



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

LONDON

DRINKER

Volume 40 No. 5
October/November 2018

FREE



The Little Green Dragon - see page 16 (Photo by Richard Reeve)

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MASS LOBBY OF PARLIAMENT

On Tuesday 30 October, CAMRA will be staging a mass lobby of Parliament in advance of the autumn budget. The aim is to ask constituency MPs to support us on the following:

- Stop plans to increase beer duty in the upcoming Autumn Budget (UK wide);
- Put in place permanent business rate relief for pubs in the upcoming Autumn Budget (England only);
- Undertake an urgent review of the Pubs Code so that the Market Rent Only option becomes a genuine choice for tenants (England and Wales).

We are aiming to have two members



from each parliamentary constituency who feel confident enough to put forward our arguments to come to meet their MP on the day at the House of Commons. For Greater London constituencies, given the easier access, more than two members can take part. All CAMRA members in Greater London will have received an e-mail with full details. Alternatively, you can find the information on the regional website. To register, all you need to do is email campaigns@camra.org.uk and then you will be sent a template email to invite your MP to meet with you (you can use this or devise your own) and you will be linked with other delegates from your constituency.

The day will end at 4pm with a rally at the Emmanuel Centre, 9 Marsham Street, SW1P 3DW. All members are welcome, whether they have been lobbying their MPs or not. The speakers at the rally have not yet been confirmed.

WHO TAKES HOW MUCH FROM THE PRICE I PAY FOR MY PINT – A WORKED EXAMPLE

For a firkin of my favourite session bitter, the price paid to the brewer by the pub owning business (POB) via the SIBA Beerflex scheme is £57.87 plus VAT. That £57.87 includes £16.50 beer duty at the 50% rate applicable under Small Brewers' Duty Relief.

The price paid to the POB by the tied house where I drink that beer is £120.52 plus VAT; so the POB takes a 'wet rent' on that firkin of £62.65.

This particular session bitter lasts to well down the cask, so let's assume for the purposes of this calculation that the pub can get 70 pints out of each firkin (very conservative, I know); so the POB profit per pint is around 90p. I pay £4.40 in that tied house for that pint (I read that £4.44 is the London average price of a pint these days); so 20.3% of what I pay in this instance goes to the POB, 16.7% goes to the Government in VAT, 13.4% goes to the brewer and just 5.4% goes (via the brewer but not included in that 13.4%) to the Government in beer duty.

The remaining 44.2% has to cover the dry rent paid to the POB, the business rates, staff wages, maintenance and an income for the publican which is likely to be well below the minimum living wage.

And of course beer duty has no less impact – actually proportionately more! – on the price of discounted beer in supermarkets.

Why not do the same sums for your favourite beer in your pub?

Geoff Strawbridge

Branch diaries

Welcome to our regular details of London CAMRA contacts and events, where branches say what is happening in their areas that might be of interest to drinkers across London. Events for October and November 2018 are listed below. Meetings, visits and socials are open to all – everyone is welcome to come along. A complete calendar listing of CAMRA events within Greater London is available at www.london.camra.org.uk.

If you want to check on the areas covered by the branches shown below, please go to www.london.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=20208.

REGIONAL EVENTS

Regional Secretary: Roy Tunstall,
roytunstall.camra@gmail.com

October – Tue 9 (7.30 for 8pm) Regional Pub of the Year presn. Little Green Dragon, 928 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill N21 2AD. - **Fri 12** (8pm) Regional Club of the Year presn. Orpington Liberal Club, 8 Station Rd BR6 0RZ. - **Tue 23** (7pm for 7.30) John Young Memorial Award presn. Old Sergeant (upstairs), 104 Garratt La, Wandsworth SW18 4DJ. **November – Wed 21** (7pm) London Brewery Liaison Officers mtg. Brewhouse & Kitchen, 2A Corsica St, Highbury East N5 1JJ. - **Wed 28** (7.30) London Liaison Committee (regional co-ordination mtg for London branch reps). Royal Oak (upstairs), 44 Tabard St, Borough SE1 4JU. Website: www.london.camra.org.uk

LONDON PUBS GROUP

Jane Jephcote, jane.jephcote@googlemail.com, 07813 739856

October – Sat 20 Barking to Gospel Oak Line: (12pm) Victoria, Axe St, Barking IG11 7LZ; (1.30) Northcote Arms, 110 Grove Green Rd, Leytonstone E11 4EL; (3.45) Lord Palmerston, 252-254 Forest Rd, Walthamstow E17 5JN; (4.45) Beaconsfield Hotel, 359 Green Lanes, Harringay N4 1DZ; (6pm) Stag, 67 Fleet Rd, Hampstead NW3 2QU. Public transport will be required at times.

