

the opening of Young's first pub in Hendon. (See story on page 13).

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London Drinker is published by Mike Hammersley on behalf of the London Branches of CAMKA, the Campaign for Real Ale Limited, and edited by Geoff Strawbridge.

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capitalpubcheck@hotmail.com.

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EDITORIAL

SURVEYING FOR THE GOOD BEER GUIDE

As you read this the 2003 Good Beer Guide (GBG)'s survey forms are being entered into a central database from which the GBG is produced. You could be forgiven for believing that all the activity is out of the way until the guide is published and we sell that guide and then start considering the entries for the 2004 GBG.

However, we don't want to produce a guide that tells drinkers what pubs were serving good beer on the day they were surveyed several months ago. The main aim of the guide is to tell drinkers where they can expect to find good beer at the time that they're reading the guide - basically we've got to predict the future. The most obvious way to do this is to look at what's happened in the past and to predict that it will happen again! Fortunately, when it comes to looking after beer, this method is usually very reliable - if someone looked after beer properly yesterday, the chances are (s)he can do it tomorrow.

Having decided that we can use past results to predict future performance, the next problem is to ascertain the past results - how has the quality of the beer been throughout the year? In Greater London there are approximately 6000 pubs but fewer than 500 people turn up to CAMRA meetings - clearly we need some help from other people.

Three years ago the South East London branch of CAMRA proposed a motion at CAMRA's National AGM and Conference to introduce a quality control system for the *Good Beer Guide*. It was argued that a system already exists via a comments page that would need to be torn from the back of the book. We felt that this did not go far enough and that this system wasn't very well monitored. The motion was remitted to the National Executive.

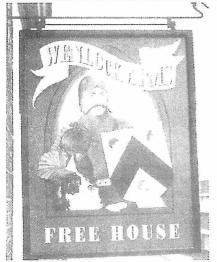
Nine months later CAMRA Chairman, Dave Goodwin attended the South East London branch AGM and described the quality control system that his branch uses. Throughout the year local members are requested to record a score for all beers they try in the pubs in their area. The scoring system is as follows:

0 UNDRINKABLE - you take it back - includes times when no real ale is on sale

1 VERY POOR & GOING OFF - not very nice and halfway down the pint you decide you can't finish it

2 VERY POOR - you manage to finish the pint but you wouldn't have another even if someone else is buying - you would rather drink orange squash instead

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



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EDITORIAL

- 3 POOR you are with a group of friends or work colleagues who don't know or care about what they're drinking you would prefer to go elsewhere to drink but from some sense of duty, stay and drink very slowly or just drink halves
- 4 BELOW AVERAGE you would not really want another pint if you had the choice but if someone else put it in front of you. it is just about acceptable to have one more
- 5 AVERAGE competently kept drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way you drink it without really noticing
- 6 ABOVE AVERAGE a pleasant drink and it may not be worth moving on to another pub but, if you had the time and could be bothered, you might look out for something better
- 7 GOOD Well worth having another (pint or two)
- 8 VERY GOOD good beer in good form possibly cancel plans to move to the next pub you want to stay for a few more and seek out this beer in this condition again
- 9 EXCELLENT probably the best you are likely to find

10 NECTAR - the best pint you've ever had in the best pub in the world - you might score like this every week when you're young and inexperienced but with maturity, such a good score is rarely achieved

Scoring forms were sent to every South East London CAMRA branch member and an online form was posted on the South East London branch website at www.selcamra.org.uk/guides/GBGQC.html, from which further copies of the scoring forms can be downloaded. Responses trickled in and the forms have helped us to decide the nominations and selections for the 2002 and 2003 Good Beer Guides. However, we would like even more feedback - as any good statistician will tell you, the bigger the sample is, the more confident you can be about the underlying distribution.

When you visit a pub in the South East London branch area (all SE and BR postcodes, excluding SE25) please send the following details by e-mail to beerscore@selcamra.org.uk or by snail mail to Andy Camroux, c/o 121 Como Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 2]N

- ♦ Your Name
- ♦ Survey Date
- ◆ Pub Name
- ◆ Pub Address
- ◆ Brewery, Beer Name
- ◆ Price per pint (in pence)
- ◆ Beer Score

Andy Camroux

OPINION - VANISHING POINT

What do the Toby Jug (Tolworth), the Hinchley Wood (Hinchley Wood apparently), the Liverpool Arms and the Two Brewers (both Kingston) and the Red Lion (Brentford) have in common, apart from being pubs?

Simple: they no longer exist! First of this lot to go was the Red Lion, a grotty, grubby roadhouse Fuller's place which specialised in grotty, grubby live music. Indeed, I can say I experienced it from both sides as I played there in another life and drank the (mediocre) Pride when not playing. It's now a drivein burger place so you still can't get a good pint there!

The Hinchley Wood stood abandoned for some years after Greene King gave up on it. They had acquired it as part of their Morland's takeover and the place had never really recovered from ceasing to be a Berni inn many years before. Indeed, the local CAMRA branch and local residents mounted a successful campaign to stop it being developed by the same burger chain as the Red Lion. At present, it resembles a pancake as does the Two Brewers, a pub I fondly remember. After many years of being gradually run into the ground as a Courage house, the legendary Peter 'the Baron' Cliffe saw its potential and for a brief (all of four years) period, it was an oasis of fine ale and good craic. The local branch drank the place dry at his leaving do and a good night was had by all. It then passed to some indifferent holding company and eventually was boarded-up to await the wrecker's ball earlier this year. It was sad to see the old place go.

In addition to those houses which have gone to the great tied estate office in the sky are those for whom the sound of raucous laughter and hard-earned cash being put across the bar is now but a distant memory. The last six months have seen several close around the Kingston area.

Indeed the people of Norbiton have been especially hit hard with three houses closing their doors. Firstly, the Duke Tavern (free, ex Courage and a large Irish house) was boarded and then its local neighbour the Cambridge Arms (ex Watney) called it a day a short while later. At present the latter has environmental squatters and a copious amount of graffiti to contend with.

From these two stricken hostelries it's but a short walk to another former Courage house, the White Horse, which has also shut. You could also add the former Liverpool Arms (aka Lady Jane's aka LJ's) to this too as the place stood empty, was demolished and is now home to a development of shops and flats.

Kingston town itself lost a backstreet gem some time ago when the Lamb was closed and boarded by Shepherd Neame. Another neglected Courage house, it too was given a new lease of life by the Faversham outfit and yet only lasted a few years before saying ta-ra. Just around the corner from where the Brewers used to be was the Outrigger, another former Watney house right by the river's edge. For those that knew it, this pub stood exposed as developers tore down almost all of the buildings around it. The omens were not good in its latter stages: S&N plonked a large Slug and Lettuce yuppie pub almost next to it and then expected to fight its corner. The tide was high and the ol' Outrigger shipped out for the last time last year.

The stakes are high in the pub game. No longer are large breweries willing to cross-subsidise their lowturnover places. They would rather sell off the land to developers who would give them a good few bob and allow them to cut their losses. It could be argued that these places weren't much cop on the real ale front in any case and that their presence will not be missed. If this is the case, CAMRA should make up its mind to whether it should fight to keep open pubs like those mentioned - a good deal of which sold very poor or no cask ale - or focus on keeping those pubs which serve great ale to their communities. The Campaign's approach has always to be seen to oppose any redevelopment of any pub, irrespective of whether it was actually any good or not and maybe it would be better off working to keep open those pubs which do their utmost to promote good, tasty cask ale. Does CAMRA fight to preserve pubs (cask and keg too) or cask ale or indeed both? I think we should be told!

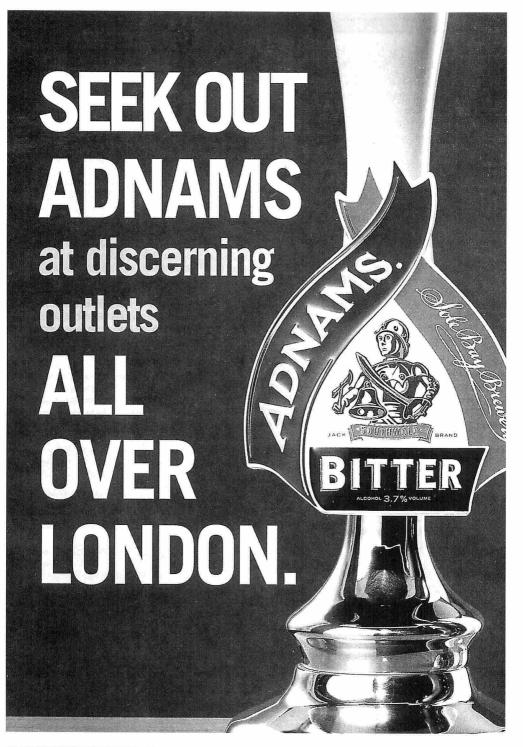
Sure, some people must have been saddened when the likes of the Duke Tavern or the White Horse closed but it's not as though that are is almost publess as a result and in many cases, there were houses willing and able to absorb their former customers. Pubs will close in the future or be converted to other use if pubcos and breweries have their way and this is a fact of economic life.

As far as CAMRA goes, it should seek to keep those it deigns worthy of its support as it's clear that those pubs lost didn't care to enlist the Campaign's help in staying open so were probably not a hill of beans in any case. The pub and brewing game is not a charity: it's run on business lines and the bottom line is the bottom line.

Al Ferrier

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NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

◆ CAMRA declares war on the 'Great British rip-off'

The Campaign for Real Ale has started 2002 with a high profile campaign to end the long-standing scandal of beer being sold in short measures. Present consumer protection legislation is failing to do its job, with Trading Standards officers unable to take action against pubs that serve less than the customer pays for - most attempts at prosecution have failed. Following long standing dissatisfaction with the situation, the Labour Party promised to put an end to the rip-off in the run up to the 1997 General Election. Quoting from the Labour policy web site: 'We will tighten legislation to ensure consumers are protected from short measures and get a full pint'. But, five years on, the legislation hasn't changed. The necessary rules, which as secondary legislation do not have to go before Parliament, have been drafted, and all that is needed is the signature of Patricia Hewitt, the Trade Secretary.

However, there are fears that the change will be scuppered by industry lobbyists, who argue that full pint laws are just another piece of red tape. There has been a strong campaign against the measures, including misinformation such as statements that lined glasses will become compulsory (they won't), handpumps will have to be replaced by metered electric dispense (they won't) or beer prices will go up (which they might do knowing some national operators' use of any excuse to put prices up - but Wolverhampton and Dudley have guaranteed a full pint for years and have some of the cheapest prices in the country).

The British Beer and Pub Association has claimed that the issue if of no interest to the public and that nobody has complained; this was contradicted in February by an answer to a written Commons question from consumer affairs minister Melanie Johnson, which contained a list of 27 local councils and other organisations that had complained to the Department of Trade and Industry. 74 other organisations have responded to DTI consultation papers expressing concern over short measure.

The latest research, from Trading Standards Officers from 21 local authorities, makes shocking reading. Nearly 9 out of 10 pints are less than 100% liquid, and more then a quarter of them failed even to meet the industry guideline that a pint should be at least 95% liquid. The survey also found that, on average, pubs that serve full measure are actually cheaper than those that don't.

Pressure to tighten up the rules is growing within Parliament itself. In the Commons in January, Leader of the House Robin Cook described short measure as 'a clear public scandal' and said the Government would 'bear down as hard as we can'. Although falling short of a commitment to

implement Labour's policy, it is the latest in a long line of pledges to take action over the last five years. More than 150 MPs of all parties have now signed an Early Day Motion calling for action.

Mike Benner, CAMRA Head of Campaigns and Communications said 'Despite proposals from the DTI, the Government seems to have swept reform under the carpet. Our research shows clearly that short measure is on the increase and there is a need for Government action to stop drinkers being ripped off.'

He also added 'For years and years the British public has been short-changed by a minority of licensees, breweries and pub companies.'

♦ Local breweries under threat again

CAMRA is urging McMullen & Sons, Hertfordshire's oldest and biggest brewing company, to stay in brewing as a vertically integrated company following the announcement that it is to 'consider options to best realise the value of the company'. CAMRA believes that it is increasingly difficult for independent brewers to compete with huge global pub chains and brewers, and it is only through a tied pub estate that their future can be secure.

Mike Benner again: 'While selling the business as a whole may have short-term gains for shareholders, the price for local drinkers would be huge, with the loss of the region's key brewery and the pubs falling into the hands of a pub chain or rival brewer. The experience of Gibbs Mew also shows that selling the brewery and becoming a pub chain could leave the company open to takeover.'

Another regional brewer under threat is Robert Cain of Liverpool, with the shock news its Danish owners are putting it up for sale. The reason given by the owners for the sale is poor trading in recent years, but they hope to sell the brewery as a going concern. However, other options include splitting the ten pubs from the brewery, and moving brewing to another site, possibly on a smaller scale. The brewery currently occupies the old Higsons brewery site, which was previously taken over and closed by Whitbread in 1990. Although Cain's has been highly successful with its real ales, the majority of the brewery's business is in the bulk brewing of lager under contract for supermarkets. This business exists on very thin margins and has never been very lucretive.

While the sale progresses, brewery boss Ole Timm, who has only been in the job since last year, insists it is business as usual and is planning a £3 million advertising and promotional campaign for Cain's real ales. Locals are stepping up a campaign to keep brewing alive in Liverpool with a Cains Supporters Club. The Club aims to get local people behind their brewery, and make sure they drink the beer in

NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

enough quantity to guarantee its future. To join Cains Supporters Club call 0845 60 30 20 8 or visit www.savecainsbeer.com.

Finally, the remains of Morrells of Oxford are up for sale. Michael Cannon, the US based leisure entrepreneur, who shut down the historic 18th century brewery, farmed the brewing of Morrells' beers out to Thomas Hardy of Dorchester, and sold off a number of pubs for alternative uses, has put the company up for sale with a price tag of £80m.

Cannon has made millions from pub trading. He sold Devenish to Greenalls for £26m in 1993, and sold the Magic Pub Company to Greene King in 1996 for £200m. He is said to have netted a personal fortune of £120m from the deals. However, drinkers haven't had much to thank him for, and are unlikely to be overjoyed with the news that he may keep a small number of Morrell's pubs to convert them into 'Fuddruckers', the American fast food outlets that he owns in the US.

The Morrell's estate is a high quality one and stretches from Bedfordshire to Dorset. There is likely to be strong interest from regional brewers like Fuller's as well as pub companies like Enterprise Inns and Punch.

Winter Winners - 1

Once again, the Champion Winter Beer of Britain judging took place at CAMRA's National Winter Ales Festival in Manchester in January. The Champion Beer for 2002 was Dorothy Goodbody's Wholesome Stout from Wye Valley of Hereford.

The brewery, well known for its eye-catching bottle labels and pump clips featuring Dorothy herself, has just completed a move from the Barrels in Hereford to Stoke Lacy, where the brewery now occupies the old Symonds cider works. The move provides more space for the brewery, and will allow production to grow from 120 to 400 barrels a week. Founder Peter Amor previously worked at Guinness, and part of the success of Wholesome Stout is that, by all accounts, it tastes just as good as Guinness used to before the classic bottle conditioned version was axed. The Stout originally started life as a seasonal beer but became so popular that it's brewed all year round.

The Silver award went to Festivity from Bath Ales, which also won the Old Ales and Strong Milds section. Festivity is a very dark, almost black beer, which was first brewed as a Christmas beer three years ago. Its popularity is such that the original run of two 12-barrel brews has had to be extended to six brews so far this year; one of the brewery's six tied houses has boasted of selling nine gallons on three hours on one occasion. Sadly, the brewery concentrates on selling locally so the chances of being able to try it in London are slim.

