
	BANKERS DRAFT	WC1	WEALDSTONE, ROYAL OAK
	ADMIRAL HARDY	CALTHORPE ARMS	WEALDSTONE, SARSEN STONE
	ASHBURNHAM ARMS	WC1 CITTIE OF YORKE	WEMBLEY, J.J.MOONS
	RICHARD I	WC1 PENDERELS OAK	OFF TRADE
	HOGS HEAD	WC1 PRINCESS LOUISE	N1 Beer Shop, Pitfield Street
CE12	OLIACCY DUCK	WC1 DUCDY TAVEDN	NW6 Carablassams 225 Wast East

NW6 Grogblossoms, 235 West End

WC1 RUGBY TAVERN

WC1 THREE CUPS

SE13 QUAGGY DUCK

SE13 WATCH HOUSE

-Where to Buy London Drinker-

OUTLETS - SOUTH	WEST and
WEST PUBS	

SW1 ANTELOPE

SW1 BARLEY MOW

BUCKINGHAM ARMS

FOX & HOUNDS

SW1 MOON ON THE MALL

SW1 MORPETH ARMS

ORANGE BREWERY

SW1 ROYAL OAK

SW1 STAR

SW2 CROWN & SCEPTRE

SW3 BUILDERS ARMS

SW3 COOPERS ARMS

SW3 SURPRISE

SW4 BREAD & ROSES

SW6 DUKE OF CUMBERLAND

SW6 WHITE HORSE

ANGLESEA ARMS

SW8 PRIORY ARMS

SW8 SURPRISE

SW9 BEEHIVE, 407 Brixton Road

SW9 TRINITY ARMS

SW10 FERRET & FIRKIN SW11 ASPARAGUS

SW11 BEEHIVE

SW11 EAGLE ALEHOUSE, Chatham

Road

SW11 WALSH'S

SW12 GROVE

SW12 MOON UNDER WATER

SW13 COACH & HORSES

SW13 RED LION

SW13 ROSE OF DENMARK

SW14 HALFWAY HOUSE

SW14 HARE & HOUNDS SW15 GREEN MAN

SW15 RAILWAY

SW16 HOGSHEAD

SW16 PIED BULL

SW17 CASTLE

SW17 J.J.MOONS

SW18 ROSE AND CROWN

SW18 SPOTTED DOG

SW18 SPREAD EAGLE SW19 HAND & RACKET

SW19 PRINCESS OF WALES

SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL

SW19 ROSE & CROWN

SW19 SULTAN

SW19 TRAFALGAR

SW19 WIBBAS DOWN INN

CARSHALTON, GREYHOUND

CARSHALTON, WINDSOR CASTLE

CHESSINGTON, NORTH STAR

CHESSINGTON, WHITE HART

CHEAM, RAILWAY

KEW, COACH & HORSES

KINGSTON, ARTFUL DODGER KINGSTON, CANBURY ARMS

KINGSTON, COCOANUT

KINGSTON, CRICKETERS

KINGSTON, FIGHTING COCKS

KINGSTON, KELLY ARMS

KINGSTON, KINGS TUN

KINGSTON, NEWT & FERRET KINGSTON, PARK TAVERN

KINGSTON, RAM

KINGSTON, TWO BREWERS

KINGSTON, WILLOUGHBY ARMS KINGSTON, WYCH ELM

MITCHAM, WHITE LION OF

MORTIMER NEW MALDEN, ROYAL OAK

RICHMOND, DUKE OF YORK

RICHMOND, DYSARTS

RICHMOND, TRIPLE CROWN

RICHMOND, WHITE CROSS

SURBITON, CAP IN HAND

SURBITON, CORONATION HALL

SURBITON, NEW PRINCE

SURBITON, WAGGON AND HORSES

SUTTON, FIELDER & FIRKIN

SUTTON, NEW TOWN

WALLINGTON, WHISPERING

MOON BEEHIVE, 7 Homer Street

W1 CLEVELAND ARMS

WI HOGSHEAD, Dering Street

MOON & SIXPENCE

W1MORTIMER ARMS

W1 PRINCE ALFRED W1 WINDMILL

W2 ARCHERY TAVERN

W2 ROYAL STANDARD

W3 KINGS HEAD

W5 T.J.DUFFY'S

W5 RED LION

W5 **ROSE & CROWN**

W5 WHEATSHEAF

W6 ANDOVER ARMS

W6 **BROOK GREEN HOTEL**

W10 VILLAGE INN

W11 FROG & FIRKIN

W12 **CROWN & SCEPTRE**

W13 DRAYTON COURT

W13 THE FORESTER

W14 BRITANNIA TAP

W14 RADNOR 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, CROSS LANCES

HOUNSLOW, MOON UNDER

WATER

ISLEWORTH, RED LION ISLEWORTH, ROYAL OAK

WHITTON, WHITE HART

SOUTHALL, BEACONSFIELD ARMS TEDDINGTON, QUEEN DOWAGER TWICKENHAM, HOGSHEAD

UXBRIDGE, PRINCE OF WALES WHITTON, ADMIRAL NELSON

OFF TRADE

W11 Grogblossom

CLUBS

W1 Univ. of Westminster S.U. Bar, 104 Bolsover Street

OUTSIDE LONDON

ADDLESTONE, CRICKETERS

ASCOT, CRANBOURNE TOWER BEDFORD, WELLINGTON

BRIGHTON, EVENING STAR CATERHAM ON THE HILL, KING &

OUEEN

CHERTSEY, CASTLE

CLAYGATE, FOLEY ARMS

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

HUNGERFORD, RAILWAY KNEBWORTH (Herts), LYTTON

ARMS

KNOWL HILL (Berks), OLD DEVIL

LALEHAM, FEATHERS LEATHERHEAD, PENNY BLACK

LEWES, GARDENERS ARMS

LONG DITTON (Surrey), NEW INN LOUGHBOROUGH, SWAN IN THE

RUSHES

MANCHESTER, JOLLY ANGLERS MORTIMER WEST END (Hants), RED

LION

OUTWOOD (Surrey), DOG & DUCK

OXFORD, WHARF HOUSE

POTTERS BAR, BRIDGE

POTTERS BAR, CHEQUERS

READING, HOP LEAF ROFFEY (Horsham), NORFOLK

ARMS ROTHERWICK (Hants), COACH &

SALISBURY, WYNDHAM ARMS

STEVENAGE, RED LION SOUTHAMPTON, WATERLOO

ARMS

SOUTHMINSTER, RAILWAY

STOW MARIES (Essex), PRINCE OF

WALES STRATFIELD SAYE (Hants), NEW

INN SUNNINGDALE, ROYAL OAK

TILLINGHAM (Essex), CAP & **FEATHERS**

WALTON ON THAMES, REGENT WALTON ON THAMES, SWAN

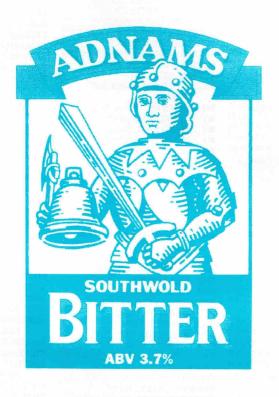
WEST HORSLEY (Surrey), KING WILLIAM IV

CLUBS

WEYBRIDGE, JOLLY FARMER WORCESTER PARK, GAMECOCK WRAYSBURY, PERSEVERANCE

WATFORD, WEST HERTS SPORTS CLUB

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Suffolk's oldest brewery Britain's finest beer