November – Wed 14 (7.15 for 7.30) Mtg. Royal Oak (upstairs), Tabard St, SE1. All CAMRA branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

Website: www.londonpubsgroup.camra.org.uk

LONDON CIDER GROUP

October – Sat 6 (2pm-6pm) Apple pressing. One Tree Hill Allotments, Honor Oak Park SE23 3LB. See www.ianwhite.info/apple_pressing_afternoon.html. - **Tue 9** Soc. Star, Goldaming; meet 6pm Waterloo station by ticket office for 18:15 train. - **Thu 18** (7.30) Cider pub of the year runner-up presn. Hackney Carriage, 165 Station Rd, Sidcup DA15 7AA, departing 9pm to Cotton Mill, 10 Station Rd, Swanley, Kent BR8 8ET. - **Tue 30** (7.30) Soc. Kentish Belle, Pickford La, Bexleyheath DA7 4QW.

November – Thu 15 Kew Bridge Rd, Brentford TW8 soc: (7.30) Stable, Unit 12, 8, 0FJ; then Express Tavern, 56, 0EW.



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BRITAIN'S BEST REAL HERITAGE PUB GUIDE 2017
MASTER CELLARMAN 2016

East London & City Pub of the Year 2006, 2008, 2010
and 2014

SPBW London Pub of the Year 2013
CAMRA GOOD BEER GUIDE 2019



A SPICY RED ALE WITH A FLORAL AROMA FROM WILLAMETTE HOPS

A COMFORTING AUTUMNAL ALE

YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

October – Sat 6 National Young Members Forum and AGM. See pages 12 and 14 for details.
Email group: <http://groups.google.com/group/london-camra-ym>

BEXLEY

Branch contact: Rob Archer, camr@rcher.org.uk,
October – Wed 10 (7.45), Cttee mtg, Broken Drum, 308 Westwood La, Sidcup DA15 9PT. - **Sat 13** Festival staff trip to Norwich; watch website, Twitter, Facebook for details. - **Sat 20** Soc. 8th Real Ale and Cider fest, Spa Valley Railway, likewise! - **Sat 27** Gravesend soc with Bromley branch: see Bromley diary; Bexley will be awarding Beer of the Festival to Iron Pier.
November – Wed 14 (8.30) Mtg. Venue tba. - **Sat 17** (11am) Kent Regional mtg. Kings Head, 65 Bexley High St, DA5 1AA.
Website: www.bexley.camra.org.uk; Fb: [camrabexleybranch/](https://www.facebook.com/camrabexleybranch/); Tw: @BexleyCAMRA

BROMLEY

Barry Phillips, social.secretary@bromley.camra.org.uk
October – Tue 2 Hayes BR2 soc: (7.30) Royal British Legion, 14 Station Hill, 7DJ; (8.30) Real Ale Way, 55 Station App, 7EB. - **Mon 8** Bromley BR1 soc: (7.30) Prince Frederick, 31 Nichol La, 4DE; (8.30) Swan & Mitre, 260-262 High St, 1PG; (9.30) Star & Garter, 227 High St, 1NZ. - **Fri 12** (from 7pm) Greater London Club of the Year presn. Orpington Liberal Club Beer Festival, 7 Station Rd, BR6 0RZ. See <http://orpingtonliberalclub.co.uk/beer-and-cider-festival/> - **Sat 20** Visit to Spa Valley Railway Beer Fest; meet (10.10am) Orpington Stn for 10:26 train to Tunbridge Wells (arr 10:58), then 15 min walk to Tunbridge Wells West Stn. - **Thu 25** Penge SE20 late afternoon soc: (4.15) Goldsmiths, 3 Croydon Rd, 77J; (5pm) Southey Brewery Tap Room, 21 Southey St, 7JD; (7pm) Moon & Stars, 164-166 High St, 7QS. - **Sat 27** Gravesend soc. with Bexley branch; meet (11.10am) Sidcup Stn for 11:28 train to Gravesend (arr 11.56): (12.10) Campbell Arms, 1 Campbell Rd, DA11 0JZ; (1pm) Iron Pier Brewery Tap, Units 6 & 7, May Ind. Est, May Ave, DA11 8RU; (3.15) Three Pillars, 25 Wrotham Rd, DA11 0PA plus up to four more. - **Tue 30** (7.30) Cttee mtg. Crown Inn, School Rd, Chislehurst BR7 5PQ.
November – Tue 6 West Wickham BR4 soc: (7.30) Swan, 2-4 High St, 0NJ; (8.45) Wheatsheaf, 135 High St, 0LU. - **Sat 10** Sidcup to Blackfen micropub soc: (12pm) Hopper's Hut, 1 Invicta Parade, Sidcup High St, DA14 6ER; (1.15) Hackney Carriage, 165 Station Rd, DA15 7AA; (2.30) Hangar, 37 The Oval, Blackfen DA15 9ER, (3.45) Broken Drum, 308 Westwood La, Blackfen DA15 9PT. - **Tue 20** Farnborough BR6 soc: (7.30) Change of Horses, 87 High St, 7BB; (8.45) Woodman, 50 High St, 7BA. - **Mon 26** (7.30) Cttee mtg. Brewery Tap (Southey Brewing), 21 Southey St, SE20 7JD. - **Thu 29** (3pm) Dark Beer Festival soc. Hope, 48 West St, Carshalton SM5 2PR.
Website: www.bromley.camra.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON

Social Sec: Terry Hewitt, 020 8660 5931, contact@croydon.camra.org.uk
October – Thu 4 (8.30) S. Norwood soc. Shelverdine Goathouse, 7-9 High St, SE25 6EP. - **Wed 10** (8.30) HG Wells, 101 Cheam Common Rd, Worcester Park KT4 8TA; (9.45) Nonsuch Inn, 552-556 London Rd, North Cheam SM3 9AA. - **Thu 18** (1pm) Lunchtime soc. Oval Tavern, 131 Oval Rd, Croydon CR0 6BR. - **Wed 24** Sutton SM1: (8.30) Shinner & Sudtone, 67 High St, 1DT; (9.45) Moon on the Hill, 5-9 Hill Rd, 1DZ. - **Tue 30** (8.30) Mtg. Dog & Bull (upstairs), 24 Surrey St, Croydon CR0 1RG.
November – Wed 7 (7.30) Sambrook's Meet the Brewer. Foxley Hatch, 8-9 Russell Hill Parade, CR8 2HA. - **Thu 15** (1pm) Lunchtime soc. Green Dragon, 58 High St, Croydon CR0 1NA. - **Sat 24** 407 Bus crawl: (12pm) Radius Arms, 205 Godstone Rd, CR3 0EL; (1.15) Pear Tree, 908-912 Brighton Rd, Purley CR8 2LN; (2pm) Crown & Sceptre, Junction Rd, S. Croydon CR2 6RB; (3pm) Skylark, 34-36 Southend, Croydon CR0 1DP. - **Thu 29** (8.30) London Drinker pick-up. Hope, 48 West St, Carshalton SM5 2PR.
Website: www.croydon.camra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY

Branch Sec: Andy Kinch, 07757 772564, elacbranch@mail.com
October – Tue 9 (7.30) Pig's Ear Beer Festival planning mtg. White Hart, Whitechapel E1 4TP. - **Tue 16** (7pm) Meet the Enfield brewer. Millers Well, 419-421 Barking Rd, E6 2JX. - **Tue 23** (7.30) Pig's Ear Beer Festival planning mtg. Rose & Crown, Walthamstow E17 4SA.
November – Tue 6 7.30 Pig's Ear Beer Festival planning mtg. White Hart, E1 4TP. - **Tue 13** (8pm) Mtg. Ye Olde Mitre, 1 Ely Place, EC1N 6SJ - **Wed 14** Walthamstow E17 Pig's Ear publicity crawl: (7.30) Rose & Crown, 4SA; (8pm) Bell, 4NE and four others. - **Tue 20** (7.30) Pig's Ear Beer Festival planning mtg. Rose & Crown, E17 4SA.
Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET

Peter Graham, 07946 383498, branchcontact@camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk
October – Wed 3 Enfield EN2 soc (8pm) Ridgeway, 76 The Ridgeway, 8JF; (9.30) Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, 0JG. - **Tue 9** (8pm) Gtr London PotY presn. Little Green Dragon, 926 Green Lanes Winchmore Hill N21 2AD. - **Sat 13** Spoons festival bash: (10am) Moon under Water, 115 Chase Side, Enfield EN2 6NN; (11.30) Alfred Herring, 316 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13 8NR; (1.35) New Crown, 80 Chase Side, New Southgate N14 5PH; (3.15) Railway Bell, 13 East Barnet Rd, New Barnet EN4; (5.30) Moon Under Water, 10 Valley Parade, Edgware Rd, Colindale NW9 6NN. - **Thu 18** (8pm) Soc. Prince, 1 Finsbury Rd, Wood Green N22 8PA. - **Sat 27** Arriva Route 310 crawl to Hertford via Ware; meet (10.30) Moon & Cross, 104 High St, Waltham Cross EN8 7BX.
November – Thu 1 North Finchley N12 soc: (8pm)

WANDSWORTH COMMON

BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL 2018

10th
Anniversary!!

