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LONDON DRINKER



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APRIL/MAY 2001



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THE PUB AND I.

Being an appreciation of the British pub and explanation of a lifetime obsession by Peter Tonge.

It all started in the mid-1950's. I do not mean pubs as such, which we know go way, way back. Was it the Romans? Or perhaps the Anglo-Saxons supped on distilled woad in some purpose-built hovel?

Who knows? What I am referring to is my very own love affair with these wondrous places started way back then when Macmillan was Prime Minister, Korea was long gone and Suez was to come. I was 7 or 8 years old and my father worked in Fleet Street on the newspapers. My special treat, just before Christmas, was to be guided around his offices. I would meet his working colleagues who would invariably slip me the odd florin or half crown. Clutching these symbols of goodwill I would be carted off to Gamages (a then well known store with a large toy department) or, even better, the globally famous Hamleys in Regent Street. I would spend my new-found wealth in these establishments on things like Dinky toys (which everyone of a certain age wish they had kept in their original boxes!).

The exception to this seasonal sojourn was 1955. As a special treat I was taken to a PUB for LUNCH. It was heaven and whilst the name of the hostelry escapes me I remember to the last detail my first ever pub meal. That wasn't the point, however. The ambience was what most affected me. There was a real fire and the place was bursting with real, happy people and I really do mean happy! It was all red, flushed faces and loud laughter. Never before had I witnessed so many people thoroughly enjoying themselves in one place at one time. This positively Dickensian atmosphere was to have a lifetime's effect on me. If this place was called a pub and these wonderful people pub-goers, then pubs were the places for me to be!

There would, of course, be some time to pass before I would be old enough to frequent pubs AND imbibe but I would get close in the interim period.

During the remainder of my pre-teen years, Sundays had become "Day Trip To The Coast Days." Every family did it, causing mile upon mile of traffic jams. Invariably we would make a travel break during the journey down – perhaps the car was over-heating or gran needed to make a visit, I don't know. I do remember, though, that more often than not a pub would represent the stopping point. I wasn't allowed in to the place but that wasn't the point. At least I was close. Being abandoned outside was no hardship to me. Suitably equipped with "ciggie cards" and marbles, one would challenge similarly abandoned waifs to games sadly long-passed. Then there would always be the endless supplies of crisps and "Tizer." Whatever happened to that fizzy, peculiar tasting, stomach-wrenching rubbish? Lest one thinks naughty thoughts, lager had already been established for quite some time in 1958!

Later, my parents bought a caravan on the Isle of Sheppey which was actually quite a pleasant place to spend ones early teens, way back then. My parents, aunt and uncle would walk miles on the Saturday evening to a big pub call The (something?) Ferry, I would be in tow of course – more crisps, more fizz.

The years strolled by and pubs still fascinated me. My Uncle Harry bought me a half of beer when I was around thirteen and I didn't like it – I think it was mild. I played bar skittles and fell asleep in a fireside chair whilst on a geography trip to Dartmoor (the coach had to come back for me). And so on and so on, with my age gradually catching up with my curiosity for all things pub-like. Then, looking considerably older than

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EDITORIAL (contd)

my sixteen years the evening arrived. It was, of course, a Friday night and I had ten shillings pocket money in my back pocket. Along with two of my school chums the time had come. Truthfully, I cannot remember what beer we drank. Nor can I recall how many we downed but I am pretty sure we were supping half pints. In those days a ten bob note would have bought ten halves of bitter. For those whose formative years came after decimalization, and I sometimes think that's almost everyone, we are talking FIVE pints for FIFTY PENCE!

Within the space of a year I gave up lime in my lager – it was too expensive. Then I gave up lager for keg beer – the latter being cheaper. I was young and foolish and knew no better, your honours! I switched from keg to “light and bitter”, because the bitter was poured in first in those days and the bottle of light invariably pushed the amount of liquid to be consumed to well over a pint! And then, at last, I found a pub, a landlord and a bitter I could trust enough to switch to straight, unadulterated best bitter. Believe, in those dark, pre-CAMRA days, the combination of those three things was the only certainty of a good pint.

By my early twenties I had found my way back to Fleet Street selling advertising and, it must be said, often lingering too long at lunchtimes. The remaining pubs are very different now. They are full of city bankers (check spelling – ed!) sipping Perrier. Do you know they actually EAT in those pubs now! That was never done way back then – considered a waste of good supping time.

And then, with the decade still new, along came CAMRA. As one might imagine I was an early convert. The Good Beer Guide was an essential accompaniment in the search for the perfect boozier. Still is, of course. Oddly tho', in those days most of the pubs were NOT the kind in which to take your lady. The emphasis then was strongly based on the quality of the beer drunk and not the surroundings. That's all changed now. Invariably pubs with well kept beer score highly on the “female appreciation of pubs” chart. In part, we can thank Wetherspoons, Hogshead and the smaller pub chains for that influence. And now we have Cask Marque (see elsewhere in this issue). That scheme is to be congratulated for the ever increasing high standards of real ale dispensing in our pubs – look for the sign, folks.

There have been vast changes in the art of pub drinking in the forty-five years or so since my journey began. Sadly, many of the hostleries I frequented long and not so long ago, are gone.

A few were beauties but, it must be said, a fair proportion could be described as “runts of the litter”.

As I get older my prejudices get stronger – a privilege which comes with the passing years! I won't enter a pub that has bright day-glo posters plastered in the windows. Pool, or Sky Sport Played Here...not by me it ain't mate! More subtly, pub signs offering Fine English Fayre – the spelling is important here, leave me a tad chilly! Wine bars, boutique brew and themed pubs have come and, often, gone. Good riddance to them! I still thrill to the chase of finding new pubs in areas near and far.

I won't say it hasn't taken its toll. They tell me I'm diabetic now, and really should lose a couple of stone. C'est la vie, I'm still here. And believe me, I'm still finding crocks of gold at the end of rainbows – those perfect little locals hidden in nooks and crannies throughout the country. Perhaps you do the same? One never knows, we might meet one day, you and I, and tell each other a tale or two. I look forward to it!

Peter Tonge is the Advertisement Manager for The London Drinker, The Independent Imbiber and CAMRA's monthly newspaper, What's Brewing.

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CASK MARQUE ACTS ON COLD BEER

While most drinkers have welcomed Cask Marque as an excellent initiative to promote quality beer, it has been criticised by many for focussing too much on maximum temperature, and approving pubs that serve beer too cold. Licensees serving beer over 60 degrees F are refused accreditation, but up to now there has been no specified minimum.

After more than a year of discussion with CAMRA, Cask Marque have now agreed to redress the balance and introduce a lower limit for beer temperature. Accreditation will no longer be given if the beer is below 50 degrees F; in addition more discretion has been given to the assessor to give a truer reflection of the character of the beers served.

Paul Nunny of Cask Marque said: 'Ideally cask ale should be served at cellar temperature, or 53-56F. Originally Cask Marque identified temperatures over 60F as the major issue. But serving cask beer too cold can also have a damaging effect.'

CAMRA national chairman Dave Goodwin pointed out that CAMRA has been pressing them to act on cold beer for over a year, noting that extra cold serving temperature could mask a whole range of quality issues.

With the temperature debate out of the way, Cask Marque has taken its ale quality message direct to the drinker with the launch of a consumers' charter in March. The scheme is being tried out for six weeks in a trial area in the Thames Valley, and could be rolled out nationally if it is successful.

The charter is costing £10,000 for the trial and has two elements. 15 of the pubs will be operating a try before you buy scheme, aimed at encouraging consumers to be more adventurous; another 15 will offer a no-quibble guarantee that a beer will be replaced if the drinker doesn't like it. A further 15 pubs will operate both schemes.

Paul Nunny said 'We are now being up front with consumers. The scheme enables people to try a beer they have never had before, or they can send back a beer they do not like and have another one.'

The aim is to track ale sales during the trial period, with the hope that both real ale and overall beer sales will rise as a result of the scheme. If it is a success, a national launch is expected in June.

Skullsplitter is the Winter Champion

The Champion Winter Beer of Britain award was judged at CAMRA's National Winter Ales

Festival in Manchester in January, and the winner was the powerful Skullsplitter barley wine from the Orkney Brewery.

CAMRA Scottish Director Colin Valentine was delighted with the award, saying 'This is tremendous news for Orkney Brewery and a shot in the arm for Scottish brewing. It's the first time a Scottish brewer has taken the gold medal and it's a just reward for Orkney's commitment to brewing original and distinctive beers.'

Orkney Brewery has been going since 1988 in an old school building and is the second most northerly brewery in Britain. Skullsplitter is named after Thorfin, the first Earl of Orkney, and is described as having a character more like a bitter than a barley wine due to the hop balance. It was first brewed as a one-off twelve years ago for the Grampian Beer Festival, and has since gained national distribution through wholesalers.

There was also good news for O'Hanlons brewery, which moved from London to Clyst St Lawrence in Devon last year. Having spent most of the year on the move, the brewery received a great boost when its Port Stout won the Stouts and Porters category and came third overall.

Fight for Bass goes on

The saga of Interbrew's takeover of Bass brewers is continuing to rumble on. Interbrew refuses to give up on their acquisition, which was blocked by Trade Secretary Stephen Byers in a shock move in January. Following advice from its lawyers, the company is challenging Byers's ruling in the High Court, claiming that it was 'significantly disproportionate in relation to the prospective adverse effects identified by the Competition Commission and unnecessarily inflexible'.

Interbrew are not attempting to overturn the ruling, but to change the terms to give them more flexibility over what they must sell and who they can sell it to. The company is considering selling off parts of the Bass empire, although there are some doubts whether anyone would be interested in buying anything but the whole lot. What seems certain is that they are likely to make a substantial loss on the deal, and their latest

-News Round-Up-

accounts show a provision of £760million to cover any expected shortfall.

Hugo Powell, Interbrew Chief Executive, pointed out that the ruling forced him to sell Bass, with 22 per cent of the market, while only keeping Whitbread, with 10 per cent – less than half the share of rival Scottish and Newcastle. However, analysts described the legal action as a delaying tactic, and the chances do not look good for Interbrew – to date there have been ten judicial reviews of Competition Commission decisions, and every one of them has gone the Commission's way.

Either way, the future looks grim for Draught Bass. Once a flagship ale as the leading brand in the country, it is now being challenged hard by the likes of Marstons Pedigree and Fullers London Pride as the top seller, following years of neglect. Powell is said to be an enthusiast for the beer, which may have been its best chance of salvation; the names touted as likely buyers of Bass, including Heineken and South African Breweries, are unlikely to give much thought to the cask brands.

The Resurrection of lost beers

Welcome news for ale lovers this year is the possibility of some old favourites being resurrected from the scrapheap.

Firstly, in January, came the news that Eldridge Pope Company Secretary Michael Clarke is trying to ensure that Thomas Hardy's ale makes a comeback. The 12 per cent ABV barley wine was introduced in 1968 by Eldridge Pope to mark the 40th anniversary of the death of writer Thomas Hardy, but they became a pub chain in 1996 following a split of brewing and pub interests. The brewery, now called Thomas Hardy, is a contract brewing operation that has not brewed the beer of that name since 1999.

The problem has been that it is expensive to produce, needing time to mature at the brewery, and does not sell in large quantities, so it isn't worth the brewery's while producing it. Clarke is hoping to revive interest in the beer and get it brewed elsewhere. He is encouraging retailers to contact him to express an interest, to convince Eldridge Pope and its (as yet unnamed) brewing partner that it really is worth reviving one of the classic bottle conditioned beers.

Another classic that has fallen on hard times is Ruddles County. One of the leading ales in the 1970s, the beer declined following the sale of the family brewery to Grand Metropolitan in 1986. It became the house best bitter in thousands of Watneys pubs, but was not helped by indifferent

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-News Round-Up-

cellar skills and brewery economising. Courage acquired the brewery in 1991 and immediately sold it to Grolsch, who made an unsuccessful attempt to revive its tarnished reputation; in 1997 they sold the brewery to Morland, which was then acquired by Greene King.

It's no wonder County suffered with all these changes of ownership, but now Greene King are set to relaunch it again. They have cut the strength from 4.7 to 4.3 per cent and are ready for a big promotion of the beer as their best bitter; it will fill a gap in their range between strong selling IPA and Abbot caused by the failure of Triumph to make much headway since its launch in 1999.

Greene King Marketing manager Sarah White said 'The brand has retained high awareness and loyalty. Now it's owned by Greene King it has a chance to come into its own.'

Finally, a year after the family brewery sold out to Hall & Woodhouse, Bill King of King and Barnes is planning a comeback. When the brewery was sold, his separation contract included an agreement to stay out of brewing for a year; this expires in May and, by then, the plan is that W J King and Co will be up and running as a microbrewery in Horsham, home town of the now closed King & Barnes.

Mr King is using a 20 barrel plant made redundant from a Firkin pub, and initially plans to start with a best bitter in the 3.8 to 4 per cent range. There may be plans later to move into bottle conditioned beers, which were a feature of King & Barnes's range until it closed.

Bid Deadline for W&D

Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery have announced a deadline of April 5 for bids for the company, following months of uncertainty over a proposed bid led by Robert Breare. Breare has been expressing interest in a takeover since August, but his approach was rejected by the management who are putting together a bid of their own.

Whoever wins, there is a growing threat to the future of the four breweries owned by W&D. Camerons in Hartlepool and Mansfield in Nottinghamshire look set to close, and there are even rumours that Marston's will also close to allow concentration of all brewing at the Banks's site. As Breare was boss of Ushers when it closed down all its breweries, there is even a chance that the whole lot could be shut down or sold off.

MAGPIE & CROWN

PUB OF THE YEAR

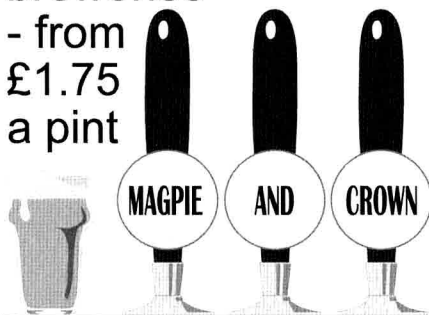
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LONDON BEERS - A PERSONAL SELECTION

A few years ago London Drinker printed some lists of readers' 'Desert Island Beers'. This is a selection of my favourite London brewed beers during the last 15 years.

1. Bishops Thirsty Willies (Original Version)

A wonderfully bitter beer and one of the first full mash brews from a most missed micro brewery. Golden coloured, fruity, hoppy and a fine session beer. Sadly the beer later seemed to be toned down.

2. Fullers Hock (Mild)

I never tried this originally but when it reappeared in 1993 it was hailed as a classic. Distinctive Fullers taste and when at its best (sadly not usually in Fullers pubs), a very flavoursome mild. Why do Fullers stop brewing their best seasonal beers – Porter, Hock, IPA, Mr Harry (early darker version) etc and leave us with the rather mundane Honey Dew, Red Fox, Jack Frost etc?

3. O'Hanlons Spring Gold

Now brewing in Devon but beers still available in the Metropolis. This is my favourite, a golden and well balanced ale.

4. Old London Bridge 'Market Bitter'

Very short lived and just as the brewery was really brewing some good beers, it shut. Andy Bishop brewed 4 beers on the old Bishops plant, quite different from before. They were all quite malty and this was the best and last. A house beer for the Market Porter which also appeared under other names in other local pubs.

5. Pitfield (#2) Dark Star

I first tried this in a Pitfield's tied pub, the 'Ship & Blue Ball' near Brick Lane, in 1989. Dark, wonderful and dangerous. The name of the beer now belongs to the brewery in Brighton's 'Evening Star' pub which brews a vastly inferior product. I found Pitfield's own recreation, Black Eagle, only so-so, but they have brewed the equally wonderful.....

6. Pitfield (#3) Liquorice Porter

Rich, dark, complex and dangerously drinkable.

7. Pitfield (#3) Summer Ale (Organic)

Light, fruity, hoppy and dangerously drinkable. Roll on the summer.

8. Sweet William East London Mild

As I write this beer is barely a month old and a really tasty and flavoursome mild. The 'William 4th' in London E10 is well worth a visit.

9. Youngs Winter Warmer (pre 1995)

This former classic always did vary from year to year and in the late 80s and early 90s was particularly wonderful. It used to be a real meal of a pint and 'Winter Warmer' just about summed it up. However, about 7 years ago the beer changed dramatically and although it's still enjoyable, the old flavour has all but gone.

10. Youngs Old Nick 1999 (Draught)

A draught version of this usually only bottle beer has turned up at the White Horse Parsons Green's annual Old Ale Beer Festival for the last few years. 1999's was the best I had tried.

Simon Fyffe



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Local News

David Bruce returns David Bruce, best known for setting up the Firkin chain of brew pubs, is back on the scene on London. Having sold the Firkins, helped to set up the Slug & Lettuce chain and backing a new pub chain with Brakspears, he is now launching a new estate of London pubs.

The new company is called Capital Inns, and is busy raising £10 million to finance the purchase of twelve pubs in the first year. They will be unbranded and unthemed – i.e. normal pubs, and the promise is for an interesting and varied choice of traditional draught beers, bought free of the tie.

Bruce said 'We strongly believe a growing number of consumers in the capital are disenchanted with the numerous themed or branded venues and would prefer to drink in pubs that have retained their local character and identity. Our objective is to develop and operate a quality managed pub estate which is free of tie, giving the customer a wide choice of beers, wines and spirits.'

