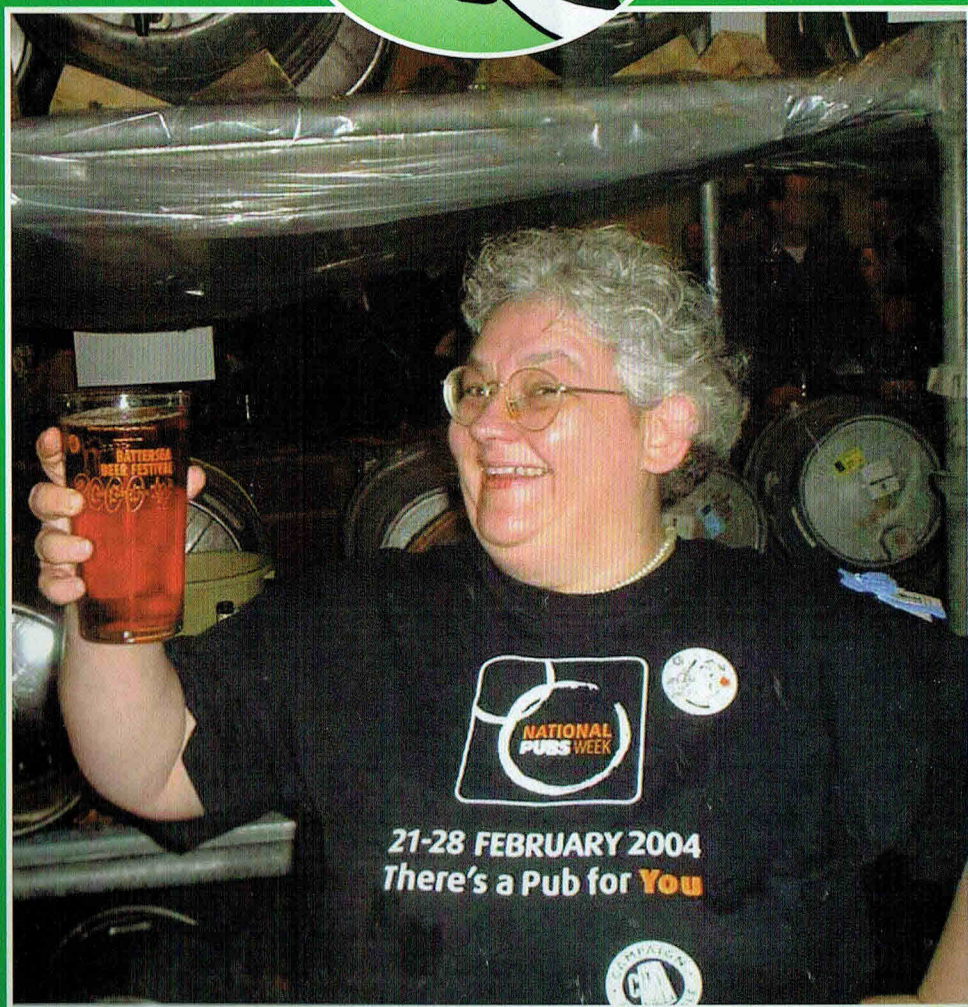



Produced on behalf of the London branches of the Campaign for Real Ale

LONDON DRINKER

VOL 26
No.2

APRIL
MAY
2004



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EDITORIAL

COLOURING OUR VISION

With this issue, London Drinker moves into a second quarter century; it was first published in March 1979 and has therefore passed its Silver Jubilee.

We celebrate by introducing full colour pages, following the wishes of several of our advertisers and enabling readers to enjoy photographs of some magnificent pub interiors that have hitherto appeared only in shades of grey.

Pubs feature alongside real ales as the Good Things about our way of life that we campaign to protect through CAMRA. The recent National Pubs Week gave us a good excuse to flaunt our allegiance by going to a few more of them than usual. Over the course of the week South West London Branch crawls visited more than 70. From the two I joined, I can report only good beer (some good food, too!) and a warm welcome at every port of call.

A few pubs were packed out; well I suppose the Saturday had Arsenal v Chelsea on the TV in the early afternoon and then the England v Scotland rugby international. Others were delightfully quiet but deserved to be much busier if there were more serious drinkers out there.

What was sad was how few CAMRA members turned out: one or two of our crawls were solo ventures. Perhaps our publicity was too little, too late, or maybe we were too ambitious and spread ourselves too thinly. But if CAMRA members, of all people, do not use them, we must not be surprised to find the number of real ale pubs continuing to decline. The statistics for inner London districts over the five years 1999 to 2003 make grim reading.

The growing popularity of real ale can scarcely be in doubt; the Battersea Beer Festival recorded 7% more admissions than last year and a greater proportion of them non-CAMRA members. Within CAMRA, we can debate at the forthcoming Members' Weekend in Southport how best to spread the good news nationally that you can still find decent beer in a lot of pubs. (It may be misleading that so few of them can be listed in the Good Beer Guide.) But for London drinkers, I hope that eye-catching colour advertising in this magazine will help.

Geoff Strawbridge

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

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PUB LOSSES AND GAINS 1999 - 2003

Greater London had 228 fewer pubs at the beginning of this year than five years earlier: in Capital Pubcheck 638 were reported closed and 410 opened between January 1999 and December 2003.

Total losses averaged 128 per year over the five years. Greatest losses are mainly of local neighbourhood pubs in the London postal districts excluding the City and West End. These areas have seen 473 pubs permanently closed over the period, roughly 13% of their total, and have been ruthlessly targeted for conversion or demolition of pubs for flats and apartments.

Losses in outer London districts include large roadhouses on arterial roads, converted to fast food restaurants or demolished for housing developments.

Almost half of pubs lost over the five years remain closed, their future uncertain. Roughly another 20% have been reported as converted to restaurants, shops or offices and 15% converted to flats. The remainder are reported demolished, their sites awaiting development for other uses, largely housing.

Total gains averaged 82 per year over the five years, but have slowed from 121 in 1999 to only 71 in 2003. Conversions from other uses, typically shops or

banks, accounted for 83% of the total, with 17% being 'new build', mostly built as part of larger office or retail developments. Gains are mainly large 'circuit' pubs or small bars in the City and West End or in shop conversions on main roads and local high streets, typically targeting younger drinkers.

Of the brand new pubs and bars, 189 (46%) are operated by national and regional pub companies and brewers. JD Wetherspoon operate 38 (9.3%) and Bass (now M&B) 26 (including 14 'All Bar Ones'), followed by Whitbread (now Laurel) with 21 (including 19 'Hogsheads'). SFI contributed 13, Fullers 12 (including 2 'Ale & Pies' and 4 'Fine Lines'), Yates's 12 and S&N 7. Smaller chains made up the rest, Bierodrome and Wishing Well 6 each, Wizard Inns 5, Lewis & Clarke and Regent Inns 4 each, Hall & Woodhouse and Wolverhampton & Dudley 3 each and Young's 2. Remaining independent new outlets could not be linked to specific pub chains and 24 (6%) were Irish-run bars in former shop units, predominantly in north-west and west London.

In the period, of course many operators also acquired or re-branded existing pubs, changing their character out of all recognition, but these pubs are not included in the above figures.

CAMRA branches are urging their local councils to adopt more stringent planning policies in favour of preserving community pubs. Fat profits can be made when planning permission is granted for conversion of London pubs to housing. Unkempt, boarded up pubs are perceived by developers as helping the planning process along and landmark pubs occupying large sites are particularly vulnerable.

Even 'listed' pubs are at risk, since change of use from a pub to a restaurant does not require planning permission. New legislation recently announced by the Government will not change this situation although, ironically, change of use from a restaurant to a pub will in future require planning permission.

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 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 confirmed as either converted to non-pub uses or else demolished.

The Brewery Tap

John and Heather welcome you to the Brewery Tap.

Five rotating Cask Ales

Guests soon to appear include

Cottage, Slaters, Haggards, Battersea, Rebellion, Archers and the new Chimera and now we often stock mild ale.

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◆ Moor beer for winter

'Old Freddy Walker' from Moor Beer Company in Somerset won the Champion Winter Beer of Britain 2004 competition, judged at CAMRA's national winter ales festival held in Burton at the end of January. Old Freddy Walker is a 7.3% ABV barley wine, described in the 2004 Good Beer Guide as a 'rich, dark, strong ale with a fruity complex taste, leaving a fruitcake finish'.

The silver prize went to Gales' Festival Mild and the bronze award to Shepherd Neame Original Porter.

◆ Make May a Mild Month

After the successful National Pubs Week, CAMRA now turns its attention to supporting mild - increasingly a favourite at London beer festivals but still available in all too few pubs. We encourage more to sell it as an annual campaign in May.

John Norman speaks for CAMRA Light & Dark Supporters, "*I urge all beer drinkers to try a pint of real mild this month to celebrate one of Britain's finest styles of beer. We need to do as much as we can to save this wonderful drink from disappearing from British pubs*".

◆ Rescued Kent pub wins national prize

The Crown and Thistle in Gravesend is the 2003 CAMRA National Pub of the Year. The competition has been running since 1988 and analyses all the criteria that makes up a good pub, including the quality of the beer, atmosphere, décor, service and welcome and value for money.

The Crown and Thistle was built in 1707 as one of three cottages and was converted into a beerhouse in 1838 to compete with the Terrace Hotel Tavern next door. The first record of the pub as the Crown and Thistle was in 1889, the name commemorating the Treaty of Union between England and Scotland signed in 1707, the year the cottages were built.

This pub, situated next to the River Thames, has not always enjoyed such success; it was run down by previous owners and actually closed in 2000. Fortunately Philip Rush, joint-owner of the Crown and Thistle and Managing Director of wines and ales distributor AVS, saw its potential. "*When I saw that the Crown and Thistle was up for sale, I knew I had to buy this pub as it was situated in an ideal location with regular passing trade on the river and it offered a major outlet for AVS*." He researched the local pubs market and realised that a pub offering a variety of quality real ales, under a friendly management team, would have a much greater chance of success.

Mr Rush knew that buying the pub was the right thing to do, but financing the project was a different

thing altogether. The Crown and Thistle was in a really bad way - damp, dingy and unloved - so he needed to raise a fair sum of money. The high street banks said the town didn't need another pub, pubs were closing, so what was he going to do that was so different? He decided to seek private and brewery investment, though understandably hesitant about the latter as he did not want to be tied to one set of products on a barrelage agreement.

He was fortunate to hear that an AVS customer, Warwick Gordon, was looking to invest in the pub industry. A few days later a sales representative from Everards Brewery visited AVS. Everards kindly offered a 60% loan based on a barrelage, not against the pub but against AVS, giving them freedom in cask beers. Everards were even prepared to totally refit the cellar and bar. With these two sources of finance Mr Rush and Mr Gordon formed the Kentish Heritage Pub Company and the project could go ahead.

Mr Rush continued, "*The next eight weeks were fraught with wranglings and the refit had a budget of only £10,000. I just wanted to get the pub up and running. It wasn't all plain sailing but we did open on time and the first pint was poured on Easter Saturday 2001!*"

Europa Beer Festival

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◆ S&N to close Edinburgh brewery

The Campaign for Real Ale has criticised plans by Scottish & Newcastle, Britain's biggest brewing group, to close the Fountainbridge Brewery in Edinburgh, ending 255 years of brewing tradition in Scotland. Real ales such as McEwans 80/- will now be brewed at Caledonian Brewery as part of a deal which creates a new 'Caledonian Brewing Company'. CAMRA's John Holland said, "This is a complicated deal and it's difficult to see through all the likely implications for consumer choice and the beer market generally. We can see the potential benefits for the distribution of the existing Caledonian beers, such as Deuchars IPA, in the off-trade but will the real ale version of McEwans get the same high levels of marketing support or will it be left to wither and eventually be axed?"

"S&N have a history of broken promises and brewery closures including the Matthew Brown Brewery in Blackburn, which S&N once declared to be 'sacrosanct' but went on to close nevertheless. We also saw the closure of the Courage Brewery in Bristol only a few years ago. So what's next for the UK beer industry? It seems our brewing heritage is being slowly eroded as the industry becomes ever more focused on the global market."

◆ CAMRA signs up to smoking charter

The Campaign for Real Ale is the first non-industry group to become a signatory to the industry-led Charter for Smoking in Public Places following its own research into consumer views on smoke in pubs.

The Charter, announced in the 1998 'Smoking Kills' White Paper, is a close co-operation between the hospitality industry and the Department of Health. It is based on using market forces and customer choice to drive change and involves five smoking options which enable customers to 'vote with their feet' if a pub, restaurant or hotel doesn't meet their needs.

CAMRA's research showed that:

- 50% of adults disagree with a total ban on smoking in pubs and bars;
- 30% are in favour of a total ban, 29% of men and 32% of women support a total ban;
- of regular pub users, only 18% of adults support a total ban;
- only 40% of non-smokers support a total ban compared with 11% of smokers;
- 83% of adults support the view that pubs, where possible, should have a number of rooms to meet the needs of both smokers and non-smokers;
- only 6% disagreed with this position.

Mike Benner, CAMRA Head of Campaigns and Communications, said, "The Charter represents a

positive and effective way forward to manage smoke in pubs. Charter-compliant pubs tell customers about their smoking policy before they enter the premises, so if they don't like the policy, they can easily choose to go elsewhere. The key issue for pub customers, both smokers and non-smokers, is comfort. No one likes to sit in a smoke-filled back bar with their eyes stinging and their throats burning. The Charter offers a solution to this problem. It encourages good practice through smoke-free areas and rooms and improved ventilation and extraction facilities. It's quite likely that people's views will turn even more against a total ban as the atmosphere in pubs improves over time."

◆ Extended relief for small breweries but higher prices for beer drinkers

It's a mixed Budget for beer drinkers: the penny tax increase is a blow for pubs, but the increase in the threshold on small breweries' relief is good news for independent brewers and consumer choice.

CAMRA had named Gordon Brown as its Parliamentarian of the Year earlier in March for the introduction of small breweries relief in the 2002 Budget. A doubling of the threshold is very positive and we'll continue to push for the scheme to extend further to include most of Britain's independent breweries.