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Wednesday Oct 31st (Preview Night) 6pm to 11pm

Thursday Nov 1st 1pm to 11pm

Friday Nov 2nd 1pm to 11pm

Saturday Nov 3rd 1pm to 11pm

Live music Friday & Saturday

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FROM WANDSWORTH COMMON STATION**

**Please help us with our beer order by pre-registering on
www.wandsworthbeerfestival.eventbrite.com**

Branch diaries

Elephant, 283 Ballards La, 8NR; (9.30) Bohemia, 762 High Rd, 9QH. - **Fri 9** (12pm) Visit to Watford Fest, West Herts Sports Club, 8 Park Ave, WD18 7HP. - **Thu 15** East Barnet EN4 soc: (8pm) Prince of Wales, 2 Church Hill Rd, 8TR; (9.30) Railway Bell, 13 East Barnet Rd, 8RR. - **Fri 23** Visit to Rochford Fest; meet (10.30am) Wetherspoon's Hamilton Hall, Liverpool St Stn. - **Wed 28** Winchmore Hill N21 soc: (8pm) Dog & Duck 74 Hoppers Rd, 3LH (9.30) Orange Tree, Highfield Rd, 3HA.

Website: www.camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor 020 8949 2099, ctaylor2007@freeuk.com

October – Wed 3 (8.15) Mtg. Royal Oak (upstairs), Coombe Rd, New Malden KT3 4RD. - **Thu 11** (8pm) Pub of the Year presn. Antelope, Maple Rd, Surbiton KT6 4AW. - **Wed 17** 7pm Meet the brewers evening, Sambrook's and maybe others. Edmund Tilney, High St, Leatherhead KT22 8AW.

November – Tue 6 (8.15) Mtg. Norbiton (upstairs), Clifton Rd, KT2 5PW. - **Thu 15** (6.30) Visit to Wimbledon Brewery, 8, College Fields, Prince George's Rd, Colliers Wood SW19 2PT. Names please if interested. - **Tue 20** 465 bus tour: meet (7pm) Star, Leatherhead Rd, KT22 0DP; then Shy Horse, Malden Rushett KT9 2NQ; Monkey Puzzle, Chessington KT9 2NE: Cricketers, Clayton Rd, Hook KT9 1NQ; Lucky Rover, KT9 1NY; North Star, KT9 1EQ.

Website www.camrasurrey.org.uk

NORTH LONDON

John Wilson, 07840 111590, jgwnw3@hotmail.com;

Stephen Taylor, 07443 473746,

stephen.taylor500@gmail.com

October – Tue 2 (7.30) Marlborough Arms Beer Fest. 36 Torrington Pl, WC1E 7LY. - **Tue 9** Lower Holloway Road soc: (7.30) Victoria Tavern, 203 Holloway Rd, N7 8DL; (8.15) Lamb, 54 Holloway Rd, N7 8JL; (9pm) House of Hammerton, 99 Holloway Rd, N7 8LT; (9.45) Duchess Of Kent, 441 Liverpool Rd, N7 8PR; (10.30) White Swan, 255 Upper St, N1 1RY. - **Tue 16** Highgate Road NW5 soc: (7.30) Bull & Last, 168, 1QS; (8.15) Southampton Arms, 139, 1LE; (9pm) Vine, 86, 1PB; (9.45) Junction Tavern, 101 Fortress Rd, 1AG; (10.30) Bull & Gate, 389 Kentish Town Rd, 2TJ. - **Tue 23** West Euston and Fitzrovia soc: (7.30) White Mustache, 7 Stanhope Parade, Stanhope St, NW1 3RA; (8.15) Refinery at Regent's Place, 5 Brock St, NW1 3FG; (9pm) Smugglers Tavern, 28 Warren St, W1T 5ND; (9.45) Grafton Arms, 72 Grafton Way, W1T 5DU; (10.30) Northumberland Arms, 119 Tottenham Court Rd, W1T 5AJ. - **Tue 30** (8pm) Beer and Cheese Tasting (booking essential: <https://event.bookitbee.com/17756/beer-cheese>): Pineapple, 51 Leverton St, NW5 2NX.