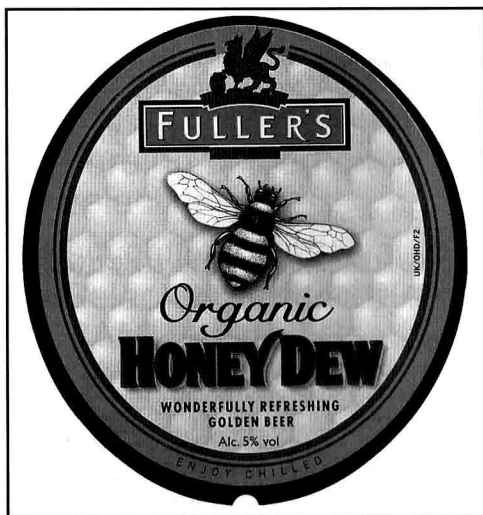
The new company will have plenty of pubs to choose from, with Scottish & Newcastle and Whitbread busy selling pubs, and Wolverhampton and Dudley rumoured to be following suit. These sell-offs, just like the similar situation in the early nineties, are creating the potential for the creation of new pub chains like Capital.

Fullers Update

In March, Fuller's Honey Dew reached its first birthday, having been launched as the world's first organic honey beer in March 2000. To celebrate the anniversary, over a hundred Fuller's pubs plus some free trade outlets will be stocking Honey Dew in cask until May. At 4.3 per cent, the cask version is somewhat weaker than the bottled (which is 5 per cent), and will sell at about £2.20 a pint. The promotion will include a 'taste before you buy' offer using special sampling glasses, and the beer will be sold in specially branded pint and half pint glasses. Honey Dew collectors can have a special card stamped, with six pints worth being redeemable for a bottle of the beer to take home.

Fuller's are keen to trumpet the success of the beer since its introduction; beer and brands director John Roberts said 'We have been bowled

over by the success of Organic Honey Dew. It was designed to appeal to non-traditional ale drinkers. Offering our customers and consumers a delicious, yet distinctly different organic beer has really paid dividends, leading to incremental business for us as well as the trade. We are extremely proud to be the fastest growing beer in the Organic Ale sector, just one year after launch.'



Further evidence of the brewery's success was demonstrated by the opening of their new cask racking line in March. £1 million has been invested in the new line to enable Fuller's to keep up with demand, and this is just the first phase of a significant investment in the brewery.

London Pride is the flagship beer, and it is set to become prominent at Richmond & London Scottish rugby clubs, having become the official beer of the Richmond Athletic Ground. The deal lasts for five years, during which time it will be promoted by perimeter and programme advertising. It is, of course, available at the ground.

Mark Weymouth, Fuller's field sales manager commented 'We are really pleased with the link up with Richmond & London Scottish. Fuller's

Local News

is a great supporter of the game and this official link with Richmond Athletic Ground further demonstrates our commitment to ensuring rugby fans are able to take pride in London's finest ale, as well as their local team.'



'Green' lorries for Young's

Young's of Wandsworth have introduced the first of a new fleet of lorries designed to be environmentally friendly and produce less

pollution. Delivery was delayed while the manufacturers worked on a new technique to keep exhaust emissions down, but the first of the 14 ton Volvo lorries hit the road in March. Another innovation was the use of a new process to print promotions for Triple 'A' on the sides and back.

The lorries will mainly be used on long runs, including the 17 pubs recently bought from Smiles of Bristol.



The Brewery Tap

John and Heather welcome you to the Brewery Tap.

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Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors,

The Ordnance Survey's newish series of orange covered "Explorer" maps shows selected isolated pubs by means of a blue tankard symbol. On studying my local sheet (No. 174) I found that no less than seven of the pubs depicted are closed and one has become an up-market restaurant with no real ale.

At the present rate of pub closures the same situation must apply on other sheets in the series, so walkers and crawl planners beware of ending up in a dry lunch situation.

I wrote to the O.S. regarding sheet 174 recommending the deletion of specified symbols and they replied "We will incorporate your suggested amendments if space on the map permits"!

Brian Fletcher.
Sevenoaks.

Dear Editors,

Though I recall hearing sometime ago that Moreland of Oxon were in the doldrums, it wasn't until last year (when I spotted the new address of 'Bury St. Edmund's' on the label of a bottle of Hen's Tooth) that I realised the extent of the situation. Furthermore disappointing was the anecdote from last issue's 'Mobile Beers' commentary that then original brewery has been demolished. Any chance of getting a brief outline of what actually happened and when? Though never my absolute favourite brewery, I've certainly noticed the change on my palate! This begs the question as to whether a brewery like Greene King or Shepherd Neame can be somewhat 'expansionist' and keep its integrity? Any thoughts on the matter?

Kind regards,
David Adamick
London, N4

P.S. Is there a pubdistributor in the London area who does Workie Ticket (Mordue, Tyneside)? Must find it!

Dear Editors,

Despite your rage-inducing outline of the extent to which Mr Brown feels it necessary to tax one of the country's great traditions (an extent against which I share your sentiments fully). I am nonetheless puzzled by your envy of the situation in France.

Though I admit that in French shops, prices for

beer and wine are what I would call 'realistic', I have, when in their brasseries, felt nothing but completely ripped-off. As compared to when in the UK, of course, where, even as a London resident, I can enjoy considerably higher quality and quantity for seemingly less. Why is this?

Is it that their 'brasseurs' are making the killing instead of their government, or is it that the French lack both the finesse and wherewithal of the British in consuming what I would call 'decent' quantities of beer?

Sincerely overcharged Either way,
David Adamick
London, N4

Dear Editors,

Pondering life in the Wibbas Down opposite Wimbledon bus station I was appalled to think how much of it could have been spent drinking beers such as the impressive Ossian's Ale then in my hand (Inveralmond 4.1%). Is there any possibility that LT and Wetherspoons could fund bus information displays similar to those found in airport bars and some railway pubs; the countdown system is already in use at many bus stops. This suggestion would increase beer sales as we would know how much drinking time there was and would avoid many wasted hours catching pneumonia rather than buses. The Kings Tun at Kingston's Gloucester Road bus station would be another well placed pub and I'm sure LD drinkers can suggest many other sites.

Dave Morgan
Kingston.

Dear Editors,

I have never knowingly met nor conversed with Colin Price but I feel moved to defend him from the continuing criticism in the pages of the London Drinker. Agreed there is something of the anorak about what he writes.

More importantly, as with Capital Pubcheck, there is also a feeling, unique to the Drinker, that here is a publication that really has been there and found out what a pub was like on a wet Monday evening. Strangely, just the time I, out of area for a meeting or demo, might feel the need to pop into one. The Big Issue has on its masthead 'coming up from the streets' but frankly the Drinker got there first by some years. Don't lose the life from below feeling provided by the Colin Prices of this world, or you'll lose the essence of the Drinker itself.

Keith Flett
Tottenham

— Letters to the — Editors

Dear Editors,

Have you heard of any proposed change of use of the Edinboro' Castle in Camden Town, NW1? Given the current trend for redeveloping pubs for residential use, I've noticed some worrying changes there of late.

What used to be a very pleasant turn-of-the-century establishment with a couple of real ales (Bass and Fullers London Pride - nothing too exciting, alas!) appears to be in the process of being run into the ground. On my recent visits, the real ale has been off - a permanent situation? - and the decorative state of the building has begun to get shabby. As for the staff - well, getting served has become a task in itself and being served food within one's lunch hour is little short of a miracle.

As a consequence of the above, my colleagues and I no longer drink there and what is a sizeable pub in a busy area is practically empty in the middle of the day. If the current state of affairs is not deliberate, perhaps the owner (whoever that may be) should be told what's going on.

Martin Brady

Dear Editors,

Yes I did say I was not going to write to LD anymore but I had to visit Central London at the end of February so took advantage of this to pay a visit to the Fox in Hanwell W7.

In February 2000 the Evening Standard had an article about pub closures in London which featured the Fox which was then in danger of closure and conversion to residential property. The article in the Standard made the point that many pubs in London would be worth more if sold for conversion to residential properties than if sold a profit making going concern.

Fortunately the Fox has stayed a pub and few discernable changes have been made. The beer range has been improved to Fullers London Pride, Brakspears Special and Timothy Taylors Landlord. I had a pint of the latter which was in good condition.

The Fox is on the banks of the River Brent and with allotments on the other side of the road has the feel of a country pub. There is another free house, the Dolphin, and a Fullers pub, the Viaduct, nearby.

Colin Price

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.

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BEER DRINKERS FROZEN OUT

Consumers have vowed to keep up the fight for a fair level of beer duty for Britain's fifteen million drinkers. The announcement from CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, follows the Chancellor's decision to 'freeze' excise duty on beer in the recent budget.

Mike Benner, Head of Campaigns and Communications said, 'Although it's preferable to an increase, this freeze will do nothing to reduce smuggling of cheap Euro fizz which is being sold on to whoever has the cash, including children. Mr. Brown has offered no support for the 900,000 British jobs supported by the beer and pubs industry. Millions of pints will continue to flood our shores and hundreds of British jobs will continue being exported to France.'

Over one million pints a day are now being smuggled into Britain by increasingly organised criminal gangs. CAMRA called for a duty cut of only 2 pence in this budget which would have been enough to significantly reduce the bootleggers' profit and make it less desirable.

CAMRA has launched a major generic campaign for real British beer and is urging drinkers to 'Ask if it's Cask' next time they visit the pub in an effort to boost sales of real cask ale brewed by Britain's 400 independent brewers. Mr. Benner added, 'Pubs are closing directly as a result of high beer tax. Smuggling and related criminal activity are on the increase and the social problems related with the uncontrolled purchase of alcohol can only get worse. The

Chancellor has ignored the evidence that a cut in duty would benefit the industry, consumers and the government within two years.'

A more welcome move was the admission that there may be a case for a fairer deal for small breweries. CAMRA has been pushing for the so-called 'sliding scale' system to be introduced, which levies duty on breweries on a variable scale depending on their size. The system, widely used in Europe, gives small breweries more of a chance to compete against the giants who have the benefits of economies of scale and huge marketing budgets on their side. With Britain's microbreweries accounting for only about one per cent of the market, introduction of sliding scale would not cost a fortune, and may even make more money for the government through increased employment in small breweries.

However, the battle is not won. The Chancellor has announced that it will look at sliding scale within the next twelve months, but have taken no action now. With a General Election looming, this could well be just one more election promise, and it remains to be seen whether they are serious about providing smaller breweries with a fairer deal..

DOUBLE AWARD FOR GOACHER'S

Early in March, the Goacher's brewery in Maidstone was presented with not one, but two champion awards from CAMRA branches.

Over 30 workers from last year's Catford Beer Festival, organised by South East London CAMRA, descended on Maidstone for the day to hand over the Catford Beer of the Festival award. This award, based on votes received from customers at the festival, was won by Goacher's Crown Imperial Stout. This was an achievement in itself, as it is uncommon for dark beers to win the top prize at Catford, a summer festival where lighter beers tend to be more popular.

The Catford crew was joined by representatives from Maidstone and Mid Kent branch, whose own festival - the Maidstone Hop and Beer Festival - had also chosen Goacher's as the winner. This time it was Gold Star that won the prize.

After a lunchtime sampling session in the Rifle Volunteers (the Goacher's pub in Wyatt Street - recommended if you are in the area), the crowd moved on to the brewery to sample some more of the wares and make the presentation. The opportunity was taken to order some more of their beers to make sure they are back at this year's Catford festival, which takes place from 13th to 16th June.



YOUNG'S HORSES GREET MINISTER

Environment Minister Michael Meacher had a warm and gentle welcome from a pair of Young's Shire horses when he visited the National Countryside Show at Earls Court – unlike when he posed afterwards with a 35-stone pig which trod on his foot.

Mr Meacher spoke on the Government's countryside policy and also saw Young's bar, which slaked the thirsts of many of the 30,000 visitors and exhibitors on 250 trade stands. The three-day show, aimed to take the best of rural Britain into the heart of London, was the first countryside show to be staged indoors.

Young's have 12 horses making daily deliveries of beer to pubs in south west London.

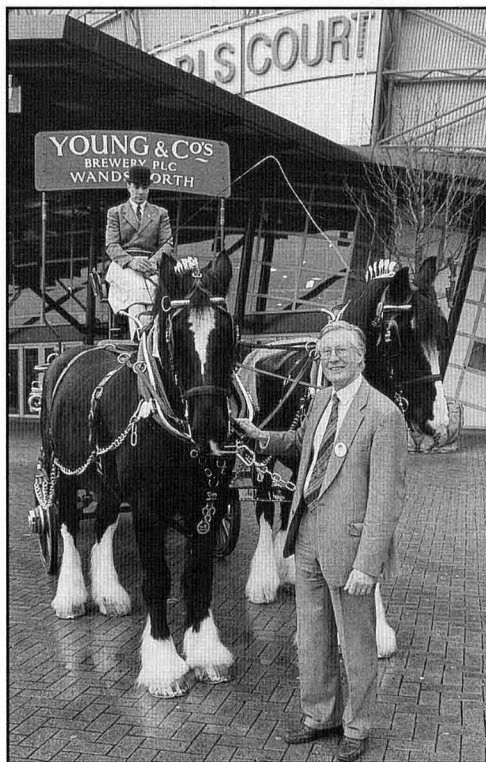
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Originally known as The Shippe in the village of Rotherhithe, this inn is the very one from which the Mayflower set sail on her historic voyage in 1620

Very Interesting

INN-TERESTING

Where can you find a free art gallery which displays a wide cross-section of Britain's heritage? Where can you find free illustrations of our folklore, our social and military history, heroes and heroines, trades and professions, sporting achievements, etc.? Well, take a close look at all our pub signs!

At the end of the 14th Century King Richard put into place a system to ensure that all inns, taverns and alehouses were brewing drinks of a suitably high standard and innkeepers were compelled by law to display a sign. It would not have been a pictorial sign at first—perhaps a bell, a bush or a piece of wood. When too many hanging objects became a hazard (remember every tradesman would have hung out something connected with their profession) inns began to use pictures on their signs.

Many early taverns were owned by religious establishments and used Christian symbols like lambs, keys and popular saints. But when the dissolution of the monasteries took place, many ecclesiastical signs gave way to heraldic ones because the landlords were keen to remain in favour with the monarchy and the Lords of the Manor.

The coaching era, the Industrial Revolution and the coming of the railways are all well represented in inn signs. Even today London Transport routes take you to the Angel, Elephant and Castle or the Royal Oak.

There are common names such as the Red Lion, Crown, Bell, Anchor, Coach and Horses etc. but there are also many, which arouse your curiosity. In the latter category look out for the Printer's Devil, I Am The Only Running Footman, The World Turned Upside Down, Intrepid Fox, Three Loggerheads or Wibba's Down.

If you find that you are interested in inn signs and their origins, then you might like to know that there is an INN SIGN SOCIETY, which has, at present, around 400 members. Interests vary from the casual observer to the specialist in one particular type of sign. The Society is building up an archive of written and photographic material with the use of an Electronic Retrieval

System. A full colour quarterly journal records all new signs, name changes and provides for the interchange of information and the answers to any queries that members may have raised. The annual subscription is £15. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary: Mr Alan Rose, 9 Denmead Drive, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV11 2QS. Telephone 01902 721808.

Our pubs are unique and have taken centuries to develop. My favourite tee shirt has a quote from Chaucer: 'He knew the taverns wel in everie toun'. An exaggeration, perhaps, but well worth the effort!

John Swales, Vice Chairman, Inn Sign Society.

TWO DOVES

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Branch Update

Welcome to our regular details of Branch Contacts and events. This is where branches can say what is happening in their areas that might be of interest to drinkers across London. Events for April/May are listed below.

CROYDON & SUTTON. Paul Everitt 020-8686 5053 (H&W), Mobile 07779 423436.

April – Wed 4 (8.30) Two pub social. Meet Purley Arms, 345 Brighton Rd, South Croydon, then Royal Oak, Purley. - Tue 17 (8.30) Sutton crawl. Moon on the Hill, Hill Rd; Windsor Castle and the New Town. - Tue 24 (8.30) Branch meeting. Dog & Bull (upstairs function room), 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

May – Thu 3 (8.30) SE25 crawl. Portmanor, Portland Rd, William Stanley and Alliance, High St, South Norwood. - Wed 9 (8.30) Social. Princess Royal, Longley Rd, West Croydon, in garden if fine. - Thu 24 (7pm) Beer Festival Social. Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton. - Thu 31 (8.30) Branch meeting, Windsor Castle, Carshalton.

EAST LONDON & CITY. Ben or Robyn 020-8521 4410 (H), Email: robyn@pigsear.org.uk. Social enquiries: Rob Walker 020-8924 0346 (H). April – Fri 6 (7.30) Joint social with West London Branch (and probably North London too). Leyton Orient Supporters Club Brisbane Rd, Leyton E10 (current Club of the Year), holding their mini spring beer festival. All CAMRA members welcome: remember to bring your membership cards to gain entry. Nearest station Leyton. - Tue 10 (8pm) Branch meeting.

East Ham Working Men's Club 2 Boleyn Rd E6. A candidate for our Club of the Year; excellent London Pride and Bass. Nearest station Upton Park: out of station, turn right just past West Ham FC, there is a T junction, turn left and Boleyn Rd is second on the left; entrance to the rear of the building. - Mon 23 (8pm) Social. Harrow, 22 Whitefriar St EC4, current GBG pub. Nearest station Blackfriars. - Mon 30 (8pm) Social. (Old) Spotted Dog, 212 Upton La EC7. An old Branch favourite, has a new manager and the beer has come back up to standard. Nearest station Forest Gate.

May – Wed 9 (8pm) Social. Jerusalem Tavern 55 Britton St EC1. St Peters' beers are served at this long standing GBG pub. Nearest station Farringdon. - **Tue 15 (8pm) Branch AGM. Crosse Keys, 9 Gracechurch St EC3.** Nearest station Monument.