The tax increase comes hot on the heels of price increases by several brewers in February, which have added up to 10 pence to the price of a pint. Brewers may have sent the wrong message to the Chancellor. *"Why should Gordon Brown cut his share of the price of a pint when big brewers keep on increasing theirs! At a time when beer consumption is falling and pub-going is in decline, this is a disappointing outcome for consumers and hard-working licensees"*.

Mike Benner again: *"The UK's high beer tax rates cause smuggling and this works directly against the objectives of the new National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy. A tax rise is a flawed strategy which will cost jobs, increase smuggling and uncontrolled drinking and leave responsible beer drinkers out of pocket."*

◆ Local beer for local pubs

CAMRA is calling for pub chains to enable pub landlords to buy at least one beer from a local brewery of their choice. Its research reveals that 31% of regular pub goers would buy a locally brewed beer in preference to non-locally brewed beer.

The majority of non-brewing pub chains restrict the beers which their pub licensees can buy to those on a centrally supplied list. There are practical reasons for this, such as ease of control and accounting, but CAMRA claims that the system restricts access to market for small local brewers and leads to the same old national brands ending up on most bars.

The Sultan

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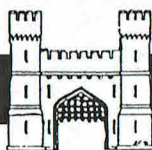
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Sunday 2nd May - Hot food 12-4pm. Live music 9-11pm

Monday 3rd May - Hot food 12-4pm. 'Jam' Night - bring your own instrument
and charity raffle

A weekend to savour and enjoy!

Over half of Britain's pubs are owned by a handful of huge pub companies and most of them supply beer centrally to their pub estate and prevent local licensees choosing to buy beer from local breweries. This reduces consumer choice and leads to economic and environmental impacts through 'beer miles' as centrally supplied beers are shipped hundreds of miles via distribution depots before they finally reach the bar. This ridiculous situation has a severe impact on the viability of local economies.

CAMRA wants all pub chains to let their licensees buy an additional real ale of their choice from local breweries and have it delivered directly, not via remote distribution depots hundreds of miles away. We believe that if pub chains were more flexible and enabled landlords to buy a local beer, there would be no losers. Only those licensees who thought they could improve their competitive position by stocking a locally brewed beer would do so. It would lead to a more profitable pub, which offered a more interesting choice to customers, supported the local economy and increased profits for the pub chain. It's a common-sense solution.

As it is, consolidation in the pub market is squeezing many of Britain's 400 local independent brewers as they cannot get their beers included on supply lists for large pub chains. As our pubs fall into the hands of fewer and larger pub companies, CAMRA fears this situation can only get worse. 'Local Beer for Local Pubs' is a simple solution which has to be preferable to legislation which could force big pub chains to give access to smaller breweries.

◆ Saving your local pub

A new guide for communities on how to save and buy a pub threatened with closure was launched on 24 February, during CAMRA's second annual National Pubs Week. Produced jointly by CAMRA, Pub is the Hub and Business in the Community, 'Saving Your Local Pub' is published at a time when dozens of community pubs are being closed and turned into private houses.

HRH The Prince of Wales, President of Business in the Community, comments in his foreword to the Guide: *"The idea of this elementary tool-kit is to help those communities which are considering 'taking the plunge', giving them a clear way forward by providing knowledge about how to do it and pitfalls to avoid. This guide, produced in association with the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), to whom I am enormously grateful, collects the experiences and ideas of hundreds of people who have already saved their pubs and, I hope, provides an invaluable 'how-to' approach.*

"I have been immensely impressed by the tenacity and vision of so many people throughout this country who have battled to ensure that their pubs remain

the hubs of their communities. I hope that this guide will give to those who want to follow in their footsteps the help that they need."

The Guide offers advice on how to stage a campaign, set up a steering committee, deal with planning applications and appeals, prepare a business plan and secure finance. It includes case studies on the community-owned Dykes End in Reach, Cambridgeshire and the Old Crown in Heskett Newmarket, Cumbria. The Guide is supported by a detailed new web site at www.pubisthehub.org.uk.

Mike Benner said, *"Saving Your Local Pub will empower communities facing with a pub closure which will adversely affect their community spirit and way of life. The Guide demonstrates that buying and running a local pub, which may be unviable in the hands of current owners, is perfectly achievable if community groups are properly organised and focused."*

Saving Your Local Pub: A Guide for Local Communities is available free of charge from CAMRA. Call 01727 867201.

◆ Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy welcomed

In recent years, CAMRA has seen too much investment in large themed town centre bars aimed at the lucrative youth market, while traditional community pubs have been left to wither. This approach has fuelled problems with alcohol-related disorder and made many town centres no-go areas for anyone over the age of 25.

Government has now outlined 'code of good conduct' schemes which will ensure that industry works alongside local communities on issues such as under-age drinking and making town centres more welcoming and safer at night. Participation in these schemes is voluntary and it is to be hoped that the industry rises to this challenge. If it does not, legislation could result.

Government also intends to work with the industry to reduce anti-social behaviour by considering the layout of pubs and the provision of seating. CAMRA members would prefer the emphasis in pub design to move away from large drinking halls with few seats where customers are forced to stand and more people can be crammed in. Such conditions fuel speed drinking and exclude older people. More town-centre pubs need to offer a relaxed environment to attract a better mix of people, both young and old. It is this mix which makes the British pub such a great institution.

Of course, freezing the tax on spirits whilst increasing the tax on beer is hardly likely to reduce alcohol misuse. But that's joined-up government for you!



Flask gains 30 year award

As a part of the North London Branch's 30th Anniversary celebrations and during CAMRA's National Pubs Week, Christine Cryne of CAMRA presents John Cannon, the manager at the Flask, Hampstead with a certificate celebrating the fact that the pub has sold real ale for all of those 30 years.

DRINK LOCAL, THINK LOCAL

Jenny Jones, Deputy Mayor of London opened this year's Battersea Beer Festival on Wednesday 11 February by pulling a pint at the Grand Hall behind the Battersea Arts Centre.

A Green Party Member of the London Assembly, Jenny said, *"I am delighted to be part of this festival not just because I like a good pint but because I think it is absolutely vital to drink more locally produced beers. Drinking local beers will help the survival of small British breweries and also stop the epidemic of pub closures."*

Being the Road Safety Ambassador to the Mayor, Jenny also encouraged real ale enthusiasts to use public transport with the message on the back of the official Battersea Beer Festival T-shirts *"Just Drink, Don't Drive"*.

Altogether 143 different cask ales were served at the festival this year, including five from Grand Union, two from Haggards and one from Battersea. Young's Old Nick on draught was a rare treat. Pictish Brewers Gold was voted Beer of the Festival and the champion Cider or Perry was Day's Cottage

Perry. By 9.45 on the Friday evening, all cask beer and cider had sold out, but Belgian, Dutch and German beers remained to quench late thirsts.

More than 3,600 admissions made this year's three day festival the busiest since 1996. Once again, visitors' comments are recorded on the festival website: <http://beerfest.org>. Next year we shall certainly need more staff; would London CAMRA members please put 9 to 11 February 2005 in your diaries now!

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Jenny Jones with local activist John Barker and festival organizer Mark Bravery (centre)

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Up and coming...

OUR EASTER BEER FESTIVAL

Fri 9th - Sat 10th April

**16 REAL ALES IN ADDITION TO
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**Ringwood Old Thumper,
Adnams Broadside,
St Peter's Organic,
Kelham Island Easy Rider,
Skinners Cornish Knocker
and 2 ciders**

REAL LOCALS AND REAL ALE

The Kingston & Leatherhead Branch AGM heard with anger that four pubs had been lost in 2003 and passed a motion deploring the actions of Bewley Homes and other developers in destroying community assets. The motion also called on Councils and members to resist this trend. One prompt response was a successful National Pubs Week pub crawl of Epsom but Kingston and Leatherhead branch are keen to support their locals further. A selection of surviving gems has been forwarded for inclusion in the national Good Beer Guide.

In a busy month the Branch also decided their Pubs of the Year. In Surrey the winner was the Old Plough at Stoke d'Abernon. The winner for the London area was the Willoughby Arms in Kingston, which also won in 2000; it consistently offers a varied range of five real ales and has two beer and cider festivals each year. Landlord Rick Robinson was exultant and proclaimed: "*I am highly delighted to win again; local pubs and real ale are a recipe for success.*"

Dave Morgan

NEW REAL ALES IN YOUNG'S SEASONAL PROGRAMME

Young's have launched an imaginative programme of six seasonal draught beers, both in their own pubs and in the free trade.

Double Chocolate Stout (5.2 per cent alcohol by volume), becomes a cask ale for two months at the start of a year of Young's Limited Editions. It will be available through the pumps until 18 April, which means it will be on tap over Easter.

St George's Ale, a strong, smooth, well hopped and fruity 5.0% ale, will be on draught from the beginning of April until the beginning of July, which includes St George's Day (23 April) and the Euro 2004 football tournament.

Golden Zest (4.7%) is a wonderfully light, refreshing golden beer with a zesty citrus flavour. It will be on draught for the first time to quench thirsts during July and August.

Then follows another appearance on draught for RamRod (4.7%), a popular favourite in bottles. This typical English ale, with a reddish hue and good hop bitterness, will be on tap during late September and October.

That old favourite, Winter Warmer (5.0%), a rich, ruby-coloured beer, begins its annual season towards the end of October and runs until March 2005. It is joined over the festive season by draught Christmas Ale (5.0%), a lovely strong beer available for the first time in presentation bottles last Christmas.

THE ROEBUCK

As part of its celebrations for National Pubs Week in February Richmond & Hounslow Branch of CAMRA held its branch meeting in the Roebuck in Hampton Hill and presented a certificate of appreciation to the landlord, Terry Himpfen. In the six years that Terry has been running this small corner pub the number of handpumps has risen from one to five (basically one a year) and the pub has become a haven for those who enjoy good beer in comfortable surroundings. Beers are three from the Badger Brewery and two guests – all of them always in fine condition.

The décor is eclectic with frames of banknotes from around the World jostling for attention with naval memorabilia including some electrical switchgear from a German U-boat. One feature that we think is unique is the traffic lights at the end of the bar which change from green to amber and then red at last orders and closing time respectively.



Our picture shows branch chairman Brian Kirton (left) handing the certificate to Terry while one of the regulars (Well, he's always there!) looks singularly unimpressed

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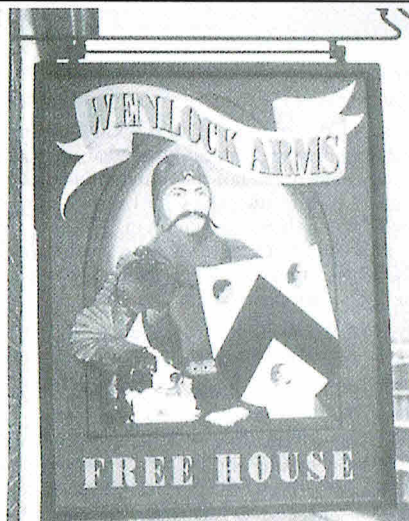
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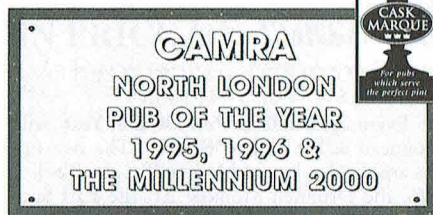
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

BREWERS' HALL

In spite of direction signs in the City saying 'The Whitbread Brewery', we all know that the Chiswell St establishment is no such thing. Now, on the outside of (one of the great City Livery Companies) Brewers' Hall, there is a sign saying 'To Let'. When put into conjunction with the withdrawal of S&N/Scot-Courage from brewing, it is obvious that something is happening here.

Should we not be told?

Greg Tingey, Walthamstow

Dear Editor

DOUGHNUTS

Some friends of mine went to Berlin in February so they were most interested in the LD article "Ich bin ein Berliner". However this really means "I am a doughnut".

President Kennedy didn't realise that in German you do not use the indefinite article (ein) if you say where you come from. To say you are from Berlin you would say "Ich bin Berliner" which translated literally means "I am Berliner".

Colin Price, Barking

Dear Editor

CINNAMON

Having recently visited Boston USA, this CAMRA member discovered a foul beer over there flavoured with cinnamon. Eurgh! I thanked my lucky stars nobody does that over here... and have since mistakenly had two undrinkable cinnamon pints, both of which have been thrown while still two-thirds full.

Brewers - one word: NO. Stop it. It's just foul. Leave it to the Yanks. Please.

James Cridland, By email

Dear Editor

PUB JUDGES

The Evening Standard Pub of the Year will be announced at the end of March. The five finalist pubs are the Anchor and Hope SE1, the Black Lion NW6, the Drunken Monkey E1, the Earl Spencer SW18 and the Idle Hour SW13.

Judges are Tim Rice, Annabel Croft, Al Murray, Alice Beer and Richard Dunwoody.

Colin Price

(Keith Emmerson observes, "I like how they have gone some way to matching judges' names with a product, so whilst I'd agree with Beer and Croft I think Rice will be better on a panel for Indian restaurants and Murray with boiled sweets. Can we suggest the following replacements: Cindy Breakspeare, Amanda Burton and Tony Banks? Pity Alec Guinness is not still alive!").

Dear Editor

USE YOUR VOTE

Ballot forms listing the eight pubs nominated for South West London CAMRA Pub of the Year 2003 were circulated in December, along with details of the recent Battersea Beer Festival, to all members of the branch - over 800 people. Some at the festival expressed concern that only two pubs seem to have been awarded the title in recent years.

The votes can only reflect members' choices, but it would help if more than 45 voted. Yes, that is the number of people who voted this year: less than 6%.

I would only urge all eligible CAMRA members to make sure you vote in future. And landlords, there is no harm in gently persuading customers whom you know to be SWL Branch members to vote for your pub when it is on the list. Put up posters, by all means.

It is no good for members simply to whine that the same two pubs always win. If you don't vote, you can hardly complain about the result!

Paul Kirsten, Morden

Dear Editor

FAIR PRICES FROM SAM SMITH'S

I am writing in support of David Hill's point in the current edition of LD re. overcharging in pubs. This seems to be an issue that CAMRA has backed away from of late.