The Bronze medal went to Robinson's Old Tom, one

of the best known strong ales in the country and weighing in at a hefty 8.5 per cent alcohol. It won the award two years ago, and has been part of the brewery's portfolio for over a century with minimal change to the ingredients. Despite its strength, it sells steadily although it is no longer brewed in the summer. The bottled form is distributed nationally although not in bottle conditioned form.

♦ Winter Winners - 2

January saw the announcement of the award for CAMRA's National Pub of the Year - 'Britain's best pub'. The award was won by the Nursery Inn in Heaton Norris, Cheshire, owned by Hydes brewery - a rare victory for an urban pub and for a brewery owned managed pub, as many of the previous winners have been free houses in rural areas. The pub was built in the 1930s and has appeared in the *Good Beer Guide* every year since 1984.

The entries for the award come from the local pubs of the year chosen by CAMRA's 200 branches across the country. These are entered into their respective regional competitions, and the total is reduced in stages to the four finalists. Runners up this year were the Ship Inn, Middlestone Village, Co Durham; the Bell, Aldworth, Berkshire; and the Shipwright's Arms, Hollowshore, Faversham, Kent.

◆ CAMRA slams DTI over Beer Orders

The Campaign for Real Ale has reacted with anger and disbelief at the DTI's decision to revoke the Beer Orders. CAMRA claims that DTI is acting against the advice of the Office of Fair Trading following its review in 2000, and that the changes announced will lead to hundreds of community pub closures particularly in rural areas where pubs are most at risk. This is despite steps by the Government to protect rural pubs through improved planning measures and rate relief. There is also concern that breweries will be allowed to refuse to supply beer for resale, enabling large players with key brands to force smaller wholesalers and retailers to stock all or most of their products, even if they only want one.

The change is also expected to allow brewers to charge different prices to any number of different customers, as they will not be obliged to publish wholesale price lists. Revoking the guest beer provision will allow any brewer to buy and tie many thousands of pubs to its own products, excluding smaller brewers and wrecking consumer choice, and lack of alternative anti-competitive controls specific to the industry will hand more brewing, distribution and retailing power to the large brewers and pub retailers.

Mike Benner said, 'The DTI is pulling the rug from

WHATEVER YOU DO, TAKE PRIDE.



NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

under Britain's 15 million beer drinkers and 400 small brewing companies and leaving us all to the mercy of global brewing giants and massive pub chains who will now be able to control the market unhindered. The decision, made with no consultation of the parties involved, demonstrates a mind-boggling lack of understanding of the industry and it will have a huge impact on choice and competition for years to come.

Revocation of the Orders is untimely and inappropriate as they still play an important role in protecting consumers and smaller operators. There must be an urgent consultative review of the entire industry, which would result in a detailed Government strategy to ensure access to market for small brewers, fair choice for consumers and steps to protect community pubs from closure. Otherwise our unique beer and pubs industries are likely to be consumed entirely by a small handful of global giants.'

The decision comes as a shock as the Beer Orders were not scheduled for review by the Director General of Fair Trading until 2005.

◆ Coors to launch cask beer

Coors, who recently bought the Carling operation from Interbrew, has announced that it plans to launch a new premium cask conditioned beer under the Worthington banner. Details of the beer are not yet available, but the new product is scheduled to gain full marketing support, including national TV advertising.

However, the existing cask beer brands now in

SHORT MEASURE OF THE MONTH

Pollowing previous discussions, and attempts by CAMRA to ensure that we get a full pint when it is paid for, perhaps the London Branches and Membership should run a 'Short Measure of the Month' award to promote the campaign.

I nominate the Mad Bishop & Bear in Paddington Station as the first to receive the accolade. I went into this Fullers' pub on Wednesday 20th February, to meet some friends. When my round came up, I went to the bar, and ordered four pints of Chiswick and three of Pride. None was even remotely full, but I paid up and then said to the barman, 'By the way, I'll have another half of Chiswick'. He asked me for some money but I replied, 'I think not'. I was able to distribute the spare half into the unfilled seven pints and hand the empty back, telling him that I had asked for seven pints.

There are doubtless other equally deserving establishments, to give each issue of LD two monthly awards for us to celebrate!

Greg Tingey

Coors' hands have an uncertain future, as the company carries out a complete review of the empire it recently purchased. As well as Stones and Hancocks, which are brewed at Burton, they own M&B Brew XI from Cape Hill and M&B Mild, contract brewed in Walsall by Highgate. The bulk of cask production is Draught Bass, which they have a contract to brew for Interbrew until 2004.

The stated intention to reduce beer production costs per barrel has raised fears that the concentration will be on the high volume lager trade at the expense of cask beer. This makes the announcement of a new cask product particularly welcome; a Coors spokesman said 'I am very optimistic about the cask ale sector and we want to have a cask ale as a mainstream brand.'

The new product may also reveal part of the strategy for addressing investors' fears over the Carling purchase. The \$1.7 billion deal almost doubles the size of the Coors operation, but most of Carling's presence in the UK market is in the standard end of the market, which is declining. The growth area at the moment is in the premium sector, and Coors will have to come up with a convincing strategy to move into this end of the market to prevent the continuing slide in its share price, which is down by a third this year.



The Myth of Europa goes like this:
"Greek God Zeus fancies this gullible virgin
Europa. He turns himself into a white bull, she
climbs on his back and they go for a romp in the sea
- she's way out of her depth and the inevitable
happens..."

Anyway, back to reality.

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NATIONAL NEWS UPDATE

The best news so far for drinkers is that the Bass Museum in Burton, including its brewery, looks like it is safe in its new owner's hands. The Museum brewery will continue to brew its existing beers including Worthington White Shield, Bass No. 1 Barley Wine and P2 Imperial Stout, and will be developing a range of seasonal beers as well. The museum was described as a 'national treasure' by US boss Peter Coors.

◆ Hop Back on the up

The Hop Back brewery near Salisbury continues to do well, with profits up 16 per cent in the last year thanks, at least in part, to its deal with the J D Wetherspoon chain which has put Summer Lightning into all 550 Wetherspoon pubs. The brewery now has a capacity of 400 barrels a week, with the Wetherspoons deal accounting for half that capacity; it also has a new bottling plant, installed in 2001, and is able to undertake contract bottling for other brewers.

Hop Back now owns seven pubs, including the popular Sultan in South Wimbledon.

◆ Tesco win for B&T and Batemans

Banks and Taylor of Shefford in Bedfordshire are celebrating this spring following their victory in the Smaller Breweries category in this year's Tesco Spring Beer Challenge. The competition, run for the fifth time this year, is open to bottled beers and the winner gains a national listing with Tesco supermarkets.

The winning entry was the bottle-conditioned version of B&T's SOS best bitter, a 5 per cent ABV beer which is one of the brewery's longest established brands. The beer was bottled and labelled manually on B&T's own bottling machine, but the four month contract with Tesco starting in May has meant that bottling has now had to be contracted out to Brakspear.

The Larger Brewers category was won by Bateman's of Wainfleet. The Lincolnshire brewer won with a totally new beer called Harvest Zest, a 4.6 per cent alcohol beer made with a distinctly untraditional mix of ingredients. As well as using a combination of ale barley malt and malted oats, wheat and rye, there is also grapefruit peel added to the mash. The beer is related to Combined Harvest, Bateman's new premium bottled beer, which has similar ingredients but without the grapefruit.

The Spring and Autumn challenges run by Tesco have produced a number of winners that have gone on to greater things and become national brands. These include Newcastle Star, Badger Golden Champion and Harviestoun Old Engine Oil. The latest challenge had 77 beers entered from 52 brewers.

Dave Lee



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LOCAL NEWS ROUND UP

♦ Fuller's news

The Fuller's Passport promotion was launched in July 2000, and for those who had managed to complete the passport by trying a pint of London Pride at all 180 pubs there was a celebration evening laid on at the brewery just before Christmas.

160 people were treated to a VIP evening in the brewery's Hock cellar. The group enjoyed a tour round the brewery, and a talk about the brewery's history from sales director Richard Fuller, a descendant of one of the founders. They then returned to the Hock cellar for a tutored tasting session with brewing director John Keeling.



The first wave of visitors on the brewery tour.

The first person to complete the full 180 pubs was Declan Bray, who managed to do it in just 6 days. Most of the group came from London and the South East, but there were also people from around the country including as far away as Devon and Lancashire.

Developments at the brewery continue, with the new bottling line installed last year officially opened earlier this year. Sports presenter Des Lynam was invited to do the official opening - not only is he a local resident, but he has been involved with Fuller's before, having launched their re-branded bottled ESB back in 1986. ESB went on to enjoy great success in the export market.



Left to right: Anthony Fuller, Chairman, Des Lynam and John Roberts, Beer and Brands Director.

The new development started operation last September and is intended to improve the quality of the end product - increased control and computer operation has been shown in tests to produce consistently fresher tasting beer. Fullers' bottled beers have seen an increase in production of over 40% in the last five years, and the brewery now has ten per cent of the national market.

Following the bottling line, the latest innovation has been a development kitchen for bar and hotel chefs and kitchen staff. The kitchen has cost £100,000 to develop and is intended to provide the ideal environment for testing new menus and developing staff skills. It will also be used in the recruitment process for new chefs.



Fuller's Inns operations team try out the new equipment. Left to right: Una Moir, Operations Manager, Stuart Moore, Operations Controller and Simon Briggs, Operations Manager.

Retail Directory Simon Emeny said 'When people go out to drink in our pubs, they also expect to be able to eat good quality, testy, well presented food. We offer a real variety of menus throughout our estate, from traditional Ale and Pies, to gastro dining. I am really pleased that we will now be able to offer training and support to every outlet, whether they be managed or tenanted so that even if you are offering a simple soup, it will be the most delicious home-made soup around!'

Finally, there are management changes in store with the announcement that Anthony Fuller, the Executive Chairman, will become Non-Executive Chairman in July. Mr Fuller, who has been Chairman since 1982, will continue his work with industry association such as the Independent Family Brewers of Britain (IFBB), British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA) and the Brewers Company.

Managing Director Michael Turner will become Chief Executive; he has been at Fuller's since 1978 and, during his time as Marketing Director between 1998 and 1992, was responsible for developing the

LOCAL NEWS ROUND UP

current Fuller's corporate image as well as enhancing both the pub and ale brands. He has worked closely with Mr Fuller since becoming Managing Director in 1992.

♦ Young's update

Young's brewery has relaunched its 5 per cent bottled beer, Ramrod. The launch has been made in conjunction with the National Trust, and involves a deal in which the beer will be sold in all the licensed bars and shops at the Trusts historic properties. It will also be promoted to the 1.7 million members of the Trust, which will get a contribution for every bottle sold.

Young's have also broken new ground by opening their first pub in Hendon. It is the Greyhound, Church End, and was bought from Surrey Free Inns. The building is just over 100 years old, but there has been a pub on the site since at least 1675. The opening featured a visit from Youngs' shire horses, and regulars were treated to free beer and food by Young's chairman John Young and licensees Richard Gibson and Kathryn Chapman. The photograph on the front cover shows Richard and Kathryn celebrating the occasion with one of their regulars.

Meanwhile, locals were sorry to see the departure of long serving licensees Joe and Brighid Reilly from the award wining Waggon and Horses in Surbiton Hill Road, Surbiton. They are retiring after 35 years at the pub, during which they have pulled 10 million pints of beer and raised more than £200,000 for charity.



John Young with the retiring pair, Joe and Brighid Reilly.

They were honoured with a farewell beer, 'Vintage Reilly' at a party for regulars, family, brewery executives and the Mayor of Kingston upon Thames, and are now off for a well earned retirement in Grayshott, on the border of Hampshire and Surrey.

♦ Sheps expands

Shepherd Neame of Faversham, Kent have started 2002 with the purchase of seven pubs that used to be part of the Whitbread estate. All but one are tenanted pubs, and are located in London and East Kent; they were bought from the Laurel Pub Company for an undisclosed sum.

The London pubs taken over are the Wilton Arms, Kinnerton Street; the Mansion House, Lambeth; the Prince of Wales, Rotherhithe; and the Packington Arms, Islington. The acquisitions take the estate to 367.

Dave Lee

♦ The Drum re-opens

The Drum, the Good Beer Guide-listed Wetherspoon's pub in Lea Bridge Road, Leyton E10, re-opened on 18 March after a short closure.

It had suffered internal smoke damage, and a badly charred bar, as a result of faulty electrical wiring. It has now been cleaned and repainted internally, and (of course) rewired.

THE ROYAL OAK



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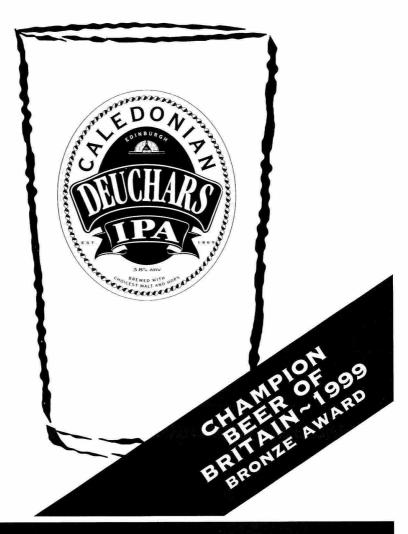
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CALEDONIAN BREWERY, EDINBURGH

YOUNG'S WIN AT BATTERSEA

CAMRA South West London Branch staged a Successful return to the Battersea Grand Hall for the 12th Battersea Beer Festival from 6 to 9 February this year.

A beer not normally available on draught but provided especially for the occasion, Young's Double Chocolate Stout was voted Beer of the Festival. Second prize went to Blackpool BPA and third to Pictish Brewers Gold. Also making the running were Crouch Vale Snowdrop, Fenland Fract, Oakleaf Bitter and Triple F Moondance.

The result of the vote for the Branch Pub of the Year for 2001 was announced on the Thursday afternoon of the Festival. The winner was the Sultan, the Hop Back Brewery pub in South Wimbledon, followed by Young's Old Sergeant in Garratt Lane, Wandsworth. In third place was the Rose & Crown, the Greene King pub in Clapham Old Town, and fourth was the Brewery Tap in Wimbledon Village, a former Whitbread house, now part of the Laurel Pub Company. These two pubs both serve a range of various guest beers.

Hop Back Managing Director, John Gilbert and Young's Chairman, John Young and fellow directors were among the invited guests at the Festival that afternoon, alongside local MP Martin Linton and the Mayors of Lambeth (Claudette Hewitt), Merton (Stuart Pickover) and Wandsworth (Ron Smith). Cllr Smith made a short welcoming

speech. Cllr Pickover announced the Pub of the Year and spoke strongly in support of the campaign. All went home happy.

This year a wide choice of cask ales was available through to the close on Saturday, when more than twenty still remained. Milds had sold out though next year we must order more of them!

The Branch is grateful to all who supplied the festival, to everyone who came to enjoy it, and to the hard working staff who struggled to serve them. We want more of all of you next year, especially staff!

Among some 3,500 admissions to the festival, more than 40 visitors signed up as new CAMRA members, with the incentive of a free pint at the Festival and another at the Priory Arms, Stockwell, Branch Pub of the Year for 2000 (and therefore ineligible for the 2001 competition under branch rules). Limited numbers of Battersea 2002 tee shirts and sweatshirts, also commemorating the Priory Arms' pub of the year accolades, remain available from the Branch.

Many visitors took the opportunity to offer written comments to the organisers on their Beer of the Festival forms. The comments will be collated on the new beer festival website (www.beerfest.org) and suggestions taken forward in planning for Battersea 2003.

Stephen Blann

REAL ALE RETURNS TO THE DUKE OF SUSSEX

A welcome return to real ale is the former Duke of Sussex, now renamed the Duke, at 75 South Parade W4 near Chiswick Park tube station. The pub is now owned by Punch Taverns trading as the Firkin Beer Co. Landlord Simon Middleton, from the former Good Beer Guide listed Blue Brick Tap House in Brierley Hill near Dudley, West Midlands, has transformed a run down pub into a Mecca for real ale enthusiasts, with three beers on stillage behind the bar and two on handpump, real cider and a selection of bottled Belgian beers.