ENFIELD & BARNET. Mark Shepherd 020-8441 0174 (H) 020-7712 2081 (W).

April – Tue 3 (9.00) Social. George, 5 The Town, Enfield EN2. - Wed 11 (9.00) Social. Sebright Arms, 8 Alston Rd, High Barnet EN5, then (10.00) White Lion, 50 St Albans Rd, High Barnet EN5. - Wed 18 (9.00) Social. Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, Gordon Hill, Enfield EN2 (bus 191, 231, W8). - Mon 23 (9.00) St. George's Day Social. Railway Bell, 13 East Barnet Rd EN4 (bus 84A, 307, 326, 384).

May – Thu 3 (9.00) Social. Kings Head, The Green, Winchmore Hill (bus W9). - Wed 9 (9.00) Social. Robin Hood, 240 The Ridgeway, Enfield EN2 (bus 313). - Tue 15 (9.00) Social. Black Bull, 1446 High Rd, Whetstone N20. - Sat 19 (11.00) Brewery visit to Greene King. 11.00 Liverpool Street, change at Ipswich for Bury St. Edmunds - 2.00 Brewery, 7.22 depart Bury St. Edmunds, change at Ipswich - 9.34 Liverpool Street (train times provisional). Cost £5.00, places limited, details and booking to Tony Roberts (020 8482 9673). - Tue 22 (9.00) Social. Stag, 1 Little Park Gdns, Enfield EN2. - Thu 31 (9.00) Social and London Drinker Pick Up. Ye Old Mitre Inn, 58 High Street, Barnet EN5.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD. Clive Taylor 020-8949 2099 (H) 020-8540 1901 (W).

April – Wed 4 (8.30) Branch meeting, Bear, High St, Esher. - Wed 11 (8.30) Joint pub crawl in Surbiton with Surrey Hants Borders. Meet at Victoria, Victoria Rd, then Hogshead, Black Lion, Lamb Inn and so on.

May – Sat 5, Mild Day in Kingston, centred around Canbury Arms. More details nearer the date. - Mon 7 (12.30) Bank Holiday pub crawl in Ewell. Meet at the Eight Bells, then work our way to the Star for beer festival. - Thu 10 (8.30) Branch meeting. Griffin, Common Rd, Claygate. - Thu 24 (8.30) Pub crawl in Leatherhead. Meet at the Plough, then Royal Oak, Penny Black and so on.

NORTH LONDON. Gary White 07005 355399, Email: gwhitegeog@bigfoot.com.

April – Mon 2 (8pm) Social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd N1. - Tue 10 (8pm) Branch meeting. Rugby Tavern, Gt. James' St, WC1. - Tue 17 (8pm) Pub of the Season presentation.

Branch Update

Overdraughts, 6 Dane Street, WC1. - Tue 24 (8pm) Social. Compton Arms, 4 Compton Ave, and Marquess Tavern, 32 Canonbury St, N1.

May – Tue 1 (8pm) Social and Chinese meal. Meet Blue Posts, 28 Rupert St W1, then to a local restaurant. – Mon 7 (8pm) Social Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd, N1.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW. Brian Kirton 020 8384 7284 (H).

April – Sat 7 (9am) Coach trip to Peterborough to present Twickenham Beer of the Festival certificate to the Oakham Brewery, plus pub visits in Peterborough & Stamford, and stop en route back to London. Start at Station Yard, Twickenham (outside the Albany), pick ups also Brentford and Kew Bridge, back at Twickenham about 10pm. This is a trip for those who staffed last year's Twickenham Beer Festival, but some places may be available for others at coach fare £10. Full details on website or from contact. - **Wed 25 (8 00) Branch AGM. Watermans Arms, Water Lane, Richmond (upstairs room).** All members in branch area welcome, especially as committee volunteers are needed. Bring membership card in case a vote is required. May – Wed 2 (8.30) Open Branch meeting. Red Lion, 92/94 Linkfield Rd., Isleworth, including new committee appointments. - Thu 24 (8pm) Crawl in Hampton, starting at the Railway Bell (The Dip), Station Rd., then including Worlds End, Jolly Coopers, Bell, White Hart.

SOUTH EAST LONDON. Dave Lee 020-8694 2687.

April – Tue 3 (8pm) Branch/committee meeting. Market Porter, 9 Stoney St SE1. - Mon 9 (8pm) Social, Red Lion, 10 North Rd, Bromley (near Bromley North Station). - Wed 18 (8pm) Social. Howard Club, rear of St. Barnabas Church Hall, Rochester Way, Eltham SE9. - Wed 25 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning meeting. Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Grove, Greenwich SE10.

May – Wed 2 (8pm) Committee meeting. Two Doves, 37 Oakley Road, Bromley Common. Bus 320 stops outside. - Sat 5 (12.30pm) Catford Beer Festival publicity crawl. London and Rye, Rushey Green, Catford SE6. - Tue 8 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival publicity crawl. Admiral Hardy, College Approach, Greenwich SE10. - Wed 16 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival publicity crawl. Wheatsheaf, 6 Stoney St SE1. - Thu 31 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning meeting. Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Grove, Greenwich SE10.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX. Andrew Clifton 01708 765150 (H), Email: swessex@clara.co.uk.

April – Thu 5 (8:30) Out of area social. Carpenters Arms, High Rd (B1393), Thornwood Common. - Sat 7 (all day) Double Sussex brewery trip. Exceat Bridge Brewery, Cuckmere Haven; and then Kemptown, Brighton. Coach from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster, Thurrock. Further details/bookings: Graham Platt on 020 8220 0215 or by e-mail to swessex@clara.co.uk. - Wed 11 (8:30) Good Beer Guide selection meeting (Essex area) and Pub of the Year selection. Green Man, 11 Cricketers La, Herongate. You can submit any comments/postal votes in advance to Alan Barker, 6 Oak Avenue, Upminster, Essex RM14 2LB or by e-mail to swessex@clara.co.uk. - Tue 17 (8:30) Social. Brave Nelson, 138 Woodman Rd, Warley. - Thu 26 (8:30) Social. Chequers, North St, Hornchurch (near Emerson Park Station). - Sun 29 (12:00) Lunchtime social. Anchor, Civic Square/Arkwright Rd, Tilbury - Come and support this new venture.

May – Fri 4 (all day) Double Berkshire brewery trip. Butts, Great Shefford, Hungerford; and then West Berkshire, Yattendon, Thatcham. Coach from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster, Thurrock. Further details/bookings: Graham Platt on 020 8220 0215 or by e-mail to swessex@clara.co.uk. - Wed 9 'Double Header' social. (8:30) George & Dragon, Princess Margaret Rd, Lifford; then (9 30) Kings Head, The Green, West Tilbury. - Wed 14 (8.30) Brentwood High Street 'Mix & Match' pub crawl. White Hart (No: 93) then via your choice of: Slug & Lettuce (No: 82); Gardeners Arms (27 Hart St); Sir Charles Napier (No: 141); Hobgoblin (No: 129/129A); and Litten Tree (No: 125/127); finish (22.30-ish) Swan (Hogshead) (No:123). - Wed 23 (8:30) Social. Colchester Beer Festival (see Beer Festival Entry in *What's Brewing* for details of venue). - Thu 31 (8:30) Out of area social. Hoop, 21 High St, Stock. Further details/changes will appear in May's *What's Brewing* and at www.swessex.clara.net.

SOUTH WEST LONDON. Mark Bravery 0208-540 9183 (H) 0207-438 6418 (W). Email: markbravery@cableinet.co.uk. Website: www.battersea-beer-festival.org.uk.

April – Thu 5 Prises survey crawl. (6.30–7pm) Grapes, 39 Fairfield St, Wandsworth SW18. - Tue 10 (7.30) Open branch committee meeting. Rose & Crown, 55 High St, Wimbledon Village SW19. - Sat 28 (8pm) Pub of the Year 2000 presentation,

Branch Update

Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8.
May – Tue 1 'Roses in May' two pub social. (7.30) Bread & Roses, 68 Clapham Manor St, SW4; (8.45) Rose & Crown, 2 The Polygon, Old Town SW4. - **Mon 14** (7.30) Open branch committee meeting followed (8pm) by **Branch AGM, Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8** (upstairs room).

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

WEST LONDON. Alex Langford 020-7821 8101.

April – Fri 6 (7pm) Joint social with ELAC. Leyton Orient Supporters Club Beer Festival, Brisbane Rd E10. - Thu 12 (8pm) Committee Meeting, Archery Tavern, 4 Bathurst St W2.

May – Sat 5 Branch outing to St Albans. (1.30) Farmers Boy, 134 London Rd; (2.30) White Lion, 91 Sopwith La; (4pm) Lower Red Lion, 34-36 Fishpool St for beer festival. Tue 8 (8pm) Social, Dog & Duck, 18 Bateman St (Soho) W1. - **Wed 16 (8pm) Branch AGM, White Horse, 1 Parsons Green SW6 – PLEASE ATTEND.** - Tue 22 Joint social with North London Branch. (8pm) Crockers Folly, Aberdeen Place NW8; (9pm) Warwick Castle, 6 Warwick Pl W9; (10pm) Warrington Hotel, 93 Warrington Cresc W9.

WEST MIDDLESEX. Paul Dabrowski 020-8571-9146 (H) 0118-923 7445 (W).

April – Tue 3 (8.30) Bar Billiards evening. Hut,

Orchard Farm Close, Colham Green. - Wed 11 (8.30) Pub of the Year branch meeting. Duke of York, Steyne Rd, Acton. - Sat 14 (7.30) Reading Pie Shop trip. Cock A Snook, Queen's Walk; Sweeney & Todd, Castle St; Hop Leaf, Southampton St and Three Guineas, Station Approach, *all Reading approx 1 pub every hour.* (Rendezvous in Reading station foyer at 7.20.). - Thu 19 (8.30) Inaugural Beer on Broadway XIV planning meeting. Drayton Court Hotel, The Avenue, West Ealing (*food available*). - Wed 25 (8pm) Home brew tasting social, Signor Evil Sea Farm Brewery, The Old Grange, Batchworth Lane, Northwood (*CAMRA members only*)

May – Tue 1 (8pm) Two-pub branch social, Duffy's Bar and Plough *both* Northfields Ave, Northfields. - **Wed 9 (8.30) Branch AGM, Load of Hay, Villier St, Uxbridge** *Membership Cards required.* - Tue 15 (8pm) Joint two-pub social with North London Branch, Grand Junction Arms, Acton La, Harlesden and Castle, Victoria Rd, North Acton. - Thu 24 (8pm) Branch mini-crawl: Timber Carriage, Northolt Rd; White Horse, Middle Rd; Kingsfield Arms, Bessborough Rd, and Castle, West St, *all South Harrow approx 1 pub every 45 minutes.* - Wed 30 (9pm) London Drinker pick-up, Red Lion, St. Mary's Rd, Ealing.

Deadlines for the June/July edition, 1st May (hard copy), 11th May (electronic text). **Please be sure to send all diary material in electronic form to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.**

LESBIAN AND GAY NEWS

LAGRAD 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 7pm 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/>. (The group also meets regularly in Brighton.)

LONDON EVENTS:

April – Wed 4 (7pm) Monthly social. King's Arms, 23 Poland Street W1 (020-7734 5907). - Tue 24 Croydon crawl. (7pm) Bird of Pride: right out of East Croydon Railway Station, first right

up Dingwall Road, straight on for about 15 minutes, over the railway bridge and it's on your left, Courage Best, popular with lesbians; (8.30) Goose and Carrot, Wellesley Road: right out of East Croydon Station, right up Wellesley Road (the main road) for 10 minutes and the pub's on the corner of St James Road, generally has a few interesting beers on.

May – Wed 2 (7pm) Monthly social. King's Arms, 23 Poland Street W1 (020-7734 5907). - Thu 17 (7pm) London social. Wellington, 119 Balls Pond Road N1, (020-7503 9672). The real ale's back! Come and try some. Nearest tube is Highbury & Islington then buses 30 or 277, or else Angel tube and then buses 38 or 56. Near to Dalston Kingsland station. Real fire.

IT'S IN THE MIX

Once upon a time at your local, they were par for course. Now they are rarely seen. What exactly? Mixed drinks. Not today's confections involving spirits and spring water or somesuch but the age-old practice of mixing say a half of cask bitter with a bottle of keg light ale. In a brewing world mad for branding designer labels (very 80s!), this idea that so and so's beer would be so much more enjoyable blended with another has become not only very rare indeed but also akin to an arcane philosophy; something verging on a kind-of alcoholic alchemy.

Years ago, people would think nothing of walking into their local and ordering up complementary brews as their preferred tipple. Some even gave nicknames to their concoctions: 'mother-in-law', being a pint of old and bitter, 'maiden aunt' for old-and-mild etc. Correct me if I'm wrong on these – as I say, it's a bit of an arcane practice!

I recall Young's peddling an experiment in some of their pubs some seven years ago along this theme. One could ask for a pint of 'Double Rammy' which was a half of cask Ram Rod together with a bottle of its bottled keg equivalent. Let's just say that it wasn't a great success! The 80s also saw a rise in those asking for the (widely-banned) snakebite, a lethal combination of very strong lager, such as Tennant's Super or Carlsberg Special or even Elephant Brew with draught keg cider.

I for one am not sure exactly where or when this practice began – such things are rarely officially recorded – but it makes for not only some interesting concoctions but some stimulating conversation as well. I've a friend who has alighted upon which he considers to be a most quaffable combination. After many years of pondering the dubious pleasures of keg stouts, bottle American pop and the odd distilled spirit, he has struck upon the ultimate combination in light ale and lager.

The exact ingredients are (for the record) one half of Foster's or other mid-strength lager and one bottle of Courage light ale, although the widely-available Young's variety has been substituted. He says it makes for great pint! He's the only person I know who drinks it and I dare say many a bar person has raised an eyebrow at his request.

I've another friend who, when in a Fuller's house, insists on combining a half of draught London Pride and a bottle of their fiery Golden Pride barley wine. This is not a combination to be taken lightly, the average strength putting it into the 'go careful with that' category. This is not a mix that one can drink a vast quantity of at one sitting (should that be swaying?). I have joined him a number of times drinking this particular combination and it does have a

seductive quality. Likewise the substitution of London Pride with a lower-gravity Mann's Brown Ale which is dark and sweet and helps to take the vehemence edge off the Golden Pride. Drink with care!

But why do this? One reason springs to mind. We thankfully have a wide and varied range of beer to choose from at most houses and there is nothing to say you have to drink beer 'straight', although marketing men would prefer it if we did. I personally think that mixed drinks have a lot going for them, if for no other reason than it makes a session less predictable and it keeps the staff on their toes looking for the various ingredients involved.

The secret's in the mix – now where's that bottle of brown ale....?

Al Ferrier

Lytton Arms

OLD KNEBWORTH, HERTS



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BRITAIN TO CEASE BREWING BY 2020?

Consumers battle to save the Great British Pint

The latest study from CAMRA predicts that, if recent trends persist, over 90% of the British brewing industry will be in the hands of just two global brewers producing a handful of lager brands by 2020.

The study reveals that over 130 regional and national beer brands have been axed since 1990. Excluding those brewed by the 350 very small brewers (which collectively have only 1% of the total beer market), there are about 250 beers still in regular production. If the trend continues it will take only 16 years to reduce the market to three or four mega beer brands. Thirty three medium sized or national breweries have closed since 1990.

As part of the battle against this nightmare, CAMRA has launched the biggest generic promotion of beer for fifty years in its battle to save the great British pint. Not since the industry campaigns of the 1950s has cask ale had such a big promotion as a brand in its own right. Now,

following two years of fundraising, the consumer group is joining forces with dozens of real ale brewers and thousands of pubs to buck the trend and put real cask ales back on top. Hundreds of advertising billboards have been launched throughout the country supported by leaflets and posters in pubs. The campaign will encourage drinkers to 'ask if it's cask', 'accept no substitutes', not to mention 'beware of the blandits'!

CAMRA head of Campaigns Mike Benner said, 'The "Ask if it's Cask" campaign is a consumer fight back against the disease caused by consolidation, closures, mergers and sell-offs in this great British industry. We want to convince beer drinkers that nothing beats a pint of real cask ale in a local pub. If people start drinking the taste and shun big-brand marketing, the British beer market will be safe for future generations to enjoy.'

Easter Beer Festival



Saturday 14th April (11-11pm)
Sunday 15th April (12-11pm)
Monday 16th April (11-11pm)
Barbecue on each day (12-6)

A celebration of
Spring Beers -

e.g. Rebellion's Zebedee
many others & ales from
the Hop Back Brewery
including Spring Zing

JOLLY FARMER

40 Princes Road, Weybridge, Surrey
(10 minute walk from Weybridge railway station)

• selected for the CAMRA 2001 Good Beer Guide

Telephone Dee or Dan for further information 01932 856873

Cask Marque

Cask Marque was formed in 1997 to help raise standards in the quality of cask ales served to consumers following a survey which showed that 1 in 5 pints sold were of poor quality. Our subsequent inspections have shown an alarming variation in beer quality between pubs.



Cask Marque is an independent accreditation scheme jointly funded by brewers and retailers which recognises the excellence in the service of cask ale. The award is made to the licensee and not the pub as it is his skills that produce the 'perfect pint'.

To gain the award the licensee has to pass two unannounced inspections with the Assessors testing up to six beers on the bar checking temperature, appearance, aroma and taste. Only if the licensee passes on all cask ales on sale does he receive the Cask Marque plaque to fix to the outside of his premises, and an annual framed certificate to display in the bar. Further inspections are made twice a year, with additional random inspections triggered by customer comment. For more information, do visit the Cask Marque Website on www.cask-marque.co.uk.