November – Tue 6 Kentish Town Road NW5 soc: (7.30) Assembly House, 292, 2TG; (8.15) Oxford Tavern, 256, 2AA; (9pm) Camden's Daughter, 289, 2JS; (9.45) Lion & Unicorn, 42 Gaisford St, 2ED; (10.30) Abbey Tavern, 124

Kentish Town Rd, NW1 9QB. - **Tue 13** (8pm) Mtg. (8pm) Snooty Fox, 75 Grosvenor Avenue, N5 2NN. - **Tue 20** (8pm) Xmas party. Doric Arch, Euston Stn Colonnade, 1 Eversholt St, NW1 2DN. - **Tue 27** Grays Inn Road soc: (7.30) Calthorpe Arms, 252 Grays Inn Rd, WC1X 8JR; (8.15) Blue Lion, 133 Grays Inn Rd, WC1X 8TU; (9pm) Duke, 7 Roger St, WC1N 2PB; (9.45) Lady Ottoline, 11a Northington St, WC1N 2JF; (10.30) Yorkshire Grey, 2 Theobalds Rd, WC1X 8PN.

Website: www.northlondon.camra.org.uk

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW

Roy Hurry, 020 8570 0643(h), 07971 316469(m), rh014q5742@blueyonder.co.uk

October – Thu 25 Sat 27 (12-10.30 daily) 18th Twickenham Beer & Cider Festival. See page 39.

November – Wed 7 Kew Green TW9 pub walk: (8pm) Botanist, 3/5, 3AA; (9pm) Coach & Horses Hotel, 8, 3BH, (10pm) Cricketers, 79, 3AH. - **Wed 21** (8pm) Mtg incl. beer festival debrief. Prince of Wales (rear room), 136 Hampton Rd, Twickenham TW2 5QR.

Website: www.rhcama.org.uk

SOUTH EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew, contact@sel.camra.org.uk; Social Sec:

Andrew Sewell, social@sel.camra.org.uk

October – Mon 1 (7.30) Cttee mtg & soc. Moor Beer Tap Room, 71 Enid St, SE16 3RA. - **Tue 9** Borough to Walworth: (7pm) Roebuck, 50 Dover St, SE1 4YG; (8pm) Spit & Sawdust, 21 Bartholomew St, SE1 4AL; (9pm) Manor of Walworth, 140 Walworth Rd, SE17 1JL; (10pm) Tankard, 178 Walworth Rd, SE17 1JL. - **Wed 17** Greenwich SE10: (7pm) Mitre, 291 Greenwich High Rd, 8NA; (7.45) Ye Olde Rose & Crown, 1 Crown Hill, 8ER; (8.30) Greenwich Union, 56 Royal Hill, 8ER; (9.15) Prince of Greenwich, 72 Royal Hill, 8RT; (10.15) Morden Arms, 1 Brand St, 8SP. - **Tue 23** Southwark SE1: (7.30) Fountain & Ink, 52 Stamford St, 9LY; (8.15) Beer Hawk, Unit 6 the Gallery, Stamford St, 9LS; (9.15) Mulberry Bush, 89 Upper Ground, 9PP; (10pm) White Hart, 29 Cornwall Rd, 8TJ; (10.30) Kings Arms, 25 Roupell St, 8TB. - **Wed 31** 'Halloween Ripper Fright Night': (7.30) Howl at the Moon, 178 Hoxton St, N1 5LH; (8.15) George & Vulture, 63 Pitfield St, N1 6BU; (9.15) Ten Bells, 84 Commercial St, E1 6LY; (10pm) Pride of Spitalfields, 3 Heneage St, E1 5LJ.

November – Tue 6 (7.30) Cttee mtg & soc. River Ale House, 131 Woolwich Rd, SE10 0RJ. - **Wed 14** Camberwell SE5: (7.30) Grove House, 26 Camberwell Gro, 8RE; (8.15) Joiners Arms, 35 Denmark Hill, 8RS; (9.15) Old Dispensary, 325 Camberwell New Rd, OTF; (10pm) Stormbird, 25 Camberwell Church St, 8TR. - **Wed 21** Quiz night. White Swan, 22 The Village, SE7 8UD. - **Fri 30** Deptford: (7pm) Dog & Bell, 116 Prince St, SE8 3JD; (8pm) Hop Burns & Black, Arch 1, Deptford Stn, High St, SE8 4NS; (8.45) Villages, 21-22 Resolution Way, SE8 4NT; (9.30) Job Centre, 120 Deptford High St, SE8 4NP; (10.30) Royal



YOU LITTLE BEAUTY



**Windsor & Eton's
Knight of the Garter voted
best Golden Ale in all of
London and the South East
... and third best in GB too!**



Knight of the Garter won Gold in the Golden Ale category for the 2017 CAMRA London and South East Region and went on to the 2018 Champion Beer of Britain Competition where it won Bronze in the same category.

Branch diaries

Albert, 460 New Cross Rd, SE14 6TJ. Website:
<http://sel.camra.org.uk>

SOUTH WEST ESSEX

Alan Barker contact@swessex.camra.org.uk, 07711 971957
evenings or weekends only.

October (from Thu 27 September) – Mon 1 Branch Weekend to Cardiff (by train) for the Great Welsh Beer & Cider Festival, local pubs and possibly including a brewery visit (tbc). - **Thu 4** (8.30) 7th South Woodham Ferrers Beer Fest soc. Village Hall, Hullbridge Rd, South Woodham Ferrers CM3 5PL. - **Thu 11** (8pm) Soc. White Hart, Kings Walk/Argent St, Grays RM17 6HR. - **Tue 16** (8pm) Soc. JJ Moon's, 48/52 High St, Hornchurch RM12 4UN. - **Thu 25** (8pm) Soc. Old Dog, Billericay Rd, Herongate Tye CM13 3SB. - **Wed 31** (8pm) Soc. Upminster TapRoom, 1b Sunnyside Gdns, RM14 3DT.

November – Tue 6 (8pm) Soc. Bell, High Rd, Horndon-on-the-Hill SS17 8LD. - **Wed 14** (8pm) Moon & Stars, 99-103 South St, Romford RM1 1NX. - **Thu 22** (8pm) 39th Rochford Beer Fest soc. Freight House, Rochford SS4 1BU. - **Wed 28** (8pm) Soc. Travellers Friend, 496/498 High Rd, Woodford Green IG8 0PN.

Website: swessex.camra.org.uk

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mike Flynn, 07751 231191, mike.flynn@camraswl.org.uk.

Cycling: Geoff Strawbridge, 07813 358863.

geoff@camraswl.org.uk

October – Wed 3 Clapham SW4 soc: (7pm) Belle Vue, 1 Clapham Common South Side, TAA (8pm) King & Co, 100 Clapham Park Rd, SW4 7BZ (9.30) Coach & Horses, 173 Clapham Park Rd. - **Wed 17** (7.30) Open cttee mtg. Trafalgar Arms, 148-156 Tooting High St, SW17 0RT.

November – Wed 7 Battersea SW11 soc: (7pm) Lighthouse, 441 Battersea Park Rd, 4LR; (7.40) Latchmere, 503 BPR, 3BW; (8.10) Fox & Hounds, 66-68 Latchmere Rd, 2JU; (8.50) Four Thieves, 51 Lavender Gdns, 1DJ; (9.30) Crown, 102 Lavender Hill, 5RD. - **Thu 15** (7.30) PotY short listing and GBG 2020 long listing. Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, South Lambeth SW8 2PB. - **Mon 26** (7.30) Open cttee mtg. Grove, 39 Oldridge Rd, Balham SW12 8PN.

Website: camraswl.org.uk; Fb: CAMRASwl; Tw: @CAMRASwl

WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan, 01923 230104 (H),

branch@watford.camra.org.uk

October – Sat 6 (8.30) Cider soc. Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty, Long La, Heronsgate WD3 5BS. - **Thu 11** (8pm) Annual darts tournament. West Herts Sports Club, 8 Park Ave, Watford WD18 7HP. - **Tue 16** Rickmansworth soc: meet (8.30) Coach & Horses, 22 High St, WD3 1ER. - **Thu 25** Oxhey soc: meet (8.30) Villiers Arms, 108 Villiers Rd, WD19 4AJ. - **Mon 29** (8pm) Mtg. Estcourt Arms, 2 St John's Rd, Watford.

November – Thu 8-Sat 10 24th Watford Beer Festival, West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford. - **Thu 15** (8.30) Post-beer fest mtg. West Herts Sports Club. - **Mon 26** (8pm) Mtg. