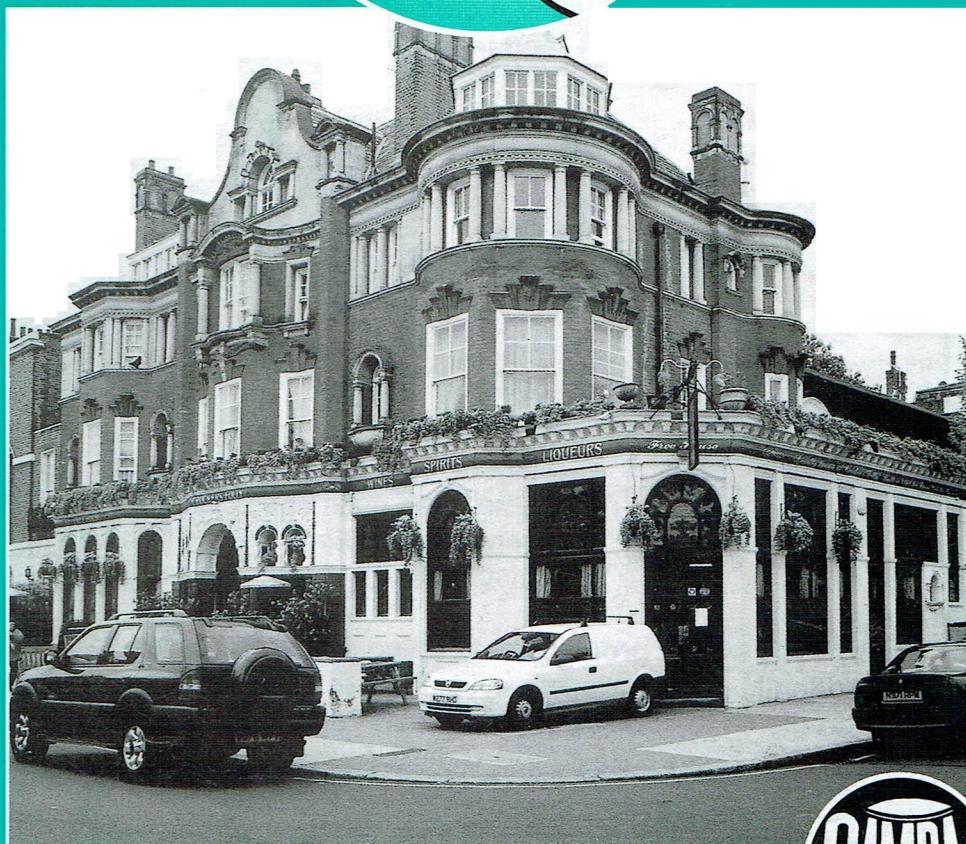


Produced on behalf of the London branches of the Campaign for Real Ale

# LONDON DRINKER

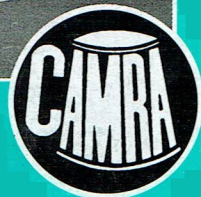
VOL 24  
No.3

JUNE  
JULY  
2002



Crocker's Folly - see Letters page 16.

Photograph by Greg Tingey





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## EDITORIAL

### DUTY RELIEF FOR SMALL BREWERS

*Beer: 14p a pint off; from which price list, Mr Brown?*

*Why we need CAMRA more than ever.*

**C**AMRA aims to protect and promote choice, quality and value for money in the world of beer and pubs.

If you have ever wondered at the vast difference in price and beer choice from one pub to the next, consider who owns the vast majority of pubs and how they are run.

Historically, brewers owned most pubs, and there came a point when the Monopolies Commission felt the consumer needed protection. The Beer Orders came in as a result. Breweries who owned more than 2000 pubs were required, amongst other things, to provide a guest beer of the landlord's choice.

The Department of Trade and Industry, in the form of Melanie Johnson, has announced the scrapping of the Beer Orders as they are seen (by the DTI) to be irrelevant!

In the intervening years, brewers have sold most of their pubs to pub companies, and a couple have developed into Megapubcos. Obviously, quid pro quo, with the property ownership changing hands, these pub companies have preferred the former large brewers' 'brands' and enjoy extremely good discount rates with the deal.

So, do you get cheap beer in these pubs? Oh no, you do not!

The preferred business route runs like this: the pub companies lease out their pubs to publicans as going concerns, at a goodly rent. This rent can then be 'securitised' at the bank, to fund further borrowing to buy more pubs. Any freehouse coming on to the market with a reasonable turnover is snapped up and the same happens again!

Better still for these pubcos, the leases are in general tied, i.e. the tenant has to buy beer and other drinks from the pubco, in the vast majority of cases, at the full brewer's list price. Because pubcos are only interested in the discount, the encouragement is there for the brewers to increase their list prices; after all, the tenants and their poor customers will pay the price, won't they?:

Discounts can be vast; a beer with a list price of £320 a barrel (36 gallons) will be sold in bulk at half this. So the Megapubcos coin in huge sums just by sitting on their chairs. And if a tenant should go bust, then the pub is not 'viable' and will be sold for housing!

Well, now, with the dropping of the Beer Orders, what is there to prevent Megapubcos buying breweries or Megabreweries buying Pubcos? Talks of

*Views expressed in this publication are those of their individual authors  
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## EDITORIAL

a possible merger between Six Continents (formerly Bass Retail) and Scottish & Newcastle are already reported.

What is the point, Gordon Brown, of encouraging small brewers in a decreasing free trade market? Any duty relief will end up in the pubcos' pockets. Sadly, Mr Brown's incredible generosity, the enormous sum of £120,000 per annum to every small brewer doing a mere 8 barrels a day, does not stretch to the likes of Ringwood, Hook Norton or Brakspear, as the whole benefit is lost when a brewer reaches just 51 barrels a day.

These august brewers will now not only have the Megabrewers to contend with, but will have to cope with a discount war in the remaining free trade. You may be saying goodbye to Brakspears soon! Is that what you want?

You may have noticed there is an outstanding exception to the behaviour of the Megapubcos, and that is Wetherspoons. They take the responsibility of running managed outlets and pass on discounts to their customers. If it wasn't for Wetherspoons, beer would be £4 per pint! How these pubcos must hate Tim Martin!

The real campaign for choice and quality would be an investigation into the antics of the Megapubcos and Megabrewers, something Mr Stephen Byers refused to contemplate when he was at the DTI. Whatever happened to 'rip-off Britain', Mr Byers? Whatever happened to joined-up government, Mr Brown and Ms Johnson?

Join CAMRA now and shout loud and long to save your favourite pint, otherwise you'll end up paying more for less choice than ever!

*John Gilbert*

## BEER AND CRICKET

**T**he Sunday cricket season is now under way for South West London CAMRA. Home matches are being played this year on the Nursery Road pitches behind the Princess of Wales (Young's), in Morden Road, London SW19. In the first two games, both away, the team lost to the Queen Adelaide but then (at last) defeated Rosemead. We passed 100 runs each time, winning the second match through an unbroken partnership of 87 for the sixth wicket, leaving Nathan on 49. Franklyn's bowling figures were 3 for 7 and 4 for 10.

The team welcomes players of all ages and abilities and still has some free dates on its fixture list. Contact Andy Robinson on 020-8653 8885 (H) or 020-7739 4440 (W) if you would like to play for or against us!



The April/May edition of *London Drinker* included a report of the announcement in February by the Department of Trade & Industry (DTI) that it intends to revoke the Beer Orders legislation that permits licensees to stock a guest beer. The DTI followed this announcement at the end of March by another announcement that the Government acts to tackle short measure. Unfortunately the proposed action is to stand by and watch it happen. Needless to say CAMRA has reacted angrily to these announcements.

As part of the DTI, the Consumer Affairs Directorate (CAD) takes the lead within the Government on consumer policy and helps formulate new consumer legislation in the UK. CAD's mission is 'to promote a fair deal for all consumers, thereby helping both business competitiveness and social inclusion'. The above announcements seem to be at odds with the CAD's mission.

The intended revocation of the Beer Orders was announced with no consultation with any consumer groups, and CAMRA in particular. While there is little doubt that the Beer Orders legislation is deeply flawed, allowing breweries to create the pub groups that now dominate the market, CAMRA argues that the best option is to update the legislation and close the gaping holes in it. At its recent national AGM and Conference, CAMRA agreed to campaign vigorously:

1. to prevent revocation without proper consultation with all interested parties;
2. to exert pressure on the Government to develop and implement an alternative to the Beer Orders to promote choice and competition in the beer and pubs market.

At the AGM & Conference CAMRA also 'condemned the Government proposals to legalise short measure by introducing new laws which fail to define a pint as 100% liquid and which will make it illegal to serve less than 95% liquid beer measures' and called upon all sectors of CAMRA to campaign for the proposals to be dropped.

The spin used to announce the short measure proposals was particularly galling. The press release issued by the Department of Trade and Industry on 18 March 2002 was entitled 'GOVERNMENT ACTS TO TACKLE SHORT MEASURES'.

The 'action' referred to was to accept the current trade guidelines that a pint of beer can be as little as 95% liquid. The DTI's proposals claimed to 'strike the right balance between delivering a better deal for consumers without damaging the brewing industry and hitting beer and cider drinkers with higher prices.' The three proposals considered were:

1. Pint must be 100% liquid on average
2. Pint must not be less than 100% liquid
3. Pint must not be less than 95% liquid

If the proposals really did strike a balance, why did the trade newspaper, the *Publican* proclaim 'Trade wins fight against 100 per cent liquid pint'?

Quite clearly there is no balance. The only concession to consumers is to make the practice of supplying less than 95% liquid illegal - the DTI seems to have positively encouraged the practice of serving less than 100% liquid. The proposals state that 'it should be recognised that pulling measures of beer is not an exact science. Unlike weighing machines or petrol pumps, there is no measuring index apart from the top of the glass to guide bar staff and consumers. To avoid dropping below 95%, in practice it is likely that the measures will be 97% or more. It is also the case that consumers will be able to request top-ups if they are dissatisfied with the quantity they are served'.

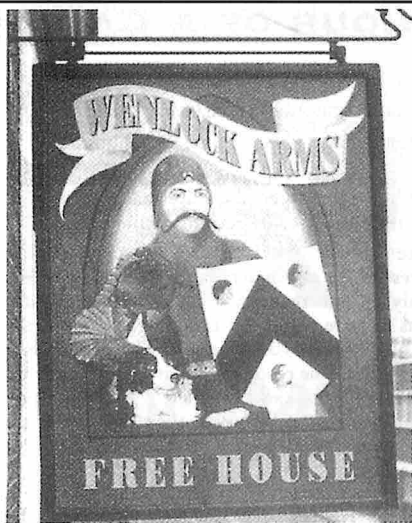
The projected cost of implementing each option was calculated. All of the costings start from the position of the status quo, which suggests that the DTI accepts that consumers are being cheated at the moment. Rather than address this problem, it seems that the DTI has swallowed the trade excuses hook, line and sinker.

At present, many pubs display posters saying staff will top up pints on request but remind customers that the head may form up to 5% of the pint under current UK law. The main problem with the law as it stands is that the onus is on the customer to request a full pint rather than the retailer to provide full measure. Unscrupulous breweries and publicans exploit the law by habitually serving less than the full measure, knowing that only some customers will ask for a top-up. There are rumours of breweries that recommend that publicans sell over 100% of the beer in each container, e.g. serve 76 pints from a container that holds 72 pints! This is only possible by either supplying less than full measure for each pint ordered or by returning beer to the container.

The DTI has issued consultation document CA 003/02 - on proposals to 'tighten consumer protection against short measure'. Copies can be downloaded from:

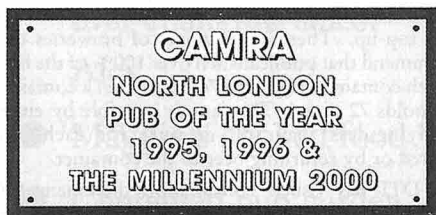
[www.dti.gov.uk/cacp/ca/pdf/beer2.pdf](http://www.dti.gov.uk/cacp/ca/pdf/beer2.pdf)

or can be bought from the Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET. Responses to the proposals must be received by 1 July 2002 and can be sent to Greg Vaughan, Consumer Affairs Directorate, Room 459, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET or e-mailed to: [Greg.Vaughan@dti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Greg.Vaughan@dti.gsi.gov.uk)



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## OPINION - THE BEHAVIOUR OF A CAD

CAMRA encourages ALL drinkers to politely request full measure and, if there is a persistent problem, to contact the local Trading Standards Department (TSD). Their MP can be contacted at the House of Commons, LONDON, SW1A 0AA.

In the meantime drinkers can obtain full measure at all CAMRA Beer Festivals, which use oversized lined glasses.

Finally you might be interested to know that there was a change on the Labour Party's policy on its website from a commitment to 'tighten legislation to ensure consumers are protected from small measures and get a full pint'. In January 2002 the words 'and get a full pint' were deleted. So much for election promises!

*Andy Camroux*

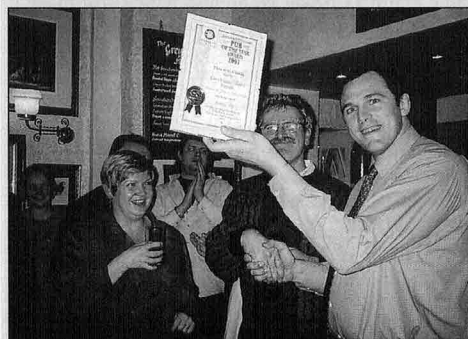
## CAMRA AWARD FOR THE GREYHOUND, CARSHALTON

Celebrations at the Greyhound Hotel, Carshalton, as licensees John and Judy Gillies receive the Sutton borough Pub of the Year award for 2001 from Croydon & Sutton CAMRA chairman, Jon Hart.

The well known inn with its enviable location overlooking the pond in the centre of Carshalton's historic village has had a recent refurbishment which has extended hotel accommodation behind the pub and opened out the eating and drinking areas at the back of the building.

The front bars are unchanged and the period atmosphere of the building has not suffered. Judging by the award, neither has the quality of the Young's ales on sale.

*Bob Steel*



*Picture: Paul Everitt*

## ◆ Budget joy for small breweries only

Britain's 350 microbreweries had something to celebrate in April following Gordon Brown's Budget announcement of the cut in duty that they have been fighting to get for nearly two decades.

Mr Brown announced that, from this summer, breweries producing less than 3,000 barrels of beer per year will see their duty bill cut by half; for breweries producing more than 3,000 barrels, the rate rises on a sliding scale up to a maximum of 18,000 barrels. With tax and duty being small brewers' biggest cost, the change will save them tens of thousands of pounds every year, giving small scale producers a much better chance of competing against the economies of scale and big marketing budgets of the national and multinational companies.

With microbreweries accounting for just a tiny fraction of the UK market - less than two per cent - the change will not cost the Exchequer very much, and could actually increase Government revenue through the creation of more jobs.

Beer duty was also frozen for the second year running, but not everyone was cheering for Mr Brown. Most regional breweries are too big to qualify for any duty relief, and fear that they will now come under even more pressure, up against both the large global brewers who already have over 85% of the market, and the small micros paying less duty. In a letter to MPs, Simon Loftus, the chairman of Adnams of Southwold, complained about the entirely artificial distinction made between regional brewers and their smaller competitors, adding *'Squeezed between the largest companies and the smallest, who would suddenly have a price advantage of approximately 30 pence per pint, companies like Adnams might well be forced out of business.'*

Stuart Neame of Shepherd Neame described the cut as a *'fig leaf so tiny it simply attracts attention to the problem rather than doing anything to solve it.'* Shepherd Neame has been in the forefront of attempts to highlight the damage being done by the high level of duty-paid beer being imported from France, as a result of the much lower rates there.

## ◆ More breweries under threat

Following reports in the last edition about threats to the future of Cain's in Liverpool and McMullens of Hertford, there are more breweries now reported to be closing or under threat.

Despite rising demand for both bottled and draught beers, Brakspear of Henley is reviewing the future of its brewing operations. The company is seeing prices under severe pressure as a result of the purchasing power of the big pub companies and too

much industry capacity; this is making it increasingly difficult to make money from brewing. Chairman Mike Foster said *'the profitability of the brewing operation does not reflect the sales and quality performance.'*

Only twenty per cent of the brewery's 40,000 barrels a year is sold at list price through its own estate, with the rest having to be discounted deeply to sell to pub companies. The exclusion of regional breweries from the sliding scale of duty has added to the uncertainty.

The Cape Hill brewery in Birmingham is even worse off, following the decision by Coors that it will close by the end of the year. The brewery came with the purchase of part of the old Bass empire from Interbrew, and Coors says it has to go as most of its production is export brands that have been kept by Interbrew as part of the sale. The remaining brands will be moved to Burton.

Castle Eden has also closed, following the move of the company to Cameron's in Hartlepool. Cameron's was bought from Wolverhampton and Dudley, who sold it as part of their successful defence against a takeover bid. The core buildings on the Castle Eden site, formerly the Nimmo's brewery, are of special architectural and historic interest and are listed; these will be converted to flats while the rest of the site will be cleared for a housing development.

Castle Eden was saved from closure in 1998 when a consortium of local businessmen bought it from Whitbread. However, they say that, if the move to Cameron's and redevelopment of Castle Eden had not gone ahead, both breweries probably would have closed. Castle Eden beers have been coming from Cameron's since December and the move was completed in April; most of the Castle Eden brewing equipment has been sold or scrapped.

One bit of better news is that there are rumours of plenty of interest in buying Cain's, of which some at least offer the chance of retaining brewing in Liverpool.

## ◆ Rise of the Megapubco

Enterprise Inns is set to build the biggest pub estate in the history of the industry, following a spending spree which has seen it spend nearly three billion pounds on the Unique, Voyager and Laurel Pub Partnership chains.

Following the rejection of a rival bid from Punch, Nomura sold the 4,300 pubs in the Unique and Voyager groups to a consortium led by Enterprise and backed by venture capital from Cinven and insurance giant Legal & General. Enterprise owns 16.8% of the pub companies which will be managed separately for now, but in 2004 will have the option of buying out its partners. This will increase its

estate from 3,500 to over 9,000 pubs - bigger even than the mighty Bass empire before the Beer Orders a decade ago forced the big brewers to sell their estates. That is, of course, unless the competition authorities step in to prevent the creation of such a massive company.

Although the concentration of so many pubs into the hands of one operator will increase the competitive pressure on breweries, the good news is that Enterprise does not tie its pubs to a single brewery, and actually sources cask ales from a huge range of brewers. And, according to the Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA), Unique's purchasing agreement with a range of microbreweries - the Cask Ale Club - is safe for at least two years and might well be extended.

So far, Enterprise has shown itself encouragingly friendly to the UK's small brewers, buying hundreds of barrels a week from the smaller companies. Most of these currently go through wholesaler The Beer Seller, but SIBA is working on putting systems in place to allow breweries to deliver straight to the pub. This would potentially save a lot of wasted transportation, but of course Enterprise needs to keep track of what beer is going where.

The company aims to maintain a local focus by giving as much freedom as possible to regional managers with the central organisation just providing the basic support functions. In a press interview, Chief Executive Ted Tuppen is quoted as saying *'What value can I add to decision making related to specific pubs that I've never been to in villages I've never heard of? The centre can add no value. We are running 3,500 individual businesses; the quality decisions get made between the regional manager and the licensees.'*

## ◆ Quality expansion for Sheps

Shepherd Neame of Faversham has recruited a New Quality Assurance Manager and a Microbiologist, to strengthen their quality control team. Quality Assurance Manager Chris Gregson was previously operations manager at Fuller's, and before that was head brewer at Tolly Cobbold for seven years. He had a previous stint at Shepherd Neame where he was senior brewer before leaving 16 years ago.

The new Microbiologist is Jean Timmons, who was with Mansfield until its recent closure. Among other things, she will be responsible for organising the brewery's flavour tastings.

## ◆ Ale off the shelf from Wells

Charles Wells of Bedford has been at the forefront of efforts to produce a proper draught beer for the take-home trade, and is now celebrating success

with its latest 'minicask' format. A deal with Safeway will see distribution of the five-litre cans of unpasteurised, unfiltered Bombardier go on sale in 200 stores.

Marketing Director Nigel McNally has been working on the 'real ale at home' project since he arrived at Bedford nine years ago, and has had to face numerous difficulties with getting an acceptable packaged version of Bombardier. Exploding cardboard cartons and plastic bottles with self-assembly pumps have been among the previous efforts; the latest version uses a giant can of a type used in Germany.

CAMRA tasters have tried the beer and approved it as being presented in perfect condition. It keeps for four to five days after opening, but whether it is a success depends entirely on how many people buy it! A list of minicask stockists is available on the Charles Wells website at [www.charleswells.co.uk](http://www.charleswells.co.uk).

## ◆ National push for Abbot

Greene King has launched a half million pound investment programme with the aim of turning Abbot Ale into the country's top selling premium ale.

The most obvious change is that the traditional cleric who has adorned the pump clips, bottles and beer mats for years is getting the push, replaced with a redesigned livery in brighter colours. The new look will be publicised through a national press advertising campaign, and 'hit squads' plan to tour the country giving away free samples and organising sampling nights.

## ◆ Kids are in at Wetherspoons

In a radical change of policy, J D Wetherspoons has decided to welcome children into its pubs, and is in the process of gaining children's certificates for all of its estate.

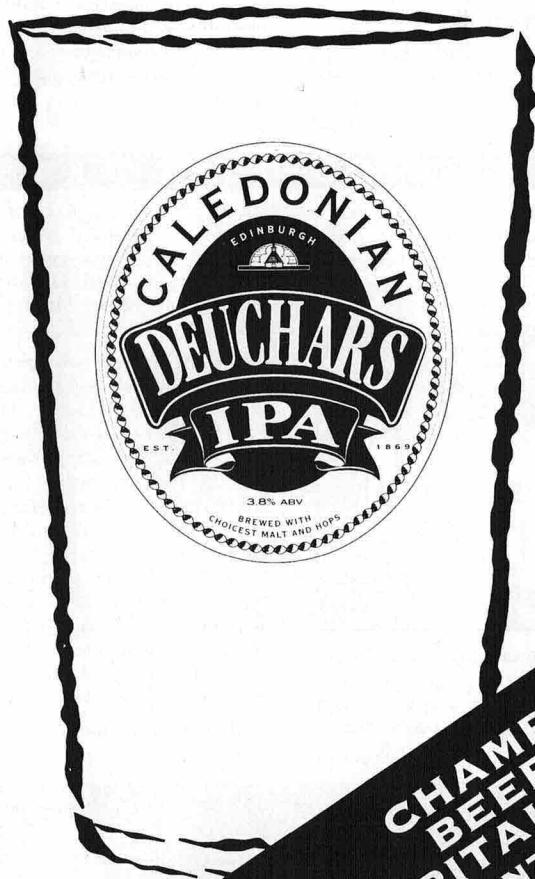
In the last few years, some Wetherspoons pubs had applied from children's certificates - usually the ones in tourist and shopping areas so that they could compete for the family dining trade. But until now, the company has been against a general policy of allowing children in all its pubs.

Eddie Gershon, a spokesman for the company, was quick to reassure customers that the change would not alter their style of operation. *'Kids will only be allowed in for meals and must be accompanied by adults and kept away from the bar area. They'll just be sitting at tables eating, and they will have to be properly supervised and well behaved.'*

Wetherspoons are also planning to expand the chain of Lloyds No 1 pubs, which they bought from Wolverhampton and Dudley. There were ten pubs



# YOU'RE DUE A DEUCHARS.



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

**CALEDONIAN BREWERY, EDINBURGH**

when they bought the chain, and they plan to increase the total number from the present 21 to over 500 in the next 15 years. The pubs are aimed at the younger market, and have music, dance floors and late licences. They serve real ale, but usually a smaller range than in the Wetherspoons pubs.

Ale is still selling strongly, according to Tim Martin, as he reported a 22 per cent rise in pre-tax profits recently. Wetherspoons now have 556 pubs, and are aiming to expand into more sites in smaller and medium sized towns.

## ◆ Return of the Firkin pub

The Spirit Pub company, the managed house arm of Punch Taverns, is planning to revitalise run down pubs and boost ale sales by reviving the Firkin brand - a brand once described as 'knackered' by its

former owners.

Spirit is trying out cask ales from small breweries in an attempt to sell to a new breed of young drinkers who have got fed up with mass produced fizzy lagers. The first new Firkin pub is the Duke at Acton Green.

Head of communications Jo Rawlins said *'We want to recapture the essence of what the Firkin brand used to stand for - good ale and good company. Our first trial has been running successfully and we are looking at three more pubs in London to try the concept out too. We are looking at pubs that are a bit run down and want their fortunes turned round. We believe we can do this by introducing a range of up to six cask beers, quality pub food and sport on a big screen.'*

Dave Lee

## WEST MIDDLESEX NEWS

On 22 January, the West Middlesex. branch made a somewhat belated presentation at the Plough, Norwood Green, in celebration of 10 years' continuous inclusion in the *Good Beer Guide* with the same licensee.



The event was held as long-standing tenant, David Beattie was entering his twelfth consecutive year - he is seen here receiving his award from Branch Chairman, Alex Kovacevic (the Matthew Kelly-lookalike!).

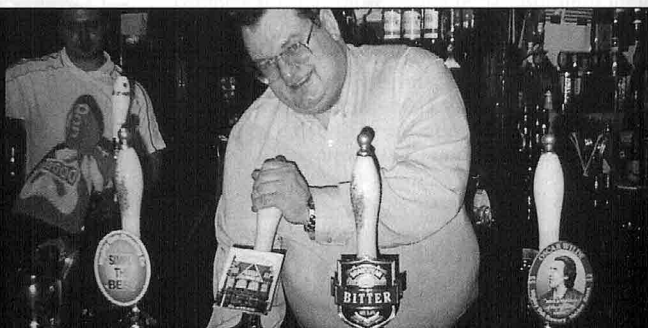
Unfortunately, display of the certificate was somewhat short-lived as yet another round of rent increases by the owning brewery, Fuller, Smith & Turner, meant that David and his wife left the pub for another venture outside the licensed trade on 15 March.

One week earlier, on 9 March in nearby Southall, a similar presentation was made jointly on behalf of the branch and the Light & Dark Ale Supporters by LADS Chairman, John Norman, on the occasion of one of their regular country-wide meetings being held at the Beaconsfield Arms. Tom Carroll received the first award ever presented by LADS in recognition of his unstinting commitment to cask mild ale over the past ten years and reflected the 'Beak's' reputation as the only regular real mild outlet in the whole of west and north-west London in that period. Another two commemorative awards for a decade in the *GBG* with the same landlord are being planned for later on during 2002 (see branch listings for details).

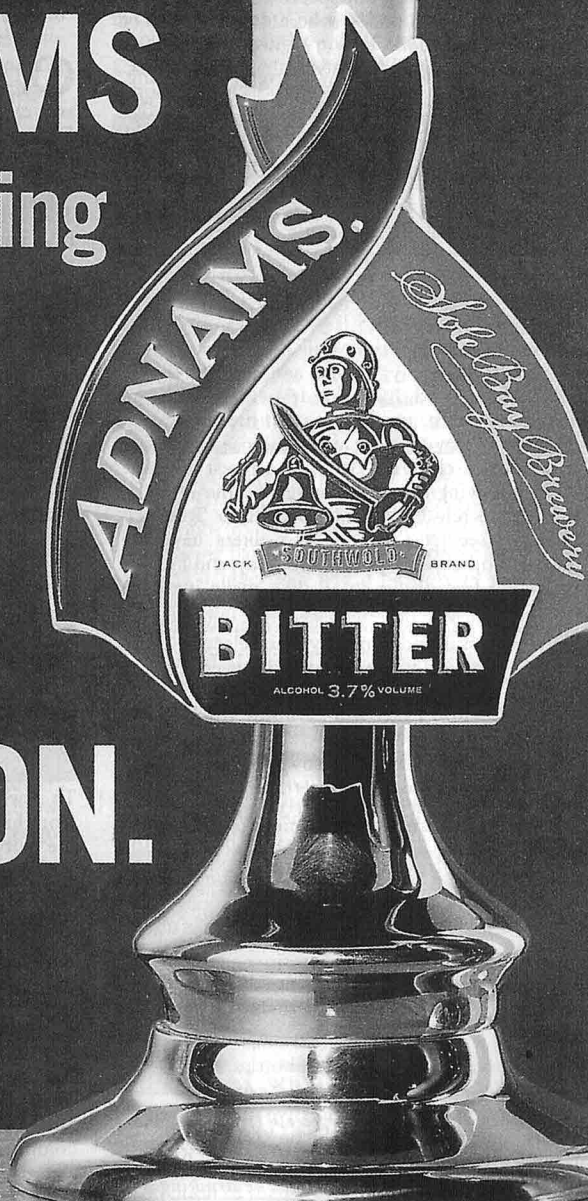
Paul Dabrowski, Social Secretary

## TRY 1000 REAL ALES AT YOUR LOCAL!

Earlier this year, landlord Steve Bolton, pictured here, served his thousandth different real ale to delighted customers at Brentford's favourite free house, the Magpie & Crown.



**SEEK OUT  
ADNAM'S**  
at discerning  
outlets  
**ALL  
OVER  
LONDON.**



## ◆ New promotions for Pride and Honey Dew

Fuller's are continuing to promote London Pride as their flagship beer, with a new taxi based campaign which started in April. Not only will three hundred taxis carry the London Pride brand, but they will be giving out special receipts that list the top 50 pubs in London where a perfect pint of Pride can be enjoyed.

The taxi livery includes the 'Wherever you're going, take Pride' slogan, and the flip up seats inside will feature a pint of Pride and a recommendation of one of the top ten pubs. The list of pubs includes Fuller's own managed and tenanted houses and free trade accounts, and was produced from the recommendations of the company's Beer Quality Advisor team. The campaign is to be backed up with billboard and tube adverts, and later in the year there will be perimeter advertising at some of the England v Sri Lanka international cricket matches.

This year's London Pride Walk, the seventh, will take place on Sunday 9 June and include a beer drinking horse and 2,000 fundraisers walking six miles along the Thames, starting and finishing at the brewery in Chiswick. The aim is to raise money for Cancer Research UK, Britain's newest charity, formed following the recent merger of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and the Cancer Research Campaign (see page 17). The walkers have the chance to stop off at 10 pubs on the way, and Fuller's are offering free drinks to all who make it to the finish.

Fuller's' success is underlined by their selection as the sole beer supplier at the Queen's Concerts taking place on 1 and 3 June. Vouchers for Organic Honey Dew and London Pride will be inside the hampers given to everyone who attends, to use in the huge beer tent set up to serve the crowds. There will be 12,000 invitations for each concert.

On the subject of Honey Dew, the beer that Fuller's claim is the fastest growing organic beer on the market is set for strong promotion from the brewery, with the aim of making it a national brand second only to London Pride. The first new initiative is the launch, in May, of a new flavour - Honey Dew with a twist of cranberry! The claim is that the sharp, fruity cranberry flavour is a perfect balance to the sweetness of the honey in the beer.

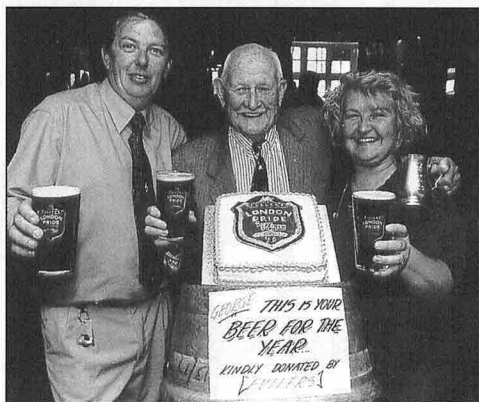
Both the new version and the original will be sold alongside one another in 500ml bottles, and a new 330ml bottle will be launched at the same time. The new promotion marks an aggressive move to sell to younger consumers who usually buy bottled lager or packaged spirit mixers - people who, as John Roberts says, 'would otherwise probably not be drinking our beers.'

From this year, Honey Dew is being offered on draught in the autumn, replacing Red Fox as the autumn seasonal. Promotional support will include a 'try before you buy' offer, branded glasses and new point of sale material, and a consumer sampling campaign is also promised.

## ◆ Regular celebrates 76 years of drinking

One of the locals at the Builder's Arms in Croydon celebrated his 90th birthday in April, and clocked up 76 years of drinking in the pub. George Beach, who had his first drink in the pub as a 14 year-old apprentice decorator, is the longest serving regular in any of Fuller's 240 pubs.

The two things that George remembers about his first pint is that it cost 4d (less than 2p in new money!) and that, when he arrived home, his mother was not best pleased. He became a regular in his mid 20s and has only taken one break since - when he was too busy handling his Sherman Anti Tank Gun during the D-Day landings.



To reward such rare loyalty, George was collected from his home in a London Pride taxi and taken to the pub, to be presented with a commemorative tankard and the award of a pint of London Pride for every year of his life, to be claimed each time he visits his favourite pub.

## ◆ Young's score triple success in 'brewing Olympics'

In April, Young's were celebrating more successes in the Brewing Industry International Awards, having won three medals. Young's Special and Young's Double Chocolate Stout won silver medals and Young's Triple 'A' took a bronze in the competition; this follows a similar success when the awards were last made two years ago. Then, Double Chocolate Stout won a championship medal and a



## LOCAL NEWS ROUND UP

gold medal, and draught Triple 'A' was awarded a silver medal.

Young's Special, described as 'a pale, golden bitter with a subtle taste of hops', has won many awards over the years, including a gold medal from the British Bottlers' Institute two years ago. Double Chocolate Stout, which is available in bottles in off-licences, supermarkets and pubs, is brewed with chocolate malt and real chocolate.

Triple 'A' is the smooth cask ale launched a couple of years ago as a real cask alternative to nitrokeg or 'smoothflow' keg beers, and is brewed from 'A' grade malt, hops and yeast.

The BIIA competition attracts more than 700 entries from 40 countries, and the latest successes come only weeks after Young's Special London Ale won the supreme championship and a gold medal at the International Beer and Cider Competition. Young's head brewer, Ken Don, who received the latest three medals at the Guildhall in the City of London, has now won almost 40 awards since he joined Young's 22 years ago.

### ...and launch new brews

**W**aggle dance, Young's honey beer, has returned to the pumps for its third year on draught. It has been available from the end of March, and will be on until October in Young's own pubs and selected free trade outlets. The 5%ABV beer, bought from Vaux when the latter was closed down, is named after a ritual performed by bees when they find a source of nectar.

A new beer is Young's contribution to the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations. It is a limited edition brew called Young's Golden Jubilee Beer, and is 4% alcohol and flavoured with elderflower to create a 'clean, refreshing flavour'. It was launched in April and is available in Young's pubs and some free houses, and Sainsbury's supermarkets. The brewery has previously produced a number of special brews to mark significant events during the Queen's reign.

Also from Young's is the first ever Lord's Beer, brewed to appeal to cricket fans everywhere. The new beer went on sale in the Lord's shop and in bars around the ground on Thursday 16 May for the first Test match of the new season, against Sri Lanka. It is also on sale in Young's own pubs and in supermarkets, including Tesco stores nationally. Lord's Beer, at 4% ABV, is a crisp, refreshing amber beer, brewed to be the perfect summer accompaniment to top-class cricket.

It is sold in 500ml clear bottles with a label showing a cricket ball knocking over a set of stumps.

The award-winning Young's Bitter will also be available on draught at all major matches at Lord's.

### ◆ Pub awards

**T**wo pubs have received awards recently: one for cleanliness and hygiene, and one for having a top guv'nor!

● Steve Wheeler of the Leather Bottle in Garratt Lane, Tooting won the 'Pub Guv of the Year' award from the South London Press. Steve, who has been in charge for eight years, was presented with a silver salver after topping a poll of readers. He also won £500, which he donated to Trinity Hospice in Clapham.



Reporters from the paper went to pubs across London, chatting to staff and regulars to decide which pubs to put on the shortlist, with the final award being based on the votes of the readers. Steve said *'It's a super pub and a pleasure to work here. Everyone is so nice to everyone else. The secret of being a publican is that you have to be a people person. I say to my staff "Just be friendly"'*.

● The Fuller's Hygiene Pub of the Year award was won by the Mad Bishop & Bear at Paddington Station. This award is based on the unannounced visits from the brewery's hygiene auditors to check on standards - they check everything from the cleanliness of the kitchen to the paperwork including logbooks for cleaning and temperature checks.



Managers Chris Cochran and Helen Wilson were presented with a cheque for £500 by Jason Martin, Fuller's health, safety and hygiene advisor, in recognition of their consistently high standards.

As each day that passes brings news of yet another London pub threatened with refurbishment, change of use, closure or demolition for development, it may cheer readers to know that there have been some successful pub preservation campaigns in the capital in recent months. There was of course the Queen's, Broadway Parade, Crouch End, N8 and then the Ennismore Arms, Ennismore Mews, Kensington, SW7 (both reported at the time in *London Drinker*).

Since then some other London pubs have been saved, most notably the Pineapple, Leverton Street, Kentish Town NW5, which at one point was proposed for change of use to residential flats. An extremely effective press campaign was mounted by a group of local people, actively supported by North London CAMRA and the London Pubs Group. The London Pubs Group (among others) submitted written objections to the change of use and English Heritage was successful in getting the pub spot-listed once they had been alerted by the campaign. The property developers who had bought the pub then sold it on to an architect and his daughter who were keen to run it as a pub. At the time of writing the Pineapple is expected to reopen on 17 May with a media opening on 16 May.

On a less dramatic scale, another recent success was achieved in Chelsea. The Blenheim, Cale Street, SW3 was the subject of a planning application for change of use to private residence. The London Pubs Group submitted objections to the proposals in a letter to the local planning authority and a few weeks later planning permission for change of use was refused.

When the Clachan, Kingly Street, W1 was proposed for refurbishment, the London Pubs Group wrote to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in support of a spot-listing application from English Heritage. Although the works have been carried out anyway, they seem not to have been too damaging and, if the spot-listing application is approved, the pub will have greater protection in future.

The fate of many London pubs is in the balance, most notably that of two famous pubs, Jack Straw's Castle, North End Way, Hampstead NW3 and Crocker's Folly, Aberdeen Place, NW8. However, the successes mentioned above demonstrate that some action, however small, can make a difference, and those which make the greatest impact are those where the local CAMRA branch, the local pub users and the London Pubs Group all work together to save a pub at risk.

*Jane Jephcote*

# The Brewery Tap

*John and Heather welcome you to the Brewery Tap.*

## Five rotating Cask Ales

Guests soon to appear include

Banktop, Cottage, Holts, Rebellion, Slaters & Hogs Back  
and now we often stock mild ale.

Genuine home cooked food every lunchtime

Traditional Sunday Roasts 12 - 5.00

Wednesday Night is Tapas Night

Open all permitted hours

Nostalgia Juke Box

*"at the cutting edge of the dark beer revival"*

---

68 High Street, Wimbledon Village, SW19

(10 minutes from Wimbledon station)

020 8947 9331

Five days, flags, 50 Real Ales (45 gravity fed), more flags, 5 Ciders, even more flags, 3 Bands over 3 days, bunting, 1 Young's horse-drawn dray, more bunting, 2 black dray horses, all day and evening barbecue, even more bunting, free(ish) T-shirts, discount ale with an 'Ale Trail' card, massive amounts of flags and bunting (I think you've got the message), a 'Mystery Ale', and a Sunday night beer quiz was the composition of the Willoughby Arms St. George's Day Beer Festival in Kingston from 19 to 23 April.

This was the sixth St. George's festival at the pub (CAMRA Kingston & Leatherhead Pub of the Year 2001) and was easily the best, the new outside patio to the recently extended public bar being used to

raising of glasses over the 5 days to the Saint and the answers from the contestants in the quiz were somewhat vague. Did you really know he was the patron saint of skin diseases, syphilis and Boy Scouts? A good marketing ploy, possibly, but Charlie Wells' website for Bombardier and their 'Make St. George's Day a public holiday' campaign has seen only 66,795 signatures (population of England 50million) so no luck there. Good publicity for the local pub, definitely, particularly if surrounded by fizz or lager only establishments.

What about other 'pub' beer festivals? Tried [www.beer-festival.com](http://www.beer-festival.com) but that was full of CAMRA organised festivals, [www.pub-explorer.com](http://www.pub-explorer.com) had one pub, well actually a hotel in Hull of all places and [www.beer-slamers.net](http://www.beer-slamers.net) had nothing at all. JD Wetherspoon's site waxed lyrical of it's 'amazing' beer festivals but had no listings. Are JDW and other pub chains' beer festivals really a festival? 10 beers over a month, not all on at the same time - nope, not a festival, just a way of getting you to come back again on the off chance that your favourite will be on next time. GBBF? Of course it is. So, finally, a good drinking session? Well, dubious point I think. The CAMRA style beer fest is a great



hold the beers. Even the weather held fine! Festival theme beers were Sawbridgeworth George & the Dragon Ale (4.3%), Hogs Back England's Glory (4.3%) - both superb and gone by Saturday - Castle Eden Dragons Lair (4%) and Charles Wells Bombardier (4.3%) which continues its campaign for St. George's Day recognition by HMG. Personal favourites were Bateman's XXXB, Old Mill Bullion, Old Hooky, Cain's Traditional, Caledonian Deuchars IPA and the wonderful Black Sheep Best Bitter. Milds were represented by Tetley's Dark Mild and Brain's Red Dragon. For the third year running the first barrel to go was Fuller's Honeydew, voted Beer of the Festival in 2000 and Kingston's SPBW branch Beer of the Year 2001.

Now with all this liquid refreshment, the old brain got to thinking about festivals. What is a 'beer festival'? Beer - an alcoholic drink; Festival - day or period of celebration (dir). In this case were we all drinking a toast to St. George, well I didn't see any

opportunity to sample beers old and new, a chance for the smaller breweries to market their wares but caged together in the sterile arena of the usual Community Centre or Town Hall venue, not exactly an enchanting experience. Victims of their own success I suppose.

Beer festival in a pub? Now that's more convivial and, lets face it, that's where we drink normally and with the additional events such as put on at the Willoughby Arms a very good drinking session in a great atmosphere. Apart from the advertisers in *London Drinker* are there any other pubs that do something similar? Does anybody do a St. Piran (patron saint of Cornwall); St. Armand (Bar Staff/Brewers) or even St. Drogo (Against Ruptures - tis true I tell 'e)? If so pass the word. Surprisingly I could not find at patron saint of beer or wine listed - is there one? Next Willoughby Arms festival will be Halloween. See you there?

Steve Quiller

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Dear Editor

In the last issue of the Drinker (last para, page 36), I was disappointed to see that the redoubtable Martin Smith has perpetuated the old myth about Crocker's Folly.

This story, which is completely untrue, has appeared in countless books and articles on London pubs. I do not know where it came from but, from memory, I think it did appear in the Evening Standard London Pub Guide (by Green & White) in the early '60s!

At a meeting of the London Pubs Group some time back we were shown a copy of Frank Crocker's death certificate which showed that, although he did die at the pub, it was upstairs in bed, from, if I remember rightly, the traditional Victorian complaints of bronchitis, tuberculosis and heart trouble.

As for Crocker believing that the terminus of the Great Central would be at his location, this is a non-starter. I understand that Parliamentary powers had been obtained for Marylebone long before construction of the premises began. All railway companies wanted to get in as close to central London as possible! He built the pub because St Johns Wood etc were up and coming areas.

I lead walks for the Inland Waterways Association along the Regents Canal and I always stop and point out the Crockers story to them. (We have to walk over Maiden Hill Tunnel!)

*Peter Roberts  
Upminster*

*(Editor's note. The facts were researched by Geoff Brandwood in an article first published in What's Brewing in November 1999 and now available at [www.londondrinker.co.uk](http://www.londondrinker.co.uk).)*

### Dear Editor

I was interested to read news of the Fuller's Passport celebration evening at the brewery. You say participants in the promotion had to 'try' a pint, not 'drink' a pint, of London Pride in 180 pubs.

Thank goodness for that. For one moment, I thought the person who'd completed the passport in a mere 6 days had been drinking 30 pints of beer a day - surely a cause for concern, not celebration.

*Peter Beasley, Wood Green*

### Dear Editor

Whist whiling away a wet evening in a London pub I came across your 2002 Feb-March edition. The bits of particular interest were the items on 'a real pint' and discussions over sparklers and swan necks.

Sparklers are made to ensure the pint gets a false head and swan necks/north pours are a very unhygienic way of delivering it. When I refurbished

my pub in South Wales they delivered real ale units automatically fitted with swan necks. What does that say for the British publican and his ale-keeping abilities? Needless to say I changed them to taps and threw away the sparklers.

A strange story surrounds these little bits of plastic, that I would like to impart. A customer, who has entered my award-winning pub on two occasions over the past three years, has each time leant over the counter before ordering his drink and asked for a pint of Bass and told me to fit a sparkler. I refused. He said he would not drink it unless one was fitted and I politely explained that I did not need to create a false head on any of my beers as I conditioned all my ales in the barrel. Nonetheless he insisted and inevitably so did I; naturally I won. He then said on both occasions, 'In that case I will have a pint of this', and pointed to a nitro-keg beer. I despair; what is the drinking public coming to when they can't appreciate quality even when it is right in front of them?

The 'full pint' issue always makes me smile. I find it impossible to fill the pint glasses to the brim because my ales have a wonderful-smooth-natural head to them. I suppose it's lined glasses for me!

*Stephen J Fisher, Ogmores, Mid Glamorgan*

### Dear Editor

'The Ledger Building' in Docklands, London E14, a Wetherspoons House, has two large rooms set aside as non-smoking areas. When the pub is quiet, the staff often have to be reminded that at least one room should be opened to allow us to enjoy a smoke free environment.