Currently we have over 1,500 licensees with the award - all listed on our Website. We produce 17 free regional guides and sponsor Camra's Good Beer Guide. From June, the Consumer Website www.pubs247.co.uk will have a profile of each pub.

We are currently trialing in the Thames Valley two new marketing initiatives: No Quibble Guarantee to customers and a 'Try before you buy', and it is our intention to launch these promotions nationally this summer.

If cask ale is to survive in the longer term, we need to meet the customers' demand for a refreshing consistent quality product. Cask beer is unique to the British pub, and their futures go hand-in-hand. In your travels, do look out for the Cask Marque logo and take the time to talk to the licensee about the quality of his beers.

CASK MARQUE PUBS

The following pubs and clubs in Greater London have licensees who have been awarded a Cask Marque plaque. An asterisk indicates a pub listed in the 2001 Good Beer Guide. The figures in brackets cross-refer to CAMRA's local pub guides and updates (see Capital Pubcheck for explanation).

CENTRAL

EC1, BARLEY MOW, 50 Long La. Whitbread. (E9, U121)
EC1, BLEEDING HEART TAVERN, 10 Greville St. Free House. (U143)
EC1, BUTCHERS HOOK & CLEAVER, 61-63 West Smithfield. Fuller. (U151)
EC1, CITY PRIDE, 28 Farringdon La. Fuller. (E14)
EC1, MASQUE HAUNT, 168-172 Old St. Wetherspoon. (U99)
EC1, MELTON MOWBRAY*, 18 Holborn. Fuller. (U87)
EC1, SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE, 29-35 Farringdon Rd. Wetherspoon. (U120)
EC2, GREEN MAN, 1 Poultry. Wetherspoon. (U142)
EC2, HAMILTON HALL, Liverpool St Station Concourse. Wetherspoon. (U68, U128)

EC3, COUNTING HOUSE, 50 Cornhill. Fuller. (U131, U155)
EC3, CROSSE KEYS, 7-12 Gracechurch St. Wetherspoon. (U147, U155)
EC3, HUNG, DRAWN & QUARTERED, 26/27 Great Tower St. Fuller. (U111)
EC3, LIBERTY BOUNDS, 15 Trinity Sq. Wetherspoon. (U134)
EC3, POET BAR, 20 Creechurch La. Free House. (U145, U155, U158)
EC3, OLD TEA WAREHOUSE, Cree Church Buildings, 4-8 Creechurch La. Greene King (U125)
EC3, SWAN*, Ship Tavern Passage, 77-80 Gracechurch St. Fuller. (E43, U70)
EC4, OLD BANK OF ENGLAND, 194 Fleet St. Fuller. (U95)
W1(F), MORTIMER, 40 Berners

St. Free House. (U148)
W1(S), AINT NOTHING BUT, 20 Kingly St. Free House. (U91, U111, U115)
W1(S), BATH HOUSE, 96 Dean St. Whitbread. (W41, U48, U93, U129, U141)
W1(S), MOON & SIXPENCE, 181-185 Wardour St. Wetherspoon. (U93)
W1(S), SPICE OF LIFE, 38 Romilly St. McMullen. (W44, U53, U84)
WC1, PENDERELS OAK*, 283-288 High Holborn. Wetherspoon. (U133)
WC2, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR*, 95 Chancery La. Wetherspoon. (U145)
WC2, MOON UNDER WATER*, 105/107 Charing Cross Rd. Wetherspoon. (U120, U150)
WC2, MOON UNDER WATER, 28 Leicester Sq. Wetherspoon. (U73)

Cask Marque



WC2, NAGS HEAD, 10 James St. McMullen. (W55, U50, U92, U116)
WC2, SHAKESPEARES HEAD, Africa House, 64-78 Kingsway. Wetherspoon. (U134)
WC2, SHIP & SHOVELL*, 1-3 Craven Passage. Hall & Woodhouse. (W56, U131, U137, U152)
WC2, THEODORE BULLFROG, 28 John Adam St. Enterprise; formerly ST MARTINS TAVERN. (W56, U139, U149)

EAST

E1, HALF MOON, 213-223 Mile End Rd. Wetherspoon. (U138)
E1, WHITE SWAN, 21 Alie St. Shepherd Neame. (E75, U125)
E2, CAMDENS HEAD*, 456 Bethnal Green Rd. Wetherspoon. (E79, U74)
E4, KINGS FORD*, 250/252 Chingford Mount. Wetherspoon. (U119)
E4, PLOUGH, Mott St. McMullen. (E96)
E4, ROYAL OAK, 219 Kings Head Hill. McMullen. (E97, U112, U119)
E6, MILLERS WELL*, 419-421 Barking Rd. Wetherspoon; formerly SPIRITS BAR. (E105, U80)
E7, HUDSON BAY, 1-5 Upton La. Wetherspoon. (U143)
E10, DRUM*, 557-559 Lea Bridge Rd. Wetherspoon. (E123)
E11, GEORGE, High St, Wanstead. Wetherspoon. (E128, U71)
E11, WALNUT TREE, 857-861 High Rd, Leytonstone. Wetherspoon. (U124)
E15, GOLDENGROVE*, 146-148 The Grove. Wetherspoon. (U82, U105, U120)
BARKING, BARKING DOG, 61 Station Parade. Wetherspoon. (X10)
BARKINGSIDE, NEW FAIRLOP OAK, Fencepiece Rd. Wetherspoon. (X12)
CHADWELL HEATH, EVA HART*, 1128 High Rd. Wetherspoon. (X27)
COLLIER ROW, COLLEY ROWE INN, 54/56 Collier Row Rd. Wetherspoon. (X43)
DAGENHAM, LORD DENMAN, 270/272 Heathway. Wetherspoon. (X45)

GOODMAYES, STANDARD BEARER, 7-13 Goodmayes Rd. Wetherspoon. (U152)
HORNCHURCH, JJ MOONS, 48 High St. Wetherspoon. (X71)
RÖMFORD, MOON & STARS*, 99-103 South St. Wetherspoon. (X102)
UPMINSTER, CRUMPLED HORN, 33-37 Corbets Tey Rd. Wizard. (U157)
WOODFORD GREEN, CRICKETERS*, 299/301 High St. McMullen. (X131)

NORTH

N1, ANGEL, 3/5 Islington High St. Wetherspoon; formerly BARTIZAN and BAR CENTRAL. (U123, U141)
N1, WENLOCK ARMS*, 26 Wenlock Rd. Free House. (N62)
N2, WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walks, off Church La. McMullen. (N67)
N4, OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH, 10-12 Grand Parade, Green Lanes. Wetherspoon. (N76)
N4, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER, 125/127 Stroud Green Rd. Wetherspoon. (N77)
N6, GATEHOUSE*, 1 North Rd. Wetherspoon. (N82)
N6, VICTORIA, 28 North Hill. Whitbread. (N83)
N7, CORONET, 338-346 Holloway Rd. Wetherspoon. (U112)
N8, TOLL GATE, 26-30 Turnpike La. Wetherspoon. (N96)
N12, TALLY HO, 749 High Rd. Wetherspoon. (N112)
N13, WHOLE HOG, 430-434 Green Lanes. Wetherspoon. (N115)
N14, NEW CROWN, 80-84 Chase Side. Wetherspoon. (U111)
N16, ROCHESTER CASTLE*, 143-145 Stoke Newington High St. Wetherspoon. (N130)
N16, DANIEL DEFOE, 102 Stoke Newington Church St. Wells; formerly STEPTOES. (N131)
N18, GILPINS BELL*, 50-54 Fore St. Wetherspoon. (U138)
N22, WETHERSPOONS, Hollywood Green, High Rd. Wetherspoon. (U154)
BARNET (EN5), KINGS HEAD, 84 High St. McMullen. (N251, H19)
BARNET (EN5), MOON UNDER WATER, 148 High St. Wetherspoon. (N252, H19)

BARNET (EN5), OLD RED LION, Underhill, Great North Rd. McMullen. (N252, H20)
BARNET (EN5), QUEENS ARMS, Great North Rd. McMullen. (N252, H20)
BARNET (EN5), SEBRIGHT ARMS, 9 Alston Rd. McMullen. N253, H20)
ENFIELD (EN1), JOLLY BUTCHERS, 168 Baker St. McMullen. (N230)
ENFIELD EAST (EN3), GREYHOUND, 425 Ordnance Rd, Enfield Lock. McMullen. (N240)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), CRICKETERS*, 19 Chase Side Pl. McMullen. (N233)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), JOLLY FARMERS, 92 Enfield Rd. McMullen. (N235, U109)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), MOON UNDER WATER, 115/117 Chase Side. Wetherspoon. (N236, U109)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), PLOUGH, Cattlegate Rd. McMullen. N236)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), ROBIN HOOD, 240 The Ridgeway. McMullen. (N237)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), WONDER, 1 Batley Rd. McMullen. (N237)
NEW BARNET (EN4), LORD KITCHENER, 49 East Barnet Rd. McMullen. (N247, H84)
NEW BARNET (EN4), RAILWAY BELL, 13 East Barnet Rd. Wetherspoon. (N247, H84)

NORTH WEST

NW1, EUSTON FLYER, 83-87 Euston Rd. Fuller. (U131)
NW1, HEAD OF STEAM*, Euston Station Colonnade. Free House. (N168)
NW1, MAN IN THE MOON, 40-42 Chalk Farm Rd. Wetherspoon. (N170)
NW1, PRINCESS OF WALES, 22 Chalcot Rd. Whitbread. (N173)
NW1, WINDSOR CASTLE, 98 Park Rd. Honeyput Inns (Brakspear). (N177, U131, U144, U156)
NW2, BEATEN DOCKET*, 50-54 Cricklewood Broadway. Wetherspoon. (N179)

Cask Marque



NW3, DUKE OF HAMILTON*, 23 New End. Free House. (N184) ,
NW3, THREE HORSESHOES, 28 Heath Rd. Wetherspoon. (N190, U110, U140)

NW9, JJ MOONS, 553 Kingsbury Rd. Wetherspoon. (N217, U153)

NW9, MOON UNDER WATER, 10 Varley Parade, Edgware Rd, Colindale. Wetherspoon. (N218, U109)

NW10, COLISEUM*, 3/5 Manor Park Rd, Harlesden. Wetherspoon. (N222)

HARROW, MOON ON THE HILL, 373-375 Station Rd. Wetherspoon. (U62)

KENTON, NEW MOON, 25/26 Kenton Park Parade. Wetherspoon. (U66)

NORTHWOOD, SYLVAN MOON, 27 Green La. Wetherspoon. (U82)

NORTHWOOD, WILLIAM JOLLE, 53 Joel St. Wetherspoon. (U132)

PINNER, MOON & SIXPENCE, 250 Uxbridge Rd, Hatch End. Wetherspoon. (U66)

PINNER, VILLAGE INN, 402-408 Rayners La. Wetherspoon. (U81)

STANMORE, MAN IN THE MOON, 1 Buckingham Parade, The Broadway. Wetherspoon. (U82)

WEALDSTONE, SARSEN STONE*^{la}, 32 High St. Wetherspoon. (U70, U86)

WEMBLEY, JJ MOONS, 397 High St. Wetherspoon. (U59, U86)

South East

SE1, BARROWBOY & BANKER, 6/8 Borough High St. Fuller. (U120)

SE1, FIRE STATION, 150 Waterloo Rd. Free House. (SE15)

SE1, HORSESHOE INN, 26 Melior St. Free House. (SE22)

SE1, LEATHER EXCHANGE, 15 Leathermarket St. Fuller, formerly JUGGLERS ARMS. (SE22, U158)

SE1, MAD HATTER*, 3-7 Stamford St. Fuller. (U133)

SE1, POMMELERS REST*, 196-198 Tower Bridge Rd. Wetherspoon. (U139)

SE1, ROYAL OAK*, 44 Tabard St. Harvey. (SE31, U112, U116, U128)

SE5, FOX ON THE HILL*, 149 Denmark Hill. Wetherspoon. (SE58)

SE6, TIGERS HEAD, 350 Bromley Rd. Wetherspoon. (SE69, U102)

SE8, DOG & BELL*, 116 Prince St. Free House. (SE79)

SE9, BANKERS DRAFT, 80 Eltham High St. Wetherspoon. (SE85)

SE10, PILOT*, 68 River Way. Free House. (SE99)

SE12, EDMUND HALLEY, 25-27 Lee Gate, Lee Green. Wetherspoon. (U138)

SE13, WATCH HOUSE, 198-204 Lewisham High St. Wetherspoon. (U127)

SE15, KENTISH DROVERS, 71-79 Peckham High St. Wetherspoon. (U154)

SE16, BLACKSMITHS ARMS, 257 Rotherhithe St. Fuller. (SE144)

SE16, SURREY DOCKS, 185 Lower Rd. Wetherspoon, formerly WARRIOR. (SE153, U115, U124)

SE19, POSTAL ORDER, 33 Westow St. Wetherspoon. (U120)

SE20, MOON & STARS*, 164-166 High St, Penge. Wetherspoon. (U99, U102)

SE25, CLIFTON ARMS*, 21 Clifton Rd. Free House (ex-Allied) . (SE215)

SE25, WILLIAM STANLEY, 7/8 High St. Wetherspoon. (U142)

BEXLEYHEATH, WRONG 'UN, 234/236 Broadway, Wetherspoon. (U93, K35, U157)

BROMLEY, PARTRIDGE, 196 High St. Fuller. (U120)

BROMLEY, WETHERSPOONS, 23 Westmoreland Place. Wetherspoon. (U149)

CROYDON, BUILDERS ARMS, 65 Leslie Park Rd. Fuller. (3SE236)

CROYDON, GEORGE, 17-21 George St. Wetherspoon. (U80, U81, U86)

CROYDON, PORTER & SORTER, Station Rd. Wizard. (3SE248, U49, U108, U136)

CROYDON, ROYAL STANDARD*, 1 Sheldon St. Fuller. (3SE249)

CROYDON, SHIP OF FOOLS, 9-11 London Rd. Wetherspoon. (U150)

CROYDON, SKYLARK, 34-36 South End. Wetherspoon. (U127)

CROYDON, SPREADEAGLE, 39-41 Katherine St. Fuller. (U120)

KENLEY, KENLEY HOTEL, 62

Godstone Rd. Punch Taverns (ex-Allied). (3SE258, U50, U142)

ORPINGTON, HARVEST MOON, 141/143 High St. Wetherspoon. (U99)

PURLEY, FOXLEY HATCH*, 8/9 Russell Hill Parade, Russell Hill Rd. Wetherspoon. (U89)

SELSDON, SIR JULIAN HUXLEY, 152/154 Addington Rd. Wetherspoon. (U154)

THORNTON HEATH, WETHERSPOONS, 2-4 Ambassador Hse, Briggstock Rd. Wetherspoon. (U141)

WELLING, NEW CROSS TURNPIKE, 55 Bellegrove Rd. Wetherspoon. (U140)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(B), GROUSE & CLARET, 14 Little Chester St. Hall & Woodhouse. (SW37)

SW1(B), STAR TAVERN*, 6 Belgrave Mews West. Fuller. (SW39)

SW1(P), JUGGED HARE*, 172 Vauxhall Bridge Rd. Fuller. (SW41)

SW1(P), WHITE SWAN, 14 Vauxhall Bridge Rd. Scottish & Newcastle. (SW44, U139)

SW1(SJ), LORD MOON OF THE MALL, 16/18 Whitehall. Wetherspoon. (SW45)

SW1(W), SANCTUARY*, 33 Tothill St. Fuller. (U139)

SW1(W), WESTMINSTER ARMS*, 9 Storeys Gate. Regent Inns. (SW50)

SW1(W), WETHERSPOONS*, 1st Floor, Victoria Main Line Stn Concourse. Wetherspoon. (SW50)

SW1(W), WILLOW WALK*^{la}, 25 Wilton Rd. Wetherspoon. (U150)

SW2, CROWN & SCEPTRE*, 2A Streatham Hill. Wetherspoon. (SW52, U146)

SW5, BLACKBIRD*, 209 Earls Court Rd. Fuller. (SW62)

SW6, FRONT ROOM, 562 Kings Rd. Free House, formerly TUT 'N' SHIVE, originally WHEATSHEAF. (SW71, U150)

SW6, FRONT ROOM, 314/316 Lillie Rd. Free House, formerly HALFWAY HOUSE (SW67, U136)

SW6, WHITE HORSE*, 1 Parsons Green. Bass. (SW71)

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SW8, PRIORY ARMS*, 83 Lansdowne Way. Free House. (SW79, U146)
SW9, BEEHIVE, 407/409 Brixton Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW81)
SW11, ASPARAGUS, 1-13 Falcon Rd. Wetherspoon. (U138)
SW11, BEEHIVE, 197 St Johns Hill. Fuller. (SW86)
SW12, MOON UNDER WATER*, 194 Balham High Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW92, U146)
SW15, RAILWAY*, 202 Upper Richmond Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW103)
SW16, MOON UNDER WATER, 1327 London Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW108)
SW16, HOLLAND TRINGHAM, 107/109 Streatham High Rd. Wetherspoon. (U142)
SW17, JJ MOONS, 56A Tooting High St. Wetherspoon. (SW109, U135, U151)
SW18, GRID INN, 22 Replingham Rd. Southfields. Wetherspoon. (SW112)
SW18, ROSE & CROWN*, 134 Wandsworth High St. Wetherspoon; formerly GLEESON & SONS CORNER HOUSE. (SW112, U141, U149, U151)
SW19, PRINCE OF WALES, 2 Hartfield Rd. Scottish & Newcastle. (SW118, U150)
SW19, SWAN, 89 Ridgway. Scottish & Newcastle. (SW120)
SW19, WILLIAM MORRIS, 20 Watermill Way, Merton Abbey Mills. Regent Inns. (SW121, U142)
CARSHALTON, FOX & HOUNDS, 41 High St. Punch Taverns (ex-Allied). (SW129, U130)
CHEAM, WETHERSPOONS, 552-556 London Rd, North Cheam. Wetherspoon. (SW133)
KINGSTON, BRICKLAYERS ARMS, 53 Hawks Rd. Greene King (ex-Morland). (SW140)
KINGSTON, KINGS TUN, 153-157 Clarence St. Wetherspoon. (U146)
KINGSTON, WILLOUGHBY ARMS*, 47 Willoughby Rd. Whitbread. (SW144)
KINGSTON, WYCH ELM*, 93 Elm Rd. Fuller (SW145)

MITCHAM, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER, 223 London Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW150)
MORDEN, LADY ST HELIER*, 33 Aberconway Rd. Wetherspoon, formerly WETHERSPOONS. (SW151, U147)
SURBITON, CAP IN HAND, 174 Hook Rise North, Hook. Wetherspoon. (SW161, U134)
SURBITON, CORONATION HALL, St Marks Hill. Wetherspoon. (U129)
SUTTON, COCK & BULL, 26-30 High St. Fuller. (SW164)
SUTTON, LITTLE WINDSOR*, 13 Greyhound Rd. Fuller; formerly WINDSOR CASTLE. (SW167, U153)
SUTTON, MOON ON THE HILL, 5-9 Hill Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW167)
SUTTON, NIGHTINGALE, 53 Carshalton Rd. Punch Taverns (ex-Allied); formerly JENNY LIND. (SW166, U153)
WALLINGTON, WHISPERING MOON, 25 Ross Parade. Wetherspoon. (SW126)

WEST

W2, ARCHERY TAVERN*, 4 Bathurst St. Hall & Woodhouse. (W58, U67, U85)
W2, MAD BISHOP & BEAR, 1st Floor, Paddington Main Line Stn concourse. Fuller. (U153)
W2, TYBURN, 18-20 Edgware Rd. Wetherspoon. (U154)
W3, RED LION & PINEAPPLE, 281 High St. Wetherspoon. (W65, U89)
W4, GEORGE & DEVONSHIRE, 8 Burlington La. Fuller. (W69, U92)
W4, OLD PACK HORSE*, 434 Chiswick High Rd. Fuller. (W69)
W5, FOX & GOOSE, Hanger La. Fuller. (W72, U78, U92)
W5, PLOUGH INN*, 297 Northfield Ave. Fuller. (W73)
W5, RED LION*, 13 St Marys Rd. Fuller. (W73)
W5, ROSE & CROWN*^{la}, Church Pl. St Marys Rd. Fuller. (W73)
W6, ALDOVER ARMS*, 57 Aldensley Rd. Fuller. (W74, U67)
W6, SALUTATION*, 154 King St. Fuller. (W77, U72, U92, U101)

W6, WILLIAM MORRIS, 2/4 King St. Wetherspoon. (U131)
W8, CHURCHILL ARMS*, 119 Kensington Church St. Fuller. (W79, U92)
W14, WARWICK ARMS, 160 Warwick Rd. Fuller. (W95, U71)
FELTHAM, MOON ON THE SQUARE*, 30 The Centre, High St. Wetherspoon, formerly CRICKETERS (W100, U89, U102)
HAMPTON COURT, KINGS ARMS*^{la}, Lion Gate, Hampton Court Rd. Hall & Woodhouse. (W104, U66, U70, U94)
HAYES, BOTWELL INN, 23-29 Coldharbour La. Wetherspoon. (U155)
HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 2 (Airside). Wetherspoon. (U158)
HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 4 (Airside). Wetherspoon, formerly JJ MOONS. (U76, U78, U158)
HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 4 (Landside). Wetherspoon. (U79)
ICKENHAM, TICHENHAM INN, 11 Swakeley Rd. Wetherspoon. (U150)
RUISLIP, JJ MOONS*, 12 Victoria Rd, Ruislip Manor. Wetherspoon. (U59)
TWICKENHAM, EEL PIE*, 9/11 Church St. Hall & Woodhouse. (W150, U71, U99, U120)
TWICKENHAM, MOON UNDER WATER, 53-57 London Rd. Wetherspoon. (U68)
TWICKENHAM, PRINCE ALBERT*, 30 Hampton Rd. Fuller. (W151)
TWICKENHAM, PRINCE BLUCHER*, 124 The Green. Fuller. (W151)
UXBRIDGE, GOOD YARN, 132 High St. Wetherspoon. (U99)

CLUBS

EC4, ST ANDREWS GOLF CLUB, Allhallows La.
SW1(W), STRANGERS BAR, House of Commons, Parliament Sq.
W5, OLD ACTONIANS SPORTS CLUB, Gunnersbury Dr.



♦ CASK CONDITIONED ALES ♦

FROM THE
RAM BREWERY WANDSWORTH



for further information call 020 8875 7000 or visit www.youngs.co.uk

—Forthcoming Festivals—

MAR 30-31	Hitchin Hitchin Town Hall Brand Street, Hitchin
APR 27-28	Chippenham, Studio Hall Olympiad Leisure Centre Chippenham
MAY 11-13	Yapton Yapton & Ford Village Hall Yapton, Nr Arundel
MAY 22-26	Colchester Historic Arts Centre Colchester
JUNE 29-30	2nd Kingston Beer Festival Surrey County Social Club Pehhryn Road, Kingston
JULY 31-4 Aug	Great British Beer Festival Olympia, London W4
OCT 11-13	Croydon Wallington Halls, Stafford Road Wallington

MIGHTY OAK

Essex brewers Mighty Oak have recently moved from Brentwood to larger premises in Maldon. This is to enable the brewery to have a larger capacity to cope with increasing demand.

WATCH OUT FOR WEBCAMS

Six Whitbread pubs have been sending live pictures from their bars to home computers from 6pm until closing time, seven nights a week. For an evening's virtual refreshment at the Fox, Putney; the Hogwash, Watford; the Railway, Liverpool Street; the Sherlock Holmes, Baker Street; the Sholtz, Hendon and the Tournament, Earl's Court, log on at www.viewpub.com.

It is reported that the use of webcams could spread to many other Whitbread pubs if this experiment attracts drinkers. Let us hope the pictures show clearly the range of cask ales available at any time.

Back numbers of most editions of London Drinker are available from:

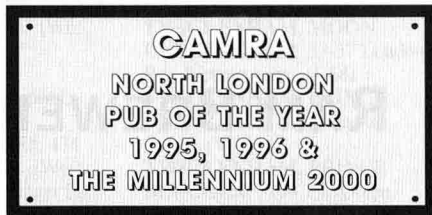
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- Jazz piano Sunday afternoons
- Jazz/Blues every Friday and Saturday evening
- Open daily from midday



**26 Wenlock Road
London N1**

020 7608 3406

Nearest Tube stations are Old Street (exit 1) and Angel. Wenlock Road is off City Road via Windsor Terrace
<http://www.wenlock-arms.co.uk/>

MY FASCINATING PUB CRAWL 25 MILES (I WALKED 27)

For years it has been my bank holiday Monday delight to ramble through the beautiful English countryside going to as many real ale pubs as is possible. If I create a truly memorable ramble I submit it to the London Drinker for publication. Having given up drinking for Lent, I was fired with a thirst far surpassing all human understanding!

Being Easter my journey took me to Dorset. I took the train to Lower Piddleton and alighted at the quaint little station. Naturally the train was a half hour late, so I had to set off in great haste to keep up with my schedule.

I hared off, unfortunately in the wrong direction, coming to a dead end after a mile. I looked again at the map and found that I had been reading it upside down! Retracing my steps, back to the station, I continued up the correct road. After a three mile slog I reached the village of Piddleton.

The village of Piddleton boasts great views of the river Piddle & valley, it's well preserved Saxon church standing high above the village. The only pub in the village c1387, the 'Jolly Blacksmith' was regrettably shut for refurbishment. With a shake my head I climbed the winding 2 mile hill to Upper Piddleton. The 'Phantoms Arms' boasts only one 'Real Ale' but it was off!

Not to be put off, I took a path which led through some woods bringing me, after three miles, to the village of Quilton. The 'Dog & Duck' it seems has ceased to sell 'Real Ale'. Bewildered, I continued along the 3 _ mile bridle path to Coulton.

The 'Partridge in Hand' boasts of six 'Real Ales'. I arrived just as the last bell had been rung for the lunchtime session! (they shut at 3 o'clock). My great thirst compelled me to the 'Pheasant at Knoxville'. Ignorance on my part, this pub shut down three years ago.

After another two miles, the narrow winding lane which I took from there is very scary. Cars travel at very high speeds oblivious of pedestrians. On three occasions I was thrown into the nearside ditch, full of muddy water. I was now soaking wet, very hungry and extremely thirsty.

Another three miles trek took me to the little riverside village of Amberford. The village was flooded and after purchasing my first pint, Boddingtons Best Bitter, (which was cloudy and vinegar tasting) in the 'Wood Pigeons Retreat' I sat down to the experience of water swilling

around my knees. At least I had a pint.

Only one pub to go! It started to rain, I felt ill and continually vomited dispersing the only liquid refreshment of the day, plus the dish of carrots consumed the night before. I looked at my watch to check on my time schedule but it had stopped.

My five mile hike took me through very boggy land and I fell over twice into the mud. I slid over on a fresh cow pat and got covered in dung. I worried not, I knew that all this would be worth it. At last I arrived at the village of Urkham. The 'George' as many of you know, has a regular entry in the 'Good Beer Guide'.

Marching through the large front door and across the deep, luxury fitted carpet I beamed at the six hand pumps displaying a magnificent variety of 'Real Ales'. "Out!" shouted mine host, "Out!, scruffy looking bastard, look at the damage you've done to my carpet, could you not have cleaned yourself up before you come into a decent establishment". Head hung low I departed.

Another narrow lane greeted me for my 4 miles walk back to the station. A tractor came towards me bearing a cart of mangel-wurzeles. There were no ditches this time and I had to stand tight against a rocky wall. It was unfortunate for me, for the tractor and its cart went over my toes, (no apology).

I could hardly walk now, but with great effort I reached the railway station, just in time to see the last train departing. The next train I learned was at 8 o'clock the next morning. I kipped the night in the station platform. I caught Pneumonia and spent the next three months in hospital.

My return to civilisation wasn't too pleasant. On my return to work, my boss, after great consideration reviewed my excuse of absence as being feeble. So I lost my job. But it was a ramble to be remembered. In a weird way, one could say, enjoyable.

Eat your heart out: Colin Price!

Denys Vernall.

PUBS ON THE COAST TO COAST WALK 2000

Last year I was fortunate to walk the 190 mile 'Coast to Coast Walk', across northern England. The established route goes from St Bees on the West Coast via the Lake District, Pennines, Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors to Robin Hoods Bay. It is an excellent way to spend a couple of weeks or so.

This article summarises some of the pubs to be found on the route. I accompanied my father who is also a keen real ale drinker and needless to say, two or three beers were eagerly consumed after a long day's trek. Pre-walk research revealed several Good Beer Guide pubs on the route but often it would be 'drink what you find'. Were we to try some excellent Cumbrian/Yorkshire micros or a staple diet of John Smith's bitter? Read on to find out.

We met at Carlisle (my first trip on the wonderfully scenic Settle to Carlisle Railway) and then on to St Bees by train and foot. The landlady at our B&B recommended The Queens Hotel (now, deservedly GBG but not in 2000) for a meal and we were not disappointed. There were 3 ales available – Jennings Bitter and Cumberland Ale and Yates Bitter, all fine Cumbrian beers and well known to us in the Lake District. We tried the Jennings B which is extremely malty and the Yates, a favourite, a bitter Yorkshire style beer.

After 15 miles or so the next day, we arrived at the Ennerdale Bridge where there are two pubs. The Fox & Hounds served Theakstons Bitter only and The Shepherd's Arms had 5 beers available including Yates Bitter for sadly the last time this holiday. Needless to say we stayed longer and ate in the latter establishment, although to be fair the former's Theakstons was also enjoyable.

We were now well and truly in the Lake District where the next three days would include some challenging walking in hot weather. Our next destination was Rosthwaite where there are now two very good pubs, both usually in the GBG. At the rear of the Scafell Hotel is a 'Walkers' bar serving Theakstons BB, XB, Old Peculiar and when the landlord is bothered, a guest beer. I tried the XB which was excellent (not a description I normally use for this, usually dull beer) and remain convinced that Scotco. can still brew some good stuff, probably in Masham itself. The Langstrath County Inn sold Black

Sheep Bitter, Jennings Bitter and Coniston Bluebird. The latter was very disappointing and nothing like the classic hoppy beer before it won CAMRA's beer of the year. I cannot believe this was Brakspear's 'copy' and hope that Coniston has not compromised the beer.

Two separate 2000' climbs was the order of the next day and probably the toughest of the walk. We had a lunchtime pub stop (for I think the only time) at The Travellers' Inn, Grasmere where I tried a pint of Jennings Cumberland Ale. This is a different baby to the Bitter and far more hoppy. Needless to say it was excellent. Onwards and upwards and then downwards to Patterdale where we tried the rare and wonderfully titled Hesketh Newmarket Doris' 90th Ale at The Patterdale Hotel. This comes from a remote brew pub in the North Lakes and was originally brewed for one of their most regular customers who is, sadly, no longer with us. After checking into our B&B we had a slap up meal at The White Lion, washed down with 2 or 3 pints of Castle Eden Bitter. This was the best example yet of a predominantly malty beer from this now independent brewery. So far so good.

We had now lost track of the days and undertook a 20 mile + walk to the small town of Shap. This town is a mile long and the first three of four pubs were fizz and had loud, thumping music to go with it. Fortunately, we finally found The Greyhound which had one beer, Tetley Bitter which was surprisingly good. At its best this beer is considerably hoppy and distinctive and, I reckon, far better than some of the offerings from certain Southern Regionals. On mentioning to the landlord that this was the only real ale in town, I discovered this was his first day here and he will have Jennings Bitter and one guest beer from now on. We were a week early.

We waved goodbye to the Lakes, heading towards the Pennines and into areas unknown. The next port of call was Kirkby Stephen where

we made a beeline to The White Lion, a simple, GBG listed, Jennings tied pub, which we visited both before and after our meal. Here we met a fellow coast to coaster who amusingly bolted his first pint of Jennings Bitter in about 10 seconds. We took a little longer and it was an excellent example. Sadly the Cumberland Ale was one of those 'dilemma beers' i.e. not quite poor enough to return.

The next day took us through the Pennines to our half way point, the tiny Hamlet of Keld, population 9, 22 % of whom we stayed with. We celebrated reaching half way by having a teetotal night in, not out of choice, but as there were no pubs for miles.

Only having progressed a few miles further, we had our first serious rain and we had to climb over 1000' in it. Things brightened up later and we arrived in Reeth. We visited two pubs that night, The Black Bull which served three Theakstons beers to the adjacent, Kings Arms where I introduced my father to Timothy Taylor Landlord, a beer that needs no introduction. We also had some Black Sheep Bitter which was pretty awful. It had a nasty sharp fruity tang that I initially put down to being green but now reckon was something more sinister (more later).

It was sad to leave our excellent B&B but as we were now in the Yorkshire Dales we did not need much inspiration to get going. Our next destination was Scornton where we firstly visited The Farmers Arms for a meal. Here we found a lively pub quiz (the first of three in four days) in progress which we left but briefly popped into the recently refurbished White Heiffer. In both pubs the choice was John Smiths Bitter or Black Sheep Bitter and I found the latter almost as poor as the night before.

After a lengthy but relatively flat day's walk, we arrived at the village of Ingleby Arncliffe which has no shops but thankfully a pub, The Blue Bell Inn. Here we tried the rarely seen John Smiths Magnet, a malty beer with much more character than their very dull bitter, and one of the few decent national beers still brewed.

Next was an excellent day strolling through the Cleveland Hills to Great Broughton, a village with four pubs all of which sold real ale. We visited two, The Jet Miners' Inn, where we had a meal and some Theakstons Bitter and ropey (as too often) Marstons Pedigree. Better was The

Bay Horse, the first Camerons pub on the walk and where we had a pint of Strongarm. This was rather good and reminiscent of a stronger Banks' Mild from the same company.

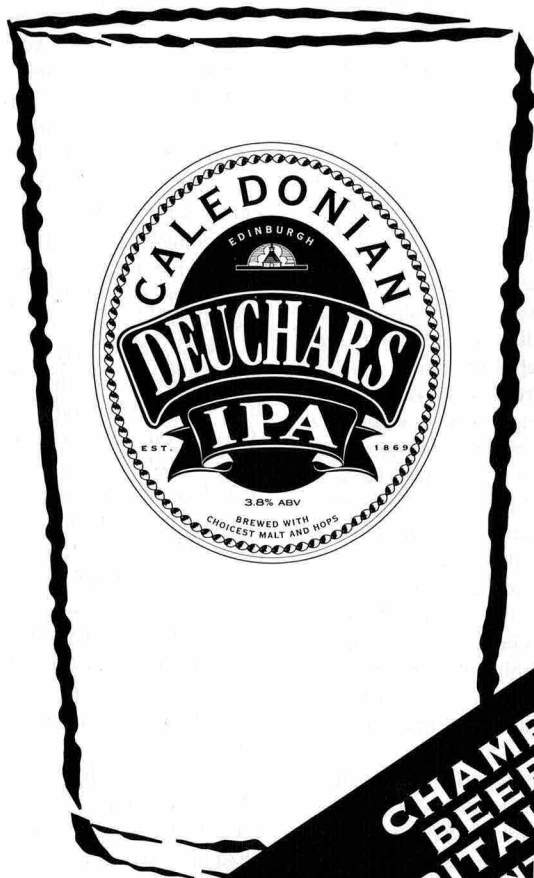
The penultimate day's walk was a rather dull, misty, plod over the North Yorks Moors, before arriving in the village of Glaisdale. Here we visited both pubs, the Wetherspoon sounding Moon & Sixpence and The Arncliffe Arms. The former sold Camerons Bitter (now known as Creamy Bitter) which reminded me of a hoppier Banks' Bitter. A karaoke evening kicked off and after serious consideration of whether to join in with the renditions of Elvis, Andy Williams and The Pogues et al, we decided to move. Hand-pumps advertised Black Sheep Bitter and for the first time both Black Sheep Special and a real cider. Sadly the Special was 'not on' despite the clip facing us and the Bitter was again, not right. At the time, I put this down to a bad batch but it was just as poor on the one occasion I have tried it since, in Norwich late last year.

We set off next day for the homeward stretch over varying terrain to Robin Hood's Bay on the East Coast. After standing in the sea (as one does) we put our feet up at The Bay Hotel close by. This sold a variety of national beers including Theakstons Black Bull Bitter which I understand is only brewed at the small Masham plant. This was a pleasant refreshing drink to unwind with. The CAMRA award winning Victoria Hotel was about four doors from our guest house and served what we both agreed was the best beer of the holiday, Cropton Honey Gold. Cropton beers are usually very bitter and honey in the brew created a very well balanced drink.

The next day I had about three hours in York before my connecting train arrived. Despite consistently heavy rain (better now than before), I had time to seek out a few more pubs. Most of these, which included one of the few remaining Tap and Spiles, were free houses, The Maltings. It was here I had time to try the latest from Roosters and the wonderfully named Tim Pagson's 65th Celebration Ale from the Rat & Ratchet brew pub in Huddersfield. It was good to try some Yorkshire independents at last.

Simon Fyffe.

YOU'RE DUE A DEUCHARS.



**CHAMPION
BEER OF
BRITAIN ~ 1999
BRONZE AWARD**

CALEDONIAN BREWERY, EDINBURGH

KNICKERBOCKERS TOUR

Last autumn (or fall as our host would say), I joined a group of about 16 beer lovers on one of Tom Pereira's Knickerbocker bier tours. Tom (an American in Europe, but a permanent resident, not just one making the grand tour), is well known in beer circles, as a writer, and is a regular contributor to What's Brewing.

The whole trip from the Friday afternoon flight, to the Sunday afternoon return cost £210. This included hotel, coach travel between venues, trips to 5 breweries, 4 meals, plus a good few drinks, and visits to bars. So much was included that I only spent about £30 additionally (the equivalent of about 8 pints of lager and lime at the Cockroach and Mouli Root in Mayfair).

The keynote of the whole thing was informality, starting off with the flight on "Buzz", which is KLM's cheap and cheerful, quick, no frills, budget wing. To keep bureaucracy down to a minimum, even tickets aren't necessary, a letter being sufficient to get you on the plane.

On arrival at Dusseldorf, we were met by a largish bloke (who looked like he might consume the odd drop), with a beard, and wearing a woolly jumper. He was brandishing a Knickerbocker tee shirt like the flag carrier at the battle of Gettysburg, so we correctly assumed him to be mein host. From there we were whizzed by coach a short distance to the town of Dinslaken.

After spending all of 5 minutes booking into the pleasant hotel in the centre of the town (perhaps this could be cut down to 4 minutes on future trips), we quickly adjourned to the very adjacent Kneipe (tavern). The Haus Holtbrugge is an old pub, with impressive wood panelling, a very sociable ambience, and even more impressive beer.

The beers on tap were, Kronen Export (5.6 %) and Hovels a kind of brownish bitter beer from Dortmund. The beer was served cooler than in England (but not too cool) and I was most impressed by the low gassiness of these brews, something I haven't always found in Germany, despite painstaking research on previous occasions. Most of the bars in Dinslaken were open to sometime between 1 and 3 am. However, mindful of the hard days "sightseeing" ahead, I bailed out tactfully at about 2.45.

After a typical continental breakfast to line the stomach, we set off for our first port of call on Saturday morning. This was the Walsumer Brauhaus in Nearby Duisburg (which is the largest inland harbour in Europe). The bier garden, with its stream and pools looked nice in

the autumn sun (it was to be a dark day for England), but we were most interested in what lay inside.

Here we tried the Blond, which had a strong fresh hoppy taste, and was slightly cloudy, due to non-filtration, in order to preserve the body and texture. We also tried the Braun, whilst Tom and the Braumeister told us a little about the brewery and the area. Apparently the bier garden had been closed in the past because of complaints about the noise from the neighbours. Walsumer got around this by buying the nearby flats. Again the beers were refreshing and not at all gassy.

Dragging ourselves away, we then went to the Websters (no relation) brewery, also in Duisburg, which is only 10 years old. The brewers here are all graduates from the Bavarian Brewing School in Weihenstephan (reputed to be Europe's finest).

While one of the brewers told us about their brewing process, we tried their Blond and Braun brews, as well as a special Oktoberfest (which is in September) brew, straight out of the lagering tank. Two types of hop pellets are used at Websters, only from the female hop plant.

All beers in Germany are brewed according to the Reinheitsgebot (a purity law dating back to 1516), which only allows pure ingredients, malt, barley, hops, yeast and water to be used in the brewing process. This is the oldest still enforced food regulation in the world, and the Germans have rightly refused EEC pressure to force them to relax it.

From here we went into Duisburg town centre to visit Schacht 4/8 (the name of an old coalmine), a turn of the century (no not 21st) bank, converted into a house brewery. We lunched (lavishly) here and sampled some of the house beers including Muvany's Golden Gruben, Ruhrpott Pils (Duisburg is in the Ruhr valley, one of Europe's large Industrial areas), and a sweeter Fest Bier.

We needed all of this fortification because this was the day of the World Cup qualifier between England and Germany, and by now Dieter Hamman had already put Germany ahead, as England's defence wobbled as much as some of us.

Waiting for half time, we then crossed to the West side of the Rhine, to the Diebels brewery.

This is a huge brewery, the largest brewer of Alt (old ale) in Germany. The very popular Alt, a top fermented brown beer was the only beer available, but as it was so good, as well as being a local speciality, we were more than happy to consume large amounts of it (which we needed to get us through the 2nd fruitless half of the football). Here we lined our stomachs (again), with brotzeit, a traditional platter of cold meats and cheese, with local fresh bread (bröchen) and a variety of condiments and side dishes.

Arriving back in Dinslaken about 11pm, this gave us a few hours to wander round a few of the other bars in the Altstadt (old town), and try some more Diebels Alt and Kronen Pils (from Duisburg), before returning to the Haus Holtbrugge, which had already become a favourite.

After another early night (2.46), we were set up for the final day, and our 5th and last brewery trip. This was to the Borbecker Brauerei in Essen.

Here they brew a dampf (steam) beer. We enjoyed a tour of the brewery, and a chat about the history and processes, whilst again savouring some of the product.

Like a lot of other German establishments the Borbecker hosts a weekly Sunday Jazz concert called 'Frühshoppen' (Early Sunday pint). Even though I favour the plink, plonk, screeching and wailing type of avant garde jazz which sounds like a cat being dragged through a mangle, I really enjoyed the set, which was quite modern. Whilst enjoying lunch, we were able to try Dampf bier (a Pils), Salonbier (a brown), Zwickelbier (an unfiltered brown), and Stern (another Pils), although not necessarily in that order.

We had to be forcibly dragged out to catch our flight (which we did, just!). On the coach back to Dusseldorf, we heard that Kevin Keegan had resigned, just to prove that some clouds do have a silver lining.

This was my 4th trip to Germany (including Bamberg), and the beers that I had over the weekend were the best so far. I didn't have one single gassy or unpalatable beer. Add in good convivial company, smooth organisation and lots of tasty food, and this was a really excellent trip, which Tom is still going to be running in 2001, and which I would warmly recommend

John Rooth

J. J. Duffy



**282 NORTHFIELD AVENUE,
EALING, LONDON W5 4UB**

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FAX: 0208 932 1722**

GUEST BEER REDUCED IN PRICE ON TUESDAYS

Last month's guests - Black sheep, Everards Tiger,
Timothy Taylor, Youngs IPA

MONDAY NIGHT - QUIZ NIGHT

TUESDAY NIGHT - REAL ALE PROMOTION

THURSDAY NIGHT - STEAK & WINE PROMOTION

SUNDAY LUNCH - 12 noon - 4pm

SUNDAY NIGHT - LIVE MUSIC & TAKE YOUR PICK

ALWAYS IN STOCK - DRAUGHT BASS, LONDON PRIDE

NEAREST TUBE - NORTHFIELDS (PICCADILLY LINE)

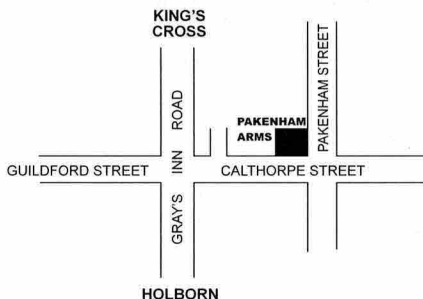
HUGE CASH REWARD

Missing from the **"Pakenham Arms"**,
N°1 Pakenham Street, London WC1

Hundreds of gallons of real ales from the following breweries - Fullers, Young, Slaters, Adnams, Ringwood, Fisherrow and many more.

All the beers were of the very best quality - there seems no doubt that the parties who have partaken of these ales are well satisfied, as they would have returned (or at least complained) about them.

The Breweries have kindly replaced these missing ales so that they can be enjoyed by all her majesty's law abiding subjects, and any others who would like to imbibe in these fine ales during the months of December & January.



SCENE OF 'CRIME'

Notice prepared by your local real ale enforcer

Pat Mulligan

(otherwise known as **"The Guvnor"**)

0207-837-6933

Capital Pubcheck

UPDATE 158

The aim of 'Capital Pubcheck' is to share information about the latest happenings on the London pub scene including new pub and bar openings, name changes, acquisitions, closures, notable changes to beer ranges etc. Cross references to CAMRA's various pub guides covering Greater London are also provided to enable easy updating.

Information is gathered from a variety of sources including London Drinker readers, individual CAMRA members and branch contacts, breweries, pub operators, landlords etc. If you would like to contribute to 'Pubcheck' please send your news to the address below. Additional information for which space in London Drinker is currently unavailable is posted on the Internet via www.londondrinker.co.uk alongside this update.

Hall and Woodhouse, the Dorset brewers, are to be congratulated for bucking the trend and opening a real gem of a new pub in traditional style in the heart of London in W1 Soho. By contrast the latest openings from the pub groups are becoming almost indistinguishable from each other by adopting a common contemporary style - large windows, pine furnishings, pastel décor etc. We nevertheless welcome the continuing commitment to real ale in two new Wetherspoon Free Houses in N1 Islington and SE26 Sydenham, the latest (and possibly the last) Whitbread 'Hogshead' in EC1 Barbican, and catch up on a Bass 'All Bar One' on the riverside in SE1 Bermondsey and a Wizard Inns Free House in Wallington. Worth trying is a tiny ex-Courage GBG pub in WC2 now featuring the Adnams range.

On the down side, Bass continues to re-brand its ex-Allied 'Firkins' as 'O'Neill's' or 'It's a Scream' chain pubs with the removal of real ale in the process. Older pseudo-Irish 'O'Neill's' are being downgraded and renamed yet again, but sadly not back to their original names. Closures and conversions to flats, shops and restaurants continue apace with many other low turnover pubs simply giving up on real ale altogether.

The numbers in brackets after each entry refer to the page numbers in the following guides: E - East London & City Beer Guide, 3rd edition; H - Hertfordshire Guide to Real Ale, 2000 edition; K - Guide to Kent Pubs, 10th edition; 8K - Real Ale Guide to Kent Pubs, 8th edition; N - North London Beer Guide, 3rd edition; SE - South East London Pub Guide, 4th edition; 3SE - South East London Pub Guide, 3rd edition; SW - South West London Pub Guide, 2nd edition; W - Real Beer in West London; X - Essex Beer Guide, 9th edition.

If you would like to report changes to pubs or beers, please write to: Capital Pubcheck, 2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR or e-mail: capitalpubcheck@hotmail.com.

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC1, HOGSHEAD, 171-176 Aldersgate St. Boddington: Bitter; Brakspear: Bitter; Fuller: London Pride; Marston: Pedigree; Wadworth: 6X; Guest beer of the month (G). Latest Whitbread Hogshead opened mid-March on ground floor of former office block, now converted to residential use. Glass doors lead into brightly lit bar with mix of pine furniture, polished light pine flooring (tiled around bar), predominantly cream décor with pastel blue, green, red and yellow walls, and exposed metallic ventilation ducts above. Raised seating area to right of entrance leads out on to narrow balcony for outside drinking overlooking street. Steps lead up to further raised seating/eating area at rear. Some well presented framed photos of contemporary City life on the walls. Food available 12-9 Mon-Thu, 12-7 Fri and includes two meals for £5.99 after 2pm. Guest beer jugs offer 4 pints for the price of 3. Samples of beers available before purchase. Piped music, newspapers available. Disabled WC. Open 12-11 Mon-Fri only, closed weekends.

W1(S), BARCODE, 3/4 Archer St. No real ale. Free House/bar in former club premises.

W1(S), SHASTON ARMS, 4-6 Ganton St. Badger: Best Bitter, Tanglefoot, King & Barnes Sussex Bitter. Brand new Hall & Woodhouse pub opened December 2000 in former wine bar premises. Decorated in traditional style, with a cosy,

intimate 'aged' feel, low ceilings, old fireplaces, mirrors etc. Two narrow, 'corridor-like' connected rooms with booths and separate drinking areas. Bottled beers include German Weissbier. Shaston was the mediaeval name of Shaftesbury, Dorset, as adopted in Thomas Hardy's novels; history panel and photos record the details. An unusual event - the creation of a 'real' pub in the centre of London! Food until 5pm (4pm Fri). Open 11-11 Mon-Sat, closed Sun.

W1(Mar), SEYMOURS, 32 Crawford Pl. Reopened February 2001 and renamed **LARRIK**. Greene King: IPA; Wadworth: 6X. Now a Larrikins Free House ex-Grand Met (Watney). Tastefully refurbished with stripped pine floors, cream décor, large windows, mixture of chairs, pews, tables etc. Food. Open 12-11 Mon-Sat, 12-10.30 Sun. (W36, U152)

EAST

ILFORD, BLAH BLAHS, 71, Ilford Hill. Renamed **GREENE CASTLE**. Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. Formerly RAT & CARROT. (X73, U144)

NORTH

N1, WHITE SWAN, 251-256 Upper St. Courage: Directors Bitter; Fuller: London Pride; Shepherd Neame: Bitter; Theakston: Best Bitter; 2 Guest beers. New Wetherspoon Free House opened December 2000 in former '60s built Trades Union offices close to Highbury Corner. Steps (and wheelchair lift) lead past small outside patio (no children) through glass doors into large bar area with predominantly pastel green décor

Capital Pubcheck

UPDATE 158 continued

and pink patterned carpet, offset with basket-weave cream and brown bar front, and back wall. Mixture of seating including stools, comfy chairs etc. No smoking seating area at rear. Stairs lead up to balcony seating area overlooking main bar on both sides. Local history panels and geometric abstract paintings hang on the walls. A large back-lit screen above the bar, with bottles in portholes, changes colour constantly! Named after Old White Swan which stood nearby. Swan Yard survives behind the block containing the pub. The buildings originally on the site and station next door were destroyed by a V2 rocket during the Second World War. Food, disabled WC. Open all permitted hours.

N8, BAR ROCCA, 159A Tottenham La. No real ale. Free House/bar in former Sally Ally premises, more recently a club.

NORTH WEST

NW3, PJ'S, 82 Hampstead High St. No real ale. Free House/bar and restaurant

SOUTH EAST

SE1, ALL BAR ONE, 34 Shad Thames. Draught Bass; Fuller: London Pride. New outlet for Bass chain on riverside promenade, opened February 2000 but not previously reported. Large glass frontage with outside patio covered by awnings – continental style. Polished wooden floors, light green and cream décor, clock, blackboard for wine and food, potted plants etc. Over 21s only. Open all permitted hours and 10am Sat/Sun for breakfast..

SE14, GOLDSMITH'S TAVERN, 316 New Cross Rd. No real ale. Reopened in evenings only as a music venue after a spell as a social club.. (SE127, U102)

SE26, WINDMILL, 125-131 Kirkdale. Courage: Directors Bitter; Fuller: London Pride; Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; Theakston: Best Bitter, Old Peculier; 3 Guest beers from micros. New Wetherspoon Free House opened February in former furniture shop premises. Rebuilt frontage with central window feature. Spacious, low-ceilinged interior with black marble-topped bar along one side. Green carpet with brown tiled area around bar. Cream décor offset with pastel blues and greens, and abstract laminated photos of night scenes, by a local photographer, on the wall. A mixture of tables, chairs and comfy, high backed seating. No smoking area at rear leads through to small outdoor terrace. Named after a windmill that stood nearby, still commemorated by a local street named Mill Gardens. Food, disabled WC. Open all permitted hours.

SOUTH WEST

SW6, ADELAIDE, 575 Kings Rd. Reopened and renamed **LUNASA**. H removed. Now a café-bar (and not converted to flats as erroneously reported in U152 – see corrections below). (SW65, U134)

WALLINGTON, JOHN JAKSON, 14-16 Woodcote Rd. Boddington: Bitter; Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; Wadworth 6X. Beers not all available. New Wizard Inns Free House opened March 2000 in former Boots shop premises but not previously reported. Large windows along frontage, pastel green and yellow décor with red patterned carpet, polished wood flooring around bar and abstract paintings. Mixture of seating types, raised no smoking area at rear, with optional table service. Named after a local early 20th century lavender farmer. Piped music, TV, food, disabled WC (with key). Open all permitted hours.

STATION ARMS

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Fri: 5.30pm-11.30pm; Sat: Noon-11.30pm; Sun: Noon-11.00pm; Mon: Noon-11.00pm

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Last train back to Liverpool Street (change at Wickford or Shenfield)

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Capital Pubcheck

UPDATE 158 continued

WEST

HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 2 (Airside). Courage: Directors Bitter; Marston: Pedigree; Theakston: Best Bitter. Wetherspoon Free House, opened February 1998 but not previously reported. Open only to those with aircraft boarding passes. Open every day from 5.30am until last departures c. 10.30/11pm.

HOUNSLOW, DUKE OF YORK, 692 Hanworth Rd. Courage: Best Bitter. Reopened and refurbished and now branded as a WJ&J Sanderson pub. (W126, U99, U107, U156)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REALALE

CENTRAL

W1(F), FLINTLOCK & FIRKIN. Renamed **COURT (THE)**, now part of Bass' unpleasant 'It's a scream' chain. H removed. Formerly **CANONS**. (W28, U75, U120, U151)
W1(Mar), BLACK HORSE. Old established former Finch's Free House, sadly closed for conversion to shop. (W33, U44, U67, U72, U89, U98, U110)

EAST

E1, BISHOP BONNER. Free House, now converted to residential but retaining signage. (E79, U120, U131)
E2, CAMEL. Free House, closed and for sale. (E79, U75, U79, U89)
E2, DUNDEE ARMS. Ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), no real ale. (E80, U101)
E2, FLORIST. Phoenix, no real ale. (E80, U70, U75, U112)
E2, GREYHOUND. Ex-Courage, closed since early 2000. (E81)
E2, HARE. Phoenix, no real ale. (E81, U112)
E2, PRINCE OF WALES, 76 Bishops Way. Wells, converted to property agency. (E84, U89, U100)
E2, ROYAL CRICKETERS. Whitbread, closed and boarded up. (E84, U137)
E2, SALMON & BALL. Free House, no real ale. (E84, U79, U98, U140)
E2, SPORTSMAN. Ascot, demolished and replaced with flats. (E85, U70, U99)
E5, ROBIN HOOD. Ex-Grand Met (Courage), demolished. (E100)
E8, BROWNLOW ARMS. Ex-Wiltshire, closed some time ago but signage retained. (E111, U71)
E8, DUKE OF RICHMOND. Whitbread, converted to LMNT restaurant and 'gastro bar' - table service and bottled beers only. (E112, U76)
E8, GRANGE TAVERN. Inn Business, now demolished and replaced with flats. (E113, U70, U119)
E8, L.A. Free House, now demolished. (E113)
E8, MARION ARMS. Ex-Wiltshire, converted to flats in 1994. (E114, U70, U79)
E8, NINETEENTH HOLE. Ascot, demolished and replaced with flats. (E114, U99)
E8, PRINCE ARTHUR. Free House, closed, future uncertain for this former, regular Good Beer Guide pub. Formerly **LADY DIANA** for a while. (E113, U98, U119, U130)
E8, PRINCE OF WALES. Ex-Grand Met (Truman), converted to flats but retaining signage. (E115)
BARKING, CHAINS. Latterly a night club, now demolished. (X11)

NORTH

N8, NEW PRIORY INN. Renamed **LATIN BAILEY**. Now a Free House again, ex-Bass, H removed. (N94)
N9, EXHIBITION. Ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), converted to shop. (N99, U109)
N9, JOLLY FARMER. Ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), no real ale. (N100)
N9, PYMME'S PARK INN. Whitbread, no real ale. (N100)
N9, RAT & CARROT (ROSIES). Greene King, no real ale. (N100, U117)
N9, TOWN CRIER. Whitbread, no real ale. (N101)
N17, NARROW BOAT. Free House, closed, uncertain future for what was once a Wetherspoon pub. (N135)
N19, PRINCE OF DENMARK. Free House, closed for some time, all signage removed and windows whitewashed. (N145)
ENFIELD (EN1), BUSH HILL PARK HOTEL, 141 St Marks Rd. Now **BUSH HILL PARK**, Whitbread, no real ale. Note correct address: shown on map incorrectly as 4, should be 6. (N229)

NORTH WEST

NW1, EDINBORO' CASTLE. Bass, H unused. Appears to be in the process of being run down, more information welcome. (N165)
NW3, HARE & HOUNDS. S&N, now demolished. (N186, U152)
NW3, OLD ORLEANS. S&N, converted to 'Groucho Grill' restaurant. (N189, U106)
NW5, GLOUCESTER ARMS. Ex-Grand Met (Watney), no real ale. (N199)
NW5, VINE. Bass, probably now sold or leased. Part of pub now used as a restaurant, H removed. (N201)
NW7, SWISS HOUSE. Renamed **ARTFUL DODGER**, ex-Greenall, no real ale. Now a sports bar. (N210)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, CAFÉ DELL' UGO. Renamed **BLUE OLIVE**. Now Free House bar/restaurant, ex-Whitbread, H removed.. (U102)
SE1, FROG & NIGHTGOWN. Already reported as converted to club, now renamed 'Club Caesars'. (SE16, U119, U152)
SE1, HERCULES TAVERN (MADIGANS). Free House, converted to 'Kiplings' Indian restaurant, now closed and boarded up. (SE20, U102)
SE1, HONEST CABBAGE. Ex-Grand Met (Courage), should have been recorded as 'converted to restaurant' when reported in update 117 as renamed 'Honest Cabbage'. Formerly **YORKSHIRE GREY**. (SE41, U117)
SE1, KING OF BELGIUM. Renamed **ELUSIVE CAMEL**, Bass, H unused. (SE23)
SE9, LAST ORDERS. Bass, converted to chicken restaurant/takeaway. Formerly **CASTLE**. (SE86, U114)
SE9, ROYAL: ELTHAM. Ex-Grand Met (Courage), H removed. (SE87)
SE14, ARROWS. Bass, closed and boarded up. (SE125)
SE14, DEW DROP INN. Ex-Grand Met (Courage), closed. (SE126)
SE14, HATCHAM ARMS. Free House, no real ale. (SE127)
SE14, RISING SUN. Ex-Belhaven, converted to flats. (SE130)
BROMLEY, BEECH TREE. Now badged by Bass as part of the 'Southside Pub Company', H unused. (3SE216, K50)

-Capital Pubcheck-

UPDATE 158 continued

BROMLEY, CHURCHILL THEATRE (TAVERN).

Theatre bar now only open during performances, delete from listings. (3SE216, K202)

BROMLEY, G PAMPHILON. Free House (Regent Inns), H removed. (U97)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(B), MUSE. S&N, closed a few months ago, future uncertain. Formerly HORSE & GROOM. (SW38, U138)

SW6, COCK. S&N, H removed. (SW66)

SW6, SLUG & LETTUCE. Ex-Grosvenor Inns, H removed. (SW71)

SW8, SW8 BAR/CAFE, 642 Wandsworth Rd. Renamed **INIGO**, CCC Leisure, H removed. Formerly VICTORIA. (SW80, U141, U144, U152)

WALLINGTON, CAVALIER. Free House, now converted to shop.

WEST

W4, HOGSHEAD. Renamed **CASA**, complete with a makeover into a brash, modern-style bar, H removed. (U124)

W6, WHITE HART. Renamed **HART**, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), now a modern-style café-bar, H removed. (W77, U89)

ISLEWORTH, CHEQUERS. Now badged by S&N as John Barras & Co, 8 handpumps unused! (W130, U107)

ISLEWORTH, KINGS ARMS. Now Nomura, ex-Watney, H unused. (W131, U60, U62, U90)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC1, HOPE. -Ruddle: County; +Young: Special. Now carries 'Youngs' signage outside but believed to be an Innpreneur pub, ex-Grand Met (Watney). (E18, U83)

W1(Mar), BRICKLAYERS ARMS, 33 Aybrook St.

Renamed **WILLIAM WALLACE**, -beers listed:

+Caledonian: Deuchars IPA, 80/- . Now a J D Morison Scottish Free House, ex-Allied (Nicholson) and replacing the former pub of the same name in nearby Blandford St (see below). Open all permitted hours. (W33, U54)

W1(Mar), O'NEILL'S. Renamed **STOUT FELLOW**, still fizz. Formerly WALLACE HEAD. (W36, U63, U93, U119)

W1(Mar), WILLIAM WALLACE. Renamed **TUDOR ROSE**. -beers listed; +Courage; Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. No longer a Scottish themed pub but remains with S&N. Formerly LINCOLN (IN MARYLEBONE). (W35, U148)

WC2, SEVEN STARS. -beers listed +Adnams: Bitter, Broadside, seasonal beer; +Everard: Tiger. Tiny former Courage pub, and current Good Beer Guide entry, leased as a Free House by former Soho landlady Roxy Beaujolais who was ousted by Bass for providing home cooked food. (W56)

EAST

E2, NICE LITTLE EARNER. Renamed **OARSMAN**, a sports bar. (E83, U75)

E8, DUKE OF SUSSEX. Renamed **OVERDRAFT**, still fizz. (E112)

E10, WILLIAM THE FOURTH. -William the Fourth: Brand X, Brand Y; +Sweet William: East London Mild (3.6%), Just William (3.8%), William the Conqueror (4.4%), Wonderfully Wheaty (4.6%). A seasonal Special Winter

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Capital Pubcheck

UPDATE 158 continued

Warmer (5%) has also been brewed but is no longer available. Further to Update 157, the attached brewery (now named 'Sweet William') is more correctly a 'micro-brewery' than a 'brewpub' since beers are being supplied to other pubs in East London.. (E125, U85, U109, U130, U157)

NORTH

N1, DOG & DUMPLINGS. Renamed **NORTHGATE**, -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter; +Marston: Pedigree; +Morland: Old Speckled Hen. Sensitive refurbished with polished wooden floors etc. (N41)

N8, LION. Renamed **NOBODY INN**. -Courage: Directors: Bitter. (N94)

N9, GOLDEN FLEECE. Renamed **BAR 271**, now half a pub and half a Thai café-bar, still fizz.. (N99, U152)

N10, O'NEILL'S. Renamed **WELLS**, still fizz. (U143)

N16, STEPTOES. Renamed **DANIEL DEFOE**. -beers listed except Wells: Eagle Bitter, Bombardier; +Defoe Ale (3.8%), origin unknown. Sensitive refurbished. (N131)

N19, RAILWAY HOTEL. Renamed **SALTBAR**, still fizz. (U143)

N22, GOOSE & GRANITE. Renamed **GOOSE**. Formerly **NAGS HEAD**. (N156, U151)

ENFIELD (EN1), ENFIELD ARMS. On map as 6, should be 8. (N229)

NORTH WEST

NW5, DUKE OF ST ALBANS. Renamed **PLATINUM BAR**, -beers listed except Courage: Best Bitter. (N198)

HARROW, VILLAGE INN. 402-408 Rayners Lane. Is located in **PINNER** (HA5) - correction to Update 81. (U81)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, BRIDGE. Renamed **CZAR BAR**, formerly **HORNS**. (SE21, U102, U112, U157)

SE1, JUGGLERS ARMS. Reverted to **LEATHER EXCHANGE** by early 2000. (SE22)

SE9, GREYHOUND. Full name is **GREYHOUND (YE OLDE)**. (SE86)

SE14, HOLLERAN'S TAVERN. Renamed **McCONNELLS**. (SE127, U102)

BROMLEY, BAR COAST. Renamed **BAR STANZA**, still fizz. (U131)

BROMLEY, GREYHOUND. Renamed **TOWNHOUSE**, still fizz. (3SE218, U59, U80)

BROMLEY, PARTRIDGE. Correct address is 194 High St. (U120)

BROMLEY, WHITE HORSE. -Worthington: Best Bitter; +Shepherd Neame: Bitter. (3SE220, U86, omitted in error from 8K guide)

WEST

W11, PORTOBELLO GOLD. -beers listed; +Courage: Directors Bitter; +Guest beers from micros (e.g. Ash Vine). Converted to a café-bar with restaurant at rear. Also sells Pitfield 'cask conditioned' lager from a keg font (£2.50 a pint). Pub became briefly famous last December when Bill Clinton popped in for a pie and a pint. (W88)

HEATHROW, JJ MOONS (Terminal 4 Airside). Renamed **WETHERSPOONS** by 1998 but not previously reported. (U76, U78)

HOUNSLOW, LORD CLYDE. -beers listed +Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. Now Greene King owned but still badged as

Morland. (W128, U79, U99, U101)

TWICKENHAM, CHERRY TREE. -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Now badged as 'Peri-Peri Pub Co' and refurbished after an (unreported) spell as a pizza restaurant called 'Spagos', and now changed back to its original name again. (W150, U47, U98)

PUBS CLOSED ETC..

SW6, ADELAIDE. Delete entry - not converted to flats (see 'New and reopened pubs' above).

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 152

OTHER CHANGES ETC.

SW6, FAT SAMs. Should read: Renamed **PROSPECT (THE)** (not **ASPECTS**).

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 155

OTHER CHANGES ETC.

EC3, POET. Should read: name more correctly **POET BAR** (not **POETS CORNER**)

NW5, VULTURES PERCH. Should read: Renamed

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 157

JORENE CELESTE

NEW & REOPENED PUBS ETC.

SE1, SLUG & LETTUCE. Address should read: 32 Borough High St.

PUBS CLOSED ETC.

WC2, IMPERIAL. Delete entry, H not removed..

N10, TAP BARREL should read: **TAP & BARREL**.

BARNET (EN5), CROWN & ANCHOR. Delete entry, already reported in U152.

BARNET (EN5), JUG & TRUMPET (now **BAR TEN**).

Delete reference to S&N, likely to be Inn Partnership, a subsidiary of Nomura which acquired the Greenalls estate.

NW1, TAVERN IN THE TOWN should read: **TAVERN INN THE TOWN**

NW3, HORSE & GROOM was not due to close until late February 2001.

SE8, HARP. Also formerly **ROUND THE BEND** under which it is listed in the SE guide.

WELLING, DUKE OF EDINBURGH should read:

DUCHES OF EDINBURGH. Refs should be (3SE286, U44, U87, K146)

OTHER CHANGES ETC.

SW13, GARDEN HOUSE (now **BROWNS**) is a Bass pub.

NW6, CALCOTT TAVERN. Correct address is 68/70 Willesden Lane.

HERTFORDSHIRE GUIDE

NW6, PRINCE OF WALES. Delete entry, already reported in U156.

SW1(SJ), COMEDY. Delete reference to S&N. Now an Inn Business pub, ex-Greenalls.

Additional amendments to the new Herts guide for completeness to bring it into line with the North London guide: Amend

COCKFOSTERS (EN4), TRENT TAVERN. Closed for housing development.

Add

NEW BARNET (EN4), DUKE OF LANCASTER, Lancaster Rd. Closed and boarded up.

Looking Back

FROM OUR ARCHIVES.

Whilst the April & May 1986 editions were in preparation I spent several weeks in hospital, denied access to my archives and real beer – both active ingredients in writing this column. Ian Amy took over my role for those editions, and it is his research which I have used for the sections that refer to 1981, 1986 and 1991. As my de-hospitalization was followed closely by household removals which involved the Archives going into storage, Ian continued to write the articles until the August edition.

TWENTY YEARS AGO in April, "News & Views", the forerunner of the present editorial, covered the proposed extension of the availability of Federation beers in London. Local News revealed only 3 pubs in SW20, two Watneys and one Charringtons, all fizz. Adele Jones gave details of the beers of America, and Alan Greenwood in his Beer Diary gave a history of beer duty from its origins in the 17th Century under Cromwell. The following month Alan explained the various reasons for a cloudy pint, and the theory of beer fining. Details were given of the Everards move into the London beer market, and the Trumans responded through the letters column of adverse comments in the February edition of their Tap Bitter.

Louise Joscelyn's conducted tour of drinking in Surbiton covered eight pubs serving a wide variety of beers.

No April edition would be complete in those days, without a liberal helping of spoof articles, which were clearly indicated in the text.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO the April Editorial covered charity events and collections in pubs, whilst that of May discussed Sunday hours, complete with biblical quotations and history lesson.

Any photo article appropriate to April 1st covered CAMRA beards and featured 8 examples of hirsute male CAMRA members, one of whom, Christian Muteau, was the author of an article on the pleasures and problems of running The Butts at Elephant & Castle.

An 8 pub crawl covered the South Woolwich borders, featuring a wide selection of beers. Merton's Historicrawl covered a variety of pubs along the route of the Surrey Iron Railway, the first public railway in the world (opened in 1802), from Wandsworth to Mitcham and along its branch to Hackbridge. Ben Davis penned an article on extended hours, and the problems which could arise, and the price increase resulting from all day opening. The history of the Bull & Bush was covered in a pub profile.

TEN YEARS AGO Andy's Editorial covered pubs changing their names. The seasonal April 1st article covered a supposed press release from the Ministry of Silly Rules, and was penned by Saul Phibbes.

Most of the edition was given over to the 2nd Cider & Perry Exhibition at Stratford Town Hall. Included were articles on fake handpumps by Mick Lewis, perry by Sara Hicks, and details of the drinks available at the festival were presented by David Kitton.

In May a Guest Editorial by Dave Sullivan covered the practice of returning the contents of drip trays to the cask. An article on the price of pubs, as opposed to prices IN pubs, explained the depressed state of the market. Losses by Innpreneur of £60,000 per pub on the valuation of their estate were quoted.

The issue also carried an article previewing the GBBF to be held in Docklands.

There was an appetiser to drinking in Copenhagen.

FIVE YEARS AGO in his April Editorial Chris discussed the fact that the onslaught of nitrokegs had Real Ale on the retreat. A month later Andy remarked on the number of new pubs that were springing up, tending to be grouped in town centre areas. Andy also profiled the history of the Highgate Brewery, and a review of CAMRA's 1st 25 years was contributed.

12,000 pints of cider and perry were to be on sale at the 1986 GBBF, and for the first time there was to be a tasting panel to select the Champion Cider and Perry of Great Britain.

The selected charity for the Festival was Help the Aged. Following the heatwave the previous year, all beers at the 1996 GBBF were to be cooled.

The Hop Back Brewery was producing a bottled form of Summer Lightning.

The Bull's Head, Barnes (Young's) a top jazz venue, had re-opened after a major facelift.

Young's had launched Best Mild Ale, ABV 3.2%. Globetrotter produced a review of real ales in Zimbabwe, entitled "Out of Town Business".

Finally, many thanks to Ian for saving me the effort of re-researching all but the 1996 section of this article. Despite my having a light workload for this edition, this is STILL behind schedule.

Cheers for now,
Martin Smith.

Obituary

CHRISTIAN FERNAND MUTEAU

Born 11 July 1938, Died February 2001
Christian died at his flat in Stepney, East London early in February this year, of natural causes. His health had been declining for several years to his great frustration hindering his mobility. He was never one to complain, however. "There's plenty worse off than me." Or "Ah, well, mustn't grumble" were often heard from him.

Christian was almost a fixture at many beer festivals; either on admissions or in the finance room behind the scenes. For several years he was "the voice of Olympia", where his clarity of diction and well-timed delivery over the public address were an essential part of the smooth running of The Great British Beer Festival. His festival radio callsign, 'Keyman', commemorates the times when he worked in the staffing office, handing out the keys to the staff accommodation.

Christian Muteau was a big man, in all senses. Tall, and of Falstaffian girth; but gentle, warm-hearted and open-handed.

I first met Christian in 1975, when we were both working at the first national beer festival that CAMRA ever ran. Remember 'Covent Garden is alive with Real Ale'? He was in charge of the CAMRA products stand, and was my boss for the latter part of the festival. We quickly became firm friends.

Even then, he was already a CAMRA stalwart, having chaired his Local Branch: Richmond & Hounslow. When he took over the Queen's Head at Bradwell on Sea in Essex, he put his skills as a cellarman and a chef to good use. Under his ownership, the pub retained its place in the Good Beer Guide, and gained an enviable reputation for food, too. More: Chris boasted that he had the only Licensed Laundrette in the country!

After he sold the pub, he returned to London to live, and settle in Stepney. He became a staunch member of the East London and City Branch. Two years ago, he was elected CAMRA's Regional Director for Greater London. Unfortunately his failing health forced him to resign the post almost immediately.

Chris has also worked as a volunteer with charities: Macmillan Cancer Nurses and more recently Get Kids Going: which helps disabled children.

He was also a highly-reputed cricket scorer, for, among other sides, the Guards, The Honourable Artillery Company, and the Lords and Commons. The last paid tribute to him in an early day motion signed by thirty-six MPs.

Yes, Christian was a big man. He leaves a big hole in our campaign, and in all our hearts.

Richard Larkin.



The FOX

Green Lane
Olde Hanwell
London W7

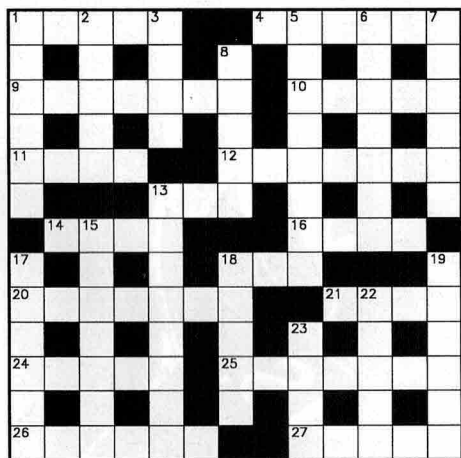
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- We proudly announce that we do not possess any filtering equipment. There is no recycling in our pub!
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- Contained pub garden
- 100 yards from Grand Union Canal
- Open 11am-11pm
Sundays 12-10.30pm

Crossword

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

£10 PRIZE TO BE WON



ACROSS

1. Look in bog for criminal. [5]
4. Very cold beer. [6]
9. A large drink, apparently, for the lady. [7]
10. Believe to be the first sign of rot. [5]
11. But they may be evens. [4]
12. Hit outside, attack fortress. [7]
13. Transport from the sea back to land. [3]
14. Some crap sermons heard at end of church. [4]
16. Bet in Canterbury. [4]
18. General returned slipper. [3]
20. Might they be found just in empty places? [7]
21. In the morning minute amounts of bullets are found. [4]
24. Badly ruin with drug, harden. [5]
25. Does he listen to accounts? [7]
26. Builds up after Crete's destroyed. [6]
27. Redhead during disastrous diet is worn out. [5]

Name

Address

.....

.....

All correct entries received by first post on 30th May will be entered into a draw for the prize.

Prize winner will be announced in the August London Drinker.

The solution will be given in the June edition.

All entries to be submitted to:

London Drinker Crossword

25 Valens House

Upper Tulse Hill

London SW2 2RX

DOWN

1. Standard applied to beer container. [6]
2. I am introduced to fat landowner. [5]
3. Sailor begins north of Adelaide harbour. [4]
5. Bury girl gets break. [8]
6. It's used to receiving blows. [7]
7. Come round and back alternative gallery. [6]
8. Ullage cut in ship. [5]
13. It'll have tight guys inside and out. [4,4]
15. The field beyond the river. [7]
17. Warning poster on sin. [6]
18. Try writing. [5]
19. Bird's tail twisted in engine part. [6]
22. Test army driver. [5]
23. Cockney's skull beaten? Check. [4]

Winner of the prize for the December Crossword:
Lyn Randall, Sunbury on Thames.

LAST MONTH'S SOLUTION



Other correct entries were received from:

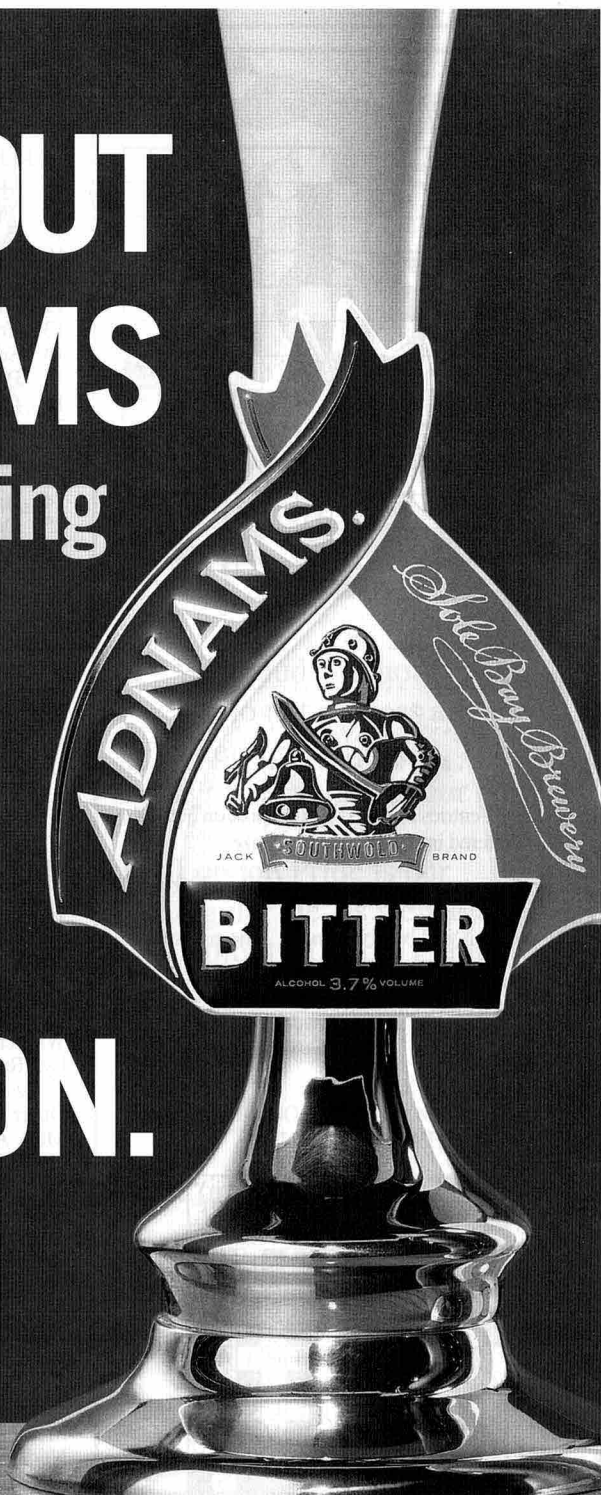
Mark Antony, Geoff B., Ben Burfutt, Eddie Carr, Neil Chapman, Dave Clench, Paul Curson, Kathryn Everett, Ribena de Farquar-Toss, Mike Farrelly, B.H.Fletcher, Michael Flynn, Dudley Freeman, Marion Goodall, Darryl Gorman, Eileen Graves, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, M.I.Green, G.Hearne, Kevin Henriques, William Hill, Tom Kemp, K.I.May, M.J.Moran, Al Mountain, Rod Prince, Derek Pryce, Geoff S., Bryan Smith & Isa Nunes, Old Smokey, Sophie's Telbo, Bill Thackray, Eileen Tover, Troglodyte, Martin Weedon, Sue Wilson, Ivor Wright-Ardon, Nadnerb Yasec.

There were also 15 incorrect entries

**SEEK OUT
ADNAM'S**

at discerning
outlets

**ALL
OVER
LONDON.**



Idle Moments

"Men enter politics solely as a result of being unhappily married," (from Parkinson's Law [1958] by C. Northcote Parkinson)

Greetings and welcome to Spring; I saw the sun the other day so I went out and bought a new bicycle. I therefore hold myself personally responsible for the rotten weather we are currently having - as I write this in mid March, that is: I'm sure the rain you are getting while you are reading this will be down to something else.

No, I haven't a clue what I'm on about either - let's get on with the number puzzles (one or two new ones mixed with a number of recycled ones from way back):

1. 43560 SF in and A
2. 36 MM from the S to M
3. 3 S on a B
4. 21 C in the A
5. 11 D in a LTN
6. 64 S on a CB
7. 27,878,400 SF in a SM
8. 224 G of WW a T
9. 22 TLD
10. 50 is L in RN

Thanks heavens they're out of the way; now without further ado let's have some brewery anagrams. As a slight departure this month, they are all breweries which appear for the first time in the 2001 Good Beer Guide (so if you haven't got a copy yet you might be in for a problem or two):

1. LONDON CAN
2. GOAT GRIPS CENT
3. STANDING MARK
4. TAMIL RANCH
5. THREW TOWN
6. COO! A PINK CAT
7. ED THREW A CHINK
8. HER BEST
9. ANKLE LAD
10. I.C. ONGAR

And so we come to 5BY4 and, since inspiration for something new has let me down again, we come on to the letter J in the list of beers to match up with their brewers:

1. Jeffrey Hudson Bitter
2. Jack Frost
3. Jail Ale
4. Jack The Lad
5. Jester Quick One
6. Jolabrug
7. Janet Street Porter
8. Jigsaw
9. Judge Jeffreys
10. Jack o' Lantern

- A. Earl Soham
- B. Princetown
- C. Itchen Valley
- D. Salopian
- E. Fuller's
- F. Bartrams
- G. Linfit
- H. Hop Back
- I. Bullmastiff
- J. Oakham

And the last bit is the general (to a greater or lesser extent) knowledge. How many of these can you answer?

1. What company builds sports cars in Blackpool?
2. For what railway company was Daniel Gooch the first Locomotive Superintendent and subsequently Chief Engineer?
3. What was the name of the last steam railway engine built for British Railways (in 1960)?
4. Which are the only two planets in the Solar System not to have moons?
5. Which planet is the only one in the Solar System with a magnetic field at the surface which is stronger than that of the Earth? (It is 14 times stronger)
6. In which city is the Royal Armouries Museum which opened in 1996, housing many displays which were formerly in the Tower of London?
7. Who was the mother of Henry VIII's only son?
8. Who was the artist famous for his paintings of biblical scenes set in his home village of Cookham?
9. Who is the architect (possibly) most famous for having been depicted on Spitting Image with his organs on the outside?
10. To which popular work of classical music (written between 1914 and 1917) was an extra, eighth movement added in 1999-2000 by Colin Matthews (and given its London Premiere at the Proms on 22nd July 2000)?

Well that's it for another couple of months so I shall bid you all farewell until June. Maybe the weather will be nice then.

Andy Pirson

Idle Moments

IDLE MOMENTS - THE ANSWERS

Here are the solutions to the puzzles set in February's Idle Moments column.

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 1000 North America Discovered by Leif Ericsson
2. 1553 Lady Jane Grey was Queen for Nine Days
3. 1485 Battle of Bosworth Field
4. 1954 Four Minute Mile Broken by Roger Bannister
5. 899 Death of Alfred the Great
6. 1838 Opening of the National Gallery
7. 1694 Foundation of the Bank of England
8. 1979 Margaret Thatcher Became Prime Minister
9. 1431 Joan of Arc Burned at the Stake
10. 1658 Death of Oliver Cromwell

BREWERY ANAGRAMS:

1. DARKTRIBE
2. IRIS ROSE
3. SCATTOR ROCK
4. BRISCOE'S
5. SWALED ALE
6. THOMAS HARDY
7. SWALE
8. CAYTHORPE
9. RAT AND RATCHET
10. MIGHTY OAK

5BY4:

1. Invincible - Durham
2. Ivory Stout - Man in the Moon
3. Independence - Inverlmond
4. If - Brunswick
5. Inspiration Ale - Goddards
6. Ironside - Hampshire
7. Imperial Best Bitter - Haggards
8. Iron Brew - Freeminer
9. Italian Job - Bateman
10. In the Mood - B & T

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. Portcullis House
2. Blackfriars Railway Bridge (upstream) and Southwark Bridge (downstream)
3. The River Mole
4. The River Wey
5. Newcastle
6. It has two decks with a road on the lower and railway on the upper.
7. The Tolpuddle Martyrs
8. Percy Bysshe Shelley
9. Winston Churchill
10. That the World was created in 4004BC

***Samantha and Tim offer
a warm welcome at...***

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Greene King IPA always available.

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FROM:-

**7pm THURSDAY
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TO:

**11pm MONDAY
28th MAY**

Featuring at least 40 real ales from micro breweries all over the country. To be sampled from our two bars and function room. Then maybe relax in our beer garden or courtyard.

Daily BBQs including the governor's famous fat boy BBQ.

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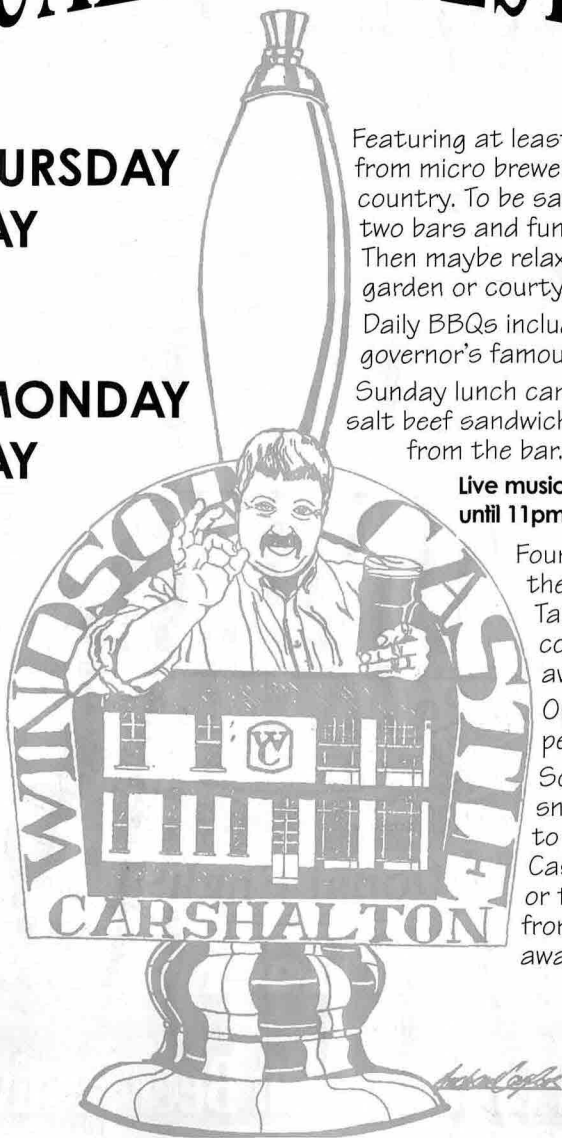
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