I remember when Young's were proud to keep their prices lower than the Nationals. These days their nose is in the same trough.

Sam Smith's are the one brewer still playing fair with London drinkers, and deserve our support.

Mick Daley, Barking

Dear Editor

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Tony Hedger's leading article in the February LD is very much to the point. Nowhere near enough CAMRA official functions seem to appreciate that food is just as important as drink. Indeed, judging by some of the 'food' available at some beer festivals, CAMRA would like to discourage people eating at all!

However, he raises one interesting point, which perhaps needs minor correction or amendment. He says that "the only pub that I know of that does this (provide a beer-list, like a wine-list) is the White Horse at Parsons Green; good on them."

Agreed, but there are at least two pubs in Central London which provide a full printed beer-list. One advertised in the February issue of LD, the Porterhouse, Maiden Lane, WC2, though it is not in the current GBG, always serves at least one real ale

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

and quite good food.

The other has been proposed for inclusion in the GBG, but was excluded by the responsible branch. This is the Dove-tail in Jerusalem Passage, EC1, an authentic Belgian bar which would meet PINT's criteria for a real beer-bar, but not the narrow attitudes displayed here, I'm afraid.

So, a polite request for two things: 1) What other pubs do print full beer-lists? 2) Less parochialism, please. Just because it's foreign, it doesn't mean that it isn't real!

Greg Tingey

Dear Editor

I agree entirely with the editorial in the Feb.-March issue concerning pub food; these days even the simplest pub (if it provides food at all) will try to produce restaurant style meals, and often not very well.

I would like to add an appeal for the traditional 'pie and a pint' which is almost impossible to find south of the Trent. I read in the Sunday paper that the West Cornwall Pasty Company are to open as couple of licensed outlets (no mention of the type of beer), so there may be a market for pubs to take their products; equally a pub selling good ale accompanied by the excellent pork pies which are sold every year at the GBBF would provide for a quality snack when a gastropub meal is more than that required.

When I have made this suggestion at my Young's local I am told that there would not be sufficient profit margin in selling a pie as opposed to a £7.50 lunch!

David Todd, Feltham

Dear Editor

FOOD IN PUBS - NO!

I was enraged to read the seditious heresies peddled by Tony Hedger in the Feb/Mar issue of the (usually excellent) LD. What the hell is he thinking about, to come out with such complete piffle? 'Food' is completely and utterly alien to a proper pub, which, as everybody knows, is for beer-drinking and conversation.

Buffoons running 'gastropubs' (whatever they are) should be hideously tortured for days while being held prisoner in a disused unit on a secluded trading estate, then hanged, drawn and quartered with their remains being used to produce ludicrous leek and apple sausages, and their gastropub dynamited and the site used for a block of flats.

A great Irishman once said that food must not be consumed in a pub. *"Eating food in good Dublin pub is like praying in a brothel - awkward for everyone and too unmannerly to be eccentric"*.

Down here in sexy Sussex there are far too many pubs where the serious drinker is buffeted around the bar, while plates of silly stinking 'food' are wafted around to pollute the atmosphere and irritate. If it isn't that, you're told to move away from the bar while droves of dithery, silvery-haired OAPs (with shedloads of cash and time at their disposal) twitter and dawdle around, wanting to know the ins and outs of every bloody item on the moronic menu - then want something they can't have. They should be mown down by hugely powerful, computer-operated, heavy calibre machine guns, and shovelled down the bog.

I don't know what Hedger was reading about with his limp-wristed, live-and-let-live, niminy-piminy, please-everyone garbage. He should know better and so should an important organ like yours. He should be pursued relentlessly, and his command terminated with extreme prejudice. Then, his remains should be marinated in truffle oil and bloody balsamic vinegar, then serve him, thinly sliced, on the rocket and leaf salad in his local. With Parmesan shaved over him.

Yours, still frothing at the mouth,

Richard Foster, Angmering, W Sussex

T.J. Duffy



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5th KINGSTON BEER FESTIVAL

- make a note in your diary!

Planning is well under way for the fifth Kingston Beer Festival, which will take place on Friday 25 and Saturday 26 June at the Surrey County Staff Club, Penrhyn Road, Kingston Upon Thames. The venue is near the Crown Court and County Hall. More beer and cider is being ordered than last year to cope with demand, so that there will be over 45 cooled real ales as well as a good range of cooled ciders and perries. Popular covers band Catch 22 will entertain once more on Sat evening and there will be fresh sandwiches at all sessions. Lounge seating will be available after 1pm Fri, with the outdoor marquee and beer hall available all the time the festival is open.

Opening times and admission prices are: Fri 11-3 (free), 5.30-11 (£2); Sat 11-3 (£1), 5.30-11 (£1); card carrying CAMRA members pay £1 Fri eve, free at all other times. The venue is about 15 mins walk from Kingston or Surbiton Railway Stations and buses 71, 281, 406, 418, 465, K2 and K3 between the two towns pass the door.

Any CAMRA members who can help by working at the festival should contact Steve Hill on 020 8399 4637 or kbf5staffing@camrasurrey.org.

All other enquiries to kbf5@camrasurrey.org.

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BRANCH DIARIES

Welcome to our regular details of London CAMRA contacts and events. This is where branches can say what is happening in their areas that might be of interest to drinkers across London. Events for April and May 2004 are listed below.

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

ALL LONDON EVENTS

May-Sat 1 Joint Campaigns day out on the Gospel Oak to Barking line with extensive itinerary. See North London listing for times and www.camranorthlondon.org.uk/news/0403020001.html or see North London website news section for details. - **Wed 26** London Liaison Committee (Regional co-ordination meeting for London Branches) Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1.
Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk

LONDON PUBS GROUP

*Jane Jephcote 020-7973 3102 (W),
jane.jephcote@english-heritage.org.uk*
All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

April - Wed 14 Evening crawl of NW5 Kentish Town. Meet (7pm) Assembly House, 292-294 Kentish Town Rd; then (7.45pm) Gloucester Arms, 59 Leighton Rd; (8.30pm) Pineapple, 51 Levertown St; (9.15pm) Bull & Gate, 389 Kentish Town Rd.
May - Wed 12 (7.15 for 7.30pm) Meeting. Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs).

BEXLEY Martyn Nicholls 01322 527857 (H)

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON Terry Hewitt 020-8660 5931 (H), 020-7918 3242 (W)

April - Thu 1 (8.30pm) Social. Tamworth Arms, 62 Tamworth Rd, W. Croydon. - **Mon 5** (8.30pm) Social. Robin Hood, 52 West St, Sutton. - **Wed 21** (8.30pm) Social. Claret Free House, Lwr Addiscombe Rd, Addiscombe. - **Tue 27** (8.30pm) AGM & Branch meeting. Dog & Bull (upstairs room), 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

May - Sat 8 (7.30pm) Mild Social. Princess Royal, 22 Longley Rd, Croydon. - **Tue 18** (8.30pm) Social. Greyhound, 2 High St, Carshalton. - **Thu 27** (8.30pm) Branch meeting. Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton.

Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY Bob Walker 07957 793360 (M)

April - Tue 13 (8pm) Branch meeting. Black Lion, Plaistow E13. - **Wed 28** Social city crawl: (6.30pm) Swan, Ships Tavern Passage; (7.30pm) Lamb Tavern, Leadenhall Market; (8.30pm) Crosse Keys, Gracechurch St.

May - Tue 11 (8pm sharp) Branch AGM. Birkbeck Tavern, Langthorne Rd, E11. **Fri 21** Social Lea Bridge crawl: (7.30pm) Ship Aground; (8.15pm) Princess of Wales; (9.15pm) Anchor & Hope.

Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET Brian Willis 020-8441 1892 (H),

publicity@camra-enfield-and-barnet.org.uk

April - Thu 1 (9pm) Social and London Drinker pick up. Lord Nelson, West End La, Barnet EN5. - **Wed 7** (9pm) Social. Three Hammers, Hammers La, Mill Hill NW7. - **Wed 14** (9pm) Social. Cock & Dragon, Chalk La, Cockfosters EN4. - **Fri 16** (6pm) Beer 'n' Bankers pub crawl of City. Meet Lamb Tavern, Leadenhall Market EC3 then Swan, Ship Tavern Passage; Crosse Keys, Gracechurch St etc. (nearest tube: Bank/Monument or Liverpool St). - **Wed 21** (9pm) Social. Winchmore Hill CC, Firs La. N21. - **Fri 23/Mon 26** weekend in Munich (fully booked).

- **Thu 29** (9pm) Social. Stag, Little Park Gdns, Enfield Town EN2.
May - Tue 4 (8pm) Mild Promo. Old Mitre, High St, Barnet EN5. - **Tue 11** Green Lanes N21 two pub social: (8pm) Jim Thompsons (ex Green Dragon); (9.45pm) Half Moon. - **Wed 19** (8pm) Mild Promo. Madden's, High Rd, East Finchley N2. - **Fri**

21 (1pm) Visit to Fuller's Brewery, Chiswick W4. £5 per head, places limited. Contact Robin Forshaw-Wilson for details 020-8203 0598 (H). Note change of date from earlier publicity. - **Tue 25** (8pm) Three branches social. See North London listing. - **Thu 27** (8pm) London Drinker pick up. Jolly Farmers, Slades Hill, Enfield EN2.

Website: camra-enfield-and-barnet.org.uk

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

*Clive Taylor 020-89492099 (H) 020-8540 1901 (W),
kandl@camrasurrey.org.uk.*

April - Thu 1 (8pm) Joint pub crawl with R&H in Teddington. Meet Railway, dep (8.30pm) to Adelaide, Queen Dowager etc. - **Thu 8** (8.15pm) Branch meeting, Rising Sun, Heathcote Rd, Epsom. - **Tue 20** (8pm) Chessington pub crawl. Meet White Hart, dep 8.30pm to Lucky Rover etc.

May - Tue 4 (8.15pm) Branch meeting. Griffin, Common Rd, Claygate. - **Sat 8** (2pm) Mild Day in Kingston. Meet Swan, Mill St, then hopefully to seek out other pubs doing mild in the area. - **Sun 9** Visit the cider farm near Lewes. Travel by train to Glynde station. Train times to be arranged, please contact for information. - **Thu 13** (8pm onwards) Branch gathering at Ealing Beer Festival. - **Wed 19** (8pm) Joint crawl with SW London. Meet Princess Of Wales, Morden Rd., dep 8.30pm for Trafalgar, Princess Royal, and finish in Sultan.

Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk/branches/kl.htm

NORTH LONDON

Social contact: Mike Rose - Tel: 07986 458517,

lynnmikeros@aol.com; Branch contact:

*Mick Lewis 020-7935 1350 or 07952 244687 (M),
orientmoran@yahoo.com*

April - Tue 6 N1 Social and New Members evening. (8pm) Marquess Tavern, 32 Canonbury St, then Compton Arms, 4 Compton Avenue. - **Tue 20** (8pm) Branch meeting and Pub of the Year selection. Kings Arms, 11a Northington St, WC1. - **Tue 27** N6 Highgate crawl: (8pm) Victoria, 28 North Hill; Wrestlers (30 year certificate presentation), 98 North Rd; Red Lion and Sun, 25 North Rd; Flask 77 Highgate West Hill.

May - Sat 1 Joint Campaigns Gospel Oak to Barking Day. Meet 11am Old Oak, 1 Mansfield Rd, NW3; then (11.30am) Old Dairy, Crouch Hill N4; (12.05pm) Railway Fields & Salisbury, 1 Grand Parade, Green Lanes N4, or Oakdale Arms 283 Hermitage Rd, N4; Markfield Beam Engine museum; Anchor & Hope, 15 High Hill Ferry, E5; (5.10pm) Orford Arms, 31 Orford Rd; (6.20pm) William IV, 816 High Rd, E10; Drum 557-559 Lea Bridge Rd, E10; (7.25pm) Britannia, Church Rd, Barking; Barking Dog at Barking Station. For further details see www.camranorthlondon.org.uk/news/0403020001.html. - **Tue 4** Mild month social. (8pm) Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd, N1. - **Thu 13** (8pm) Visit to Ealing Beer Festival, Town Hall, New Broadway, W5. - **Tue 18**: Mild month social (8pm) Oakdale Arms, 283 Hermitage Rd, N4. - **Tue 25**, Joint social with West London and Enfield and Barnet branches (8pm) Mabels Tavern, 9 Mabledon Place, WC1, then Head of Steam, Euston Station Colonnade, 1 Eversholt St, NW1.

Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

RICHMOND & HOUSNLOW Brian Kirtan 020-8384 7284

(H), sk014j253@blueyonder.co.uk

April - Thu 1 (8pm) Joint social with Kingston & Leatherhead starting at Railway, 3 Victoria Rd, Teddington, then (8.25pm) Adelaide, 57 Park Rd; (9pm) Queen Dowager, 49 North La; (9.50pm) Hogarth, 58 Broad St; (10.25pm) Teddington Arms, 38 High St. - **Fri 9** (from 4pm) Social. Red Lion, 1 Mill Lane, Godalming (holding beer festival). - **Wed 14** (8.30pm) Beer Festival sub-committee meeting, Cabbage Patch, 67 London Rd, Twickenham. - **Wed 28** (8pm) Branch AGM. Waterman's Arms, Water Lane, Richmond.

May - Sat 1 (6pm) Social. Red Lion, 92 Linkfield Rd, Isleworth - beer fest with 20+ beers. - **Tue 4** (6.30pm) Battersea Brewery

BRANCH DIARIES

visit for TBF 2003 bronze award. Meet Masons Arms by Battersea Park station. - **Thu 13** (8pm) Social at Ealing Beer Festival, Victoria and Princes Hall, Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, W5. Meet near stage at 8, 9 and 10pm. - **Thu 20** (8.30pm) Branch meeting. Kings Arms, Lion Gate, Hampton Court. - **Sat 29** (12.30pm) 2003 Twickenham Beer Festival Staff Outing to Grand Union Brewery at Hayes and on (2pm) to White Horse, Hedgesley, Bucks. Vintage coach departs Richmond Old Deer Car Park at 11, outside Albany pub near Twickenham station (11.20am) and opposite magistrates' court in Feltham (11.40am). Coach returns (8pm) for Red Lion, 92 Linkfield Rd, Isleworth and stops as outward.

Website: www.jobin.freemove.co.uk/rbcamra1.htm

SOUTH EAST LONDON Richard Martin 020-8402 0424
April - Tue 6 (8pm) Cttee meeting, Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 - **Thu 15** (8pm) Social. Mayflower, 117 Rotherhithe St, SE16. - **Tue 27** Catford planning meeting (tba).
May - Tue 4 (8pm) Cttee meeting. Ashburnham Arms, Ashburnham Gro, SE10. - **Thu 13** (8pm) Social Richard I, 52 Royal Hill SE10. - **Sat 15** Lewisham walking festival pub crawl. Start Crown, Blackheath SE3: contact for time. - **Mon 17** (8pm) Social. Ship & Whale, 2 Gulliver St SE16. - **Tue 23** Lewisham walking festival pub crawl. Start Watchhouse 198 Lewisham High St, SE13: contact for time. - **Thu 25** Catford Meeting: venue to be announced.

Website: www.selcamra.org.uk

SOUTH WEST ESSEX Andrew Clifton 01708 765150 (H), swessex@clara.co.uk
April - Thu 1 Little Thurrock crawl. Start (8.30pm) Traitors Gate, 42 Broadway (A126), then via Bricklayers Arms, 48 Bridge Rd to either Grays Athletic FC, Bridge Rd or Theobald Arms, 141 Argent St as the mood takes us. - **Tue 6** (8pm) Out of area social. Royal Oak, 44 Tabard St, London SE1 - **Thu 15** (8pm) Social at Maldon Beer Festival, Town Hall, Market Hill, Maldon. Coach from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster and Stanford le Hope. Details/Bookings contact Graham Platt on 020-8220 0215. - **Mon 19** (8.30pm) Social. Dr Johnson, 175 Longwood Gdns, Barkingide. Come and see why this pub is included in the CAMRA National Pub Inventory. - **Wed 28** (8pm) Out of area social, Black Lion, 59-61 High St, Plaistow E13.
May - Thu 6 (8.30) Social. Prince of Wales, 199 Roman Rd (B1002), Mountnessing. - **Wed 19** (8.30pm) Social, Cricketers, 299-301 High Rd (A11), Woodford Green. - **Wed 26** (3pm at brewery) Trip to Ringwood Brewery. Coach from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster and Stanford le Hope. Details/Bookings contact Graham Platt on 020-8220 0215.
 Website: www.swessex.clara.net

SOUTH WEST LONDON Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H), 020-7438 6565 (W), 07773 432209 (M), markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk - Cricket contact Andy Robinson 020-7403 5566 (W)

April - Sun 4 and other Sundays in April (2pm) Cricket nets, Clapham Common West Side (Clapham South tube). - **Mon 5** (7.30pm). Open branch cttee meeting, Windmill on the Common, Clapham Common South Side, SW4.
May - Sun 2 (1pm approx), Branch Pub of Year presentation, Sultan, 78 Norman Rd, South Wimbledon SW19. - **Tues 11** (7.30pm) Open branch cttee meeting followed (8pm) by Branch AGM, Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8. Cricket matches every Sunday, weather permitting.
 Website: www.swlcamra.org

WATFORD & DISTRICT Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104, watfordcamra@hotmail.com

April - Sun 4 Quiz Night. Meet (8.30pm) Nascot Arms for Southern Cross quiz at 9pm. - **Mon 5** (8pm) Branch AGM. Estcourt Arms, Watford. - **Wed 21** Annual Branch Darts Tournament. West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford. Arrive at 8pm. - **Mon 26** (8.15pm) Open Cttee meeting. Estcourt Arms,

Watford. - **Tue 27** Watford Social: (8.30pm) Essex Arms; (10pm) Southern Cross.

May - Sat 1 Heronsgate Social at Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty beer festival. - **Wed 5** Watford Social: (8.30pm) One Crown; (9.15pm) One Bell; (10pm) Moon Under Water. - **Sat 15** Out of area social in St Albans: (12 noon) Farmer's Boy; (1pm) Mermaid; (2pm) Lower Red Lion. - **Mon 24** (8.15pm) Open Cttee meeting. Estcourt Arms, Watford.
 Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

WEST LONDON

Alasdair Boyd (Social Secretary) 0207-930 9871 ext 143 (2.30 to 3.15 Mon-Fri), banqueting@nlc.org.uk Fax: 0207-839 4768
April - Wed 7 (8pm) Branch meeting. Britannia, 1 Allen St, W8. - **Tue 13** Social (8pm) Goat Tavern, 3 Stafford St, W1. - **Fri 16** (8pm) Out of branch social, St George's Beerex, Willoughby Arms, 47 Willoughby Rd, Kingston. - **Tue 20** Tour of Marylebone: (7.30pm) Inn 1888, 21a Devonshire St: (8.15pm) Rising Sun, 79 Marylebone High St; (9pm) Golden Eagle, 59 Marylebone La; (10pm) Henry Holland, 39 Duke St W1. - **Mon 26** Crawl of SW1: (7.30pm) Country Pub in London, 52 Cambridge St; (8pm) Rising Sun, Ebury Bridge Rd; (8.30pm) Duke of Wellington, 63 Eaton Terr; (9.15pm) Fox & Hounds, Passmore St.
May - Wed 5 (8pm) Branch AGM. Morpeth Arms, 58 Millbank SW1. - **Thu/Fri 13/14** Socials at Beer on Broadway XV, Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, W5 (8pm - Cider Bar). - **Fri 21** A trip through Carshalton: (8pm) Greyhound Hotel, 2 High St; (9pm) Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd; (10pm) Railway Tavern, 47 North St. - **Sat 22** (1pm) Black Bull, 199 Whitechapel Rd, then on to a Brick Lane curry, finishing Wenlock Arms Wenlock Rd for 9pm. - **Mon 24** Tour of W1 Mayfair: (7.30pm) Coach & Horses, 5 Hill St; (9pm) Punch Bowl, 41 Farm St; (end 10.30pm) Guinea, 30 Bruton Pla. - **Tue 25** Joint Social with NL/E&B Branches: (8pm) Mabel's Tavern, 9 Mabledon Place WC1; (9pm) Head of Steam 1 Eversholt St NW1.

WEST MIDDLESEX Paul Dabrowski (Social Secretary) 020-8571-9146 (H), 0118-923-7445 (W), paul.dabrowski@thameswater.co.uk

April - Thu 1 (8pm) London Drinker distribution, Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford (pick up) then Fox, Green La, Hanwell (1st drop-off). - **Sat 10** (12 noon) Out of Branch trip. Barton's Arms, Aston, then Old Crown, and Wheatsheaf, both West Bromwich, then Old Joint Stock, Birmingham. 9.17am Marylebone train from Wembley Central, Northolt Park or South Ruislip to Snow Hill (changing at High Wycombe), then bus to Aston and return by tram to catch 8.30pm Snow Hill train via High Wycombe. - **Wed 14** (8.30pm) Branch meeting. Questor's Theatre Grapevine Bar, Mattack La, Ealing. - **Thur 20** (12 noon) Three-pub social: Three Magpies, Bath Rd, Heathrow North, then King William IV and Plough, both Sipson Rd, Sipson. - **Thur 29** (8pm) Two-pub social: Black Horse then Case is Altered, both High Rd, Eastcote
May - Thu 6 (6.30pm) Pre-Festival Publicity Crawl. Crown & Treaty House, Oxford Rd; Load of Hay, Villier St; (both Uxbridge) Prince of Wales, Uxbridge Rd, Hillingdon Hill; Angel, Uxbridge Rd, Hayes End; Red Lion, High St, Southall; then Fox, Green La, Hanwell. One pub every 45 minutes. - **Wed 12** (6pm) to **Sat 15** (11pm) Beer on Broadway Beer Festival. Victoria Hall, Ealing Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing. Visit www.beeronbroadway.org.uk for further details. - **Wed 19** (8pm) Branch AGM. Drayton Court Hotel, The Avenue, West Ealing. (Note later date and earlier start than usual). Membership cards reqd. - **Thu 27** (8pm) London Drinker distribution. Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford (pick-up), then Fox, Green La, Hanwell (first drop-off).

Electronic copy deadline for the June/July edition: 12th May 2004. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

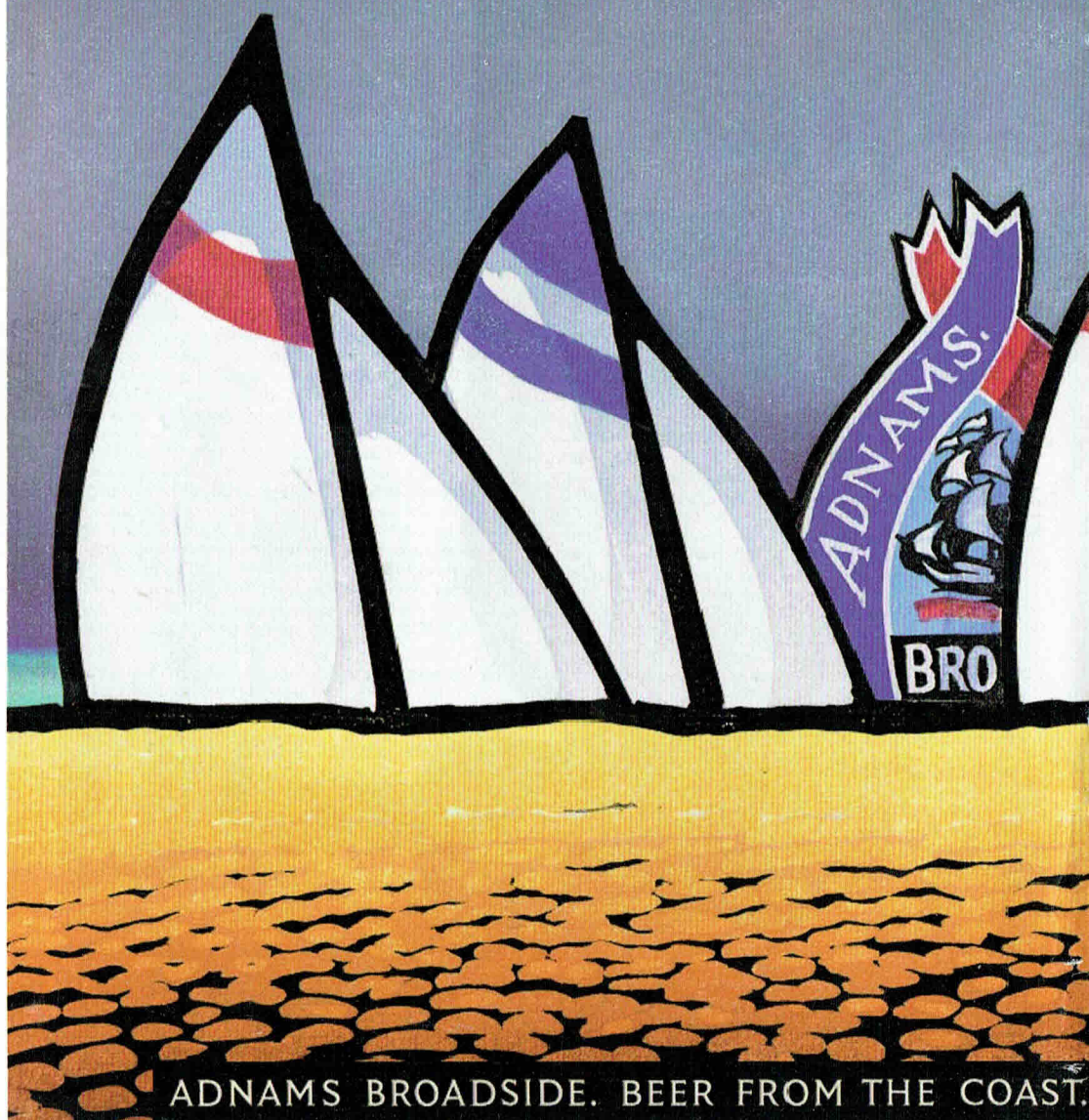
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NATIONAL PUBS WEEK

LONDON PUBS GROUP 21 FEBRUARY CRAWL

To kick off National Pubs Week 2004, the London Pubs Group toured pubs in south east London on Saturday 21 February. We met at the Commercial, 212 Railton Road, Herne Hill, SE24. This pub has several surviving interwar features including wooden wall panelling, two separate rooms divided by a wooden glazed partition incorporating an office, and a bar counter with a chequer-board plinth. The exterior windows are all still intact. It is a shame that some of the panelling has been painted over. Since the crawl this pub has been added to CAMRA's London Regional Inventory of Pub Interiors of Historic Interest.

After this we visited the Half Moon, 10 Half Moon Lane, Herne Hill, SE24. This grade II* listed building of 1896 is on CAMRA's National Inventory and boasts a lavish exterior. There would originally

have been many rooms but there are now three. However, the counter and bar-back survive as does the panelling in the public bar. The pub's most remarkable survival is its snug on the left-hand side with its six back-painted mirrors depicting birds and signed by W Gibbs of Blackfriars. In this room one can also see the holes in the counter where snob screens were once in place.



Decorative glass at the Half Moon.

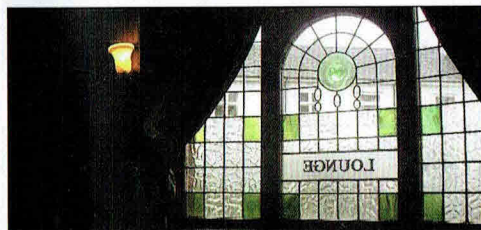
Our next stop was the grade II-listed Crown & Greyhound, 73 Dulwich Village, Dulwich, SE24. This pub is on CAMRA's London Regional Inventory. Built c1900, it has been much altered since then but many original features survive, such as the screens dividing up the left-hand front part. The main bar area originally comprised the saloon and a separate coffee room where meals would have been served. The restaurant used to be a billiard room and at the back, left, was a skittle alley.



Ceiling at the Crown & Greyhound

We then proceeded to East Dulwich and the Crystal Palace Tavern, 193 Crystal Palace Road, SE22. Here we saw that the front bar area has been modernised but the back room retains some original fittings including the bar-back, bar counter and etched windows. Above the bar-back in this room there is a also an interesting curved wooden decorative feature with etched glass panels depicting birds and, in the panelling behind the bar, one can just make out the remains of advertisements for Double Diamond and Skol.

Our next destination was the Herne Tavern, 2 Forest Hill, SE22. This Good Beer Guide pub was quite a discovery - some of its interior fittings may date from the 1920s or earlier and it retains separation between some of its rooms. Among the (possibly) 1920s features are the bar counter and bar-back in the main bar area with its Tudor arch detail, stained glass windows and some charming chunky chairs in a rustic style. Since the crawl this pub has also been added to the London Regional Inventory.



Window at the Herne Tavern

From opposite the Herne Tavern we caught a bus to the next pub on the crawl, the Dulwich Wood House, 39 Sydenham Hill, SE26. The main interest here is the pub's continental villa-style exterior with its belvedere (a raised turret) and the excellent Young's beer, of course.

Our final destination was the Royal Albert, 42 Westow Hill, SE19 in Crystal Palace. This pub, which would once have had separate rooms, retains some of its original wall panelling (most of which has been painted over as in the Commercial) but otherwise the interior has been substantially altered. The two cast-iron(?) lamp-standard figures are another point of possible interest. They may have been imported during a subsequent refit but they do have the old-fashioned small five-amp plugs and wall sockets - which became obsolete from the 1960s, suggesting that they may have been there for quite some time.

To summarise, this was an interesting crawl, taking in a variety of styles of pub interiors.

Jane Jephcote

Photographs by Chris Lewis

NIGHTINGALE JUBILEE WALK INVITATION

Since 1979, Nightingale Pub friends and regulars have raised more than £320,000 for some 150 charities, community groups and individuals. Clapham Trinity Hospice, Wandsworth Contact a Family, Lady Allen Playscheme, Kingston Mencap and Putney Westleigh Hostel are some of the main and oldest beneficiaries.

On Saturday May 29 (Bank Holiday weekend), the Nightingale Pub Charity Walk will celebrate 25 years with a (final??) Thames towpath walk from Staines to Putney (29 miles) - 9am start. Last year,



Andrij, Mick, Paul, Luis & Co

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150 took part on a shorter 20 mile route from Hampton Court and raised £12,000 towards a dozen charities - some involved directly in walking, others manning the stage points.

The Nightingale Charity Walk was kicked off by a dozen 'regulars' doing a spontaneous 26- mile road walk, from Putney to Windsor, in response to the Oxfam Kampuchea Famine Appeal in October 1979. After a parachute jump for a local playscheme, an annual tradition was established with three London to Brighton walks (46/50 miles) 1981-83 (building up from 24 to 60 then 100 walkers). The A23 was too dangerous; a river walk followed: Windsor-Putney (35+ miles) 1984-2001 and by request two shorter Hampton Court - Nightingale walks (20 miles) 2002-3. In 1993, 202 walked raising £25,000 but since then numbers have declined. This year organisers hope to match that effort, ten years ago. Please join in!

It is not a race: however the route has always been too long for a pub crawl although a quick half hour lunch is not against the rules; our stages are normally close to a Young's or Fuller's public house (not intentionally!). Food will be provided at the Reception. Organisers are prepared to share individual sponsorship to a specific charity, if informed beforehand. Walk packs, booklets and tee-shirts will be available from mid-April. Hat/dressing-gown theme dress is optional. It's tough but fun, but this year may be the last.

Contact the Nightingale, 97 Nightingale Lane, SW12 8NX (0208-673 1637).

LAGRAD LONDON GROUP

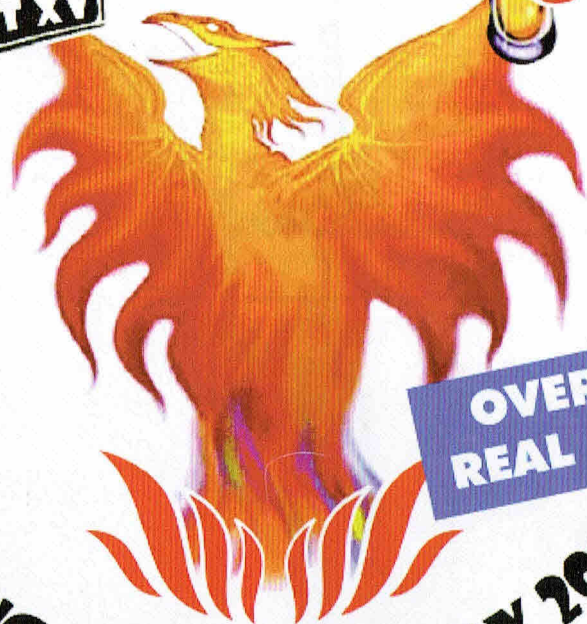
LAGRAD (Lesbian and Gay Real Ale Drinkers) is a group of CAMRA members extending the Campaign to the lesbian and gay scene. The London group meets regularly on the first Wednesday of every month from 7pm onwards in the upstairs bar of the King's Arms, 23 Poland St, London W1; the Surrey & Sussex group on the last Friday of every month from 9.30 onwards in the back bar of the Bedford Tavern, Western St, Brighton, and the Scottish Group in the Regent, 2 Montrose Terrace, Edinburgh on the first Monday of every month from 8.30 onwards. All welcome to all events. Contact the group convenor on LAGRAD@ukgateway.net, or visit www.queerale.org.uk

April - Wed 7 (7pm) Social. King's Arms, 23 Poland St, W1, (020-7734 5907). - **Tue 20 (7pm)** Social. King William IV, 77 High St, Hampstead, NW3, (020-7435 5747). Courage; Best Bitter & Directors; traditional pub, 5 minutes from Hampstead tube.

May - Wed 5 (7pm) Social. King's Arms, 23 Poland St, W1. - **Thu 20** Two pub bus/tube crawl: 6pm Half Way to Heaven, 7 Duncannon Street, WC2, (020-7930 8312). Usually has Draught Bass and Fullers London Pride. Then via no.11 bus or District line tube to (7.30pm) Queens Head, 25-27 Tryon St, SW3, (020-589 0262). Courage Directors plus a guest, food (sometimes) available.

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COMING SOON ABOUT A PUB NEAR YOU

London has some 5,700 pubs but how many have genuine historic interiors? Not many is the answer, unfortunately. Such has been the pace of opening out, theming, and general modernisation in recent decades that what is now left of London's pub heritage is a rare commodity.

But a long-awaited guide to what is left will be out shortly. This is CAMRA's Regional Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors in London which is the definitive publication to lead you to well-known gems and some completely unknown treasures. It has been compiled over several years by members of CAMRA's London Pubs Group and contains an introduction which brings home the desperate destruction of pub interiors in recent years.

This is followed by the listing of some 130 pubs which CAMRA considers have interiors of significant historic interest throughout Greater London. Each one carries a description to enable you to understand, pub by pub, what you will find. It will help you sort out what's genuinely old, and, just as important, what is not.

At the time of writing the date of publication and the price have yet to be finalised, so look out for details in the next London Drinker. If you love old pubs, this is a must-have booklet.

Geoff Brandwood
Photographs by Bob Steel



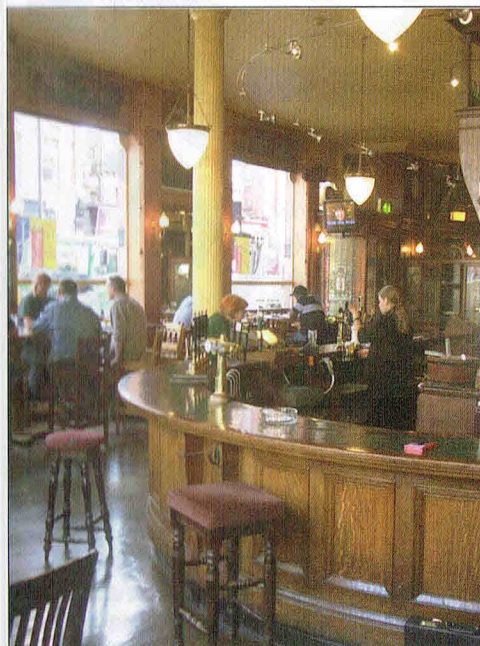
Screens at the Falcon, Battersea



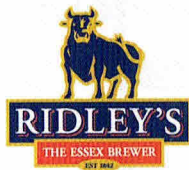
Window at the Falcon, Battersea



Stained glass panels at the Swan & Sugar Loaf, South Croydon



Public Bar at the Falcon, Battersea



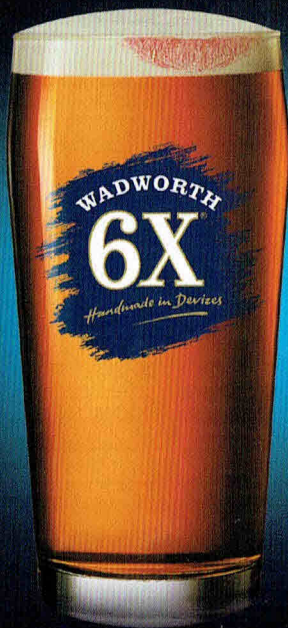
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CASK MARQUE UPDATE

ADDITIONS

New Cask Marque awards to licensees of pubs and clubs in Greater London notified since January are listed below.

CENTRAL

EC2, CITY TAVERN, 29 Lawrence Lane. Laurel. (E30, U152)
EC4, HOG'S HEAD, 12 Ludgate Circus. Laurel, formerly HOGSHEAD, originally OLD KING LUD. (E52, U83, U162, U172)
W1(F), DUKE OF YORK, 47 Rathbone St. Greene King. (W29, U87)
W1(May), GOAT TAVERN, 3 Stafford St. S&N. (W39, U90, U106, U175)
WC1, JEREMY BENTHAM, 31 University St. S&N. (W46, N23, U106, HB8)
WC1, MUSEUM TAVERN, 49 Gt Russell St. S&N. (W47, U84, U95, U106, N25, U170, HB10)
WC1, OLD NICK, 20/22 Sandland St. Hall & Woodhouse, formerly THREE CUPS. (W51, U67, U73, U78, N31, U169, U174)

NORTH

N1, COOPERS, Kings Cross Main Line Station concourse. Select Service Partner, formerly YORK TAVERN. (N62, U109)

NORTH WEST

NW1, HOG'S HEAD, 55 Parkway. Laurel, formerly HOGSHEAD. (U131, U171)
HARROW WEALD, LEEFE ROBINSON VC, Brockhurst Corner, 375 Uxbridge Rd. Whitbread (Beefeater). (W114, U67, U134)
KENTON, TRAVELLERS REST, Kenton Rd. Whitbread (Beefeater). (W132)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, GEORGE INN, 77 Borough High St. Laurel. (SE17)
SE5, CASTLE, 65 Camberwell Church St. Unique, formerly SNUG, previously PACIFIC, originally STIRLING CASTLE. (SE62, U119, U159, U176)
SE6, RUTLAND ARMS, 55 Perry Hill. Free House. (SE68)
SE16, SPICE ISLAND, 163 Rotherhithe St. Laurel. (U114)
CROYDON, ALL BAR ONE, 10 Park Lane. M&B. (U156)
HAYES, GEORGE, 29 Hayes St. Whitbread (Beefeater). (3SE223, U55, 8K102, U111)
SIDCUP, HORSE & GROOM, 136 Main Rd. Whitbread (Beefeater). (3SE273, K127)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(SJ), RED LION, 23 Crown Passage. Unique. (SW46, U176)
SW1(W), OLD STAR, 66 Broadway. Laurel. (SW49, U157)
SW1(W), ST STEPHENS TAVERN, 10 Bridge St. Hall & Woodhouse. (U175)
SW1(W), SPEAKER, 46 Gt Peter St. Unique, formerly ELEPHANT & CASTLE. (SW48, U137, U176)

SW4, COACH & HORSES, 173/175 Clapham Park Rd. Unique, formerly ACRE TAVERN. (SW59, U164)
SW7, ANGLESEA ARMS, 15 Selwood Terrace. Capital Pub Co. (SW72, U128, U176)
SW11, FOX & HOUNDS, 66 Latchmere Rd. Punch. (SW88, U125, U146, U176)
SW14, HALFWAY HOUSE, 24 Priests Bridge, East Sheen. Enterprise. (SW97, U176)
SW16, HOGSHEAD, 68/70 Streatham High Rd. Laurel. (U131, U176)
SW19, HOGSHEAD, 25 Wimbledon Hill Rd. Laurel, formerly HAND & RACKET. (SW117, U149)
CHESSINGTON, MONKEY PUZZLE, Leatherhead Rd. Whitbread (Beefeater). (SW134, U176)
MITCHAM, PARK PLACE, 54 Commonsides West. Whitbread (Beefeater). (SW147)
SURBITON, ANTELOPE, 87 Maple Rd. Laurel. (SW160)
WORCESTER PARK, WORCESTER PARK, Malden Rd. S&N, formerly WORCESTER PARK TAVERN. (SW169, U172)

WEST

W12, PAVILION, Wood Lane. Laurel. (W91, U74)
NORTHOLT, CROWN, Ealing Rd. Whitbread (Beefeater). (W134, U176)
RUISLIP, ORCHARD, Ickenham Rd. Whitbread (Beefeater). (W137)

DELETIONS

The following outlets no longer hold the Cask Marque award.

EC4, MASH TUN, 80 Farringdon St. Hall & Woodhouse, formerly SAMUELS, originally HOOP & GRAPES. (E49, U69, U140, U164, U170)
E1, PEWTER PLATTER, 9/11 Folgate St. Free House, formerly PEWTER PLATTER TAVERN. (U79, U156)

Over 2,300 licensees have the Cask Marque award. The beer in their outlets has been independently inspected for beer quality.

Visit the Cask Marque Website
www.cask-marque.co.uk
 and download a regional guide.
 Why not visit a brewery?
www.visitabrewery.co.uk

Cask Marque - for the licensee who serves the 'perfect pint' of cask beer.

**The Cask Marque Trust
 Seedbed Centre,
 Severalls Park, Colchester,
 Essex CO4 9HT
 Tel: 01206 752212**



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. If you would like to contribute to 'Pubcheck' please send your news to the address below.

This time the main news is the acquisition by the Dublin based Porterhouse Brewing Co of its second London pub, in SW13 Barnes. More free houses acquired by the growing Capital Pub Company (of which the Firkin founder, David Bruce is a partner) have come to light across London and conversions to restaurants and cocktail bars are reported in the areas of inner west London under survey for the forthcoming new pub guide, including a general reduction in real ale availability. There is welcome resistance to a threatened

pub closure in New Addington. A few more Wetherspoon pubs are rumoured to be up for sale - more details next time.

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; HB - Holborn & Bloomsbury Pub Guide; K - Guide to Kent Pubs, 10th edition; 8K - Real Ale Guide to Kent Pubs, 8th edition; KT - Kingston Pub Guide; N - North London Beer Guide, 3rd edition; SE - South East London Pub Guide, 4th edition; 3SE - South East London Pub Guide, 3rd edition; SW - South West London Pub Guide, 2nd edition; W - Real Beer in West London; X - Essex Beer Guide, 9th edition.

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

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC1, MEDCALF (BAR), 40 Exmouth Market. No real ale. Free House/bar in former butchers shop.

EC4, KING & KEYS, 142 Fleet St. Adnams: Bitter. Now a Free House, ex-M&B. A welcome reinstatement of traditional decor and real ale after years as a pseudo-Irish pub. Formerly MAHONEYs and SCRUFFY MURPHYs for a while. (E50, U102, U151, U164, U170)

W1 (Mar), BLACK HORSE, 6 Rathbone Place. Fuller: London Pride (reinstatement). (W28, U73, U98, U157)

W1(S), BOHEME KITCHEN & BAR, 19-21 Old Compton St. No real ale. A Free House/bar and restaurant in former restaurant premises.

W1(S), CAFÉ BOHEME, 13-17 Old Compton St. No real ale. A Free House/bar in former restaurant premises.

W1(S), REVOLUTION, 2 St Anne's Court. No real ale. An Innovative Leisure Free House in former restaurant premises, opened late 2001.

WC2, BACCHANALIA, 1A Bedford St. No real ale. A Free House/ basement bar.

EAST

E8, HACKNEYCENTRAL, Former Railway Station, Amhurst Rd. No real ale. A Free House/bar in old railway station building.

NORTH

N12, MALT & HOPS, 891 High Rd. Fuller: London Pride (reinstatement). (N111, U157)

N16, CAVA BAR, 111 Albion Rd. No real ale. Brand new Free House/bar on ground floor of new apartment block.

SOUTH EAST

CROYDON, WALKABOUT INN, 12-18 Crown Hill. No real ale. New Regent Inns Free House opened c2002 in former leisure complex building.

SOUTH WEST

SW13, BROWNS, 201A Castlenau. Renamed PORTERHOUSE BREWING CO. Porterhouse: TSB; Guest beer. Former Bass pub acquired by the Dublin based Porterhouse Brewing Co; extensive refurbishment completed in November 2003. The company's second London pub, the first being in WC2 Covent Garden. Entry is from car park at rear, between pillars and through revolving door. Spacious open plan layout has different table and seating styles (mainly oak and various treatments of leather) either suitable for dining or just for drinking. Bar area to the left on entering has TV for sports events. Table service is standard but drinks can also be ordered at the bar. Real ales are supplemented by a range of unpasteurised Porterhouse keg beers as well as Anchor Steam beers from the USA. Selection of bottled beers also listed on comprehensive beer menu (including guidance notes on which beers to avoid), separate from wine list and food menu. Food includes Irish specialities such as Dublin Bay oysters. Partly non-smoking, families with children welcome throughout. Background music not intrusive. Huge garden. Terrace alongside building has portable heaters. Open 12-11 Mon-Sat, 12-10.30 Sun. Formerly GARDEN HOUSE and originally BOILEAU HOTEL. Note correct address. (SW94, U157)

SW13, IDLE HOUR, 62 Railway Side. Adnams: Bitter. A gastropub. Formerly MANOR ARMS. (SW94, U136, U163, U166)

WEST

W4, O'REILLY'S, 177 Acton Lane. Reverted to STAG. Adnams: Broadside; Brakspear: Bitter. Now a Free House, ex-Watney. (W69, U68, U92)

W12, SHEPHERD & FLOCK, 84 Goldhawk Rd. Fuller: London Pride (reinstatement). (W92, U83, U149)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

W1(F), RYANS PUBLIC HOUSE, Free House, closed, future uncertain. (U148)

W1(Mar), BOSWELLS, Free House, no real ale. (W33, U89)

W1(Mar), DUKE OF KENT, 35 New Cavendish St. Sam Smith, H removed. (W34, U54, U89, U97)

W1(S), PITCHER & PIANO, Wolves & Dudley, no real ale. (U101, U118)

W1(S), SLUG & LETTUCE, SFI, no real ale. (U131)

EAST

E4, BAR PA, ex-Whitbread, closed and boarded up. Formerly PRINCE ALBERT. (E96, U159)

E6, PERSEVERANCE, Free House, now converted to a religious centre called 'Transformation Powerhouse'. (E104, U72, U172)

E13, PRINCE OF WALES, ex-Truman, now demolished and new buildings under construction. (E136, U167)

E17, WHITE SWAN, ex-Watney, closed and planning application submitted for conversion to flats. (E169)

ROMFORD, OLD OAK, ex-Watney, H unused. (X102)

ROMFORD, WHEATSHEAF, ex-Allied, H unused. (X102)

NORTH

N1, GARDEN, Smith & Jones, H unused. Formerly MOON UNDER WATER, originally 179 UPPER STREET. (N37, U137, U145)

N1, MURRAYS BAR, Free House, closed. (N52)

ENFIELD (EN1), HOP POLES, ex-Regent Inns, closed. (N229)

ENFIELD WEST (EN2), OLD SERGEANT, ex-Whitbread, closed and boarded up. (N236, U159)

NORTH WEST

STANMORE, GREEN MAN, ex-Taylor Walker, demolished and to be replaced by housing. (W142)

SOUTH EAST

SE11, COURT TAVERN, Shepherd Neame, closed, boarded up and all signage removed. (SE106)

SE13, ROYAL OAK, 1 Lee Church St, Unique (ex-Courage), closed and boarded up. (SE122)

CROYDON, GLOUCESTER, closed, demolished and site developed for a Tesco Express shop. (3SE242, U163, U164)

CROYDON, RAT & PARROT. Renamed STOP and now renamed again, JODIES FLAT, S&N, no real ale. (3SE239, U98, U107)

SOUTH WEST

SW9, RUSSELL HOTEL, ex-Inntrepreneur, now being converted to flats. (SW83, U162)

SW15, EARL SPENCER, ex-Inntrepreneur, closed. (SW101)

SW15, LITTEN TREE, SFI, H unused. Formerly SLUG & LETTUCE. (SW104, U167)

WEST

W2, STEAM, Free House, H removed. (U165)

W2, TGI FRIDAYS, Whitbread, an 'American' bar and

restaurant, now featuring cocktails with bottled beers only. Remove from pub database. (U142)

W4, HOLE IN THE WALL, now Enterprise, ex-S&N, H unused. (W69, U61, U94)

W6, EDWARDS, M&B, ex-Bass, no real ale. (W77, U94, U117)

W6, GROVE, Free House, H removed. Formerly GROVE TAVERN. (W76, U157)

W6, NUMBER ONE (BAR & BISTRO), ex-Watney, closed. Formerly PRINCESS ALEXANDRA. (W76, U50)

W6, PEAR TREE, Punch, ex-Taylor Walker, H unused. (W76, U74)

W6, RAVENSCOURT ARMS, Punch, ex-Bass, H unused. (W77)

W8, MALL TAVERN, Free House, no real ale. Formerly GAIEITY. (W82, U75, U94, U166)

W10, VILLAGE INN, 265 Kensal Rd, Free House, no real ale. Note correct address. (W86, U94)

W11, BABUSHKA, Free House, no real ale. Formerly FUDRUCKERS and previously FROG & FIRKIN. (W88, U105, U131)

W11, DUKE OF NORFOLK, S&N and once a brewpub. Now converted to '202' restaurant. (W87, U51, U107, U131, U151, U166)

W11, STEWART ARMS, Unique, ex-Courage, no real ale. (W90)

W12, BLOB SHOP, Yates's, converted to 'Bush' cocktail bar and restaurant, bottled beers only. Remove from pub database. (U138)

W12, BRACKENBURY ARMS, Unique, ex-Watney, no real ale. (W91, U59, U73, U86, U155)

W12, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, Conway Taverns, ex-Watney, no real ale. (W91, U71)

W12, EDWARDS, M&B, no real ale. Formerly BEAUMONT ARMS. (W91, U43, U57, U71, U122)

W12, FLANAGANS, Free House, converted to Nandos restaurant. (U130)

W12, O'NEILL'S, M&B, no real ale. Formerly FRINGE & FIRKIN, originally BUSH. (W91, U71, U120, U151, U157)

W12, ORCHARD TAVERN, ex-Watney, no real ale. (W91, U88)

W12, PRINCESS VICTORIA, Conway Taverns, no real ale. (W91, U69)

W12, SLUG & LETTUCE, SFI, no real ale. Formerly WELLINGTON. (W92, U56, U141)

W12, SPRINGBOK BAR, Old Monk, closed; note correct name. (U131)

W14, BIRD IN HAND, Free House, ex-Bass, no real ale. Now a café-bar. (W94, U71)

W14, PRIORY, Free House, no real ale. Formerly SAM WORTHINGTONS, originally ROYAL OAK. (W95, U71, U92, U126, U130, U156, U174)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC1, LORD NELSON, 262/4 Old St. Now Capital Pub Co, ex-Watney. (E20)

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 176

W1(Mar), DEVONSHIRE ARMS, 7 Duke St, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Adnams: Broadside; +Greene King: IPA. Now Ryans Taverns, ex-Bass. (W34, U69, U89)

W1(Mar), ELUSIVE CAMEL. Renamed **LOW LIFE**, still no real ale. (U155)

W1(Mar), FABRIZIO. Renamed **CHEZ STALIOS**, still no real ale. (W33, U89, U135, U163)

W1(Mar), HENRY HOLLAND. Free House, ex-Whitbread, -beers listed; +Draught Bass. (W34, U51)

W1(Mar), THORNBURY CASTLE, -beers listed: +Adnams: Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride. (W36, U82, U98)

W1(May), HOGSHEAD. Now **HOG'S HEAD** +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA. Formerly **BUNCH OF GRAPES**. (W38, U79, U90, U118, U129, U175)

EAST

E1, WHITE HART, 1/3 Mile End Rd. Now a Capital Pub Co Free House. (E75, U156, U163)

COLLIER ROW, WHITE HART, now part of Mr Q chain. (X43, U168)

ILFORD, LLOYDS NO 1 BAR. Reverted to original name, **RED LION** but remains part of Wetherspoon's Lloyds No 1 chain. Formerly **GREENE CASTLE**, **BLAH BLAHS**, **RAT & CARROT** and **MAIN STREET**. (X73, U144, U158, U163, U167)

ROMFORD, BIG HAND MO'S. Renamed **T TAVERN**. (X100)

ROMFORD, VICTORIA, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. (X102)

NORTH

N1, HEMINGFORD ARMS. Now a Capital Pub Co Free House. (N47)

N1, RAM BAR. Renamed **MUCKY PUP**. Formerly **RAM & TEASEL**. (N56, U121)

N6, ANGEL, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +guest beer. (N81)

N6, ROSE & CROWN, -Flowers Original; +Greene King: Abbot. Now heavily food orientated and refurbished with modern white décor. Retains small bar area. (N82, U156)

N7, TANK. Renamed **BARCOSA**. Formerly **BEER HOUSE**, previously **FLOUNDER & FIRKIN**. (N87, U153, U154, U170)

N7, VICTORIA. Renamed **TOMMY FLYNN'S**. A bar/restaurant. (N91, U144)

N16, SHAKESPEARE, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor: Landlord; +2 guests. Cask breathers in use. (N131, U165)

N19, ALL POINTS WEST. Renamed **BLARNEY STONE**. Formerly **SALTBAR**, originally **RAILWAY HOTEL**. (N145, U158, U167, U168)

N21, KINGS HEAD. Now owned by Geronimo Pubs, ex-Watney. (N152)

N22, MOY. Renamed **MONAGHANS BAR**. Formerly **GANLEYS**, previously **RAT & CARROT** (TJB). (N157, U109, U151, U162)

BARNET (EN5), MONKEN HOLT (YE OLDE). Now owned by Capital Pub Co, ex-Old Monk. (N252)

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

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Send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to:
Membership Secretary, CAMRA Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 1LW



NORTH WEST

NW1, HENNELLYS. Renamed **HOBGOBLIN**, -beers listed; + Fuller: London Pride; +guest beers (e.g. Lees). Sold by Wychwood and now an independent Free House. (N168, U109)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, BLUE ROOM. Renamed **HARTLEY (THE)**, originally **PAGODA**. (SE28, U152)

SE5, SNUG. Renamed **CASTLE**, + Fuller: London Pride; +Adnams: Bitter, Broadside. Formerly **PACIFIC**, originally **STIRLING CASTLE**. (SE62, U119, U159)

NEW ADDINGTON (CROYDON), CUNNINGHAM, -beer listed; +Tetley: Bitter. Under threat of closure to make way for yet another supermarket in an already under-pubbed area. Locals are heading a campaign of opposition to the sell off by the Spirit Group.. (3SE239)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(SJ), RED LION, 23 Crown Passage, -beer listed; +Adnams: Bitter; +Draught Bass. Now Unique, ex-Intntrepreneur. (SW46)

SW1(W), SPEAKER. Now Unique, ex-Free House. Formerly **ELEPHANT & CASTLE**. (SW48, U137)

SW4, ALEXANDRA. Now Capital Pub Co, ex-Intntrepreneur. Still no real ale. (SW59, U145)

SW7, ANGLESEA ARMS. Now a Capital Pub Co Free House. (SW72, U128)

SW11, BLUE MANGO. Now operated by Capital Pub Co. Formerly **PRODIGALS RETURN** and **PIG ON THE BRIDGE**. (U155, U160, U175)

SW12, BALHAM TUP, -Adnams: Bitter; +Courage: Best Bitter; +Flowers: IPA; +Wells: Bombardier; +house beer (Tup Ale) believed to be brewed by ScotCo. Formerly **CLOUSEAUS**. (SW91, U149)

SW14, HALFWAY HOUSE. Now Enterprise, ex-Whitbread. (SW97)

SW15, FOX, -beers listed; +Draught Bass. (SW101, U151)

SW15, JOLLY GARDENERS, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Adnams: Bitter; +Greene King: Morland Old Speckled Hen. (SW101)

SW16, HOGSHEAD, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Gales: HSB; +Greene King: IPA; +Hook Norton: Old Hooky; +Young: Bitter; +3 guests (G). (U131)

SW18, CAT'S BACK. Beer range still varies but expect Young's and Adnams more often than Slaters and O'Hanlon's nowadays. An unfortunate change of policy towards a generally less adventurous range. (SW111, U146, U153, U164)

SW18, LE GOTHIQUE, -beers listed; +3 guest beers from Ballards, Shepherd Neame's. Hours now 12-12 Mon-Sat (closed Sun). Pedestrians can now also access from John Archer Way, off Windmill Rd. (SW113, U149)

CHESSINGTON, MONKEY PUZZLE, -beers listed; +Draught Bass; +Marston: Pedigree; +Wadworth: 6X. (SW134, KT15)

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CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 176

MORDEN, MORDEN TAVERN. Renamed TAVERN, -guest beers; +Courage: Best Bitter. Probably now a Free House, ex-Wychwood. (SW150)

WEST

W4, SWAN, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride;

+Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Wells: Bombardier. Now Unique, ex-Bass. (W69, U94)

W6, BLUE ANCHOR, -beers listed; +Brakspear: Special; +Fuller: London Pride; +Young: Special. Now Unique, ex-Courage. (W74)

W6, DARTMOUTH CASTLE. Now Enterprise Inns, ex-Labatts. (W74, U80, U86, U98, U119, U159)

W6, DOVE INN. Now simply DOVE, -Fuller: Chiswick Bitter; +Fuller: seasonal beers. (W74, U92)

W6 LYRIC THEATRE. Bar open to general public is called CAFÉ BRERA. (W76, U94)

W10, NEW NORTH POLE, -beers listed; +Wells: Bombardier; +'Bloomsbury', apparently brewed by ScotCo. Now a Massive Pub Co Free House. Formerly BREWSTERS BEER HOUSE. (W86, U57)

W11, BRITISH VOLUNTEER. Renamed ARIADNE. Now a Free House, ex-Whitbread. Still no real ale. (W86)

W11, COCK & BOTTLE, -beers listed; +Draught Bass; +Fuller: London Pride. Now Unique, ex-Nomura. Formerly SWAN. (W90, U74, U133, U159)

W11, LADBROKE ARMS, -beers listed except Greene King; Abbot; +Adnams: Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA. Now owned by Capital Pub Co, ex-Clifton Inns. (W88, U135)

W11, PORTOBELLO GOLD, -Brakspear: Bitter; +Greene King: Ruddles County. Now a Free House, ex-Watney. (W88, U158, U172)

NORTHOLT, CROWN, -beer listed; +Draught Bass or Wadworth: 6X. Now Whitbread (Beefeater), ex-Watney. (W134)

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 175

NEW PUBS ETC.

EC2, ALL BAR ONE. Is owned by M&B, originally Bass.

W1(May), MULLIGANS (OF MAYFAIR). Is a Free House.

W1(S), EDGE. Is in former restaurant premises.

BARKING. Heading above these two pubs should read *EAST*, not *CENTRAL*.

N6, WOODMAN. Refs should read (N83, U106, U157).

SW1(W), ST STEPHENS TAVERN. Should read: pub acquired and reopened by Hall & Woodhouse

SW18, LIVEBAIT. Address should read: 2 North Side, Wandsworth Common.

W6, EL METRO. Is a Free House.

FELTHAM, ROSE & CROWN. Should read: Regional Inns Free House.

WEMBLEY. Entries should appear after ALPERTON under *NORTH WEST* heading.

PUBS CLOSED ETC.

EC1, COACH & HORSES. Delete entry; correct details are included under *'OTHER CHANGES'*

W1(S), ATLANTIC BAR & GRILL. Ref should read (U123).

N6, SHEPHERDS (now BOOGALOO). Ref should read (N83).

HARROW WEALD, PICKLED NEWT. Should read *PICKLED NEWT (ALMA)*.

SE1, BRIDGE HOUSE. Address omitted in error: 30 Borough Rd. Apologies for any confusion with the BRIDGE HOUSE, 218 Tower Bridge Rd, which is still very much up and trading and selling real ale.

HAYES, WHITE HART. Refs should read (W118, U168).

OTHER CHANGES ETC.

EC3, FIRST & LAST. Should read EC2.

WC2, TUP (SAVOY). Formerly NEW SAVOY TAVERN.

NW3, GARDEN GATE. Formerly RAILWAY TAVERN.

EDGWARE should read **EDGWARE (HA8)**

HOUNSLOW, RABAR. Contrary to U167, ROYAL ALBION name has apparently been retained on external signage, although the new name RABAR was adopted for internal use. Similarly the revised new name

JALANDHAR JUNCTION (note correct spelling) has yet to be displayed externally. For database purposes therefore the pub should now be referred to as **ROYAL ALBION (JALANDHAR JUNCTION)** until any change to external signage takes place.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 174 (in UPDATE 175)

N12, HOXTON SQUARE BAR. Should read N1.

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On the most romantic day of the year some bought roses whilst others looked dreamily into their lovers eyes, but there were a few who took on the mission of the Northern Line pub crawl, arriving in good time for an eager 11.30 kick off only to find the first pub on the list, the Kings Head in Colliers Wood not open yet, (a sign of things to come for this Young's pub under threat of closure).

A great start, but no one minded as the next pub on the list was met with great anticipation and all mind as all progressed on to the Sultan, where Hop Back beers were quickly ordered including pints of GFB and a seasonal brew, the 'Lovers tiff'. The pub filled up with a lively lunchtime crowd, but alas we had to move on.

Some attempted a quick stop off at the now opened Kings Head, but a sad sense of faded glory, with only a few people drinking and a large TV. A half of Young's Special was consumed while we soaked up the atmosphere of the fine quality décor, in need of some tender love and care. It's hard to believe that this pub could be turned into offices, when in this area apart from the Sultan; other pubs aren't much to write home about, especially the plastic pub opposite the Kings Head called 'Kiss Me Hardy' - nuff said. If the Sultan can do well in the back streets then this Young's pub should do in its location! Get down there before it is too late!

The journey to the Priory Arms in Stockwell took longer than expected, so that we arrived 20 minutes later than the allocated time to find a friend already installed, consuming Hampshire's King Alfred's beer. A few characters from SW London branch arrived after knock down at Battersea, but despite their presence and the comfortable surroundings we had to leave for the next pub on our list.



We were joined up with more of South East CAMRA people in the Lord Clyde in The Borough. The pub was bustling with locals and didn't look like to be closing at its advertised time of 4pm. A good

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selection of regular beers, Adnams Bitter, Sheps Spitfire, London Pride, and GK IPA, all swiftly enjoyed, in the atmosphere of this lovely pub with the late afternoon sunshine streaming in.

A walk thorough the back streets off to London Bridge and the Wheatsheaf; OK, it's a Northern Line crawl, but it is easier to walk. A fine pint of Young's Winter Warmer consumed, while some of our party went off to enjoy their first visit to Borough Market.

Now the Bank area of London on weekends has the problem of most pubs being shut, and so the Wetherspoons conversion of an old bank in Gracechurch Street provided a solution. A quick bus ride was in order to the Crosse Keys, a lovely building inside with a good range of real ales for a pub in this area. With our initial cock up of opening times behind us, it was thought the rest of the crawl would be plain sailing, but no, we found closing time rearing its ugly head. Arriving at the Wetherspoons pub at 5.55, we found the kitchen closing at 6pm (as normal for most Wetherspoons pubs, the kitchen closes one hour before the pub shuts), hurried food orders were cobbled together and we are sorry if the kitchen staff were hoping for an early night off!

A trek by foot to Bank station and after the labyrinth of tunnels on to the Northern Line to Old Street, where we progressed to the Wenlock Arms. For some of the dedicated boozers in our assembled mob

of drinkers, it was their first visit. With just enough space to squeeze into this small but well beer-stocked pub, we unfortunately or fortunately had to leave just as the Jazz band started, but resolved to return for a whole Saturday evening.

The walk back to Old Street or to the Angel was a bit out of the question so a bus all the way to Euston and into the Head of Steam for what was to have been our last pub of the evening. Settling into our first pint we were alarmed and watches checked to hear that last orders will be soon at 9.40pm. "*Oh no!*" we cried, "*more closing time madness*". Mention of the builders coming was all I recalled and, as we hurried on drinking, where were we going to go next? "*Drink up, we are going to a mystery location*", Ian White the crawl instigator reverberated.

Most of our party would be leaving on trains from Charing Cross so, thinking on his feet, Ian guessed we should go to a pub in that area, so a few stops down the line and off to the Lord Moon of the Mall, the Wetherspoons in Whitehall for a last, last, last, pint.

A grand day out and, despite some planning problems, we made all the pubs and more. They are all worth visiting and, as seen, achievable in one day!

Ian White

THE MAGPIE & CROWN

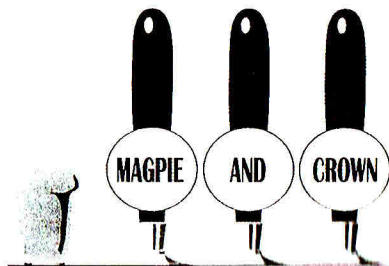
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HORSHAM RULES

It is several years since the dearth of real ale, when Crookham Travel hired whole trains to convey four or five hundred people to such places as York, Weymouth, Salisbury, Sheffield and Hook Norton.

But 112 intrepid souls undertook the first organised visit to Horsham... really a travesty when you think of the high standing King & Barnes achieved well before its tragic demise.

Originating at Victoria Station, Saturday 10th January, all were aboard the train by the time we left East Croydon. On arrival at Horsham the group split into two, eventually meeting up again much later in the afternoon. The itinerary for my group comprised Hepworth & Co. (at the Beer Station), W. J. King and Weltons Breweries, then by coach to two GBG pubs: the Blue Ship, a National Inventory pub at The Haven and the Sussex Oak at Warnham.

Andy Hepworth, just like the other two brewery owners, made us feel very welcome at the large unit in Horsham Station's old goods yard that houses his operation. The building used to be owned by a company that produced weed killer for use on the railways.

Andy gained laughs when he pointed out that the four vessels sitting in the yard were originally designed and bought by him for King & Barnes and he had now bought them for a third time, for his own brewery.

All of Horsham's breweries use town water and Hepworths not only brews and bottles its own beers (now including a Soil Association approved bottled organic lager named Cool Blonde and Sussex Light Ale) but also has contracts with such companies as Greene King, Titanic, Bath, Coniston and Brakspear/Refresh. Their bottling machine was built in Italy - equivalent machinery produced in Britain would have cost twice as much! And an automatic packing plant is being bought from Spain.

On stillage for us were Sussex Bitter, Pullman and Old Ale, and bottled beers sampled were Pullman, Iron Horse, Cool Blonde, Christmas Ale and Gurkha lager at 5%, the last of these 'brewed under licence for Mount Everest Brewery, Kingdom of Nepal'. All in all a very good start to an excellent day's drinking.

Bill King, after welcoming us, gave us a summary of events leading up to the closure of King & Barnes; the problems began in the 1950s when the Barnes family died out and outside shareholders held more shares than the King side.

He, his wife Kathy and staff, just like the other two breweries, have been highly successful. They have no further room to expand so will, hopefully, be moving to a larger site in the distant future. Their first tied pub The Lamb Inn at Lamb's Green, Rusper, opened in March last year and it is hoped a small estate of pubs will be built up. Whilst King

cask beer was available for sampling, all bottled beers had been sold over the festive period.

It must be all of about 2 minutes' walk (yes, that long) to Weltons where Ray Welton awaited us. Having started his own brewery in the Dorking area he eventually teamed up with Andy Hepworth in the goods yard, (see above) but, needing further expansion, has now set up in a unit with plenty of room for more kit when required. Ray has a background in civil engineering and prepares all the beer recipes and designs the pump clips. A notable, recent limited-edition beer was brewed for the Rugby Union World Cup named Wilkinson Sword - can you guess the design of the pump clip. (But Ray, did you use a mirror in the process, as the kicker bears the number 4 backwards on his shirt?)

Ray is a very expansive, humorous character and, like so many brewers, passionate about his beers and the brewing process. We also enjoyed a light lunch there. On stillage for our delectation were Kid & Bard, Horsham Old Ale, Winter Warmer and Old Harry. I took some Winter Warmer home for further extensive testing (!)

We then drove to The Haven for a visit to the only West Sussex pub to be listed in CAMRA's National Inventory of historic pub interiors: the several-centuries-old Blue Ship, a Hall & Woodhouse tied house. Whilst two ex-private rooms have been incorporated into the trading area, very little has changed over the last century with beers still being served through two doorways. A number of us took advantage of the mildish conditions and drank our choices of beer outside.

Then it was on to Warnham and the Sussex Oak where there was a run on the Timothy Taylor Landlord. The other group had just finished off a cask and my group made inroads into a new one. Other beers on at this fine establishment were as printed in the GBG: Adnams and Young's Bitter and Fuller London Pride.

Driven back to Horsham, we were dropped off at the Malt Shovel in Springfield Road. I first headed for the always-dependable Beer Essentials off-licence in East Street. Spoilt for choice (as usual) I opted for a bottle of each of Suthwyk Bloomfields (3.8%), Hook Norton Haymaker (5%), Hogs Back Gardener's Tipple (4.2%) and brewed to commemorate the Royal Horticultural Society's 100th anniversary last year) and the aforementioned Welton's Sussex Light Ale (3.5%) and Christmas Ale (7.5% - a giant 660ml size). This wonderful shop also has a few cask beers on stillage. Why isn't it in the GBG?

At Ye Olde King's Head Hotel on the corner of Carfax and East Street I enjoyed a pint of King Old Ale which stood me in good stead for the walk, in drizzle, to the Malt Shovel. Gales 5% Christmas Ale beckoned me (at a hefty £2.70 but hell, I thought, I

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HORSHAM RULES

can bear the monetary pain!) It was superb. The landlord told me he had held this cask back; I can only applaud such a decision.

My last port of call before catching the 8.35pm train to East Croydon was Wetherspoons, a good place to people-watch on a Saturday evening as the haunt of pre-club adolescents (like so many JDWs) with the downside being the posting of bouncers outside. Here I had a very good pint of Titanic Advent Ale (4.7%) made with Goldings and Northdown hops producing nut and fruit flavours. At £1.59 it proved to be a fine way to end yet another superb Crookham Travel outing.

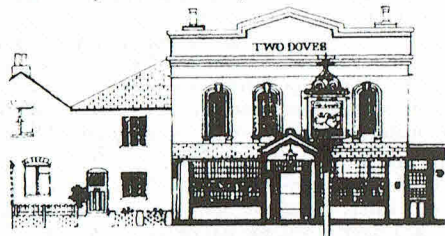
My effusive thanks go to Andy Hepworth, John Tewson (thanks for the labels), Bill and Kathy King and Ray Welton and all their staff for their dedication and production of so many wonderful beers. As always humble 'we are not worthies' to Gerald Daniels (C.T.) who did the hard work.

If anybody is interested in coming on a Saturday, long-weekend or overseas tour with Crookham Travel the website is www.crookhamtravel.co.uk or contact Gerald at 11 Attlee Gardens, Church Crookham, Fleet, Hampshire GU52 6PH, tel. 01252 628647. The next Saturday trip is to Palmer's on 25 September. And from 9 to 13 December there is a long-weekend trip to Vienna.

Paul Kirsten, South West London CAMRA

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PART 2, BELGIUM

In the last issue the research team from CAMAL, the Campaign for Authentic Lager, toured parts of the Duchy of Luxembourg. This month the team crosses the border for a few trips into Belgium.

Athus

Athus is on the Belgian side of the Luxembourg border, a 55 minute train journey from Luxembourg City to a remarkably dismal station that has the benefit of being covered for travel using the Luxembourg travel card. Here there is the only Belgian location of the well-known Les Trois Brasseurs chain of brewpubs. Les Trois Brasseurs, 53 Rue de Rodange, is a large rambling mock-olde pub with lots of fancy bits and pieces hanging around, presumably to create atmosphere. Of the beers, I found the Blonde good for the style and the Ambre reasonable but was not so impressed by the Blanche and Scotch (Dark), although they were distinctive, and all are available in pitchers at a suitable discount. The speciality food of the house is Flammekueche, a tarte flambée.

Lustin (near Namur)

When in Namur, the place to visit is the beer museum at Lustin, 15 minutes away by train. Musée des Bières Belges, 19 Rue de la Gare, is open every day July to August, while during the rest of the year it is open week-ends and holidays. It is not a formal museum but a venerable ex-pub with a string of rooms packed full of bottled beers, some dating from the 19th century, over 1,000 Belgian beer glasses, and many more beer artefacts. They are piled high on shelves and hang from the ceiling, with a lovely 'old

another bar counter available for busy times. The beer is poured initially into a jug from the font. It is still fermenting and comes up six feet from the cellar under its own pressure. The dramatic atmosphere plus the interesting beers made it a memorable visit.

Namur

Namur is the bustling capital of Belgium's French-speaking Wallonia region. There are plenty of attractive 18th century mansions and churches to look at while rambling around the centre seeking good pubs, but there is the usual city problem of gassy beer at most of the bars. At the station bar, alongside the fonts for Grimbergen, Cline, Brue Wit and Maes they have Watneys Scotch for the anglophiles! Among the more interesting places is Brasserie Henry, 3 Place Saint-Aubain, an attractive old building opposite the cathedral. Its elegant interior with a high, decorated ceiling provides a suitable image for sampling superior bottled beers. The menu included a special list for bottles from family brewers. The range of draught beers included Blanche de Bruges, Ciney Blonde and Kreik Louvaeghe. At the other side of the Place des Armes, the main square, is Metropole, 1 Rue Emile Cuvelier, a town bar with plenty of outside seating. On draught they had Diekirche, Leffe Blonde, Blanche Hoegaarden, Kriek St. Louis and Maredsous (Abbey beer). The Maredsous 8°, a dark beer, was served in a fancy pot goblet. In bottles they had Leffe Triple (8.4%) and Leffe Radieuse (8.2%) among quite a good selection.

On the Namur railway line, we also visited Libramont (53 minutes from Luxembourg) and Arlon (17 minutes from Luxembourg).

Libramont

Both of the interesting pubs here are close to the station of this industrial town. Lion Rouge, Place de la Gare, opposite the station, is a modern style café with a pleasant outside drinking area. There is an interesting range of draught beers, and the menu has pages of bottled beers, Trappiste, Abbey etc., from a wide area. The particularly interesting draught was Blanche Pomme Cuvée Lion Rouge, an apple flavoured wheat beer brewed specially for the landlord by Empire Brewery to his recipe. It was not spicy but had a lingering apple flavour. The landlord's own design of Kriek is often available also. Just over the bridge from the station is 'YES', 70 Grand Rue. It is a nice clean bright café style bar with rather minimalist décor. With its huge list of bottled beers it had an inspiring atmosphere. On draught were Liefman's Blonde, Blanche Dentergem, Kriek Liefman, Kwak (20cl), and Palm. There was no problem with the food either; the house speciality is Raclette.



Musée des Bières Belges

dear' looking after the establishment. At a small bar counter were a variety of Liefman's fruit beers on draught - raspberry, peach and blackcurrant while we were there - and 100s of bottled beers, with terrace space outside to drink it. There were five fonts behind the counter and another six behind

LUXEMBOURG, A CENTRE FOR BEER



YES, Libramont

Arlon

The capital of Belgium's Luxembourg province, Arlon is one of the oldest towns in Belgium. A trading centre for the Romans, it is now a relaxed country town where, at the corner of the picturesque old town square, is D'Alby, 1 Rue du Marché au Beurre, where we sat outside to admire the view. It is a comfortable pub inside also, with a modern smart unisex loo (see the future of Europeanisation!). There is a good selection of bottled beers, and the refrigerated cabinets for the beer seemed to be set at different temperatures for the different beer styles. Across the square is the Forum, 10 Rue des Capucins, a nice small cellar bar opening on Sunday at 17:00, Saturday 15:00, but all day mid-week. There are 116 beers on the beer menu but a few were not available on our visit. Typical of the mix of beers (i.e. what I tried) were, Maredsous Triple 10° Blonde, Saint Bernardus 8° Brune, and La Binchoise Blonde.

Ken Brewster

In the next issue the team crosses the Luxembourg border again, but this time to Germany and France.

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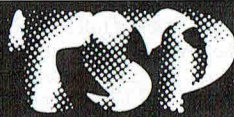
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FEBRUARY'S ANSWERS

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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 4 Pedals on a Tandem
2. 13 Lunar Months in a Year
3. 40 Days in Lent
4. 7 Curved Sides on a Twenty Pence Piece
5. 28 Dominoes in a Set (Double Six)
6. 6 Faces on a Cube
7. 9 Lives of a Cat
8. 8 is a Gale Force Wind on the Beaufort Scale
9. 80 Quarters in a Ton
10. 7 Pillars of Wisdom by T.E. Lawrence

BREWERY ANAGRAMS:

1. ALF IN BED - BANFIELD
2. HOSES - SHOES
3. MY LAW - WYLAM
4. AH! KEW DASH - HAWKSHEAD
5. ON STEW - TOWNES
6. HARD GAGS - HAGGARDS
7. SHUT LAW - SULWATH
8. BUG GAG RIPPER - UPPER AGBRIGG
9. COT GATE - COTTAGE
10. REALLY WOKE BREW - OAKWELL
BREWERY

5BY4 (Patron Saints):

1. St. Homobonus - Tailors
2. St. Ambrose - Bee keepers
3. St. Vitus - Comedians
4. St. Christopher - Travellers
5. St. Barbara - Architects
6. St. Michael the Archangel - Ambulance drivers
7. St. Matthew - Accountants

Oh what a silly billy I am! (I was going to say "silly arse" but one shouldn't use such words in print.) I have just spent an hour making up facetious interjections to go between this month's puzzles and then overwritten them with another file. Never mind, let's start again.

You can tell that Spring is in the air (and will be with us by the time you read this) by the early blossom on the trees - it sets off the surrounding snow beautifully. Thank goodness for a nice fire that you can all sit beside in your favourite balloon bar while you try these; it gives you somewhere to throw your copy in frustration when you can't solve these number puzzles:

1. 11 DS is the OR of the C of the E
2. 1912 YW the T S
3. 7 P for a CT in RU
4. 1000 K in a T
5. 86,400 S in a D
6. 2468 WDW?
7. 124 is a GM a S

8. St. Sebastian - Archers
9. St. Dunstan - Blacksmiths
10. St. Luke - Doctors

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. Seen particularly in East Anglia, pargeting is decorative rendering (or plaster work) applied to the outside of buildings.
2. Opposite the zenith, the lowest or closest point of the orbit of a satellite is called the nadir.
3. Parchment and vellum are both high quality materials used for documents, but parchment is made from the skin of sheep or goats while vellum is made from calf's skin.
4. The common name of Schubert's Eighth Symphony is "The Unfinished."
5. Florencia Bisenta De Casillas Martinez who had a No. 2 hit record in 1967 with "It Must Be Him," was better known as Vikki Carr.
6. Bob Davies is professionally known as Jasper Carrott (and his 1975 hit was "Funky Moped," as you already knew).
7. Dendrolatry is the worship of trees.
8. The President of the Universe who had two heads and three arms was Zaphod Beeblebrox (in the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy - of course).
9. The medal which has "For bravery in the field" inscribed on its reverse side is the Military Medal.
10. Four flags were hoisted on the summit of Mount Everest by Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tensing in 1953. They were for The United Nations, Great Britain, Nepal and India (in that order)

8. 10 S on a D
9. 360 D in a C
10. 4 Q in a G

You may (or may not) be pleased to know that I have finally got round to including all of the new breweries in the 2004 Good Beer Guide (that are anagrammable) in my stock of anagrams. There are five new ones and five older ones in this little lot:

1. LINDA HILLS
2. SHARED TALC
3. WITH EARTH
4. LOSER SWAM
5. CHEAT ALLAN
6. GET OGRESS
7. POPCORN GRADE
8. BEES PICK FLOUR
9. CHEERS ROBIN
10. COIN RAG

After last time's 5BY4 one or two people thought I had turned Catholic - No Chance! Anyway to avoid any doubts this month I am sticking to beers and as

IDLE MOMENTS

we work through the alphabet they all start with "Old..." All you have to do is match these:

1. Old Accidental
2. Old Bob
3. Old Chestnut
4. Old Dark Attic
5. Old Emrys
6. Old Father Thames
7. Old Growler
8. Old Humbug
9. Old Jock
10. Old Knucker

...with these breweries:

- A. Arundel
- B. Broughton
- C. Brunswick
- D. Concertina
- E. Frankton Bagby
- F. Hexhamshire
- G. Nag's Head
- H. Nethergate
- I. Ridleys
- J. West Berkshire

And so finally we come to what I like to call Trivial Knowledge (or is it General Trivia?) Who cares? Whatever it's called, here it is:

1. What (specifically), in brotherly terms, links Dire Straits with The Kinks?
2. Which folk/rock band (still performing) had their only chart hit in 1969 with a version of Bob Dylan's "If You Gotta Go, Go Now" - sung in French?
3. And talking of Bob Dylan, what is his real name?
4. What pop group included Pete Best (drums) and Stuart Sutcliffe (bass) in its early line-up?
5. Joni Mitchell wrote a song about this New York hotel (recorded on the album "Clouds" - 1969) and Bill & Hilary Clinton named their daughter after it. What is it called?
6. For which other car company did Enzo Ferrari run the factory racing team before starting his own company building his world famous motor cars?
7. Through what show was actress Goldie Hawn first regularly seen on British television?
8. Which tennis player was nicknamed the "Paignton Peach"?
9. Who is the author of "A Short History of Nearly Everything," published in 2003?
10. Wakehurst Place in West Sussex is owned by the National Trust but is administered and maintained as an outpost of what institution in Greater London?

Well that's about it, barring accidents. I trust that you will have a good Spring as Summer will be nearly upon us by the time the next farrago appears (then we shall be into duffle coats and mufflers - it's the global warming, you know!).

Bye for now.

Andy Pirson

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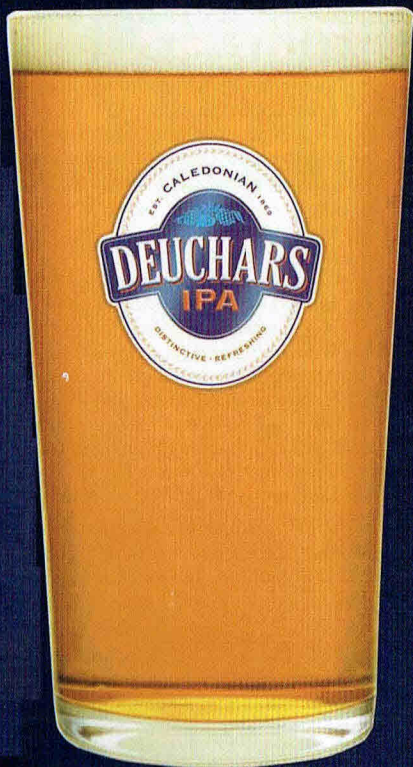
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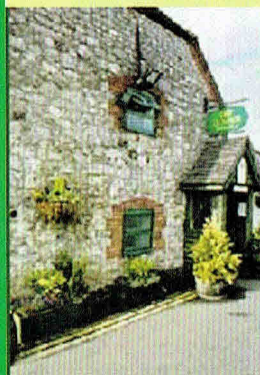
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