Recently, a new twist - the rooms can be booked for seminars and functions. When both rooms are booked, there is no longer a smoke free room at all, although Wetherspoons state that all their pubs offer such space.

*Gordon Joly, [gordon.joly@pobox.com](mailto:gordon.joly@pobox.com)*

### Dear Editor

Recently I was in the Fox on the Hill, Denmark Hill, where I noticed a pump clip claiming that Courage Directors Bitter was brewed only in the Bristol Brewery. Regrettably this is no longer true - not since Courage closed down the former George's brewery.

As Secretary of the Campden Hill Branch of the Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood, who deplore false advertising of beer, I have written to Wetherspoons and requested that such misleading pump clips be removed and replaced with up to date ones.

*R L McGowan, Deptford*



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

I have on appropriate occasions found the following tactic to be effective in dealing with the problem of short measure.

First, ensure that you have a good range of coins with you. Note the price of your chosen pint (the prices will be on display and easily seen won't they?!!) and order it.

If the pint arrives 'short', look enquiringly at the barman who will announce the price. Subtract ten or 20 pence to suit the shortfall and hand over this exact amount. Do not touch the glass yet.

When the inevitable exasperated comment that 'you're 20 pence short' arrives, state loudly that this is your estimate of the short measure supplied. This almost invariably gets you the necessary top-up with no further quibbling.

*Andy Jackson, Sanderstead*

Ken Don has replied to Colin Price on the recommended temperature for Young's Special London Ale.

"Beer tasting is a very personal thing and I have found that over the years the saying 'one man's meat is another man's poison' is particularly relevant to the subject. There is no doubt that, across the board, beers are being served cooler than 20 years ago.

In reaching the decision to serve the beer cool we had to bear in mind that the majority of people prefer cool beer. It is also true that in summer the ambient temperature in a pub can reach 70°-80°F - not a good temperature to drink any beer."

### Fuller's London Pride Walk

Sunday 9 June 2002, 11am,  
in aid of Cancer Research

6 miles from brewery along towpaths  
back to brewery

Details from:

Help Hammer Cancer  
Hammersmith Hospital

Du Cane Road  
London W12 0NN

Tel: 020-8743 9655

Fax: 020-8746 2021

[appealshamm@cancer.org.uk](mailto:appealshamm@cancer.org.uk)

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1 Mill Lane,  
Godalming,  
Surrey**



**01483 415207**

**The only family-owned  
and run Freehouse in  
Godalming**

*(The first time in 200 years that the  
pub has not been brewery owned)*

*'Surrey'*

*Pub of the Year 2002  
Surrey/Hants Branch*

*We run '6' Real Ales from  
minor/micro/independent  
brewers (they need our  
support and we need yours)  
at excellent prices*

*We now run a guest  
draught lager of the month  
to complement our range of  
80 international bottled  
lagers and bottled  
conditioned ales*

*PS. I also cook some  
excellent food*

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

# BRANCH UPDATE

**W**elcome 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 June and July are listed below.

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

## LONDON LIAISON COMMITTEE.

**Thu 13 June** (8pm) Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs). Special meeting to discuss local pub/beer guides.

**LONDON PUBS GROUP.** *Jane Jephcote* 020-7973 3102 (W),

Email: [jane.jephcote@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:jane.jephcote@english-heritage.org.uk)

**July - Wed 10** (7.15 for 7.30) Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs). All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome

**BEXLEY.** *Martyn Nicholls* 01322 527857 (H).

Website: [www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk](http://www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk)

**CROYDON & SUTTON.** *Terry Hewitt* 020-8660 5931 (H), 020- 9718 3242 (W).

**June - Wed 12** (8.30) Presentation social. Little Windsor, 13 Greyhound Rd, Sutton. - **Sat 15** (10.15) Seaford trip. Meet E. Croydon Stn. for 10.33 train. - **Wed 19** (8pm) Catford Beerfest visit. Meet inside. - **Tue 25** (8.30) Branch meeting. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

**July - Thu 4** (8.30) Independents social. Claret Free House, Addiscombe. - **Wed 17** (8.30) Social. Dukes Head, Wollington Green.

**August - Thu 1** (8.30) Branch meeting. Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd., Carshalton.

**EAST LONDON & CITY.** *Ben or Robyn* 020-8521 4410 (H)

Email: [robyn@pigsear.org.uk](mailto:robyn@pigsear.org.uk). Social enquiries: *Bob Walker* 020-8924 0346 (H/Fax), 07930 990646 (M/Text).

Website: [www.pigsear.org.uk](http://www.pigsear.org.uk)

**June - Tue 11** (8pm) Branch meeting. Artillery Arms, 102 Bunhill Row, EC1. - **Thu 13** (from 6pm) Social. Thurrock Beer Festival, Grays, Essex. - **Tue 18** (6.30) GBBF Pub crawl. Counting House, 50 Cornhill, EC3. - **Wed 19** (from 6pm) Social. Catford Beer Festival. - **Thu 27** (8pm) Quiz night. Old Bank of England, 194 Fleet St, EC4. All welcome.

**July - Wed 3** (8pm) Social. Kings Ford, 250 Chingford Mount Rd, E4. - **Sat 6** (11am) GBBF Pub crawl. Lamb, Lambs Conduit St. - **Tue 9** (8pm) Branch meeting. Black Lion, 59 Plaistow High Rd, E13. - **Wed 17** (6.30) GBBF Pub crawl. Ship & Shovel, Charing Cross. - **Mon 29** (6.30) GBBF Pub crawl. Carpenters Arms, W1. - **Tue 30** Joint social with North London: phone for details.

**ENFIELD & BARNET.** *Mark Shepherd* 020-8441 0174 (H)

020-7712 2081 (W), Email: [Mark.Shepherd1@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:Mark.Shepherd1@dwp.gov.uk).

**June - Wed 5** (9pm) Social. Winchmore Hill Cricket Club, Paulin Ground, Firs La, N21. - **Wed 12** (8.30) **Annual General Meeting.** Old Mitre, 58 High St, Barnet. Guest speaker invited. - **Wed 19** (8pm) Joint social with North London branch.

Madden's, 130 High Rd, East Finchley N2. - **Thu 27** (9pm) Social. Rising Sun, Highwood Hill, Mill Hill NW7.

**July - Tue 2** (9pm) Social. Lamb, 52/54 Church St, Lower Edmonton N9. - **Wed 10** Two pub social in Barnet: 9pm Green Man, 143 High St, 10pm Kings Head, 84 High St. - **Tue 16** (9pm) Social. Fishmongers, Winchmore Hill Rd, Southgate N14. - **Sat 20** (Noon) Pub crawl of Richmond, Surrey. Meet Orange Tree, 45 Kew Rd, turn right out of station: pub on left. - **Wed 24** (9pm) Social. Stag, 1 Little Park Gdns, Enfield Town EN2.

**August - Thu 1** (9pm) Social and *London Drinker* pick up. Cavalier, 67 Russell La, Whetstone N20

## KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD.

*Clive Taylor* 020-8949 2099(H) 020-8540 1901(W)

**June - Wed 5** (8.30) Branch meeting. Brewery Inn, The Street, Ashted. - **Sun 9** (1pm) Kingston Beer Festival publicity crawl of Surbiton. Meet Coronation Hall. - **Wed 12** (7.30) Kingston Beer Festival publicity crawl of Kingston. Meet Wheelwrights, Clarence St. - **Sat 22** Minibus trip to Three Moles Beer Festival at Selham, Nr Petworth, Sussex, also calling at pubs on the way. Dep. New Malden, Grayham Rd/Kingston Rd. 10.45 and Surbiton rail station 11.00. Fare £17.00. Deposit £5.

**July - Tue 9** (8.30) Branch meeting. Star, High St, Ewell - **Sun 14** Real Ale day out on the Watercress Line, incorporating the Bus Rally. Dep. Surbiton station on 10.03 train to Alton. - **Fri 19** Pub crawl of Walton-on-Thames. Meet 8pm Halfway House, Hersham Rd for dep. 8.30 towards the town pubs. - **Sat 27** (7.30) Barbecue. Wych Elm, Elm Rd, Kingston.

**Advance Notice - Fri 2 Aug** (8.30) Presentation. Hook and Southborough Cricket Club, near The North Star, Chessington. - **Fri 16** Evening Minibus trip to Itchen Valley Brewery, details to come.

**NORTH LONDON.** *Gary White* 07005 355399

Email: [gwhitegeog@bigfoot.com](mailto:gwhitegeog@bigfoot.com).

**June - Mon 3** All day Jubilee Bank Holiday social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd, N1. - **Tue 11** (8pm) London Drinker Beer Festival post mortem. Kings Arms, Northington St, WC1. - **Tue 25** (8pm) Pub of the Year presentation, Duke of Hamilton, 23 New End, NW3.

**July - Tue 2** (8pm) **Annual General Meeting**, Calthorpe Arms, WC1

Website: [www.camranorthlondon.org.uk](http://www.camranorthlondon.org.uk)

## RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW.

*Brian Kirtin* 020-8384 7284 (H)

**June - Wed 12** (8.30), Branch meeting. Turks Head, 28 Winchester St., St. Margarets - **Wed 19** (6pm onwards) Informal social at Catford Beer Festival, Broadway Theatre, Catford (meet in downstairs bar) - regular trains from Waterloo East to Catford or Catford Bridge (last train back 2232 from Catford Bridge to give connection ex-Waterloo to

Richmond/Twickenham/Feltham: see Branch website, also [www.selcamra.org.uk](http://www.selcamra.org.uk). - **Sat 29 Jun** (12 noon onwards) Informal social at Kingston Beer Festival, Surrey County Staff Club, Penrhyn Road, on bus routes 281 and 465.

**July - Tue 2** Evening visit to the new Grand Union Brewery, Hayes, probably with minibus arranged (poss. £5 fare) from Richmond (6pm), Twickenham (6.15), Feltham (6.30), with pub stop on way back: contact Brian for bookings. - **Thu 11** (8.30) Branch meeting. Kings Arms, Lion Gate, Hampton Court. - **Wed 17** GBBF and Twickenham Festival joint

publicity crawl, start (7pm) Eel Pie, Church St; then incl. (7.45) Fox, Church St; (8.30) Hook Line & Sinkers, York St; (9.30) Prince Blucher, The Green; (10.15) Prince Albert, Hampton Rd. Full details of all branch activities on our website: [www.jobin.freemove.co.uk/rhcamra1.htm](http://www.jobin.freemove.co.uk/rhcamra1.htm)

**SOUTH EAST LONDON.** *Dave Lee* 020-8694 2687 (H).

Website: [www.selcamra.org.uk/camra3.htm](http://www.selcamra.org.uk/camra3.htm)

**June - Wed 5** (8pm) Final Catford Beer Festival planning meeting. Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Grove SE10. - **Sat 8** (1pm) Catford Beer Festival Publicity Crawl, meet Catford Ram, 9 Winslade Way SE6. - **Mon 17 to Sun 23** - on site at Catford Beer Festival. Volunteer staff always welcome, call Mie on 020-8694 2687.

**July - Wed 3** (8pm) Social starting at Zero Degrees, Tranquil Vale, Blackheath SE3, moving on mid-evening to Greenwich Union, Royal Hill SE10. - **Tue 16** (8pm) Branch/committee meeting. Dulwich Wood House, Sydenham Hill, SE26. -

# BRANCH UPDATE

**Wed 24 (8pm)** Catford Beer Festival post mortem, Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Grove SE10.

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

**June – Wed 5 (8.30)** Social at Colchester Beer Festival, Colchester Arts Centre, off Head St, Colchester. - **Mon 17** Two pub social in Barkingside: (8.30) New Fairlop Oak, Fencepiece Rd, Fulwell Cross; (9.45) Doctor Johnson, 175 Longwood Gdns. - **Sat 22 (12.30)** at brewery) Trip to Triple fff Brewery, Unit 3, Old Magpie Works, Four Marks, Alton, Hampshire. Minibus from Chadwell Heath, Collier Row, Romford, Hornchurch, Upminster and Grays (or at least some of these!) - space may be limited so contact Graham Platt on 020-8220 0215 as soon as possible. - **Thu 27 (8.30)** Social. Chequers, 213 Rayleigh Rd (A129), Hutton. - **Sat 29 (from 1pm)** All Essex Pub Games Day. Cap & Feathers, 8 South St (B1021), Tillingham. Possible minibus - ask Graham Platt.

**July – Thu 4 (8.30)** Independents Day social. Cricketers, 299/301 High Rd (A11), Woodford Green. - **Thu 11 (8.30)** Social. Britannia, 1 Church Rd, (between Northern Relief Road (A124) and Fanshawe Ave/Ilford La (A123)). - **Sun 14 (from noon)** Sunny Sunday social. White Horse, 173 Coxtie Green Rd, Coxtie Green. - **Tue 16 (8.30)** Social at Chelmsford Beer Festival, Sports Hall, Anglia Polytechnic University (Town Campus) - directly opposite Chelmsford Railway Station. - **Thu 18 (4pm)** at brewery) Trip to Stonehenge Brewery, The Old Mill, Mill Rd, Netheravon, Wiltshire. Minibus arrangements as above - contact Graham Platt on 020 8220 0215 asap. - **Thu 23 (8.30)** Out of area social. Bell, Royston Rd (B1039), Wendens Ambo. - **Sat 27 (leaving Tilbury Ferry at about noon)** Trip around Gravesend taking in: Robert Pocock (JDW), British Tar, Crown & Thistle, and finishing in Somerset Arms (close to ferry), returning with the last (10pm) ferry back to Tilbury. Website: <http://www.swessex.clara.net>

## SOUTH WEST LONDON.

*Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H) 020-7438 6418 (W)*

*Email: markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk*

**June – Tue 11 (7.30)** Open branch committee meeting and (8.30) open festival planning meeting, Old Sergeant, 104 Garratt La, Wandsworth SW18 (upstairs room). - **Wed 26 (from 7.30)** Social. Raynes Park Tavern, 32 Coombe Lane East, SW20 (opposite Raynes Park station).

**July – Sat 13** GBFF publicity crawl. Meet (11.30 - 12 noon) Prince of Wales, 2 Hartfield Rd, Wimbledon SW19 (opp Centre Court shopping centre). Late joining point (1.30) Rose & Crown, 55 High St, Wimbledon Village. - **Wed 17 (7.30)** Open branch committee meeting. Sultan, 78 Norman Rd, South Wimbledon SW19. Website: [www.swlcamra.org](http://www.swlcamra.org). Cricket: contact Andy Robinson 020-8653 8885 (H), 020-7739 4440 (W)

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

**June – Sat 1:** St Albans Stagger: (noon) Fighting Cocks; (1.30) Farrier's Arms; (2.30) Lower Red Lion; (4pm) Mermaid; (6pm) Farmer's Boy. - **Fri 7 (8.30)** Land of Liberty, Heronsgate. - **Fri 21 (8.30)** Swan, Bushey. - **Wed 26** Croxley Green crawl: (8.30) Coach and Horses; (9.30) Sportsman. - **Sun 30 (8pm)** Branch committee meeting. Estcourt Arms, Watford.

**July – Sat 6** Social to Sarratt. - **Sun 14 (noon)** Land of Liberty, Heronsgate. - **Fri 19** Clarendon Arms, Redhall La, Chandlers Cross. Walking to the pub, aiming to meet there at 8pm.

**WEST LONDON.** *Kevin O'Donovan, 07990 972 424 (M), Email: westlondoncamra@aol.com*

**June – Thu 6 (8pm)** Branch meeting Tabard, Bath Rd, Chiswick W4. - **Sat 15 (2pm)** Afternoon social. Mad Bear & Bishop, Paddington Station, W2. - **Tue 25** Hammersmith crawl: (6pm) William Morris, Swan Island, King St; (7pm) Salutation Inn, King St; (8pm) Andover Arms, Aldensley Rd.

**July – Wed 3 (8pm)** Social. Golden Eagle, 59 Marylebone La, Marylebone W1 - **Mon 22** Vauxhall Bridge Road crawl: (6pm) Morpeth Arms, 58 Millbank; (7pm) Pimlico Tram, 6 Charlwood St; (8pm) Jugged Hare, 172 Vauxhall Bridge Rd; (9pm) Willow Walk, Wilton Rd; (10pm) Wetherspoon's, Victoria Island, Victoria Station. - **Wed 31 (8pm)** Branch meeting. Archery Tavern, 4 Bathurst St, Paddington W2.

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

**June – Sun 2, (from 12 noon)** Branch Jubilee Walk. Jolly Gardeners, High St, Cranford; White Hart, High St and Pheasant, West End Lane, both Harlington; Plough, Sipson Rd, Sipson, and Five Bells, High St, Harmondsworth. Approx. 1 pub every 90 minutes; other pubs in villages to be sampled as well. - **Thu, 6 (8.30)** Beer Festival planning meeting. Bridge Hotel, Western Avenue, Greenford. - **Wed 12, (8.30)** Branch meeting. Drayton Court Hotel, The Avenue, West Ealing. - **Tue 18 (8pm)** Pub of the Year Award (post-reopening) social. Red Lion, St. Mary's Rd, Ealing. - **Thu 27 (8pm)** Social. De Burgh Arms, High St, Yiewsley.

**July – Tue 2 (7pm)** Trip to Grand Union Brewery. Abenglen Industrial Estate, Betam Rd, Hayes. Meet Blue Anchor, Printinghouse La, Hayes beforehand. - **Sun 7 (from noon)** Ealing countryside weekend. Black Horse, Oldfield La, Greenford, then Black Bull (or equivalent), Berkeley Fields, Perivale. - **Wed, 10 (8.30)** Branch meeting. Beaconsfield Arms, West End Rd, Southall. - **Sat 13 (from noon)** Norwood Fete crawl. Lamb and Wolf, both Norwood Road, then Plough, Tentelow Lane, approx 1 pub every hour. - **Thu 18 (8pm)** Heathrow crawl. Wetherspoons, Terminal 3, Wetherspoons, Terminal 4, and Tap & Spile, Terminal 1, all Heathrow (landside). - **Wed 24 (8pm)** Joint social with North London Branch. Castle, Victoria Road, North Acton, then Grand Junction Arms, Acton La, Harlesden.

Electronic copy deadline for the August/September edition:

12th July 2002. Please send entries to [geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk](mailto: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 convener on [LAGRAD@ukgateway.net](mailto:LAGRAD@ukgateway.net) or visit the LAGRAD website, [www.goldings.demon.co.uk/queerale/](http://www.goldings.demon.co.uk/queerale/)

**June – Wed 5 (7pm)** Monthly social. King's Arms (upstairs bar), 23 Poland St W1 (020-7734 5907). - **Sat 8** Pete Humble Memorial Pub Crawl in Croydon, starting (6pm) at the Bird of Pride, Sydenham Rd, round the corner from where Pete lived, moving on (7pm) to the Goose and Carrot, 128 Wellesley Rd, (020-8689 3473) potentially moving on to other (straight) Croydon Good Beer Guide venues as those present agree. - **Thu 20 (7pm)** King William IV, 77 High St, Hampstead NW3. (020-7435 5747). Traditional pub in the Courage stable, but usually with a guest. Close to Hampstead tube.

**July – Wed 3 (7pm)** Monthly social. King's Arms (upstairs bar), 23 Poland St W1. - **Sat 13** Hog's Back Brewery Trip, Tongham, near Aldershot. £6.50 for tour includes 1/2 pint commemorative glass refilled four times with different beers. Meet Dover Arms, 31 Guildford Rd, Ash at about 1pm, then by taxi to brewery for 2.30. Numbers limited; advance booking required. **Tue 30 (7pm)** Ye Olde Rose and Crown, 1 Crooms Hill, Greenwich SE10, (020 - 8293 1898). Traditional pub generally serving Courage Best Bitter and Directors

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.

Information is gathered from a variety of sources including *London Drinker* readers, individual CAMRA members and branch contacts, breweries, pub operators, landlords etc. and enables CAMRA to keep abreast of events and trends across Greater London. 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](http://www.londondrinker.co.uk).

The big event this time is the opening of Wetherspoon's first new-build 'Lloyds No 1' pub in London at NW1 Camden Town. The Lloyds chain, which is essentially 'Wetherspoons with noise', is aimed at younger pubgoers and originated in the Midlands. It is due to be 'rolled out' across the country. It is questionable whether we really need any more ear-shattering bars of this style in London, especially at the expense of authentic, 'noise-free' Wetherspoons, which appears to have been the case in this instance.

An expensive style bar, with (unusually) beer high on the agenda, has opened in W2 Paddington. We welcome the introduction of Ridleys beers into a small pub chain in North, East and East Central London. We catch up on a number of recent Shepherd Neame acquisitions mostly from Laurel (ex-Whitbread) in EC2 City, WC1 Kings Cross and South East London. We list pubs badged by Six Continents (ex-Bass) under the 'Ember Inns' brand featuring real fires and real ale from a limited range.

Pub closures continue all over the capital, mostly

in order to profit from residential conversion and to such an extent that many neighbourhoods are becoming devoid of pubs completely. Developers are using 'pre-emptive demolitions' to offset local objections and force the hands of planning authorities, the latest example being the landmark 'Toby Jug' on the A3 at Surbiton.

To qualify for inclusion as a 'pub' in *Capital Pubcheck* and CAMRA's Greater London database, the premises must serve draught beer ('real' or gas-dispensed), be open to and welcome the general public, allow drinking without requiring food to be consumed and have no admission charges (except on occasions when entertainment is provided). Hence licensed premises with no draught beer, including those described as wine bars, cocktail bars, oyster bars, tapas bars etc, restaurants with ancillary bars aimed primarily at diners, hotel bars restricted to residents and guests, and clubs with membership restrictions and/or entry fees, are not included. Closed pubs are retained on the database until converted to non-pub uses or demolished.

Cross references to CAMRA's various pub guides covering Greater London are provided to enable easy updating. 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.

## NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

### CENTRAL

**EC1, LIVING ROOM**, 2-3 West Smithfield. No real ale. New Free House/restaurant opened March 2002 by 'Living Ventures' chain in former commercial premises.

**WC2, RAMPAGE**, 32 Gt Queen St. Brakspear: Bitter; Wells: Bombardier. Former restaurant opened as pub by 'Front Page Pubs' chain c. 1998 but not previously reported. Decorated with bare floorboards, wooden furniture, ceiling fans and unusual framed tiled pictures of historic events. Cocktail bar in basement. Food. Big TV screen for sports. Open 11-11 Mon-Sat, closed Sun.

### EAST

**E12, EARL OF ESSEX**, 616 Romford Rd. Courage: Best Bitter (reinstatement). (E133, U162)  
**BARKINGSIDE, INVESTIGATOR (YE OLDE)**, 2 High St. Reverted to **CHEQUERS**. Courage: Best Bitter; Greene King: IPA. (X12)

### NORTH

**N7, GRAFTON ARMS**, 13 Eburne Rd. Renamed **SWIMMER AT THE GRAFTON ARMS**. Fuller: London Pride; Ridley: IPA, Old Bob, Seasonal beer. Former Courage pub acquired by a small, 9 pub London chain called 'Remarkable Restaurants', all of which sell Ridley cask beers (and Starobrno Czech keg lager). The chain's proprietor, Robert



# CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 165

Thomas was a former British Olympic swimmer, and photographs and cuttings are displayed on the walls. Decor consists of pine flooring, cream paintwork, long bar, Victorian clock, large mirror over fireplace with real fire. A cooking range to the right hand side serves home cooked food (6-9.30 Mon-Thu, 12-2.30/6-9.30 Fri/Sat, 12-4.30 Sun) Bottled and draught Belgian beers and German Weiss in bottle. Quiz night Mondays.

Recommended. Open 5-11 Mon-Thu, 12-11

Fri/Sat and 12-10.30 Sun. (N87)

**N7, HG BAR RESTAURANT**, 164 Holloway Rd. No real ale. New Free House/basement bar in former shop premises.

**N17, NARROW BOAT**, Reedham Clo. Courage: Directors Bitter (£2 a pint); Guest beer (at weekends). Reopened under new management. (N135, U158, U159)

**N17, OLIVE BRANCH**, 169 Park Lane. Reopened. No real ale. (N135)

## NORTH WEST

**NW1, CAMDEN TUP**, 2/3 Greenland Place. Boddington: Flowers Original; Wells: Bombardier. New pub, tucked away behind Camden High St, in former commercial premises, apparently originally converted to a bar in 1999 but not previously reported. Acquired by the 'Tup' Free House chain in 2000. Large, spartan ground floor bar area with bare boards, cream decor, large screen TV, music, a sprinkling of chairs, tables and leather sofas.

Upstairs balcony seating overlooking bar. Open all permitted hours.

**NW1, FATHER TED'S**, 69 Camden Rd. No real ale. Small 'Andrew Connor' Free House in former off-licence premises.

**NW1, HENRY J BEANS**, 273/275 Camden High St. No real ale. Free House/bar and grill in former restaurant premises.

**NW1, LLOYDS NO 1 (ICE WHARF)**, Units 1/2, Suffolk Wharf, off Jamestown Rd. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter; Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; Taylor: Landlord; Guest beer. Large new JD Wetherspoon owned 'Lloyds No 1' pub tucked away on ground floor of 'Camden Wharf' office development overlooking canal basin and approached on foot from either Jamestown Rd or left, just before the canal bridge, at the top of Camden High St. Apparently originally intended as a regular Wetherspoons, it is something of a hybrid with its original intended name 'Ice Wharf' displayed alongside 'Lloyds No 1', of which it is the first in central London. Large, curved, part tiled, part painted grey façade with three floors of offices above. Glass doors lead past bouncers into a modern style interior with a mixture of tiled, polished wood and carpeted flooring, purple ceiling with exposed ventilation ducts, hanging glass partitions, diffused yellow lighting panels and blue neon lighting strips. Raised seating area at front and no smoking area to side where supervised children are welcome until 6pm provided they are

## APPLICATION TO JOIN CAMRA

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

	Individual Annual	Joint Annual	Individual Life	Joint Life
UK and EEC	£16 <input type="checkbox"/>	£19 <input type="checkbox"/>	£192 <input type="checkbox"/>	£228 <input type="checkbox"/>
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Student/Unwaged	£9 <input type="checkbox"/>			
Disabled	£9 <input type="checkbox"/>			
Retired	£9 <input type="checkbox"/>	£12 <input type="checkbox"/>	£108 <input type="checkbox"/>	£144 <input type="checkbox"/>

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



WHATEVER  
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eating. Ear shattering 'music', video screens and gaming machines complete the scene. The only escape is outside on to the cobbled patio with heated 'umbrellas' overlooking the canal. Wall panels en route to the toilets explain that the Camden ponds were a source of ice in winter and generated a thriving local industry in the 19th Century, being supplemented with ice imported from Norway and the USA stored in ice pits nearby until distributed to greengrocers, fishmongers and gentlemen's clubs. Food, disabled WC and nappy changing facilities. Open all permitted hours. With a good choice of reasonably priced guest beers at the time of survey and a scenic canalside location it seems a great shame that this particular site should have been chosen to inflict upon us the noisy, intrusive racket that we are told is essential to attract the young. The evidence from regular Wetherspoons' elsewhere in London, many of which are modern in style and packed with young people in the evenings and at weekends, raises questions about why a 'Lloyds' style operation is needed in London, especially at the expense of a regular Wetherspoon outlet. We have far too many such noisy 'style bars' already in London and far too few bars where conversation is encouraged - think again, Tim Martin, and consign 'Lloyds' back to the Midlands where it belongs! NW4, MANNINGS, 75 Brent St. Courage: Best Bitter (reinstatement). (N195, U106, U163)

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#### SOUTH EAST

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SE16, SHIP & WHALE, 2 Gulliver St. Shepherd Neame: Master Brew Bitter, Spitfire. Former Free House acquired by Shepherd Neame c. 1997/8 but not previously reported. Refurbished with a mixture of seating - sofas, pews and chairs. Outdoor drinking in courtyard at rear. Wholesome food. Current Good Beer Guide entry. Open 12-3, 6-11 Mon-Fri, 11-11 Sat and summer, 12-10.30 Sun. SE19, PUZZLE, 25-27 Westow Hill. Courage: Directors Bitter; Wells: Bombardier. New Free House opened c. 2000 by 'Puzzle Pub Co' chain in former shop premises. Decorated in light and airy style with pine flooring and furniture, cream decor, raised seating area at front and beer garden at rear. Open all permitted hours.

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#### SOUTH WEST

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SW17, SURREY TAVERN, 226 Trinity Rd. Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, London Pride, ESB. Reopened as a Free House, ex-Whitbread. Happy hour 6.30 to 7.30 every day: beers half price. Open all permitted hours. (SW110, U142, U151, U157, U164)

KINGSTON, A BAR 2 FAR, Griffin Centre, Market Place. No real ale. Small Free House/bar, open for a while but not previously reported.

# J.J. Duffy



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**Come and see us soon!**

Occupies part of what was once the Griffin Hotel coaching inn.

**KINGSTON, BAR CASA**, Jerome Place, Charter Quay. No real ale. New Free House/bar close to Hogsmill River. Draught Belgian beers at a price!  
**KINGSTON, HA! HA! BAR & CANTEN**, Jerome Place, Charter Quay. No real ale. New Yates's owned bar overlooking River Thames.

## WEST

**W2, STEAM**, 1 Eastbourne Terr. St Peter's: Golden Ale (£3 pint, £2 half); Wells: Bombardier (£3 pint). New, expensive Free House/'gastro bar' opened late March 2002, attached to the newly reopened and renovated Hilton London Paddington Hotel (formerly Great Western Royal Hotel). A separate entrance on the corner leads past the bouncers into a long, dimly lit bar done out in a rather confused 'modern' style with white painted decor, raised red upholstered bench seating and bare brickwork. Piped music of the 'thump thump' variety frustrates conversation. Gritty black and white photos of Paddington 'locals' unlikely to be allowed past the sentries, or to be able to afford the prices, adorn the walls. Table service is optional. Unusually for such an establishment, beer is promoted equally alongside cocktails, and this is to be applauded. A variety of rare keg and bottled beers is available (at

a price) including keg Dwans (of Tipperary) Black Pearl Irish Stout, Anchor Steam and Liberty from San Francisco, bottled beers from St Peter's and abroad and Brittany cider. However it seems that the tiresome effort involved in giving 'small' change is avoided by rounding half pints up to the nearest £1. The menu description of a 'gastro bar' as one that 'fuses together the unpretentiousness and friendliness of the local with the glamour, education and entertainment of the style bar' qualifies for 'Pseuds' Corner'. Food. Open all permitted hours.  
**W4, PILOT**, 56 Wellesley Rd. Adnams: Bitter (£1.30/2.40); Wadworth: 6X (£1.35/2.50). Reopened and now a Free House operated by Guinness & Jacob Ltd, ex-S&N. Refurbished as an open, airy 'gastropub' with large windows etc. Original wood/glass barback and partitioning removed. Pricey food. (W69, U94, U107, U164)  
**ISLEWORTH, CHEQUERS**, 181 Twickenham Rd. Courage: Best Bitter; Young: Special (reinstatement). (W130, U158)

## PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

### CENTRAL

**EC1, SHAKESPEARES HEAD**, ex-Courage, H removed (E23)  
**EC3, PITCHER & PIANO**, Wolves & Dudley, the Pedigree is now the keg version. Formerly **BAR EXCELLENCE**. (U124, U139, U147)

### EAST

**E6, ALPINE BAR**, Free House, now demolished along with the ski slope it served. (E103, U163))  
**E8, FLORFIELD ARMS**, Ascot, closed and boarded up. (E113, U99)  
**E8, ROYAL OAK**, Previously reported as converted to residential; appears to be a mixture of residential and office accommodation. (E116, U164)  
**E13, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND**, Ridley, H unused. (E135, U143)  
**E13, EARL OF BEACONSFIELD**, ex-Bass, closed and boarded up. (E136)  
**E13, VILLAGE (AT PLAISTOW)**, Free House, now demolished. (E137, U69, U78, U82, U93, U123)  
**E14, AFRICAN QUEEN (BOGART'S)**, Free House, closed and boarded up, due to be redeveloped as flats. Formerly **AFRICAN TAVERN**. (E139, U80)  
**E14, EARL OF ELLESMERE**, ex-Taylor Walker, demolished and replaced by flats. (E144)  
**E14, ST LEONARDS ARMS**, ex-Brent Walker (ex-Truman), now converted to flats. (E148, U70)  
**E14, WHITE HORSE**, ex-Truman, closed and boarded up. (E149)

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**E15, BAKERS ARMS**, ex-Bass, closed and boarded up. (E152)  
**E16, ROYAL OAK**, 67 Barking Rd, ex-Courage, now being demolished. (E160, U80, U136, U162, U163)  
**E17, LORD BROOKE**, ex-Bass (East London Pub Co), H unused. (E167, U67, U124)  
**E17, NAGS HEAD**, ex-Watney, H removed. (E168)  
**BARKING, FISHING SMACK**, ex-Taylor Walker, closed, future uncertain. (X11)  
**DAGENHAM, ANGLERS RETREAT**, Free House, now demolished. (X44, U162)  
**DAGENHAM, BULL**, S&N, no real ale. (X44)  
**DAGENHAM, RAILWAY**, ex-Allied (Romford), no real ale. (X45)  
**DAGENHAM, SHIP & ANCHOR**, ex-Allied (Romford), no real ale. (X45)

## NORTH

**N1, OLD QUEENS HEAD**, ex-Grand Met (Watney), H removed. (N54, U121)  
**N7, JAILHOUSE**. Renamed **BAR LATINA**, ex-Whitbread, possibly now Free House, H removed. Originally Hogshead. (N88, U151)  
**N7, LITTEN TREE**, Renamed **HOLLOWAY**, SFI, H unused. (U104)  
**N15, SEVEN SISTERS**, Free House, closed and being converted to children's nursery. (N125)  
**N16, HOWARD ARMS**, Free House, demolished. (N128)  
**N16, MOLLY MALONES**, Ascot, converted to flats. (N129, U113)  
**N16, NEW COACH & HORSES**, Ascot, converted to flats. (N129)  
**N16, ROYAL OAK**. Renamed **OAK BAR**, ex-Courage, H removed. (N130)  
**N16, RUMOURS WINE BAR**. Renamed **YUCATAN BAR**, Free House, H removed. (N130)  
**N16, SUTTON ARMS**, Free House, closed and boarded up some time ago. Due for conversion to flats. (N131)  
**N17, NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS**, ex-Whitbread, no real ale. (N135)  
**N17, PARK HOTEL**. Now simply **PARK (THE)**, ex-Whitbread, no real ale. (N135)  
**N17, PLOUGH**, S&N, no real ale. (N135, U106)  
**N17, WHITEHALL TAVERN**. Renamed **10 JOY (COCKEREL)**, now presumably a Free House and part of small chain, ex-Taylor Walker, no real ale. (N137)  
**N22, ALEXANDRA**, Ex-Taylor Walker, now demolished. (N155, U163)  
**ENFIELD EAST (EN3), WHITE HART**, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), presumably now Punch, H removed following £1 million makeover. (N242)  
**EAST BARNET (EN4), KINGS ARMS**, ex-Taylor Walker, closed and boarded up. (N247)

## NORTH WEST

**NW1, T E DINGWALLS**. Upstairs bar renamed **BAR-RISA**, H removed. Jongleurs comedy club at Dingwalls club downstairs. Correct address is T E Dingwalls Building, 11 East Yard, Camden Lock.  
**NW3, HORSE & GROOM**, Young. Now sadly converted to a Chinese restaurant. We can ill afford to lose real pubs in this way, especially in the light of all the other losses (see London Drinkers *passim*) – John Young please note! (N186, U157)  
**HARROW WEALD, HARE**, ex-Allied (Benskins), converted to restaurant. (W114, U68)  
**PINNER, SHIP**, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), now demolished. (W136, U132)  
**RUISLIP, TALLY HO**, ex-Bass, demolished. (W138, U151)

## SOUTH EAST

**SE1, FINISH**, Ascot, converted to residential use but pub signage retained. (SE15, U113)  
**SE1, HAVELOCK ARMS**, Phoenix, converted to 'Havelock House' residential block. (SE20, U112)  
**SE1, SULTAN**, Shepherd Neame, demolished; site being developed for residential use. (SE36, U102)  
**SE7, VICTORIA**, Free House, closed and boarded up. A fine example of a Trumans tiled fronted pub under threat. (SE74, U113, U135)  
**SE11, CRICKETERS**, 146 Newington Butts, ex-Courage, closed and boarded up and to let for commercial uses. (SE106)  
**SE13, ROYAL OAK**, 45 Loampit Vale, ex-Truman, closed and boarded up. (SE122)  
**SE15, BEEHIVE**, Shepherd Neame, converted to residential use. (SE134)  
**SE16, HOLLYWOOD BOWL**. The attached bar is now named **BAR ORIGINAL**, H and brewing equipment removed. (U141)  
**SE16, PRINCE OF ORANGE**, ex-Truman, closed and building work underway; future uncertain. (SE150)  
**SE16, PRINCE OF WALES**, 19 Plough Way, acquired by Shepherd Neame from Laurel Pub Co (ex-Whitbread) in January 2002, H unused, keg beers only. (SE150)  
**SE17, DUKE OF CLARENCE**, Free House, closed. (SE156)  
**SE17, GLOBE**, Phoenix, converted to flats. (SE158, U112)  
**SE17, GLOUCESTER**, Free House, now converted to flats. (SE158)

## SOUTH WEST

**SW4, SPRINGFIELD**, 155 Larkhall Lane, Intntrepreneur, now converted to offices. (SW60, U163)  
**SW11, BOLINGBROKE**, ex-Bass (Southside), closed and boarded up. Application to convert to flats expected. (SW86, U154)



# Village Pub Jubilee Weekend Beer Festival

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Tel: 020 8521 9982**

## CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 165

**SW11, DOG & DUCK.** Renamed **DUCK**, S&N, H removed. Now a bar/pizzeria. (SW87)

**SW18, JUST SO BAR,** Punch, H removed.

Formerly **FOOTE & FIRKIN.** (U130, U146, U154)

**KINGSTON, PORTER BLACK,** Discovery Inns, H removed. Formerly **SHAMUS O'DONNELLS.** (SW144, U150)

**KINGSTON, SLUG & LETTUCE,** S&N, H unused. (U126)

**NEW MALDEN, FOUNTAIN,** S&N (Barras), H unused. The first recorded instance of a John

Barras branded pub losing real ale. (SW151, U132)

**SURBITON, TOBY JUG,** Six Continents (ex-Bass), landmark pub now demolished, in advance of planning approval for a change of use, which seems to be the latest ploy by developers to stifle objectors and put pressure on local planning authorities. (SW163, U132, U164)

### WEST

**BRENTFORD, CAPTAIN MORGANS,** Free House, H unused. Formerly **O'RIORDANS TAVERN.** (W98, U84, U159)

**HOUNSLOW, FRIEND IN HAND,** renamed **WISHING WELL** and part of small pub chain. (W126, U62, U63, U77, U82, U99, U101, U130)

**ISLEWORTH, KINGS ARMS,** Nomura, ex-Watney, closed. (W131, U62, U90, U158, U160)

### OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

#### CENTRAL

**EC1, GUNMAKERS ARMS.** -beers listed; +2 or 3 varying guest beers from regional breweries (e.g. Adnams, Brains, Everards, Harveys). Tastefully refurbished with no TV or electronic games. Now presumably a Free House, ex-Bass. (E17)

**EC1, RELIANCE.** -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Ridley: IPA, Old Bob; +Guest (currently Fuller: Honeydew) Now part of 'Remarkable Restaurants' chain. (U120)

**EC1, STICK & WEASEL.** Renamed **PROGRESS BAR,** -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride. Refurbished in café-bar style with large murals of naked ladies. (E24, U73)

**EC1, SUTTON ARMS,** 6 Carthusian St. Now a 'Remarkable Restaurants' Free House, ex-Greene King. -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Ridley: IPA, Old Bob. (E25, U87)

**EC2, BARLEY MOW.** -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Ridley: IPA or Prospect, Old Bob. Now part of 'Remarkable Restaurants' chain. (E29, U92)

**EC2, YE OLDE DR BUTLERS HEAD.** Now named **OLD DR BUTLERS HEAD.** -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Master Brew Bitter, Best Bitter,

Spitfire, Bishops Finger, seasonal beer. Free House acquired at some stage by Whitbread and inherited by Laurel Pub Co before being acquired by Shepherd Neame in December 2001. Now Sheps' most centrally located pub. (E31, U80)  
**WC1, MABEL'S TAVERN.** -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Master Brew Bitter, Best Bitter, Spitfire, Bishops Finger, seasonal beer. Acquired by Shepherd Neame from Laurel Pub Co (ex-Whitbread) in April. (W47, N24, U152)

## EAST

**E2, APPROACH TAVERN.** -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Ridley: IPA, Prospect, Old Bob. Free House now run by 'Remarkable Restaurants' pub chain. (E77, U130)  
**E2, BROWNS.** -Webster: Yorkshire Bitter; +Tetley: Bitter. Features non-stop striptease. (E79)  
**E4, KINGS HEAD.** Now a Six Continents 'Ember Inns' badged pub, ex-Taylor Walker Festival Ale House. (E96, U73, U140)  
**E8, PRINCE GEORGE.** Laurel (ex-Whitbread) tied pub now operated by 'Remarkable Restaurants' chain. -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter; +Brakspear: Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride. Sadly no Riddleys allowed under the tie. (E115)  
**E9, ROYAL INN ON THE PARK,** 111 Lauriston Rd. Now owned by 'Remarkable Restaurants' chain. Ridley beers noted in U164 are IPA, Prospect and Old Bob. Formerly ROYAL HOTEL. Note full address. (E122, U110, U117, U164)  
**E10, HOUSE BAR.** Renamed HOT HOUSE. Still no real ale. Formerly LION & KEY. (E125, U120, U143)  
**E13, EARL DERBY.** -beers listed; +varying guest beer from microbreweries (e.g. Hogs Back, Mighty Oak, Tring). Now possibly a Free House, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker). (E136)  
**E15, DRUM.** Renamed TROWEL & TELEGRAPH. Formerly LOCK, STOCK & BARREL. (E154, U99)  
**E17, CHESTNUT TREE.** -beers listed; +Draught Bass (not always available). Now part of Punch's Mr Q's chain. (E166)  
**E17, GOOSE.** -beers listed except Draught Bass and Fuller: London Pride; +Adnams: Bitter. Real ale always available although not always full range. Formerly GOOSE & GRANITE, originally TOWER HOTEL (E169, U124, U137)  
**CHADWELL HEATH, BIG HAND MO'S.** Reverted to CHADWELL ARMS, still no real ale. (X27)  
**DAGENHAM, CROSS KEYS.** Pub signs show X KEYS. (X45)  
**DAGENHAM, EASTBROOK HOTEL.** Now EASTBROOK. (X45)  
**HORNCHURCH, HARROW.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (X71, U151)

**ILFORD, YATES'S WINE LODGE.** Now renamed QUE PASA and acquired from Yates's by Morrells pub retailing chain, still no real ale. (U152, U159)  
**ROMFORD, MAWNEY ARMS.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (X102, U151)  
**UPMINSTER, HUNTSMAN & HOUNDS.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (X102, U151, U160)  
**UPMINSTER, OPTIMIST TAVERN.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (X121)

## NORTH

**N1, ROSEMARY BRANCH.** -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Ridley: IPA, Prospect, Old Bob. Now operated by 'Remarkable Restaurants' pub chain. (N56)  
**N1, TUT N' SHIVE.** Renamed INDEPENDENCE. -beers listed except Greene King: Morland Old Speckled Hen. Now independently run, ex-Whitbread, and under same ownership as 'Perseverance' (formerly Sun) WC1. Renovated with dark blue painted exterior and purple interior. (N61)  
**N7, BJ'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL.** Renamed SWAGMANS REST. Originally COCK TAVERN. (N86, U120, U130)  
**N9, STAG & HOUNDS.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (N101, U151)  
**N15, BULL.** Renamed CONNAUGHT TAVERN, still no real ale. (N123)  
**N16, HARE & HOUNDS.** Renamed KRYSTAL'S, still no real ale. (N128)  
**N16, SHAKESPEARE.** -beers listed; +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; +Fuller: London Pride; +Ridley: IPA or Prospect, Old Bob. Now operated by 'Remarkable Restaurants' pub chain. (N131)  
**N17, BANK.** Renamed PITCH & PINT, still no real ale. (U138)  
**N17, MILFORD TAVERN.** Renamed PRIDE OF THE LANE, still no real ale. (N134)  
**N17, O'MARA'S.** Renamed BAR LATINA. Now a café-bar, still no real ale. Formerly PERRY'S. (N135, U126)  
**N19, JJ MOONS.** Renamed LANDSEER. -beers listed except Greene King: IPA and Marston: Pedigree; +Courage: Directors Bitter. Bare floorboards, large windows, cream décor etc. (N144)  
**N19, MARLBOROUGH.** Renamed ANGIES VII (OF HOLLOWAY ROAD). Now part of 'Angies' pub chain based in W and NW London, ex-Bass. (N144)  
**N20, BLACK BULL.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (N147, U151)  
**N21, SALISBURY ARMS.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (N153)

**ENFIELD WEST (EN2), RIDGEWAY.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (N236, U151, U161)

**NEW BARNET (EN5), FIDDLERS.** Renamed **WISHING WELL** -Young: Bitter; +Young: Special. Now part of small pub chain. Formerly **LYTTON ARMS.** (N251, U157, U160)

## NORTH WEST

**NW1, O'BAR.** Renamed **OH! BAR**, still no real ale. Formerly **ROYALES.** (N174)

**NW1, ROSIE O'GRADYS.** Renamed **MAC BAR**, still no real ale. Formerly **EAGLE.** (N164, U132)

**NW7, THREE HAMMERS.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (N210, U151)

**NW7, MILL.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (N209, U151)

**NW8, LORDS TAVERN.** -beers listed; +Brakspear: Bitter; +Wells: Bombardier. Now operated by 'Front Page Pubs' group, ex-Grand Met (Watney). (N214)

**HARROW WEALD, DUCK IN THE POND.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (W114, U151)

**NORTHWOOD, GATE.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (W124, U151, U152)

**NORTHWOOD, IRON BRIDGE.** Renamed **OLDE NORTHWOOD.** (W134)

**STANMORE, ABERCORN ARMS.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (W144, U151)

**SUDBURY, BLACK HORSE.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (W144, U151)

**WEMBLEY, PRESTON.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (W159)

## SOUTH EAST

**SE1, ROSE & CROWN, 43 Colombo St.** -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Master Brew Bitter, Best Bitter, Spitfire. Free House (originally Courage) acquired by Shepherd Neame in June 1999 but not previously reported. A real pub with good beer - recommended. (SE31)

**SE11, LIAM O'G'S.** Full name is **LIAM O'G'S (KENNINGTON).** Formerly **PLOUGH & HARROW.** (SE108, U120)

**SE11, MANSION HOUSE.** -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Master Brew Bitter, Best Bitter, Spitfire. Acquired by Shepherd Neame from

## Brasserie Les Sans-Culottes

27-29 Endell Street, London WC2H 9BA  
Tel: 020 7379 8500

*Les Sans-Culottes, a traditional style Brasserie boasting a tempting array of French cuisine.*

*An on-site Microbrewery assists to re-create a unique, informal, atmospheric eaterie and bar.*

*Always 4 home-brewed beers including:*

- ◆ Pilsner La Blonde - light German style (4.5 ABV)
- ◆ Special Blonde - classic continental (4.8 ABV)
- ◆ Bitter (4.6 ABV)

**Opening times:**

**Monday - Saturday 9.30am - 11.00pm**  
**Sunday 1pm - close**

## THE ROYAL OAK



44 TABARD STREET, LONDON SE1  
Tel - 0207 357 7173

Traditional Harvey's Sussex Ales,  
Served in a Traditional Atmosphere

Open Mon-Fri 11am-11pm

Food Available  
Lunchtime & Evenings

Nearest tube - The Borough

# CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 165

Laurel Pub Co (ex-Whitbread) in January 2002. (SE108)

**SE13, HOGSHEAD (ALE HOUSE).** Renamed **JORDAN**, -beers listed except Boddington: Bitter; +Wadworth: 6X; +Guest beers (H) and (G). Now Laurel Pub Co, ex-Whitbread. (SE120)

**SE16, GARDENERS.** Reverted to **JOLLY GARDENERS.** (SE146)

**SE17, NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS.** Renamed **STROKE OF LUCK.** (SE159)

**SE19, WHITE SWAN.** Renamed **BLUEBOTTLE.** (SE182)

**SE21, ALLEYNS HEAD.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (SE194)

**BEXLEYHEATH, EARL HAIG.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (3SE212, U59, K33)

**CROYDON, CROWN.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (3SE239, U55)

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## SOUTH WEST

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**SW1(B), NAGS HEAD.** -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter, Regatta, Broadside. Owner's name, 'Kevin Moran' displayed on hanging sign. (SW38)

**SW1(B), WILTON ARMS.** -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Master Brew Bitter, Best Bitter, Spitfire, Bishops Finger. Former Laurel (ex-Whitbread) pub acquired by Shepherd Neame in January 2002. Open all permitted hours. (SW40).

**CHEAM, HARROW.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (SW131, U151)

**KEW, FLOWER & FIRKIN.** -Firkin beers listed; +Draught Bass; +Young: Bitter. (SW138)

**KINGSTON, EDDIE RYANS.** Renamed **OWL & PUSSYCAT.** (SW142)

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## WEST

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**ICKENHAM, COACH & HORSES.** Now part of Six Continents 'Ember Inns' chain. (W130, U151)

**ISLEWORTH, RED LION.** Now a Free House, ex-Courage. (W131, U60, U62, U101)

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## CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 163

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### NEW PUBS ETC.

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**WC1, SMITHY'S.** Is an independent Free House.

**BROMLEY, BAR STANZA (now TOM FOOLERY).** Note full address.

**W7, LAVIN'S IRISH BAR.** Add: No real ale.

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## PUBS CLOSED ETC.

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**W1(Mar), WORCESTER** Should read: **WORCESTER ARMS.**

**ENFIELD (EN3), BEER & BARREL.** Should read: **BEEF & BARREL.**

**BROMLEY, CROWN & ANCHOR.** Refs should read: (3SE218, 8K50)

**ST MARY CRAY, CRAYFISH.** Should read: **ST MARY CRAY (ST PAUL'S CRAY).** Refs should read: (3SE270, U42, U85, 8K147)

**SW6, RAT & PARROT** (now **DURRELL ARMS**). Should read 'H removed'.

**SW11, BATTERSEA BOAT HOUSE.** Formerly **RIVERSIDE**, previously **RIVER RAT.**

**HARROW, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.** Should read: **Inntrepeneur**, ex-Courage.

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## OTHER CHANGES ETC.

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**CROYDON, SHIRLEY INN.** Delete entry, see **CROWN** above instead.

**SW6, PALMERSTON (BLUE ROOM LOUNGE BAR).** Originally **LORD PALMERSTON.**

**W6, ASTRO BAR AND COSMIC CLUB** (now **PUZZLE**). +Wells: **Bombardier.**

**HESTON, PRIDE OF ERIN** (now **OLD ELM TREE**). Formerly **ELM TREE.**

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## CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 160

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### (IN UPDATE 163)

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**E14, FIGUREHEAD.** Should read **E16.**

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## CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 164

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### NEW PUBS ETC.

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**WC2, BRASSERIE LES SANS-CULOTTES.**

Believed to have been formerly 'Jamies', a wine bar/restaurant (without draught beer).

**E2, ANDA DA BRIDGE.** Is in former commercial premises.

**BEXLEY, OLD MILL.** Address is 112 Bexley High St.

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## PUBS CLOSED ETC.

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**EC1, CENTRAL BAR.** Formerly **GOLDEN HIND**

**E8, PRINCESS ALICE.** Should read: **E7.**

**N19, STEAMHOUSE.** Should read: Reverted to **GOOD INTENT.**

**ERITH, TRAFALGAR.** Refs should read: (3SE256, U42, K65)

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## OTHER CHANGES ETC

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**EC4, HORN TAVERN** (now **CENTRE PAGE**). Should read: Now a 'Front Page Pubs' Free House, +Brakspear: Bitter.

**N1, ROYAL HALL.** Should read: **ROYAL MAIL.**

**W7, DOLPHIN.** Formerly **WHITE HART.**

# THE ESSEN KERSTBIER FESTIVAL

After a memorable visit to the Antwerp beer festival, well not that memorable - a bit of a blur really - but I did acquire a taste for Belgian beer which I am glad to say shows no sign of abating. I decided to indulge my fondness with a visit in mid-December to the Kerstbier Festival in Essen. Essen is a small town near the Dutch border with little in the way of hotel facilities.

I stayed in Antwerp which is a forty minute train journey, changing at Berchem. An alternative base is Roosendaal, which is the next station down the line. I have never visited Roosendaal so I cannot comment on the facilities there but I doubt if they have the equivalent of Antwerp's Kulminator, t'Waagstuk, Oud Arsenaal and the very intimate and very traditional leaning cafe - visit it now before it falls over.

Essen, being close to the Dutch border, is a magnet for the beer-loving Dutch and caters for their thirst with three off-licences. If the one I visited is anything to go by they are not so much off-licences as warehouses. Van Oevelens is the only one near the town centre and is situated close to the station. They do not provide shopping baskets for the pedestrian shopper, only trolleys for the beer-thirsty Dutch who drive down and fill their trolleys with beer then roar back to Holland to enjoy their bargains. I felt distinctly unimposing clinging to my lonely bottle of Chimay Grand Reserve surrounded as I was by trolleys bristling with Belgian beer. Van Oevelens stocks most of the popular Belgian beers and stacks them high on wooden crates but don't expect to find any esoteric delights.

## Getting prepared

The beer festival is held in the Parochie Centrum which is within easy walking distance of the station. As at Antwerp a deposit is paid for the glass and the beer is sold in 15cl measures. Tokens are used for the purchase of both beer and food - don't forget your CAMRA membership card as this entitles you to a free drink. I prefer 15cl measures. This is ample to appreciate the flavour of the beer but not too much to prevent a sampling of as many of the beers available as possible. There were eighty-four different beers on offer at Essen and they were all winter beers with an average alcohol content of 8%. If you drank too many full measures it would not be long before you were clinging to the floor. Bush Millennium was the strongest at 13%. I was fortunate to get the last glass just before it ran out. The only drawback with small measures is that the unfinished bottle remains standing for the next customer. This is fine during the day but if left open overnight the beer can be a little flat the following morning. Any suggestions on how to avoid this without selling full measures would be welcome. With that minor criticism out of the way I have nothing else but praise for a well-organised, friendly festival. They even cook their food in beer so there

is no respite for the taste buds. My favourite beer of the festival was Affligem Millennium Cuvee 2000. They also had four beers from De Proefbrouwerij. Unfortunately my beloved Vlaamse Primitief is not a winter beer so was not among them.

The festival is organised by OBER, which is the Essen region of OBP, and one of their members brewed a beer for the festival. It came as no great surprise to me that this amateur could brew a beer better than most English beers. Why don't English brewers brew beer for the English market that has the full-bodied, multi-flavoured complexity the Belgians find so easy to produce. It is not that they cannot do it as they export some of their most flavoursome products to Belgium and keep their blander varieties for the home market. Even Guinness Export, at 7% a beautiful product, was originally intended for foreign outlets only. It was only put on sale in this country after some wise soul began re-importing it back into this country and made a tidy profit. How embarrassing for Guinness that a small entrepreneur had more savvy than their over-paid marketing experts.

## Scottish connection

Many years ago English and Scotch ales were revered by the Belgians. So much so that the Moorgaats brewery decided to produce a beer similar to Scotch Ale but McEwans, quite rightly, refused to oblige them with the formula. Not to be thwarted the directors dipped their collective hands into the company pocket and bought a bottle of McEwans Scotch Ale and handed it to their lab boys to analyse. Those were the days when the yeast was still in the bottle so Moorgaats could put all the contents under the microscope. Their analysis helped them to produce the heavenly, or should that be the diabolic, Duvel. Incredible. Since then Duvel has undergone modifications but for one of the classic beers of the world to be based upon a Scottish ale beggars belief. What has happened to Scottish beer and of course British beer? Is it too much to ask our brewers to dip their hands into their pockets and buy a bottle of Orval, Westmalle Triple or Rodenbach Grand Cru?

Perhaps we could repay the Belgians the compliment they have paid McEwans and produce a beer to be revered around the world instead of regurgitating the same formulae we get now. It will be a difficult task as I recall a piece by Roger Protz in *What's Brewing* which stated that CAMRA members at the GBBF tasting session objected to JHB from Oakham, a worthy champion beer, as it was not the copper-coloured, traditional, formulaic English beer they are used to. Surely we should be in favour of choice or am I doomed to forever nod my head whenever my father tells me how much better beer tasted before the war. Here endeth the lesson on behalf of the Evangelical church of Belgian-beer lovers and back to the festival.



## THE ESSEN KERSTBIER FESTIVAL

### A touch of fruit

I was pleasantly surprised by the Gluhkriek (warmed kriek). I am not partial to fruit beers, especially many of the commercial variations. Traditional kriek is acceptable as are some of Cantillon's specialities - Vignerone (grapes) and Foufonne (apricots) - but if I try one at a festival it usually confirms my prejudices. Gluhkriek is a mouth-watering exception. It was a bitterly cold day outside on the day of the festival so it was heart-warming to have something bitterly warm inside me when I arrived and then to have another when I left to fortify me for the long walk back to the station. I know I said it's a short walk to the station but when I'm walking away from a good beer festival I always feel as if someone has tied a length of elastic to me and I'm being pulled back. The warmth of the Gluhkriek sends a warm glow through the body and sweet dreams comfort you on the journey back to Antwerp. If you happen to dream too long and forget to wake up at Antwerp there's no problem. The train is a shuttle service so you will end up at Essen. No bad place to be when the Kerstbier festival is on.

*Bryan Smith*



**THE GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL**

**100% NATURale 100% FUN**

Tuesday 6th August 5pm-10.30pm £6  
 Wednesday 7th August 11.30-3pm £2  
 Wednesday 7th August 5pm-10.30pm £6  
 Thursday 8th August 12 noon-10.30pm £6  
 Friday 9th August 12 noon-10.30pm £6  
 Saturday 10th August 11am-7pm £5

Advance ticket hotline 0870 739 7500 from May 1st  
 contact 0900 525 2525\* [www.gbbf.org](http://www.gbbf.org)

\*Calls to this line charged at 09p per minute. All money raised by GBBF from this line will go towards the GBBF fund for fighting liver.

**GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL**  
 AUGUST 6TH-10TH 2002  
 LONDON OLYMPIA  
 Live music throughout

## FOUR LOTS OF FUN FOR GBBF 2002 PUBLICITY CRAWLERS

This year, as ever, the Great British Beer Festival publicity team is inviting you to give them a hand to publicise the Festival and have fun while doing it. Four crawls have been arranged - one more than in previous years - three in the evening, plus the usual all day outing with free beer and food for those who stay the course.

As an extra incentive for each evening crawl you attend, your name will be entered into a prize draw for a case of Special London Ale, kindly donated by Young's Brewery. So why not come along on all three evenings and have three times the chance of winning?

Unlike previous years' arrangements, only one pub is used as the base for each crawl; so anyone who can't make the 6pm start for an evening crawl can still turn up at the same place whenever they are able. To make it easy to find us, we will be in the function room (unless there are signs saying otherwise).

The crawls are:

- ◆ **Tuesday 18 June**, Evening East End Crawl: Start at 6pm at The Counting House, 50 Cornhill, EC3 (Fullers, near the Barbican). Finish same place.
- ◆ **Saturday 6 July**, All Day Crawl: Start at 11am at the Lamb in Lambs Conduit St. (Youngs), then wander gently around London pubs until late afternoon when it's time for free beer and sandwiches back at the Lamb.
- ◆ **Wednesday 17 July**, Evening West End Crawl: Start at 6pm at Ship & Shovell, Charing Cross. Finish same place.
- ◆ **Monday 29 July**, Evening 'Tidy Up' Crawl: Start at 6pm at Carpenters Arms, Seymour Place W1 (Free house, near Marble Arch). Finish same place.

Hope to see you there!

*Robin Forshaw-Wilson*

**Advertise in next month's LONDON DRINKER**  
 from only £45 (quarter page - all inclusive)  
 Call Peter Tonge now on 020 8300 7693

# Kingston Beer Festival 2002



Taking off on **28th and 29th June**

**Camels, Pups, Dolphins and Harriers all came from  
Kingston; fly round for a pint  
with *CAMRA Kingston and Leatherhead Branch***

**Surrey County Staff Club, Penrhyn Road. 15 minutes  
from the Station, near the Crown Court and County Hall  
(buses 71, 281, 406, 418, 465, K2 and K3 pass the door)**

**Fri 28th 11-3 (Free admission) 5.30-11 (£2, CAMRA £1)  
Sat 29th 11-3 (£1, CAMRA free) 5.30-11 (£1, CAMRA free)**

**40+ ales Cider Food Lounge Outside area**

# IDLE MOMENTS

## APRIL'S ANSWERS

As promised, here are the solutions to the puzzles set in April's Idle Moments column.

### NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 8 is the Atomic Number of Oxygen
2. 100 Cents in a Dollar
3. 6 Manned Spacecraft have Landed on the Moon
4. 48 Crash by Suzi Quatro
5. 25 Beatles' Top Ten Hits
6. 185 Feet is the Height of Nelson's Column
7. 1 Canada Square (on Canary Wharf) is the Tallest Office Building in Great Britain
8. 1845 Commemorative Beer from Fullers
9. 54 Coloured Squares on a Rubik's Cube
10. 500 Pounds is a Monkey

### BREWERY ANAGRAMS:

1. STRETCH ROPE  
PORTCHESTER
2. ADAM LEARNS  
SALAMANDER
3. BAD RON HARRIED DAN  
HADRIAN AND BORDER
4. WITH HEART  
WHITE HART
5. A FEW LIE  
ALEWIFE
6. WE GROW THIS BARD  
SAWBRIDGEWORTH
7. A HOME POND  
HOPDAEMON
8. OH REGAL BOUGH COLT  
BOGGART HOLE CLOUGH
9. MA'S WET WILLIE  
SWEET WILLIAM
10. MONOTONES  
MOONSTONE

### 5BY4:

Yes, but what county are they in?

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

### GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. The American singer Eileen Regina Edwards is better known as Shania Twain.
2. Cuba, Haiti and Sudan all celebrate their National Day on the same date - which is 1st January.

3. The first woman to fly the Atlantic solo was Amelia Ehrhart.
  4. The standard typewriter keyboard has two sequences of three letters which occur together in alphabetical order (left to right) on the middle letters row - they are FGH and JKL.
  5. The decimal half penny ceased to be legal tender in Britain on 1st January in 1985
  6. Licensing hours in England (on weekdays) were extended to their current range of 11am to 11pm on 22nd August in 1988
  7. Cobs and pens (when considered collectively) are male and female swans.
  8. The former French Sudan is now known as Mali.
  9. When two full moons occur in the same calendar month the second is the "blue" moon.
- The last British monarch to be born outside Great Britain was George II - he was born in Hanover (in 1683).

## THIS MONTH'S QUESTIONS

**H**earty midsummer (nearly) greetings! It's time again for a little diversion in the form of puzzles of a trivial nature, but first I should like to begin with a little piece of advice from Henrik Ibsen:

*One should never put on one's best trousers to go out to battle for freedom and truth.*

And now without further delay, let us get on with this month's number puzzles:

1. 14 L in a S
2. 9 M in a RE (including the C)
3. 500 is D in RN
4. 90 D from the E to the NP
5. 4 F on the T
6. 1707 A of U
7. 5 GL in NA
8. 123 OFOR
9. 10,000 SM in a H
10. 30 H in a S (on a CB)

If some of those looked familiar, I will admit that they have all been used before - ten years or more before. Now its time for our ever popular (I like to think) brewery anagrams. See if you can work out which purveyors of fine ales have been insulted this time.

1. SHARED OWL
2. TACK IN A COOP
3. RINGO'S BELL
4. TOUCH GLAND
5. WE ROT
6. DROOL ON HACK BOX
7. SOLD EWAN
8. LULL BEEB
9. DOWNLOADS
10. RAG AND ROLL

## IDLE MOMENTS

And now its time for 5BY4; this time I've subtitled it 'Birthdays.' See if you can work out (or guess) the order in which the following famous people were born by matching them with their dates of birth in the second list, which all fall between 1938 and 1947:

1. Paul McCartney
2. Geoff Boycott
3. Steven Spielberg
4. Julio Iglesias
5. Liza Minnelli
6. Bobby Gentry
7. Paul Anka
8. Warren Beatty
9. Hale Irwin
10. James Galway
- A. 12th March 1946
- B. 21st October 1940
- C. 8th December 1939
- D. 30th March 1938
- E. 18th June 1942
- F. 30th July 1941
- G. 18th December 1947
- H. 27th July 1944
- I. 23rd September 1943
- J. 3rd June 1945

And finally, it's time for the truly trivial (unless you think such things are important).

1. The first instant coffee produced in the World was Nescafé - but in what year did it go on sale?

2. What household electrical appliance was patented in 1945 by Percy Le baron Spencer?
3. In which parliamentary constituency did Martin Bell defeat Neil Hamilton to become an MP in 1997?
4. ...and in what constituency did he fail to be elected in 2001?
5. Who is the musician whose early career reads as follows: The Roosters, Casey Jones & the Engineers; the Yardbirds; John Mayall's Blues Breakers etc. etc?
6. What was unique about the Perry Mason story, "The Case of the Terrified Typist"?
7. When Mickey Mouse was created in 1928 he was not called Mickey. What was his original name?
8. The area of Westminster where the Houses of Parliament stand was originally an island in the River Thames. What was the island called?
9. What company used to build formula 1 racing cars in Hollyfield Road, Surbiton?
10. Who was the BBC newsreader who announced both the abdication of King Edward VIII and the start of the Second World War?

Well, that's about it. Mind how you go and remember to wear some old trousers if you are going out fighting for freedom and truth - preferably without too many holes in them, though.

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### SOUTH

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Upon presentation of this advertisement you will receive a free beer glass from any  
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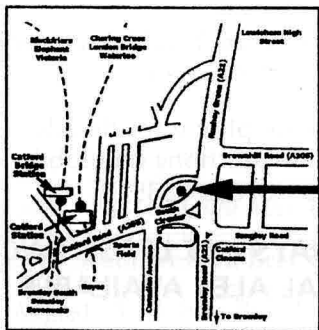
# THE 10TH



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## JUBILEE JINKS

The imminent arrival of the Queen's Golden Jubilee set me to thinking about the Silver Jubilee 25 years previously. As he mentioned in the last Editorial, at that time Chris Cobbold and I were running a cycling club, catering mainly for youngsters. We both rode tandems. Over the years I owned several, and consequently received frequent requests to borrow one for such purpose. One reached me from a bingo club in Wandsworth whose managers wanted to do a charity ride on the Jubilee day. My no. 2 machine, Walter (the Raleigh) was offered and accepted and, after a familiarisation run for the crew via several real ale pubs, Chris and I set about the practicalities of the event.

As it was to take place on a Sunday, with very limited opening hours, it had to be timed fairly precisely. Whilst I planned the route - to cover the topical 25 miles - Chris organised the refreshments in the form of real ale in containers and soft drinks for the kids, who on this occasion were outnumbered by the adults. Along with my tools and spare parts drinks and food were carried in the support van. On the appointed day a motley collection of four tandems and several solos set off on the none too arduous run,, my flagship 'Victoria' (vintage 1910) in the lead followed by the sponsored machine (1937) and the rear brought up by Chris's 'Melissa' of the same age. Everything went smoothly, the route taking us via Buckingham Palace and back across the Thames at Hammersmith, with frequent stops for refreshment and mechanical inspection.

During our planned lunch halt at the Jolly Gardeners, Putney, one of our younger riders, Dim David (as he was known out of earshot) decided to peel an orange with hands that had come into close contact with a bike chain. A lady of our company noticed the very dark colour the fruit had become and asked, '*David, are you really going to eat that?*' The 12 year old took one look at it, replied '*Ugh! No!*' and threw it over his shoulder.

At the end of the ride we all adjourned to the Club's bar for a drink, unfortunately fizz, after which the managers demonstrated the working of the bingo system, whereby a device ejected numbered ping-pong balls, in random order, which the caller held under a closed-circuit camera, the result being relayed to a screen on the stage.

Unfortunately our attempts to clean David up had been thwarted by the omission to do the same to his handlebars. Unwittingly he placed a hand under the camera, spotted the image of a very grubby mitt and exclaimed loudly, '*You say my hands are filthy: look at the one on the picture!*' The place erupted with laughter. I doubt he saw the joke.

*Martin Smith*

(Martin's usual archive selection returns in the next issue -Ed.)

*Peter Anthony welcomes you to:*

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REAL ALES AVAILABLE**

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gay friendly venue.

## THE ULTIMATE FIGHT

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Former boxing champion Barry McGuigan, a patron of CLIC, joined Tim Martin at the Crosse Keys in the City to launch the 'Cheers to CLIC' campaign to knock out childhood cancer and leukaemia.

## Thurrock Beer Festival, Monday - Saturday, 10-15 June 2002

**T**hurrock Civic Hall, Blackshots Lane, Grays, Essex, (nearest station, Grays, c2c (London Tilbury & Southend) line; nearest bus stop 'The Oak', Sockets Heath, bus Nos 100 (Chelmsford-Lakeside), 377 (Tilbury-Purfleet), 378 (Lakeside-Stifford Clays).

Open Monday to Friday: lunchtime noon to 3pm; evening 6 to 11pm; Saturday: all day opening noon to 11pm. Admission prices: Monday to Friday lunchtime free and Monday & Tuesday evening 50p; Wednesday evening £1; Thursday evening £2; Friday evening £2.50; Saturday all day £1.50; free at all times to card-carrying CAMRA members.

Over 160 different beers and 20 different ciders. Entertainment: Wednesday evening - Mike West, Thursday evening - Redwood, Friday evening - Marsh Men, Saturday lunchtime - SpiderBaby & Marsh Men, Saturday evening - Squabblers; possibly Chris Wilde on piano some lunchtimes.

Souvenir glass available plus CAMRA products stand. Hot and cold food available at all sessions.

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## FESTIVALS SCHEDULED

Starting dates:

8 June - Cider Festival

15 June - East Anglian Beer Festival

8 July - South Western Beer Festival

1 August - Yorkshire Beer Festival

◆ 9 real ales + 1 real cider  
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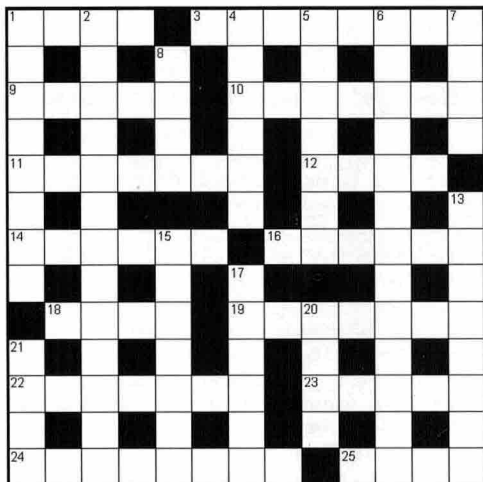
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# LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

£10 PRIZE TO BE WON



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Prize winner will be announced in the October London Drinker.

The solution will be given in the August edition.

All entries to be submitted to:  
London Drinker Crossword  
25 Valens House, Upper Tulse Hill  
London SW2 2RX

## SOLUTION TO APRIL CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1. To the doctor it's grave (4)
3. Look united but mixed up (8)
9. Somehow roped him? (5)
10. Need time in Oxfordshire? (7)
11. The way to speak, to speak badly (7)
12. Keen to erect poster about little girl (4)
14. Comment about the boy (6)
16. Ring, I'm told, the bird (6)
18. The King's may supply beer (4)
19. Act according to convention (7)
22. He dared to dunk ginger nut (7)
23. Turner in bad health, without aspiration (5)
24. It's right to follow plays and film (3,5)
25. Model to regret being loyal (4)

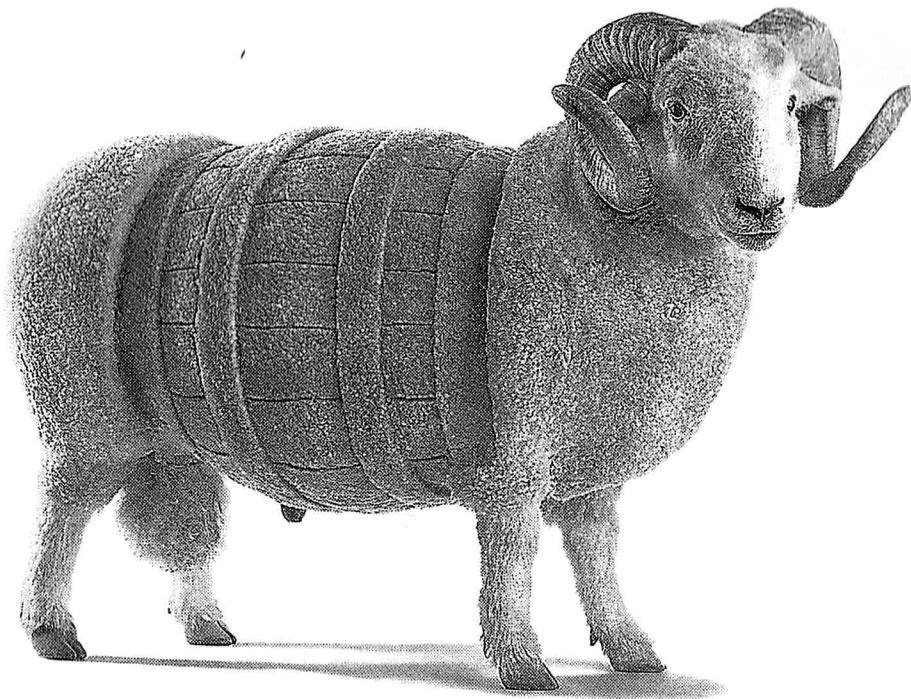
## DOWN

1. Records attempt to produce needlework (8)
2. It's noon when adders invade this month (10,3)
4. Advancing the position of nurses (6)
5. Supporter, thanks to extreme solidarity, achieves dream (7)
6. Place to drink for transport worker (7,6)
8. Left a drink (4)
13. Career for a rancher? (8)
15. Particular esteem (7)
17. Eight foot trapper? (6)
20. Part of British Petroleum (4)
21. Revolutionary run (4)

Winner of the prize for the February Crossword:  
S.J.Brown, Chessington, Surrey.

Other correct entries were received from:

Pat Andrews, Geoff B,  
Blackpool Railway & Postie, John Blundell,  
Ben Burfutt, A.G.Cannopener, E.C.Carr,  
A.P.Comaish, Paul Curson, Dick & Clever Clogs  
Douthwaite, Robert Day, Ribena de Farqhar-Toss,  
Len d'Usakwid, B.H.Fletcher, Marion Goodall,  
Paul Gray, Peter Harwood, John Heath,  
Kevin Henriques, Billy Hernon, Graham Hill,  
Will Hill, Sheerluck Holmes, Tom Kemp,  
Pete Large, Pamela Leach, John McDonnell,  
K.I.May, M.J.Moran, Mike Morrison, Al Mountain,  
Terry Neill, R.Potter, Rod Prince, Derek Pryce,  
Lucy Reeve, Bryan Smith, Bill Thackray,  
S.J.Thornley, Vic Watchamacallit, Tony Watkins,  
Martin Weedon, Sue Wilson, Philip Witriol,  
Terry Wookey, David Woodward,  
Ivor Wright-Ardon, Yak, Peter Yarlett.



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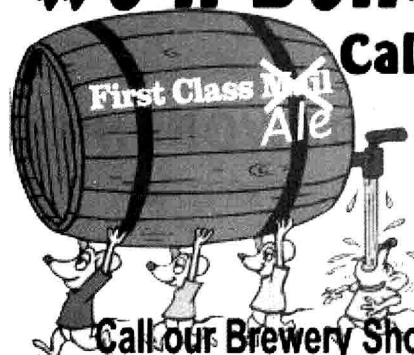
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