The pub has been refurbished with bare floorboards and alcove seating towards the front but retains its etched glass screens. The rear poolroom with ornate raised ceiling and cherubs has a gas powered fire, additional seating and a pull down screen for televised sport - mainly rugby. Food is served all day until 9pm. Simon is hoping to have a mild available for Mild Action Day on Saturday 11 May. West London CAMRA wishes him all the best for the future.

Alex Langford

CATFORD BEER FESTIVAL

Wednesday 19 to Saturday 22 June at the Broadway Theatre, Catford (previously the LewishamTheatre - renamed following extensive refurbishment including a new bar).

Opening hours: 5-11 Wed, 12-11 Thu-Sat.

Refurbishment means more space and improved air conditioning!

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Dear Editor.

I am writing in response to Jonathan Jones-Robinson's letter in the February/March LD. I am no great fan of the swan-neck and sparkler, but to suggest that the sparkler is used solely to enliven flat bar is daft.

I've just returned from a visit to Manchester and Bolton. In each of the pubs I went to a sparkler was used. The beers tasted very good in each pub, after allowing the pint to settle - how much better they would have tasted without the sparkler is an argument for another day.

For the uninitiated, the tight/pinhole sparkler used with most swan-necks forces condition out of the beer, giving it a creamier (i.e. air-filled) initial appearance. I don't think that it's a secret that the main reason for using sparklers is to create a 'larger-than-life' head, thereby putting less beer in the glass and serving under measure. Whether you want your beer 'heady' or your glass full should be your choice. The Dog & Partridge in Bolton solves the problem by using sparklers and over-sized glasses, thus allowing a head and a full pint.

The huge majority of publicans are honest people who work hard to keep their customers happy. However some unscrupulous pub companies place unreasonable demands on pub managers to get as much beer from a barrel as possible to increase profits. The only way to achieve this is by serving short measures.

The British Beer and Pubs Association, which represents the pubs industry, denies that there are consumer complaints and thinks it is acceptable to serve 95% liquid pints and give a top-up only to those who demand it.

CAMRA, the beer consumer's champion believes this is unacceptable and there is a clear need for consumers to be protected in law. If you are served a short measure you should ask the bar person for a top-up, which they should give with good grace. CAMRA thinks this is an unsatisfactory solution to a growing problem. In a busy pub on a Friday night, it would cause chaos if everyone asked for a top-up. We believe the law must be changed so that it is the publican's responsibility to serve you a full liquid pint every time. It should not be up to you, the consumer, to ask for a top-up - you've asked for a pint once already!

The Government has pledged its support for new laws to protect consumers from short measure. It is a Labour party policy to tighten legislation to ensure you get a full pint. But despite detailed and realistic proposals, this promise has not turned into action and it is us as consumers who are losing out to the tune of £1million a day.

If CAMRA is to be successful in our campaign for an Honest Pint law we need your support.

Sign up today to our on-line petition: www.camra.org.uk/news/janmar02/ or call: 0845 60 30 20 8 and pledge your support.

Write to your local MP at the House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Call 0207 219 4272 if you don't know the name of your MP.

If you are not happy with a pint served to you, speak politely to the bar staff and request a top-up. If their response is unsatisfactory, write and complain to your local trading standards office.

You'll find the address in the phone book or at www.tradingstandards.gov.uk

Andy Camroux

Dear Editor

I am quite partial to a bottle or two of Young's Special London Ale which is a bottle conditioned beer. However I regret to note that an increasing number of Young's pubs are placing the bottles on the cold shelf which spoils the beer. As Special London Ale is warm-fermented bottle-conditioned beer it should be drunk at room temperature to appreciate its full flavour. Serving it chilled is rather like serving Bitter or Special through a flash cooler. I have written to Young's and the manager of my local Young's pub about this.

If any readers agree with me could I ask them to write to Young's as well. Perhaps the editor could take the matter up with Young's in his role as Brewery Liaison Officer.

By the way, in my last letter I did ask if anyone fancied an early morning drink with me. Somewhat to my surprise someone did take me up on this and we met up, with two of his mates, at 8am in the Newmarket and had a pint in each of the four pubs finishing up in the Fox & Anchor at 10.30am. When I left them I did tell them that the pubs would be reopening in half an hour's time.

Colin Price, Barking

Dear Editor

I was disappointed to find that the Feb/March edition had no 'Looking Back' column (or anything else) from Martin Smith.

I hope you haven't lost the great man's services after all these years.

John Dillon, Welling

You may rest assured that Martin remains a regular contributor - Ed.

Dear Editor

Further to your editorial asking for examples of beers that have changed drinking habits, may I name my own, Wards bitter of Sheffield. Like many teenagers at the time, I started drinking cider (prealcopop days) before moving on to lager as that's

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

what all the other lads drank. I moved on to bitter because it was a few pence cheaper, but the local nitrokeg versions of John Smith's, Tetley, Mansfield etc. were uninspiring if slightly better than Carling, Skol etc. God what was I thinking of drinking that stuff?

Eventually I was persuaded to try a pint of Ward's in the famous Derby Tup pub in my home town Chesterfield. Well what can I say, the Heavens opened and the angels sang! Imagine what it was like for a teenager, getting to enjoy the effects of alcohol and actually enjoying the taste too! I couldn't see a down side to it (still can't).

Since then I've enjoyed several thousand pints of real ale, including several better examples, but I always had a deep affection and enjoyment for Ward's unique taste, and sought it out wherever I could. Now sadly I will never enjoy another pint of Ward's again due to the takeover of the brewery.

Well at least set me on the road to salvation, or ruin depending on your viewpoint

Paul Saxton, New Cross

Dear Editor

The rancorous dispute over short measure (including the piece in the February What's Brewing) could easily be resolved, if a little thought were to be taken. All previous efforts have been concentrating on the Weights and Measures, and Trading Standards' legislation. May I point out that beer is an exciseable commodity, and is subject to both VAT and to Excise duty? Short measure is therefore both a VAT and a Customs and Excise offence - and both are criminal. It would probably only require one (well publicised) private prosecution to bring the whole nonsense to a speedy end.

By the way, it is sad to see the present government shuffling away from its responsibilities in this field. They would do much better to honour their election pledge, and simultaneously shame the Tories, whose leader in the Commons (Eric Forth) actively voted to encourage the defrauding of paying customers.

Greg Tingey, Walthamstow

Dear Editor

Though I am an American, I am well familiar with the goals of CAMRA, and thoroughly applaud their efforts to 'Save the Ales'. While stories concerning the continual demise of your local breweries do appear in American publications from time to time, I was struck by just how many such stories appeared in just one recent issue of your publication.

It seems to me that there is an answer to your Tied House v Guest Beer problems; one that has been in effect in this country for over sixty years. In most states in the US, tied houses are illegal, with some minor exceptions.

For a dozen years, I owned and operated a tavern in New York State. While there is a trade restricting system of beer distributors in place, (I could order my beer from three or four distributors, each of whom only carried certain brands, and who did not compete with each other within defined regions), I was totally free to order any brand I desired. So, while the majority of my customers were drinkers of Budweiser, I was also free to carry dozens of microbrewery offerings, and usually did so. I estimate that during my dozen years as a publican, I probably offered over a hundred different brews to my customers, a number that probably includes at least a dozen ales which were brewed fifty miles from my location.

Let the big brewers tie themselves to distributors. But untie the houses from the brewers, and let the drinking public influence the tavern owner's choice of which beers or ales to carry. And, certainly, continue to educate the public on the merits of a finely crafted brew. Beer should be brewed for people, not for profit margins!

Peter E Perrone Jr., Schenectady, NY, USA

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BOOK REVIEWS

HISTORIC INNS AND HAUNTED TAVERNS

Over the past five years, journalist Donald Stuart has been researching the oldest and most historic pubs throughout the country. He has now published two books, ring bound in a convenient A5 layout, *Historic Inns and Haunted Taverns.* The pubs are listed alphabetically and indexed by county. Some photographs are included.

Historic Inns records legends and local details of over 1,000 pubs. It includes stories about inn signs

and the livery companies behind them.

Haunted Taverns reveals some 500 pubs said to contain the earthbound spirits of such as Bonnie Prince Charlie, Florence Nightingale, the actor Richard Burton and highwaymen, monks and nuns galore.

Each book is available at £5.50p (including postage and packing) from Donald Stuart, 3 Waldeck Terrace, Mortlake, London SW14 7HE.

THE TRADITIONAL PUBS OF LONDON'S EAST END (IN 2000)

Ever wondered what the pubs that you don't go like inside? Then if you are in the East End this is the book for you. Over 250 pubs are explored in its 68 pages in the area covered by Tower Hamlets, the interiors of two now closed pubs along with a further 15 shows its worth. Of the four pubs depicted on the covers three are closed.

This is not a publication that mentions the pubs' history, nor what beer they sell, but sets out to

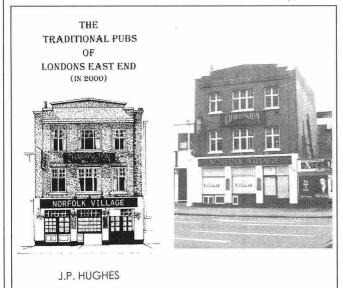
transport you into the East End boozers of the day, pubs with walls decorated with sacks, the pub where a Jack the Ripper suspect lived in the cellar, with inn signs of a policeman hitting a suffragette with his truncheon, with old time music hall productions with compere 'Dockyard Doris' - pubs with glass and mirrors proclaiming the ales of Watney, Reid, Hoare and Allsopp and the Mile End Distillery. Descriptions include 'the most pleasant pub in Bow', 'a gem of a pub and very small inside', 'this fabulous old pub', 'It is one of Mile End Road's best pubs'.

The book is worth buying for the comments in the foreword and introduction alone whilst the final words, 'I have spent most of my life in the pub, and many people say I have wasted

my life away. And maybe I have. But at least I have not spent all my life in front of a television. I've had a lot of fun and a blooming good life. Old Naval Bloke, Chatham 1987', sum us up.

A cheque for £4 to JP Hughes, PO Box 124, Cheltenham GL51 6ZG will include postage and packing.

Keith Emmerson



Hackney Road E2 to the north, Bow Bridge E3 to the east, the Thames to the south and just short of Liverpool Street and Tower Hill stations in the west.

The author has set out to create a reference book on the appearance of the pubs as they looked in 2000 and heaven only knows how many had to be discarded during the course of surveying as pub after pub closed. That in the first three pages it lists

BRANCH UPDATE

Welcome to our regular details of London CAMRA 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 and May are listed below.

Branch meetings and socials are open to all - everyone is welcome to come along.

GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL – PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

April – Tue 9 (7pm) Overdraughts, Dane St WC1. London CAMRA members are invited to come along to discuss ways of publicising GBBF in London, particularly the annual publicity crawls in June.

LONDON PUBS GROUP. Jane Jephcote 020-7973 3102 (W), Email: jane.jephcote@english-heritage.org.uk

April – Wed 10 (7.15 for 7.30) Meeting. Royal Oak, Tabard Street SE1 (upstairs). All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

May – Wed 22 Maida Vale Evening Crawl. Meet (7pm) Warrington Hotel, 93 Warrington Cresc W9; 7.45ish Prince Alfred, 5a Formosa St W9; 8.30ish Warwick Castle, 6 Warwick Pla W9; 9.30ish Crockers Folly, 24 Aberdeen Pla NW8.

BEXLEY. Martyn Nicholls 01322 527857 (H). Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

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

April – Wed 10 (8.30) E. Croydon crawl. Builders, Leslie Pk. Rd. (dep. 9.30) then Porter & Sorter, beside E. Croydon Stn. - Thu 25 (8.30) Branch meeting. Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd. Carshalton.

May – Thu 2 (8.30) Sutton crawl. Lord Nelson, 32 Lower Rd. (dep. 9.15) then New Town, 7 Lind Rd. and Little Windsor, 13 Greyhound Rd. - Sat 4 (7.30) Beer festival social. Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd. Carshalton. - Sat 18 (11am) Best of Tramlink crawl. Meet at Ship of Fools, W. Croydon Stn. - Thu 23 (8.30) Selhurst/ SE25 crawl. 2 Brewers, 221 Gloucester Rd (dep. 9.15) then Clifton Arms, Clifton Rd. - Tue 28 (8.30) Branch meeting. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

EAST LONDON & CITY. Ben or Robyn 020-8521 4410 (H), Email: robyn@pigsear.org.uk. Social enquiries: Bob Walker 020-8924 0346 (H/Fax), 07930 990646 (M/Text). Website:

www.pigsear.org.uk

April – Tue 9 (8pm) Branch AGM. Birkbeck Tavern, 45 Langthorne Rd E11. - Wed 17 (8pm) Social. Duke of Edinburgh, 29 Nightingale La E11. - Tue 23 (8pm) Social. Princess of Wales, 146 Lea Bridge Rd E5. - Sun 28 Two pub social in E14. (1pm) Grapes, 76 Narrow St; (2.30ish) Barley Mow, 44 Narrow St.

May – Wed 1 (8pm) Social. Crosse Keys, 9 Gracechurch St EC3. - Tue 14 (8pm) Branch meeting, O'Hanlon's, 8 Tysoe St EC1. - Tue 21 (8pm) Social. Half Moon, 213 Mile End Rd E1.

ENFIELD & BARNET. Mark Shepherd 020-8441 0174 (H) 020-7712 2081 (W), Email: Mark.Shepherd1@dwp.gov.uk.

April – Wed 3 (9pm) Social. Kings Head, The Green, Winchmore Hill. N21 (Bus: W9). - Wed 10 (8.30) Branch meeting. Southgate Cricket Club, Walker Ground, Waterfall Rd N14 (Bus: 121, 184, 298, 299, W6). - Tue 16 (9pm) Social. White Lion, 50 St. Albans Rd, Barnet EN5. - Tue 23 (9pm) St. George's Day Social. Moon under Water, 115 Chase Side, Enfield.

May - Wed 1 Two pub social in Whetstone N20. (9pm) Bull & Butcher, 1277 High Rd; (10pm) Black Bull, 1446 High Rd (Bus: 34, 125, 234, 251, 263, 326). - Tue 7 Two pub social in Enfield EN2. (9pm) Crown & Horseshoes, 15 Horseshoe La; (10pm) Cricketers, 19 Chase Side Place (Bus: 121, 191, 231, 307, W9). - Wed 15 Mild Promo. Orange Tree, 15 Highfield Rd, Winchmore Hill N21 (Bus: 125, 329). - Tue 21 Two pub social in Finchley Central N3. (9pm) Joiners, 51 Ballards La; (10pm) Catcher in the Rye, 315/319 Regents Park Rd (Bus: 82, 125, 143, 260, 326). - Sat 25 Visit to Cambridge Beer Festival. Train-Kings Cross 10.06, Finsbury Park 10.11, Potters Bar 10.21, Cambridge 11.25am - Thu 30 (9pm) Social and London Drinker pick up. Albion, 74 Union St, Barnet EN5.

Hololly 74 Chilol St., Barnet 1432.
If any branch member would like advance notice of branch events by e-mail, please contact Tony Roberts 020 8482 9673; e-mail TonyRoberts5@activemail.co.uk

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

April – Tue 2 (8.30) Branch meeting. Foley Arms, Foley Rd, Claygate. - Thu 11 (8.00) Epsom Pub Crawl. Meet Hogshead; leave at 8.30 in direction of Amato. - Sun 14 Minibus trip to Cider Farm at Firle, Nr Lewes, calling at some pubs on the way and in the area. Depart New Malden, Grayham Rd/Kingston Rd 10.45am. and Surbiton rail station 11.00. Fare £14.00. Deposit £5 Contact Clive to book. - Sat 14 (11.30am) Surrey Liaison meeting. Rising Sun, Epsom.

May – Wed 8 (8.30) Branch meeting. Running Horse, Bridge St, Leatherhead - Wed 15 'Mild' evening social. Canbury Arms, Canbury Park Rd, Kingston. Come and try some mild beers. - Sat 11 Day out on the canal starting at Farncombe. For details, contact Dave Morgan 020 8546 5181. -Thurs 30 (7.30) Curry night at the new Wetherspoons, Epsom.

BRANCH UPDATE

Ongar.

June – Advance notice. Sat 22 Minibus trip to the Three Moles Beer Festival at Selham, Nr Petworth. Also calling at pubs on the way. Depart New Malden, Grayham Rd/Kingston Rd 10.45am. and Surbiton rail station 11.00. Fare £17.00. Deposit £5.

NORTH LONDON. Gary White 07005 355399,

Email: gwhitegeog@bigfoot.com

April – Tue 2 (8pm) Social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd N1. Tue 9 (8pm) Social. Gatehouse, 1 North Road N6. Tue 16 (8pm) Branch meeting. Rugby Tavern, 19 Gt. James St WC1. Tue 23 (8pm) Branch Social & Pub of the Season presentation. Beaten Docket, 56 Cricklewood Bdwy NW2. Tue 30 Stoke Newington Crawl. Start (8pm) Rose and Crown, 199 Stk New'ton Church St N16, then Steptoes, 102 Stk New'ton Church St, finish (10pm) Rochester Castle, 143-145 Stk New'ton High St. May – Tue 5 Branch social and Chinese meal. Meet (8pm) Blue Posts, 28 Rupert St W1, then to a local restaurant.

Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

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

April - Thu 11 (8pm), another fun Quiz Night at the Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford, open to everyone, especially teams from neighbouring branches, if you will not mind the humiliation! Wed 24 (8pm) Branch AGM. Triple Crown (upstairs room), Kew Foot Rd., Richmond. Come and have your say, but bring your CAMRA membership card in case voting is necessary. May - Sat 11 Day trip to Weymouth to present the Twickenham 'Beer of the Festival' certificate to the Quay Brewery. This will probably be by coach – all volunteer staff at last year's Festival will have been advised – there may be places available for others for a small fee – check with Brian or e-mail from the website if interested. Wed 15 (8.30) Branch meeting. White Hart, High St., Hampton. Thu 23 (8.30) Two pub social in Teddington, starting at the Anglers, then (9.30) Tide End Cottage. Full details of all branch activities on our website: www.jobin.freeserve.co.uk/rhcamra1.htm

SOUTH EAST LONDON. Dave Lee 020-8694 2687. Website: www.selcamra.org.uk/camra3.htm April – Tue 2 (8pm) Branch/committee meeting. Shipwrights Arms, 88 Tooley St SE1. Mon 8 (8pm) Social. Rutland, 55 Perry Hill, Catford SE6 Thu 18 (8pm) Social. Bugle Horn, 6 The Village, Charlton SE7. Wed 24 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning meeting. Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Gro, Greenwich SE10.

May – Wed 8 (8pm) - Branch/committee meeting. Bricklayers Arms, 141-143 Masons Hill, Bromley. Meeting places/times for publicity crawls for Catford Beer Festival: Tue 14 (8pm) Admiral Hardy, 7 College Approach, Greenwich SE10; Mon 20 (8pm) Hole in the Wall, 5 Mepham St SE1 (near Waterloo station). **Wed 29** (7.30) Royal Oak, Tabard St SE1.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX. Andrew Clifton 01708
765150 (H), Email: swessex@clara.co.uk.
April – Wed 3 (8:30) Social. Prince of Wales, 199
Roman Rd (B1002), Mountnessing. Wed 10 (8:30)
Good Beer Guide selection meeting (Essex Area).
Green Man, 11 Cricketers La (just off A128),
Herongate. Wed 17 (8:30) Social. Eagle & Child, 13
Shenfield Rd (A1023), Shenfield (now under new management). Thu 25 (8:30) Out of area social.
Foresters Arms, The Street (just off A414), High

May – Thu 2 (8:30 prompt) Branch AGM. Green Man, 11 Cricketers La, Herongate. Nominations for Committee and any points you wish to raise to Andrew Clifton, 46 Havering Drive, Romford RM1 4BH or by e-mail to swessex@clara.co.uk by Friday, 26 April 2002. Wed 8 (8:30) Blackmore crawl taking in the Bull, Church St; Prince Albert, Blackmore Rd, The Green: and Leather Bottle, The Green. For more details see the website on www.swessex@clara.co.uk Thu 23 (8:30) Out of area social. White Hart, Swan La, Margaretting Tyc. OS: TL684011.

SOUTH WEST LONDON. Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H) 020-7438 6418 (W), Email: markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk

April – Tue 9 (7.30). Open branch committee meeting. Pied Bull, 498 Streatham High Rd SW16. Tue 30 Joint crawl of Putney and Fulham with West London branch. Meet (7.30-8 pm) Railway, 202 Upper Richmond Rd SW15 (opposite Putney railway station). To include (9 pm) Putney Brick, 32 Waterman St SW15 and (10 pm) Golden Lion, 57 Fulham High St SW6.

May – Sun 5 (12.30) Branch Pub of the Year presentation for 2001, Sultan, 78 Norman Rd, South Wimbledon SW19. Tue 7 (7.30). Open branch committee meeting followed (8.00) by Branch AGM. Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, South Lambeth SW8. Sat 25 Trip to Castle Rock Brewery, Nottingham. Numbers limited. Names to David Paterson please on 01932 226940 (evenings before 9pm) before Friday 10 May. Tue 28 Research crawl of Wandsworth. Meet (6.30-7pm), Grapes, 39 Fairfield St, SW18.

WATFORD & DISTRICT. Martin Few 01923 252412 (H).

April – Wed 3 (8.30) Social. Black Boy, Bushey. Fri 12 (8pm) Darts tournament, West Herts Sports Club. Fri 19 Rickmansworth social. (8.30) Fairway (Ricky Golf Club); (9.15) White Bear; (10pm) Feathers. Thu 25 Watford social. (8.30) Moon under Water; (9.30) Pub on the Corner; (10.30) Escourt Arms.

BRANCH UPDATE

May – Tue 9 (8pm tbc) Herts Liaison Meeting, White Lion, St Albans. Fri 17 Met Line crawl. Chorleywood: (7pm) Rose & Crown, '(7.45) Sportsman; then Rickmansworth: (9pm) Fox & Hounds; Croxley: (10pm) Sportsman. Times may vary. Tue 21 Rural retreat. Abbots Langley: (8.30) Unicorn; Hunton Bridge: (9.30) Kings Head.

WEST LONDON. Alex Langford 020-7821 8101 (H). Email: westlondoncamra@aol.com

April – Sat 13 visit to Hop Back Brewery. Pick up (9.30am) Brook Green Hotel, cost approx £13, deposit £5. Mon 22 (8pm) Social. Cross Keys, 31 Endell St WC2. Tue 30 Joint crawl of Putney and Fulham with South West London branch (see above).

May – Sat 11 National Mild Day. The Duke, 45 South Parade, Chiswick W4 and Carpenters Arms, 12 Seymour Pla W1 are likely to have mild available. Tue 14 (8pm) Branch AGM. Imperial College Southside Bar, Princess Gdns off Exhibition Rd SW7. Tue 21 (6pm) Early evening social. Horse & Groom, 7 Groom Pla SW1. Tue 28 Pub crawl in the wilderness of North Kensington. Start (8pm) Paradise by way of Kensal Green W10, then (9pm) Grand Union, 43 Woodfield Rd W9 and (10pm) Pelican, 45 All Saints Rd W11.





A warm welcome awaits you in the relaxed surroundings of this friendly pub

PUB OF THE YEAR 2000 CAMRA SE London

Changing selection of Real Ales CAMRA Good Beer Guide listed Local Award Winner

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

April – Thu 4 Mini-crawl of Ealing. (8pm) Rat & Parrot, High St, King's Arms, Grove and North Star, The Broadway (approx. 1 pub each hour). Wed 10 (8.30) Branch meeting (Pub of the Year voting) Duke of York, Steyne Rd, Acton. Tue 16 (8.30) Two pub Social in Ickenham. Coach & Horses, Long La and Tichenham Inn, Swakeley's Rd. Thu 25 (8pm) Bar Billiards evening. Hut, Orchard Close, Colham Green.

May – Thu 2 (8pm) Inaugural Beer Festival planning meeting. Bridge Hotel, Western Avenue, Greenford (food available). Wed 8 (8.30) Branch AGM. Load of Hay, Villier Street, Uxbridge (membership cards required). Tue 14 (8pm) Social. Botwell Inn, Coldharbour La, Hayes. Thu 23 May (8pm) Good Beer Guide 10-Year Award. JJ Moons, Victoria Rd, Ruislip Manor. Thu 30 (9pm) London Drinker pick up. Fox, Green La, Hanwell).

Electronic copy deadline for the June/July edition: 14th May 2002. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk

LAGRAD LONDON GROUP

LAGRAD (Lesbian and Gay Real Ale Drinkers) is a group of CAMRA members extending the Campaign to the lesbian and gay scene. All are welcome to all events. Contact the group convenor on LAGRAD@ukgateway.net or visit the LAGRAD website:

www.goldings.demon.co.uk/queerale/

April – Wed 3 (7pm) Monthly social. King's Arms, 23 Poland St W1 (020-7734 5907). - Wed 24 (8pm) The Fort, 131 Grange Rd SE1 (020-7237 7742), Young's Bitter and an extra one because the landlord knows we're coming, probably Waggledance. Tonight's a 'cruise in the dark night'. Don't arrive too early as it doesn't usually open until 8pm.

May – Wed 1 (7pm) Monthly social. King's Arms, 23 Poland St W1. - Thu 28 (6pm)? Way to Heaven, 7 Duncannon St, WC2, (020) 7930 8312, Draught Bass and Fullers London Pride; (7.30) Queens Head, 25-27 Tryon St SW3 (020-7589 0262), Courage; Best Bitter and Directors.

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Pormed in 1997, Cask Marque is an independent accreditation scheme jointly funded by participating brewers and retailers, which recognises excellence in the service of cask ale. The award is made not the pub but to the licensee, who has to pass two unannounced inspections with assessors sampling up to six beers checking temperature, appearance, aroma and taste. Further inspections are made twice a year, with additional random inspections triggered by customer comment. For more information visit the Cask Marque website at www.cask-marque.co.uk.

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 2002 Good Beer Guide (ib indicates an 'Inn Brief' listing.) The figures in brackets cross-refer to CAMRA's local pub guides and updates (see *Capital Pubcheck* for explanation).

Pub ownership is not recorded by Cask Marque; references have been compiled by CAMRA from the latest available information. Some ownerships may have changed.

CENTRAL

EC1, ARTILLERY ARMS, 102 Bunhill Row. Fuller. (E9) EC1, BLEEDING HEART TAVERN, 10 Greville St. Free House. (1143)

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)

EC2, MAGPIE, 12 New St. Six Continents. (E33, U82, U151)

EC2, RACK & TENTER, Tenter House, 45 Moorfields. Free House, formerly PENNY BLACK. (E34, U70, U74, U76)

EC3, COUNTING HOUSE, 50 Cornhill. Fuller. (U131, U155)

EC3, CROSSE KEYS, 7-12 Gracechurch St.

Wetherspoon. (U147, U155)

EC3, GOOSE AT FENCHURCH, 2 New London St. Six Continents, formerly CITY OF LONDON

YEOMAN. (E39, U70, U159)

EC3, HUNG, DRAWN & QUARTERED, 26/27 Great Tower St. Fuller. (U111)

EC3, LIBERTY BOUNDS, 15 Trinity Sq. Wetherspoon. (U134)

EC3, OLD TEA WAREHOUSE, Cree Church Buildings, 4-8 Creechurch La. Greene King (U125)

EC3, RED LION, 8 Lombard Ct. Six Continents. (E42, U151) EC4, HOOP & GRAPES, 80 Farringdon St. Hall & Woodhouse,

formerly SAMUELS for a while. (E49, U69, U140, U164) EC4, OLD BANK OF ENGLAND, 194 Fleet St. Fuller. (U95) EC4, PAVILION END, 23 Watling St. Regent Inns. (E52, U161)

EC4, PAVILION END, 23 Watling St. Regent Inns. (E52, U161, EC4, WILLIAMSONS TAVERN, 1 Groveland Ct, Bow La. Six Continents. (E56, U119, U151)

W1(F), KING & QUEEN, 1 Foley St. Free House. (W29, U66, U84, U88, U161)

W1(F), MORTIMER, 40 Berners St. Free House. (U148) W1(May), BRUTONS, 15 Bruton La. Wizard Inns. (W38, U100, U110, U153)

W1(S), ARGYLL ARMS, 18 Argyll St. Six Continents. (W41, U80, U90, U151)

W1(S), DOG & DUCK, 18 Bateman St. Six Continents. (W42, U93, U150, U151)

W1(S), MIDAS TOUCH, 4 Golden Sq. Hall & Woodhouse. (U147)

W1(S), MOON & SIXPENCE, 181-185 Wardour St. Wetherspoon. (U93)

W1(S), SHASTON ARMS, 4/6 Ganton St. Hall & Woodhouse. (U158)

W1(S), SPICE OF LIFE, 38 Romilly St. McMullen. (W44, U53, U84)

WC1, GOOSE, 31 Marchmont St. Six Continents, formerly GOOSE & GRANITE and originally MARQUIS OF CORNWALLIS. (W47, N24, U124, U159)

WC1, PAKENHAM ARMS*, 1 Pakenham St. Free House. (W49, N28)

WC1, PENDERELS OAK*, 283-288 High Holborn. Wetherspoon. (U133)

WC2, COAL HOLE, 91/92 Strand. Six Continents. (W53, U62, U92, U151)

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)

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, U159)

EAST

E1, HALF MOON, 213-223 Mile End Rd. Wetherspoon. (U138)

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, U162) E4, ROYAL OAK, 219 Kings Head Hill. McMullen. (E97, U112, U119)

E4, THOMAS WILLINGALE, 134 Station Rd. Wizard. (U152, U161)

E6, MILLERS WELL, 419-421 Barking Rd. Wetherspoon; formerly Spirits Bar. (E105, U80)

E7, HUDSON BAY, 1-5 Upton La. Wetherspoon. (U143, U162) E10, DRUM*, 557-559 Lea Bridge Rd. Wetherspoon. (E123, U161)

E10, WILLIAM THE FOURTH*, 816 High Rd. Free House, formerly William IV. (E125, U85, U109, U130, U157, U158) E11, GÉORGE*, 159 High St, Wanstead. Wetherspoon. (E128, U171)

E11, WALNUT TREE, 857-861 High Rd, Leytonstone. Wetherspoon. (U124)

E14, LEDGER BUILDING, 4 Hertsmere Rd, West India Quay. Wetherspoon. (U160)

E15, GOLDENGROVE*, 146-148 The Grove. Wetherspoon.

(U82, U105, U120, U162) E15, GOOSE ON BROADWAY, 78-102 Broadway. Six

Continents. (U159) E15, SWAN, 31 The Broadway. Wizard Inns. (E155, U113, U134,

E17, GOOSE, 264 Hoe St. Six Continents, formerly GOOSE & GRANITE and TOWER HOTEL. (E169, U111, Ú124, U163) 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)

COLLIÈR 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) HORNCHURCH, LLOYDS NO 1, 168 High St. Wetherspoon, formerly WHITE HART and NEWT & CUCUMBER. (X71,

U153, Ú157)
ROMFORD, GOOSE, 143 South St. Six Continents, formerly
MORLAND ARMS. (X102, U151, U157)

ROMFORD, 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. (U113, U123, U141) N1, WENLOCK ARMS®, 26 Wenlock Rd. Free House. (N62) N1, WHITE SWAN, 251-256 Upper St. Wetherspoon. (U158)

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, DANIEL DEFOE, 102 Stoke Newington Church St. Wells;

formerly STEPTOES. (N131, U158) N16, ROCHESTER CASTLE*, 143-145 Stoke Newington High St.

Wetherspoon. (N130, U160)

N18, GİLPINS BELL, 50-54 Fore St. Wetherspoon. (U138) N22, GOOSE, 203 High Rd. Six Continents, formerly GOOSE & GRANITE and NAGS HEAD. (N56, U151, U158)

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)

BARNÉT (ENS), OLD RÉD LION, Underhill, Great North Rd. McMullen. (N252, H20)

BARNET (EN5), QUEENS ARMS, Great North Rd. McMullen. (N252, H20)

ENFIELD (EN1), JOLLY BUTCHERS, 168 Baker St. McMullen. (N230)

ENFIELD EAST (EN3), GREYHOUND, 425 Ordnance Rd, Enfield Lock. McMullen. (N240)

ENFIELD EAST (EN3), PICTURE PALACE, Howards Hall, High St, Ponders End. Wetherspoon. (U160)

ENFIELD WEST (EN2), CRICKETERS, 19 Chase Side Pl. McMullen. (N233)

ENFIELD WEST (EN2), GOOSE AT THE GEORGE, 5 The Town. Six Continents, formerly GEORGE. (E234, U163)

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, U159) NW1, HEAD OF STEAM*, Euston Station Colonnade. Free House. (N168)

NW1, MAN IN THE MOON, 40-42 Chalk Farm Rd.

Wetherspoon. (N170) NW1, METROPOLITAN BAR, 7 Station Appr, Baker Street Stn,

Marylebone Rd. Wetherspoon. (U154) NW1, PRINCESS OF WALES, 22 Chalcot Rd. Whitbread. (N173)

NW1, WINDSOR CASTLE, 98 Park Rd. Brakspear. (N177, U131, U144, U156, U164)

NW2, BEATEN DOCKET*, 50-54 Cricklewood Broadway. Wetherspoon. (N179)

NW3, THREE HORSESHOES, 28 Heath Rd. Wetherspoon. (N190, U110, U146, U159)

NW3, SPANIARDS INN, Spaniards Rd. Six Continents. (N190)

NW3, WASHINGTON*, 50 Englands La. Six Continents. (N190, U151)

NW3, WETHERSPOONS, 1st Floor, O2 Centre, 255 Finchley Rd. Wetherspoon. (U161)

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) NW10, OUTSIDE INN, 312/314 Neasden La. Wetherspoon.

(N224) HARROW, FAT CONTROLLER, 362-366 Station Rd. Regent

Inns. (U108)

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

HARRÔW, WHITÉ HORSE, 50 Middle Rd. Free House. (W114, U151)

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

NORTHWOOD, SYLVAN MOON, 27 Green La. Wetherspoon.

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, U158)

STANMORE, MAN IN THE MOON, 1 Buckingham Parade,

The Broadway. Wetherspoon. (U82) WEALDSTONE, SARSEN STONE*ib, 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, 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, OLD THAMESIDE INN, Pickfords Wharf, Clink St. Six Continents. (SE28, U105, U151)

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

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

SE1, WELLINGTON TAVERN, 81/83 Waterloo Rd. Regent Inns. (SE37, U102)

SE1, WETHERSPOONS, 125 Newington Causeway.

Wetherspoon. (U156)

SE4, BROCKLEY BARGE*, 184 Brockley Rd. Wetherspoon, formerly BREAKSPEARE ARMS. (SE51, U156)

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

SE6, LONDON & RYE*, 109 Rushey Green. Wetherspoon.

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.

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)

SE18, GREAT HARRY, 7-9 Wellington St. Wetherspoon. (U154, U161)

SE19, POSTAL ORDER, 33 Westow St. Wetherspoon.

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

SE23, CAPITOL, 11-21 London Rd. Wetherspoon. (U159) SE25, CLIFTON ARMS*, 21 Clifton Rd. Free House (ex-Allied) .

SE25, WILLIAM STANLEY, 7/8 High St. Wetherspoon. (U142) SE26, WINDMILL, 125-131 Kirkdale. Wetherspoon. (U158)

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.

CROYDON, SHIP, 47 High St. Wizard Inns. (3SE250, U43,

U60, U99, U137) CROYDON, SHIP OF FOOLS*, 9-11 London Rd.

Wetherspoon. (U150)

CROYDON, SKYLARK, 34-36 South End. Wetherspoon.

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

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

PETTS WOOD, SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS*, 109/111

Queensway. Wetherspoon. (U102) 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, Brigstock 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.

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(SI), OLD SHADES, 37 Whitehall. Six Continents. (SW46) SW1(SJ), RED LION, 2 Duke of York St. Six Continents. (SW46, U151)

> SW1(W), MARQUIS OF GRANBY, 41 Romney St. Six Continents. (SW49, U137)

> SW1(W), SANCTUARY*ib, 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, 25 Wilton Rd.

Wetherspoon. (U150) SW2, CROWN & SCEPTRE*, 2A Streatham Hill.

Wetherspoon. (SW52, U146) SW3, BLENHEIM, 27 Cale St. Hall & Woodhouse. (SW55)

SW3, SURPRISE (IN CHELSEA)*, 6 Christchurch Terr. Six Continents. (SW58, U125)

SW4, GOOSE & GRANITE, 196 Clapham High St. Six Continents. (SW60)

SW5, BLACKBIRD*, 209 Earls Court Rd. Fuller. (SW62) SW6, FRONT ROOM, 314/316 Lillie Rd. Free House, formerly HALFWAY HOUSE (SW67, U136, U150)

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

SW8, PRIORY ARMS*, 83 Lansdowne Way. Free House. (SW79,

SW9, BEEHIVE, 407/409 Brixton Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW81)

SW11, ASPARAGUS, 1-13 Falcon Rd. Wetherspoon. (U138) SW11, BEEHIVE, 197 St Johns Hill. Fuller. (SW86)

SW11, GROVE, 279 Battersea High Rd. Laurel. (SW89, U159) SW11, WOODMAN, 60 Battersea High St. Hall & Woodhouse. (SW90, U146)

SW12, MOON UNDER WATER, 194 Balham High Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW92, U146)

SW15, RAILWAY, 202 Upper Richmond Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW103)

SW15, WHISTLE & FLUTE, 46-48 High St. Fuller, formerly P SHANNON & SONS. (SW103, U156)

SW16, MOON UNDER WATER, 1327 London Rd, Norbury. Wetherspoon. (SW108)

SW16, HOLLAND TRINGHAM, 107/109 Streatham High Rd. Wetherspoon. (U142)

SW17, JJ MOONS, 56A Tooting High St. Wetherspoon. (SW109, U135, U151, U159)

CASK : MARQUE

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, BREWERY TAP*, 68/69 High St, Wimbledon. Laurel. (SW116)

SW19, PRINCE OF WALES, 2 Hartfield Rd. Scottish & Newcastle. (SW118, U150)

SW19, SWAN, 89 Ridgway. Free House. (SW120, U164) SW19, WIBBAS DOWN INN, 6-12 Gladstone Rd. Wetherspoon. (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)

CARSHALTON, RAILWAY TAVERN, 47 North St. Fuller. (SW130)

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. (U126)

KINGSTON, WILLOUGHBY ARMS*, 47 Willoughby Rd. Laurel. (SW144, U153)

KINGSTON, WYCH ELM*, 93 Elm Rd. Fuller (SW145) MITCHAM, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER, 223

London Rd. Wetherspoon. (SW150)

MORDEN, LADY ST HELLER, 33 Aberconway Rd. Wetherspoon, formerly Wetherspoons. (SW151, U147) NEW MALDEN, BAR MALDEN, 1-3 St Georges Sq. Wizard Inns. (U154)

SURBITON, CAP IN HAND*ib, 174 Hook Rise North, Hook. Wetherspoon. (SW161, U134)

SURBITON, CORONATION HALL, St Marks Hill. Wetherspoon. (U129)

SURBITON, NEW PRINCE, 117 Ewell Rd. Gale. (SW161, U162)

SUTTON, COCK & BULL, 26-30 High St. Fuller. (SW164)

SUTTON, LITTLE WINDSOR*, 13 Greyhound Rd. Fuller; formerly WINDSOR CASTLE. (SW167, U153)

SUTTÓN, 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, JOHN JAKSON, 14-16 Woodcote Rd. Wizard Inns. (U158)

WALLINGTON, WHISPERING MOON, 25 Ross Parade. Wetherspoon. (SW126, U159)

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, Church Pl, St Marys Rd. Fuller. (W73, U92)

W5, WHEATSHEAF, 41 Haven La. Fuller. (W73, U63, U92) W6, ANDOVER ARMS*, 57 Aldensley Rd. Fuller. (W74, U67) W6, CROSS KEYS, 57 Black Lion La. Fuller. (W74, U92) W6, SALUTATION*, 154 King St. Fuller. (W77, U72, U92,

U101)
W6, WILLIAM MORRIS, 2/4 King St. Wetherspoon. (U131)
W7, DOLPHIN*, 13 Lower Boston Rd. Enterprise Inns, formerly
WHITE HART. (W79, U78, U120, U164)

W8, CHURCHILL ARMS*, 119 Kensington Church St. Fuller. (W79, U92)

W11, PRINCE ALBERT, 11 Pembridge Rd. Six Continents. ((W90, U75, U151)

W13, DRAYTON COURT*, 2 The Avenue. Fuller. (W92)
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)
GREENFORD, BLACK HORSE, 425 Oldfield Rd. Fuller.

(W102, U78)
HAMPTON COURT, KINGS ARMS*, Lion Gate, Hampton
Court Rd. Hall & Woodhouse. (W104, U66, U70, U94)
HAMPTON WICK, STRYKER'S RAILWAY, 91 High St.
Unique, formerly RAILWAY TAVERN. (W106, U153, U160)
HAYES, BOTWELL INN, 23-29 Coldharbour La. Wetherspoon.
(U155)

HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 2 (Airside). Wetherspoon. (U158)
HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 4 (Airside). Wetherspoon, formerly [] MOONS. (U76,

U78, U158)
HEATHROW, WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 4

(Landside). Wetherspoon. (U79) HOUNSLOW, D SHANNON & SONS, 32/34 high St. Fuller, formerly CHARIOT. (W126, U44, U131)

HOUNSLOW, MOON UNDER WATER, 84/86 Staines Rd. Wetherspoon. (U62, U92, U99, U152)

ICKENHAM, TICHENHAM INN*, 11 Śwakeleys Rd. Wetherspoon. (U150, U163)

OSTERLEY, HARE & HOUNDS, Wyke Green,

Windmill La. Fuller. (W131) RUISLIP, JJ MOONS*, 12 Victoria Rd, Ruislip Manor.

Wetherspoon. (U59, U86) TWICKENHAM, CABBAGE PATCH, 67 London Rd.

Inntrepreneur. (W150, U71, U159)

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.

UXBRIDGE, GOOD YARN, 132 High St. Wetherspoon. (U99)

CLUBS

SW1(W), BELLAMY'S BAR, House of Commons, 1 Parliament

SW1(W), STRANGERS BAR, House of Commons, 1 Parliament Sq.

W5, OLD ACTONIANS SPORTS CLUB, Gunnersbury Dr. W5, QUESTORS GRAPEVINE CLUB, Mattock La RUISLIP, RUISLIP CONSERVATIVE CLUB, 56-58 Ickenham Rd.



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. This Update, together with some previous ones, is posted on the Internet via www.londondrinker.co.uk. with any additional information available but not yet published in London Drinker.

This time we welcome the UK's first French-style brewpub in WC2 Covent Garden, dispensing an interesting range of draught unfiltered (cloudy) beers. Nearby in Covent Garden Market, the first Cornish theme bar has opened. Regrettably both outlets currently use gas assistance to dispense their beers. Fullers have opened a 4 star hotel and associated 'Ale & Pie' pub in EC2 City. We report Hall & Woodhouse acquiring an historic pub in EC4 and Brakspear has added a pub in EC1 to its 'Honeypot Inns' estate. Freedom Brewery has renamed its brewpub in W1 Soho.

Pubs with outdated '90s brand names such as Scruffy Murphys, Firkins, Pickled Newts etc. continue to receive new 'updated' names with some even returning to their originals. New corporate 'brands' are springing up such as 'Sizzling', 'Ember' and 'Arena' Pub Cos from Six Continents (erstwhile Bass). Although pub names are generally being left intact, the wholesale makeover involved often results in the loss of the last vestiges of traditional features.

The list of pubs closed to realise high residential value even when trading profitably continues to grow. The main culprits are the new pub owning companies with only a secondary interest in selling beer, but sadly even our local family brewers are jumping on the bandwagon. Opportunistic closures are taking place particularly in upmarket areas in advance of securing planning approvals for change of use to residential. Such actions undermine local opposition and tend to force the hands of local councils concerned about vacant property. Such is the commitment of breweries and pub groups to our pub heritage.

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, **CAFE KICK**, 43 Exmouth Market. No real ale. Free House/bar in former shop unit with football theme.

EC1, LIQUID LAB, 20 City Rd. No real ale. Free House/bar with a medical theme in former post office premises.

EC2, CHAMBERLAIN, 130-134 Minories. Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, London Pride, ESB, seasonal beer. New Fullers 'Ale & Pie' bar attached to new 4 star 64 bed 'Chamberlain Hotel' opened in a converted office block in November 2001. Decorated in typical style with polished dark wooden flooring and bar, solid wooden furniture, tiled around bar, pale green walls and brick red ceiling. Raised area to side segregated by balustrading. Chandeliers, spot lighting and smoke extractor system. Restaurant at rear leading into

hotel next door. Open all permitted hours. **EC2**, **DRAGON BAR**, 5 Leonard St. No real ale. Free House/bar with loud music, in former commercial premises.

EC4, EVANGELIST, 33 Black Friars La. Adnams:

Bitter; Fuller: London Pride. New large Free House/bar run by 'Thomas & Carter', a small pub chain, opened late 2001 on ground floor of new office development. Sparse décor with pastel painted walls, raised seating area to side. Food is cooked in view behind bar. Loud music evenings. Open 12-11 Mon-Fri, closed weekends. EC4, SAMUELS, 80 Farringdon St. Reverted to HOOP & GRAPES. Badger: Sussex Bitter, Best Bitter, Tanglefoot. Free House acquired in June 2000 by Hall & Woodhouse but not previously reported. A grade II listed pub saved from demolition when all around it was redeveloped in the late '90s. Furnished in traditional style with bare floorboards, green painted walls and wooden slatted ceiling. Rear room leads to small outdoor

patio. Restaurant and function room upstairs. Food available 12-9. Open 11-11 Mon-Fri, closed weekends but can be hired for private functions on Saturdays. (E49, U69, U140)

W1(F), NORDIC, 25 Newman St. No real ale. Free House/Scandinavian basement bar and restaurant in former wine bar premises opened in May 2001. Features Scandinavian keg and bottled beers including keg 'Red Erik', a 6.5% cherry beer at £2 a half!. Open 12-11 Mon-Sat, closed Sun.

WC1, CAFE LONDON, Bedford Hotel, 83 Southampton Row. Fuller: London Pride; Greene King: Abbot Ale. Former hotel bar now with separate entrance, done up in contemporary style with polished wooden flooring, tiled around bar, cream painted décor, raised seating area, TV for sports. Hotel restaurant at rear. Disabled WC. Open all permitted hours. (W45, N18)

WC1, DUKES, Ambassadors (in Bloomsbury) Hotel, 12 Upper Woburn Place. No real ale. Free House/bar attached to hotel with separate public entrance.

WC2, BRASSERIE LES SANS-CULOTTES, 27-29 Endell St. No (British) real ale. French brewpub opened at the end of November 2001 in former Italian restaurant premises. Narrow entrance leads through to bar area with restaurant at rear. Bare wooden floor, metallic balustrading, white painted ceiling and rugby football theme.

and Articles of Association of the Campaign.

Authentic French style unfiltered (cloudy) beers dispensed by gas pressure from vessels behind the bar, comprising La Blonde (4%), a German malty Steinbach pils, La Rouge (4.2%) a red style beer, La Rouse (4.6%) a bitter and La Speciale (4.8%), a stronger lager using a mixture of Pilsen and Munich malts. The brewery equipment in the cellar (6,000 litres brew length) was brought from Brazil by BBG. The two brewers, Gildas Petit and Frederic Cesme, learnt their skills at a brewpub in Cherbourg. Food includes sandwiches and a drink for £5, Flamenkuches (speciality of Alsace) and quiche. Open 9.30am (for breakfast) -11pm Mon-Sat, 11-10.30 Sun. A surprising and welcome addition to the London pub scene.

WC2, COVE, I The Market, The Piazza, Covent Garden. No real ale. Cornish theme pub accessed by stairs on first floor above West Cornwall Pasty Co outlet. The bar is decorated with a nautical theme and is dimly lit, mimicking a Cornish tin mine with two separate rooms off. The bar top itself is made of one half of a Falmouth fishing boat, with fishing-related pictures on the walls. No TV or gaming machines. Two Skinners cask beers from Truro are dispensed through handpumps but using a mixed gas system to raise the beer from the cellar, two floors below. The beers (£2.50 a pint) are Betty Stogs Bitter (4.0%) and Cornish Knocker Ale (4.5%). A keg beer - Ice Blonde Cornish

Application to join CAMRA

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

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| Signature | Date | | | | | |
| I/We enclose the rem | ittance for individu | ıal/joint membership |). | | | |
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| UK and EEC | £16 | £19 | £192 | £228 | | |
| Rest of the World | £20 | £23 | £240 | £276 | | |
| Student/Unwaged | 9 | | | | | |
| Disabled | 9 | | | | | |
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Send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to: Membership Secretary, CAMRA Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

Wheat Beer (5%) is also dispensed. The possibility of serving beers direct from cooled casks behind the bar is being considered. A balcony, with heated lanterns, overlooks the Piazza. Food. Open all permitted hours.

EAST

E2, ANDA DA BRIDGE, 42 Kingsland Rd. No real ale. A Free House/bar with loud music. E2, HARE, 505 Cambridge Heath Rd. Draught Bass; Fuller: London Pride (reinstatement). (E81, U112, U158)

BARKING, @BARKING, 2 Linton St. Adnams: Bitter. Formerly BREWERY TAP. (X10, U160, U161)

BARKING, BULL, 2 North St. Courage: Best Bitter (reinstatement). (X10, U159, U163)

NORTH

N1, BACCHUS, 177 Hoxton St. No real ale, H unused. Reopened after 8 years (and hence not included in N guide). Now run by Enterprise Inns, ex-Belhaven.

N1, NUBAR, 196 Essex Rd. Reopened and renamed (yet again) LE MONTMARTRE. No real ale. A French bar and bistro. (N40, U137, U147, U163)

N19, ST JOHNS TAVERN, 91 Junction Rd. Now

simply ST JOHNS. Greene King: IPA; Marston: Pedigree, one guest beer. (N145)

NORTH WEST

NW1, BAR HAWLEY, 2 Castlehaven Rd. Reverted to HAWLEY ARMS. Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. Now a Greene King tied house, ex-Harmony Leisure. (N167, U132)

SOUTH EAST

SE8, FARRAGOS, 74 McMillan St. No real ale. Reopened as a pub again after a 5 year spell as a vegetarian restaurant. Now a Free House, formerly a Belhaven pub named McMILLANS, originally UNITED FRIENDS. (SE81, U102, U113, U120) SE10, GRADUATE, 13 Blackheath Rd. Renamed WHITE SWAN HOTEL. Courage: Directors Bitter. Free House, pleasantly refurbished in 'homely' style by enterprising landlady, with mixture of seating, potted plants, gas fire, polished flooring etc. Entertainment area at rear features folk music on Tuesdays, poetry reading fortnightly on Thursdays, jazz on Fridays and a 'Beatles' band on Saturdays. Accommodation (6 bedrooms) upstairs. Additional real ales possible if trade warrants. Open 11.45-3, 6-11 Mon-Thu, 11.45-3, 6-12 Fri and 6-12 Sat, closed Sun. Originally WHITE SWAN. (SE103, U102, U120, U155)

The Sultan

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Open Mon-Sat 12-11, Sunday 12-10.30

The only Hop Back bub in London

SE10, 'S' BAR & RESTAURANT, The Plaza, 234 Trafalgar Rd. No real ale. Free House/bar on ground floor with Chinese restaurant on first floor opened late 2000 in former Granada bingo hall, originally a cinema.

BEXLEY, OLD MILL, 112 High St. Courage: Best Bitter (reinstatement). (3SE210, U59, U149,

(33)

CROYDON, GLOUCESTER, 111 Whitehorse Rd. Adnams: Bitter, Broadside; Brakspear: Bitter, Special. Former Youngs pub closed in December 2001 and reopened as a Free House. In need of refurbishment, it is believed there may be a threat of redevelopment in future but it is somewhat surprising that Youngs disposed of this good sized pub in a good location. (3SE242, U163)

SOUTH WEST

SW4, ACRE TAVERN, 173-175 Clapham Park Rd. Reverted to original name, COACH & HORSES, last used in 1985. Adnams: Bitter; Brakspear: Bitter; Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; 3 Guest beers (eg Wells: Bombardier) Has undergone a sympathetic refurbishment and now Unique Pub Co ex-Inntrepreneur. (SW59)

SW11, BOHO, 517-519 Battersea Park Rd. No real ale. A Free House/Bohemian bar in former commercial premises. Sells Kosel lager from Czech

Republic.

SW19, SW19 (THE), 153-163 The Broadway. No real ale. Free House/bar café in former Comet electrical store.

RICHMOND, OLD ORLEANS, 8 Queens Rd. Reverted to LASS OF RICHMOND HILL. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter, Guest beer. (SW156)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC1, BRITISH LION, ex-Whitbread, H removed. (E13)

EC1, BULLS HEAD (MONAGHANS), Free House, H removed. (E13, U80, U81)

EC1, CENTRAL BAR. Renamed PLAY, Free House. Refurbished in café-bar style, H removed. (E17, U75, U113, U118)

EC1, DRUM & MONKEY, ex-Whitbread. Now converted to a YMCA drop-in centre. (E15, U156) EC1, LONDON SPA, Young, closed, boarded up in late 2001 and awaiting some form of redevelopment, future uncertain. (E19, U67) EC4, RYANS PUBLIC HOUSE, Free House, H

removed. (U121)
WC1, PRINCE ALBERT, ex-Grand Met
(Truman), closed and boarded up. (W50, U56,
N28)

WC1, WHITE HART, S&N absorbed into Transport House (T&GWU HQ) next door. (W51, N32, U106, U152)

EAST

E1, QUEENS HEAD, 57 Greatorex St, Phoenix, demolition now in progress. (E71, U112, U115) E2, KINGS ARMS, 67 Old Bethnal Green Rd, ex-Watney, converted to residential use. (E81) E8, PRINCESS ALICE, ex-Taylor Walker, no real

ale. (E108)

E8, ROYAL OAK, Ascot, converted to residential use. (E116, U99)

E9, CLARENDON, ex-Courage, closed and being converted to flats. (E120, U79)

E9, FRAMPTON ARMS, ex-Courage, closed and boarded up, future uncertain. (E120)
E9, PLOUGH, Ascot, closed and to let. (E121,

E9, PLOUGH, Ascot, closed and to let. (E121, U99)

BARKING, ROYAL OAK, ex-Taylor Walker, H removed. (X12) ILFORD, BELL, S&N (Barras), H removed.

X72)

NORTH

N1, DOVE REGENT, Free House, closed, future uncertain. Formerly ANGEL CAFE BAR, originally DUKE OF BRIDGEWATER. (N38, U159)

N1, EARL OF RADNOR, Fuller, closed gutted and 'acquired for clients', future uncertain. (N42) N1, GREEN MAN, 257 Hoxton St, ex-Taylor Walker, closed and 'acquired by clients', future uncertain (N46)

N1, MARKET TAVERN, 144 York Way, ex-Courage, demolished. The loss of an imposing, historic local landmark. (N51)

N1, PIMLICO BAR, Free House, demolished. (N54)

N1, UNICORN, ex-Taylor Walker, closed. (N61) N7, CITY OF YORK, ex-Bass, closed. (N86) N19, BIRKBECK TAVERN, ex-Watney, demolished and replaced by flats. (N143)

N19, FOX & HOUNDS, ex-Watney, closed for some time, future uncertain. (N143)

N19, HANLEY ARMS, ex-Watney, closed a few months ago, future uncertain. (N144)

N19, MALL, Free House, closed about 2 years ago and now used as business premises although front still gives appearance of pub. (N144)

N19, STEAMHOUSE. Renamed GOOD INTENT, ex-Greenalls, no real ale. (N145) N21, QUEENS HEAD, S&N, no real ale. (N153, U106)

N22, STARTING GATE. Renamed BRB@THE GATE, H removed. Another historic pub falling prey to corporate 'brand' identity. Ex-Taylor Walker, now Punch. (N157)

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Breakfast served from 8.30am-10.30am Licensed from 9am

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See you very soon

NORTH WEST

NW1, FUSILIER & FIRKIN, Six Continents, H removed. (N166, U151)

NW1, LION & LAMB, Phoenix, closed and boarded up, all external signage removed. (N169) NW1, WHEATSHEAF. Renamed BELUSHIS, a bar and restaurant. Refurbished in standard cafébar style, Inntrepreneur, H removed. (N177) NW11, REFECTORY, S&N, no real ale. (N227)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, RED LION, 172 Westminster Bridge Rd. Renamed WALRUS, ex-Courage, H removed. Now a 'metal furniture' bar. (SE30)

SE8, BLUSHERS, Free House, now demolished. Originally DUKE OF WELLINGTON. (SE77, U102)

SE8, FARRIERS ARMS, ex-Bass, H removed. (SE79, U115))

SE8, GOSTERWOOD TAVERN, Free House, now converted to flats. Retains pub name in stonework at top of building. (SE80, U102, U132) SE8, MERRY CRICKETERS, Ascot, now converted to estate agent office. (SE81, U113) SE9 CROSSWAYS. Ex-Courage, closed, boarded

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The Portmanor, Portland Road South Norwood, SE25 Tel 020 8655 1308 up and acquired by Burger King. The likely loss of yet another mock-Tudor interwar road house, this one on the A20. One of the few not already bought by MacDonalds. (SE86)

SE10, LORD NAPIER, ex-Courage, converted to Chinese restaurant. (SE98)

SE10, ROYAL ALBERT. Renamed GASTRO GASTRO, ex-Courage, H removed. (SE101, U102, U121)

SE13, SULTAN, Inntrepreneur, closed and boarded up. (SE122)

ERITH, CROSS KEYS, ex-Truman, no real ale. (3SE255, U43, U47, U85, K65)

ERITH, NORDENFELT TAVERN. Now simply NORDENFELT, ex-Watney, no real ale. (3SE255, U64, U85, K65)

ERITH, SHIP, Phoenix, no real ale. (3SE256, U85, U112, K65)

ERITH, TRAFALGAR, ex-Truman, no real ale. (3SE256, U85, U112, K65)

SLADE GREEN (ERITH), RAILWAY TAVERN, Phoenix, closed and boarded up. (3SE256, U42, U53, U112, K129)

SOUTH WEST

SW3, KINGS HEAD & EIGHT BELLS, Laurel (ex-Whitbread), closed, future uncertain for this historic grade II listed pub on Cheyne Walk where conversion to residential use may be the intention. Protests to Kensington & Chelsea Council (SW57) SW3, MARLBOROUGH, Laurel (ex-Whitbread), closed, future uncertain but rumoured to be

destined for residential conversion provided Kensington & Chelsea Council obliges. (SW57) SW9, JUNCTION (LOUGHBOROUGH), Free House, closed and boarded up, formerly WARRIOR. (SW84, U131)

SW9, MUCKY DUCK, ex-Bass, H unused. (SW82, U142)

SW11, BAR COAST, Six Continents (ex-Bass), converted to 'Need the Dough' pizza restaurant. (U129)

SW15, PIED PIPER, S&N, H unused, formerly RAT & PARROT. (SW104, U163)

SW17, SURREY TAVERN, ex-Whitbread, closed, boarded up, and ground floor and bar area to let. (SW110, U142, U151, U157)

SW19, JJ'S BAR CAFÉ, Free House, no real ale. (SW117)

KINGSTON, CAMBRIDGE ARMS,

Inntrepreneur, closed, boarded up and for sale. (SW140, U140, U160)

KINGSTON, FINANCIER & FIRKIN, Six Continents (ex-Bass), converted to 'Need the Dough' pizza restaurant. The irony of the name following the Firkin debacle would probably be lost on the grey suits at 'Six Continents'. (SW142, U151)

KINGSTON, LAMB, Shepherd Neame, closed, planning application for conversion to flats opposed by local CAMRA branch. (SW143, U145)

KINGSTON, TWO BREWERS, Free House, now demolished. Site to be redeveloped for flats. (SW144, U156)

KINGSTON, WHITE HORSE, Inntrepreneur, closed. Whole area due for redevelopment for offices and residential use. (SW144)

RICHMOND, ROSE OF YORK, Sam Smith, H removed. This seems incredible in such a large riverside pub. Have Sam Smith's resumed their perverse policy of removing cask ales from their London pubs, halted after an outcry in 1995? Surveys of other Sam Smith pubs welcomed by the compilers. (SW158)

SURBITON, RED LION (HARVESTER), Six Continents (ex-Bass), no real ale. (SW162) SURBITON, TOBY JUG, Six Continents (ex-Bass), closed and boarded up. Yet another arterial road house and famous landmark under threat, this one on the A3. (SW163, U132)

WEST

W4, PILOT, S&N, closed, future uncertain. (W69, U94, U107)

TWICKENHAM, DUKES HEAD, ex-Watney, H unused. (W150)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC1, EXMOUTH ARMS. +Fuller: London Pride; +2 Guest beers from micros (eg Stonehenge, Arundel). Now a Free House, ex-Courage. (E15) EC1, GREEN MAN & STILL. Now also subtitled McLOUGHLANS, -beers listed except Courage: Best Bitter; +Boddington: Flowers IPA. (E17)

EC1, SURPRISE. Now owned and badged by Brakspear as part of 'Honeypot Inns' chain, ex-SFI, but believed to be about to be sold to Britannia Inns. Formerly CHARLOTTES for a while. (E25, U75, U79, U92, U108, U113, U114)

EC4, HORN TAVERN. Renamed CENTRE PAGE, -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Wells: Bombardier. Refurbished and presumably now a Free House, ex-Eldridge Pope. Formerly ST PAULS WINE VAULTS for a while. (E49, U121, U137)

EC4, SCRUFFY MURPHYS. Renamed MAHONEYS. Still no real ale. Originally KING & KEYS but at least new owners Six Continents (ex-Bass) are getting rid of the dreadful ex-Allied phoney Irish brand name. (E50, U102, U151) WC1, CARLISLE. Renamed IVY HOUSE, -beers

listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Now owned by Regent Inns, ex-P+M Inns. (U133)

W1(F), GRAFTON ARMS. One of the earlier members of the Hogshead 'chain', the pub originally retained its old name but was apparently renamed HOGSHEAD some time in the recent past (although never recorded as such). It has now reverted back to its original name. -beers listed except Boddington: Bitter; +Adnams: Bitter; +2 Guest beers. Roof garden retained. (W29, U74, U84, U95, U147)

W1(S), FREEDOM. Renamed ZEGRANO. Microbrewery retained and still run by Freedom Brewery. Basement bar now open 5-11pm Mon-Sat only and has been done up in gloomy dark red colour. Ground floor bar/cafe open 11-10 Mon-Sat. Current keg Freedom beers are lager (4.7%), Pils (5.0%) and Wheat (5.0%), all at £3 a pint. (U152)

EAST

E9, ALEXANDRA, Renamed ALEX, still no real ale. (E119, U108, U110)

E9, FALCON & FIRKIN. Renamed VICTORIA PARK. -beers listed; +Draught Bass. One of the original David Bruce Firkin brewpubs opened in early 1986 and now of little interest to the beer enthusiast - come back, David, all is forgiven! For the record it was originally the QUEENS HOTEL. (E120)

E9, PENSHURST ARMS. Open only Fri-Sun. (E121, U105, U118)

E9, ROYAL INN ON THE PARK. -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +full range of Ridley beers. Formerly ROYAL HOTEL. (E122, U76, U117, U147, U159)

DAGENHAM GOODFELLAS. Renamed JAKE'S, still no real ale. Formerly JAKE & ELWOODS. (X45, U155)

NORTH

N1, BRADYS. Renamed SALISBURY, no real ale. Refurbished in bright, modern style. Originally MARQUIS OF SALISBURY. (N39) N1, KINGS ARMS, 295 Hoxton St. Renamed DECO, no real ale. Retains Kings Arms name on hanging sign. (N49)

N1, ROYAL HALL. Renamed JORENE CELESTE, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA. Historic pub refurbished with bare floorboards, potted plants, pictures on wall etc. Sister to pub in NW5. Now presumably a Free House, ex-Grand Met (Watney). (N57) N7, B BURKE & SONS. Renamed QUAYS (THE). Originally HALF MOON. (N87, U120) N19, ARCHWAY TAVERN. Now simply ARCHWAY, still no real ale. (N143)

MAGPIE & CROWN

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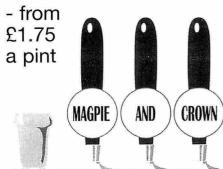
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*singing voice required Friday evenings

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 164

N19, MULBERRY TREE. Renamed BAILEYS CORNER, still no real ale. (N144)

N19, PICKLED NEWT (NEW BRUNSWICK). Reverted to NEW BRUNSWICK. (N144, U109, U117)

BARNET (EN5), BAR TEN. Renamed BUENA VISTA, formerly JUG & TRUMPET. (N250, L1157)

ENFIELD (EN1), HALFWAY HOUSE. -beers listed; +Boddington: Flowers IPA; +Fuller: London Pride; +Wadworth: 6X. Food available 12-10. Open all permitted hours. Beefeater now under

ENFIELD WEST (EN2), GEORGE.. Renamed GOOSE AT THE GEORGE. (N234)

new management. (N229)

NORTH WEST

NW1, O'NEILLS. Renamed BEATRIX. Originally PRINCESS BEATRICE. (N113) NW1, SLUGGER O'TOOLES. Renamed COLLEGE BAR. Formerly COLLEGE ARMS. (N163, U112, U124)

SOUTH EAST

SE6, GOOSE & GRANITE. Reverted to RISING SUN. (SE68, U120)

SE26, FEWTERER & FIRKIN. Reverted to GREYHOUND, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. The ruination of Sydenham's oldest pub begun under the Allied Firkin era has now been completed by Six Continents (ex-Bass). Now branded as an 'Arena pub' and fitted out in typical contemporary style, light pine, large windows etc. The superb tilework is now apparently hidden away in an inaccessible area behind the bar. A classic example of how short term corporate branding by pub companies is destroying our pub heritage. (SE223, U114, U122, U151)

BEXLEY, CAFE LORCA. Renamed BAR LORCA, still no real ale. (U149)

BEXLEY, CAFE TAAX Should read TRAX, a cafe-bar. (U103)

BROMLEY, BEECH TREE. Now badged by Six Continents (ex-Bass) as part of the 'Sizzling Pub Co' estate, formerly 'Southside Pub Co'. (3SE216, 8K50, U158)

CHISLEHURST, BICKLEY ARMS. Renamed STATIONMASTER (YE OLDE). (3SE225, 8K63, U107)

ERITH, BOUNDARY. Renamed STYLE & WINCH, still no real ale. (3SE254, U47, U149, K65)

SIDCUP, IRON HORSE. Renamed METRO BAR, still no real ale. (3SE273, U64, U86, U149, K127)

WEST WICKHAM, RAILWAY. -beers listed except Tetley: Bitter; +Draught Bass; +Fuller: London Pride. Now badged by Six Continents as

part of the 'Ember Inns' chain, with three 'keg' fires. No smoking area at rear. (3SE288, U55, U151)

SOUTH WEST

SW9, BEDFORD ARMS. -beers listed; +Wadworth: 6X. Much reduced range. Formerly HOGSHEAD. (SW82, U153)

SW9, OLD QUEENS HEAD. Previously reported as converted to a comedy club, now an Italian restaurant. (SW82, U142).

SW12, BAR INTERLUDE. Renamed JACKDAW & ROOK, +Fuller: ESB. First recorded instance of the conversion of one of Fullers' underachieving 'bars' (blamed for poor financial results) to a traditional style pub. (U151)

SW15, PUTNEY BRICK. -beers listed; +Taylor: Landlord; +Guest beer. Now a Free House, ex-Inntepreneur, following rescue late last year by a dedicated regular customer after proposed conversion to residential use had fallen through. Formerly Bricklayers Arms. (SW100, U153) SW18, 21 ALMA ROAD. Renamed EAST HILL, now Geronimo Inns, ex-Grosvenor Inns. Formerly

HILL. (SW114, U141, U152) SW18, CAT'S BACK. -beers listed; +Eccleshall: Slaters Supreme (or another Slaters); +O'Hanlon: Blakeley's No 1 or Port Stout. Range may vary. (SW111, U146, U151)

SLUG & LETTUCE, originally OLD EAST

SW19, SWAN. Now a Free House, ex-S&N. (SW120)

CHESSINGTON, BONESGATE. -beers listed; +Draught Bass; +Fuller: London Pride. Now badged by Six Continents as part of 'Sizzling Pub Co' estate. (SW134, U151)

WEST

W2, D LAFFERTYS & SONS. Renamed OAK (THE). Now a food orientated Free House, ex-Taylor Walker. Refurbished, still no real ale but likely in near future. Formerly BRITISH OAK. (W58, U54, U74, U92, U139)

W4, DUKE OF SUSSEX. Now simply DUKE (THE). -beers listed; +Bateman: XB (G); +Taylor: Landlord (G); +Inches: Stonehouse Cider. Former Allied (Taylor Walker) pub, acquired by Punch and now branded as part of a new 'Firkin Beer Co' estate. Refurbished retaining central bar with bare floorboards, alcove seating and etched glass screens. Rear room with ornate ceiling has pool and more seating. A mixture of leather easy chairs, tables and chairs. Food until 9pm. (W68, U43, U94)

W7, DOLPHIN. Now Enterprise Inns, ex-Gibbs Mew. (W79, U78, U120)

W9, CARLTON BRIDGE. Renamed GRAND UNION. -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter, Broadside. Now a Free House, ex-S&N. Separate small bar downstairs and canalside seating. (W83, U74, U107)

RICHARD WILLSON

Those of us who were drinking real ale in London in the seventies remember with great affection one of the first Meccas of real beer which was the Tudor Close in Richmond - before it was sold to Samuel Smith's and became the Rose of York. We who were lucky enough to live nearby and got to know the pub well will also remember with just as great affection Richard and Sue Willson who were the managers of the pub through its glory days. It is therefore with great sadness that we have to report that Richard died on 19th February from cancer of the oesophagus.

Richard was a great, larger than life character who was not at all fazed by his stammer - he almost made it his trademark (only that was really the quality of his beer) - and had even been an actor in his time (a mime actor, that is). He was responsible for bringing several beers that later became household names into London, Brakspear's and Ruddle's County (when it was Ruddle's) to name but two, and when Gibbs Mew of Salisbury brought out their Bishop's Tipple it was on sale at the Tudor Close before it went into any of their own pubs. When the owners of the Tudor Close and a couple of the hotels in that part of Richmond decided to sell up and move on, Richard and Sue were grabbed with great glee by Brakspear's and installed as tenants of the Bull in the Thamesside village of Wargrave, which he described as 'retiring to the country' after life in south west London. After a few happy years at the Bull the brewery made them 'an offer I couldn't refuse' and they moved to the (now) CAMRA National Inventory listed Fox at Bix, just outside Henley at the top of the hill on the Oxford Road - a pub of character but not Richard's favourite as it relied too much on passing trade.

About three years ago Brakspear's sold the Fox to Bass and Richard and Sue moved on, taking a twenty five year lease on the Castle of Comfort, an Usher's pub, the heart of the village of Medstead a few miles from Alton in Hampshire - a move which Richard described as a second retirement - where they were again very happy and (it goes without saying) ran a great pub. Alas, this happiness was to be short lived.

Our thoughts at this time are with Sue and her family who we understand are planning to stay at the Castle of Comfort. Richard was only in his mid fifties, a tragically young age to be taken - the world has lost a great character and an all round good bloke.

Andy Pirson

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

When I first planned this series, I divided the subject matter into a number of categories, one of which - Transport - proved so vast that I've split it several ways. My theme this time is railways, as the peak period of pub building coincided with their boom, and many pub names, more so than any others connected with transport, reflect this. The most obvious examples are the Railway, Station and those names combined with Hotel, Tavern, Inn, Signal, Telegraph, Bell, Porter, Guard, Arms etc, the Terminus and Junction. In many cases specific companies gave their names to pubs, such as the Great Northern, Midland and Metropolitan. Once, until it closed, the longest pub name in the country was the London, Chatham & Dover Railway Tavern; that company's name was superseded in 1899 when it merged with the South Eastern Railway, an event commemorated by the Amalgamation in Rochester. The Central Wales Railway, now the Kinnersley in Knighton, Salop, faces the station that was once the terminus of that line, across the England/Wales border, and in one local guide its address was listed as 'Station Road, England'.

Probably the largest pub sign ever was a complete



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locomotive - at the Hayling Billy, commemorating the nickname of that Island's train service. The engine had worked on it for some years and is still running, after restoration, on the Isle of Wight where it spent 36 years, as No. 8 'Freshwater'.

In the early days of railways, locomotives were usually given names before numbers, and these were reflected in pub names, often leading to ambiguities about their origin. Thus there are two called the North Star in Maidenhead, Berks, to commemorate the first loco on the Great Western Railway, which started its first journey from that town.

The Atmospheric Railway in Devon refers to an unusual and unsuccessful form of traction in the 1850s. Years ago I refreshed between trains in the now closed Railway & Bicycle next to Sevenoaks Station, Kent. It appealed not only for the beer quality but the title reflected two of my other great loves, symbols of the Victorian era, and then the only alternatives to walking and horsepower for overland travel. Following (illogically) that connection, the Railway Inn near Clapham Junction first became Savilles - a local cycle builder - and is now the Dog & Duck!

With the closure of so many routes in the 50s and 60s, a large number of pubs with railway-related titles were marooned far from a line. Many retained their historic names while others changed to something nostalgic on the theme, such as the Ghost Train in Purton, Wilts and the Silent Whistle at Evercreech, Somerset. Two Railway Inns on the latter's line are now respectively the William Mogg at Edington Burtle, named after the last signalman there whose portrait adorns the sign, while that at West Pennard is the Apple Tree, appropriate for cider country.

Railway premises were built to last, and in some cases became pubs. The former Builth Road Low Level Station, Powys, is nom the Cambrian Arms, after the company that built it. Another such is the former station at Dunvant, Glams, appropriately called the Railway, while on the platform of the still operational Ravenglass station in Cumberland is the Ratty Arms, local nickname for the nearby narrow gauge line.

Finally, a tragic 'might have been'. In the late 1890s the last main line into London was built, the Great Central. Frank Crocker had a magnificent hotel built, expecting to serve its terminus. Unfortunately the company's line continued a further mile, to Marylebone, and the ruined entrepreneur jumped off the roof. Crocker's Folly is said to be haunted...

Martin Smith

VARIATIONS ON A THEME

British pub operations have seen a vast increase in slick marketing ideas over the last decade. Drinkers and their choices are no longer left to chance and the industry are devising even more sophisticated ways of selling their products.

A recent feature in a marketing magazine lifted the veil on some of the recent innovations in promoting all types of alcohol to a drinking public which is being flooded with choice. A large chain of themed town-centre bars is leaving nothing to chance and has installed widescreen TV screens in a significant part of its current estate and plans to roll them out across all of its venues in the near future. The screens carry third-party advertising as well as seeking to highlight in-house drinks promotions.

Indeed, the company in question is quite certain about the impact of the screens as a recent survey found that nearly a quarter of all its customers made a mental note of what was being displayed and subsequently discussed it with friends.

Strange as it might seem, many of the chain's target audience are not certain about what their choice of bevvy might be even as they stand at the bar. The screens therefore serve up rapid-fire mini-ads to act as suggestions!

If this lacks a certain subtlety to the discerning boozer, another weapon in the marketeer's armoury takes the concept a few stages further on. The widescreen TVs aren't appropriate everywhere; such overt advertising and promotion goes against the grain of quieter, more intimate establishments but the marketing agencies have this covered too.

A trial conducted last year in some London pubs involved tiny ads being etched on to the bottom of pint glasses so that they were visible only to the drinkers as they enjoyed their beverage. The idea was tested in a pub in the City which attracted a clientele of mainly fund managers and the like but the promotions company was sure that very few extra investment plans were sold as a result, implying that the so-called 'ignore factor' played its part to a large degree. These companies believe that we are at our most relaxed and receptive when imbibing or eating out, so the days of the pub being a place where only low-level promotion takes place could well be coming to an end.

This brings to mind the Blade Runner scenario: advertising of all kinds being omnipresent, part of a global twenty-four hour culture of mass consumption that endlessly references itself with no regard to anything that exudes more than superficial 'quality'.

If some pubs are going down this track - and the capital is a fertile testing ground for such flights of fantasy - then the actual idea of whole pub branding

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VARIATIONS ON A THEME

and theming could paradoxically well be on the wane.

I recently passed a pub for the first time in a long time and was surprised to see that it had foresaken its tawdry and ill-fitting Oirish theme persona and reverted to its former name, albeit with a complete makeover that took it somewhat upmarket. If this pattern is being repeated as pubcos and breweries reconsider the whole premise of heavy branding, I know not but one lives in hope!

How long now for Bass's O'Neill's chain or indeed the flock of Slug and Lettuces as the tide of theming recedes into the distance? I mulled this over as I passed another local Wetherspoon's outlet and speculated that the game could well be up if JDW decided to ditch its corporate image for good and actually run pubs which had some identity of their own. The drinking public are not as dim as the marketeers and chain owners believe they are and it

could be that a fickle and well-informed populace have already 'moved on' and made a conscious decision to avoid those places which exude no individual character, seeking out the distinctive and even unique as they seek to describe themselves as individuals instead of a large, gullible mass.

Maybe cask ale can find an acceptance here: distinctive beers in distinctive houses. Maybe it can start to truly cross over again to audiences that have been put off in the past and retake ground lost to mixer drinks, nitrokeg etc.

It's not a picture that ultimately lends itself to total clarity as people have individual preferences in any case, but the tide could turn our way...

Al Ferrier

The author wishes to thank Brian Bade for his assistance.

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WEAVING OUR WAY THROUGH NORFOLK

we had decided, somewhat rashly and probably after a pint or two on the wrong side of sobriety, that it would be a splendid idea to 'do' a long distance path at the beginning of September 2001. After a bit of research the four of us hit upon the idea of the Weavers' Way - a 56 mile stroll from Cromer to Great Yarmouth. Challenging but with not too much 'up'. Disaster struck even in the planning stage of this walk. The only train we could feasibly catch to Cromer would get us to our destination at about 10pm and, given that we would need a traditional pre-walk curry, it looked as if we would miss out on our first real ale of the trip as we couldn't fit in both. We met up, Angela, Brian, Lynne and myself (Ian) like characters out of an Arthur Ransome story. Luckily, Liverpool Street Station had the benefit of Saint Tim Martin's foresight to place a Wetherspoons within sight of our platform and we worshipped there for half an hour or so while waiting for our train. The pint of Hop Back Summer Lightning constituted a good start to the holiday and lessened the panic about missing out on a beer later that evening. Considered wisdom is that the best breakfast for a day long walk is full of carbohydrate and slow release sugars. This meant that the cereal, orange juice and beans on toast option would have set us up for the day. Fortunately, none of us took any notice of this and went for the full English.

We knew we had a fair morning's walking if we were to get to a pub for lunchtime so we set off at a brisk pace, reaching the Spread Eagle at Erpingham in good time where we partook of a pint or two of Woodforde's Wherry and Nelson's Revenge. We even managed some Cromer crab sandwiches.

After lunch we sauntered in a southerly direction pausing briefly to play 'Pooh sticks' on a bridged stream, although we had to convince Brian that where we came from one used twigs! Next stop the Jacobean, Blickling Hall. Well, actually, we were looking forward to a pint at the Buckinghamshire Arms which stood just outside the grounds of the house. For some reason though - and none of us can fathom out why this happened - we passed the pub and went into the Hall which was well worth the visit.

Our first overnight stop was at Aylsham. The Feathers was listed in the *Good Beer Guide*, but do you thing we could find it? We settled for the Black Boys and a pint or two of Adnams. We then went out in search of food. What we had failed to consider though was that small market towns in the heart of Norfolk are not like London and everywhere had closed - except the curry house. Well, needs must and all that

The majority of the route on day two was along a dismantled railway line, last used in 1959. This meant

that it was straight, level and easy walking, if not the most exciting part of the walk.

Our lunchtime stop came at North Walsham. The first 'pub' we came to was dry - yes, dry and as we walked through the place it became clear that this was not going to be a beer paradise. The White Swan served a fair pint of Bass and that's about the best I can say about the town.

Our destination that night was Stalham and, after 14 miles, it could not come soon enough as Angela was feeling a tad weary by late afternoon, not helped by the thought of 17 miles the next day. There were a number of pubs in the town and the first we came across was the Swan. This proved to be a bit of a find: good food, fine pints of Adnams and England beating Germany 5-1. Who could ask for more?

Day three was to be the longest. We had lunch at the Broadhaven Tavern, Potter Heigham, a particularly uninspiring pub with an amusement arcade for the kids attached. We were expecting little, but the bitter was palatable and the pork sandwich fine, so we apologise for prejudging.

We left the noise, candyfloss and one arm bandits and got back to the solitude of the path. It was then that it rained. It always does on a long distance path. The only saving grace was the surprise appearance of the Lion at Thurne with Wherry, Adnams, Flowers and London Pride on.

The King's Head at Acle served a fair pint of Greene King IPA and Old Speckled Hen that evening and after 17 miles we deserved it.

The last day was to be the shortest. The terrain here was all reclaimed, flat, pastureland with windmills dotted around. The most complete of these was Berney Arms Mill which dominated the landscape. To get to it we had to cross the railway line at Berney Arms station. This was an amazing little halt in the middle of nowhere, miles from civilisation, but brilliant for walkers and perhaps the odd cow.

We were able to go up the windmill and view from the top was spectacular. Of even more interest was the pub we could see a few yards to the west. This was the Berney Arms and it was only accessible by foot, boat or the small station halt up the path. This place was a bit of a find: Woodforde's Great Eastern and Wherry and the Greene King brace. My turkey and mussel pie was also interesting - I probably wouldn't order it again though!

From the pub it was a two mile walk to Great Yarmouth, ending at the superstore car park. It would have been nice to end with a pint of good real ale, but with nothing around we returned sober but deflated.

Ian Pearson

(The full version of this article is available on the London Drinker website.)

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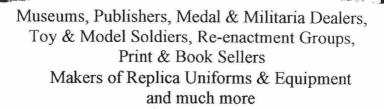
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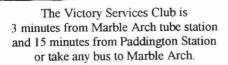
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LOOKING BACK

TWENTY YEARS AGO an advert for the 1982 Good Beer Guide boasted '6,000 of the best pubs in the UK' at a price of £3.95. Mentioning prices, 'bargain beers' of the day included Ind Coope Burton Ale for 60p, Shepherd Neame Bitter for 54p and Charrington IPA for 51p. According to an item Prices - It's Crunch 'Time, London's beers were getting cheaper.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO the April cover was a newsvendor's placard saying 'EEC Bans Pure Beer Law' with the relevant article telling of a threat unrealised - to the fortunately Rheinheitsgebot. In his editorial Andy Pirson gave a worker's eye view of the Wimbledon Beer Festival whilst an alternative angle came from a customer, Derek Edwards. Both were in favour despite misgivings. Offerings from regular contributors included 'Merton's' spurious explanation for the spire of Salisbury Cathedral leaning off-centre - the reason involved beer and attention was drawn to the publication date - whilst 'Eastender' treated readers to a crawl entitled Limehouse B(l)ooze. A review of pubs in Real Beer in London revealed that in the two years up to December 1986, 2.9% of the 5,440 pubs listed had switched to real ale, giving a total of 4,016 or 74%. Courage had increased by 6% to be the biggest of the big brewers.

TEN YEARS AGO the Battersea BeerEx - the successor to Wimbledon - had been attended by 4,500 and sold 11,500 pints, with £500 raised for Battersea Dogs' Home. Wetherspoons were holding a beer festival in their largest house, the White Lion of Mortimer, with 250 ales at £1.20 per pint. South West London Branch's Pub of the Year was the Nightingale, Balham. The May cover was an advert for the Greenwich Beer Festival - forerunner of Catford - with a dancing sailor logo. On the production front, Barry Tilbrook had come forward to volunteer as advertising manager. editorial quoted from the Licensee magazine, which criticised CAMRA for advocating flexible hours and suggested that CAMRA had outlived its original function. David Kitten, editor of the Good Cider Guide, presented a learned treatise on real cider and the keg version. On the beer front, Young's had announced the arrival of their short-lived but interesting draught Porter. Batemans of Wainfleet had brewed a bottle-conditioned ale at 6% ABV to celebrate CAMRA's 21st Anniversary. The winner of the March crossword was 'Robert Young 436', a Chelsea Pensioner.

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LOOKING BACK

FIVE YEARS AGO London Drinker celebrated its 200th edition, which also marked both Chris Cobbold's and Andy Pirson's 14th anniversary on the editorial team. In the editorial, Andy looked back at the magazine's production methods, which have changed out of all recognition over the years. In the May editorial Chris wrote about real lager, beer as enjoyed on the Continent. Lawrence Fryer continued his review of brewpubs around Boston, USA whilst South East London Branch had celebrated the success of the 1996 Catford Beer Festival with visits to the Batemans and Nethergate breweries. A 'Great British Wheat Challenge' took place at the White Horse, Parsons Green as part of a campaign to promote the beer style in Britain.

Finally, I must pay tribute to Ian Amy for his valiant efforts on behalf of *London Drinker* both before and since becoming joint editor in my place in 1990. Whenever I was unable to produce my contributions, Ian ably filled in, despite his claim to have no journalistic skill. Good wishes to Geoff Strawbridge who has taken on the task which, even with the advent of new technology, remains a daunting challenge.

Goodbye.

Martin Smith

The Brewery Tap

John and Heather welcome you to the Brewery Tap.

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IDLE MOMENTS

Yes folks, I'm back; unfortunately there was great pressure on space in the last edition so my little contribution (if that's an accurate description) got saved for this time. Still. It makes life easy for me; all I have to do this time is rewrite this intro bit and everything else can stay the same.

While I was on holiday last year I read An Accidental MP, the parliamentary autobiography of Martin Bell, the man in the white suit. Among other gems in his writing I found this, referring to a survey of the public perception of the reputations of various professions; politicians came out bottom:

Perhaps we should have learned from the South African example. The most respected political leader of the age, Nelson Mandela, served his prison sentence before taking office. The tendency with British politicians, if the law ever caught up with them, was to do it the other way round.

Well that's taken up a bit of my space allocation so I had better get started straight away on the number puzzles:

- 1. 8 is the AN of O
- 2. 100 C in a D
- 3. 6 MS have L on the M
- 4. 48 C by SQ
- 5. 25 BTTH
- 6. 185 F is the H of NC
- 1 CS (on CW) is the TOB in GB 7.
- 8. 1845 CB from F
- 9. 54 CS on a RC
- 500 P is a M

. . . and to carry straight on with the brewery anagrams. Just to make things a little bit harder this month, I have selected them all from breweries appearing for the first time in the 2002 Good Beer Guide (Anybody not got their copy yet?):

- STRETCH ROPE 1.
- ADAM LEARNS 2.
- 3. BAD RON HARRIED DAN
- 4. WITH HEART
- A FEW LIE 5.
- WE GROW THIS BARD 6.
- 7. A HOME POND
- 8. OH REGAL BOUGH COLT
- 9. MA'S WET WILLIE
- MONOTONES

And so we come to 5BY4 which this month I have subtitled, "Yes, but what county are they in?" All you have to is work out (or guess - or show how smart you are) which of the listed counties each of the following breweries is to be found:

- Abbeydale 1.
- 2. Bank Top
- Cambrinus 3.
- 4. Dent 5. Featherstone
- 6. Goacher's
- 7. Happy Hooker
- 8. Jollyboat
- 9 Maypole 10. Nethergate
- Cumbria A.
- В. Devon
- C. Kent
- D. Lancashire
- F. Leicestershire
- F. Lincolnshire
- G. Merseyside
- H. Nottinghamshire Suffolk I.
- Yorkshire J.

And so we come to the trivia bit. If I thought any of this little lot was important I would be trying to charge for educating you lot:

- 1. By what name is the American singer Eileen Regina Edwards better known?
- 2. Cuba, Haiti and Sudan all celebrate their National Day on the same date - what is it?
- 3. Who was the first woman to fly the Atlantic solo?
- The standard typewriter keyboard has two sequences of three letters which occur together in alphabetical order (left to right) on the middle letters row. What are the two sequences?
- The decimal half penny ceased to be legal tender in Britain on 1st January - in what
- Licensing hours in England (on weekdays) were extended to their current range of 11am to 11pm on 22nd August - again, in what year?
- 7. What are cobs and pens (when considered collectively)?
- 8. By what name is the former French Sudan now known?
- 9. Once in a blue moon is quite rare, but what is the definition of a blue moon?
- Who was the last British monarch to be 10. born outside Great Britain?

Well that's yer lot. We'll have the answers next time. together with another bunch of annoyance assuming our new editor (a slightly belated welcome Geoff) hasn't dispensed with my services by then.

BFN Andy Pirson The Red Lion
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PS. I also cook some excellent food

CAMRA Good Beer Guide 1994/5/6/7/8/9/2000/1/2

ANIMAL CRACKERS

In the dim, distant past of the mid-80s I frequently exhibited my collection of ancient cycles at Veteran Vehicle rallies, which saw my young cycling club members involved in camping, getting dirty, joining in sing-songs in the compulsory (real) beer tents in the evening (they often heard me singing Victorian popular songs whose import they couldn't understand) and seeing animals on whichever farm was the venue - they had scarcely seen an animal apart from pets - except on TV where (in cartoons) they could speak. Most were, like myself, typical back-street Londoners, and few had even seen the inside of St Paul's Cathedral or the Tower.

On one such occasion as we pitched camp in Horsham, Mark, a bright but naïve 8 year-old, spotted some rather bedraggled sheep in an adjoining field and asked what they were. As an excuse to get him from under my feet I told him to go and ask them. He rushed back breathlessly a few moments later to inform me - and everyone else in hearing distance - that they were bears. I refrained from disillusioning him.

After the visitors had left, it was only a short ride into town, where the first halt was outside premises whose red sign proudly announced in gold letters: 'King & Barnes Fine Horsham Ales - THE BEAR'. Surmounting its bracket was the carved figure of just such a creature. 'It's a pub', squealed Mark delightedly - That says BEER!' He was partly right and, having dispensed mild ale, coke and crisps as appropriate, I gave my only lesson ever on zoology.

Back at the site Mark scrounged a ride on the footplate of a traction engine and gave the driver, a friend of mine, a lecture on bears. And so the story got round the campsite. That evening in the beer tent I finished my musical spot with an item that brought down the house, metaphorically speaking: 'Poor little lambs that have gone astray' for which the refrain is 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'. Thus was born a cycling club legend of Polar Bears in Horsham.

Martin Smith

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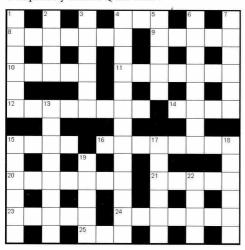
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NEAREST TUBE - NORTHFIELDS (PICCADILLY LINE)

LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



| Name | | | |
|-----------|------|--|--|
| Address _ | | | |
| | | | |

All correct entries received by first post on 29th 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

SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY CROSSWORD



£10 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

- 4. Smart man cut off beer. [3]
- 8. Royal purist upset the rest. [7]
- 9. Tears off flower. [5]
- 10. English compiler in revolution? Get away! [5]
- 11. Concentrated on decimal coinage finally [7]
- 12. It may be lived in Barking. [4,4]
- 14. Good beer gives you wind. [4]
- 15. Conned fellow egghead. [4]
- 16. Nick can stir this. [8]
- 20. Range of instrument. [7]
- 21. Leaving medal I brought in. [5]
- 23. Edward takes a thousand clear. [5]
- 24. In the morning taking drugs is fun. [7]
- 25. Speak, for example. [3]

DOWN

- 1. No way finish here. [6]
- She's discovered during extra-marital relations.
 [4]
- 3. Test alternative wood. [6]
- Woman, take kids with Robin this instant. [5,5,3]
- 5. Planet from near the sun. [5]
- Paper flag. [8]
- 7. Oil producing country? [6]
- 13. It arises following report. [8]
- Soldier maybe, after short month, to change vessels. [6]
- 17. It's a mess getting silver in defeat. [6]
- 18. Connect with English before time. [6]
- 19. Poets first drink in pub. [5]
- 22. Arise, sir, I've made a bloomer. [4]

Winner of the prize for the December Crossword: Bill Thackray, Addington.

Other correct entries were received from: Pat Andrews, Mark Antony, Geoff B, Blackpool/Railway/Postie, Ben Burfutt, Richard Butler, Brendan Casey, Chris Fran a spotted dog, A.P.Comaish, Chas Creasey, Paul Curson, Richard Douthwaite, Bob Eastwick, Kathryn Everett, Mike Farrelly, B.H.Fletcher, Geoff & Jerry, Eileen Graves, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Tarnya Haigh, John Heath, Graham Hill, W.Hill, Jean Hillyer, Sheerluck Holmes, David Hughes, Doug Jarvis, Tom Kemp, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, Dylan Mason, K.I.May, M.J.Moran, Al Mountain, The Poor Box (Anchor & Hope), Rod Prince, Derek Pryce, Super Scooper, Bryan Smith, Terry & Geoff, John Vallintine, Tony Watkins, Martin Weedon, Ian Whiteman, Sue Wilson, Terry Wookey, Yak, J.Yuill.



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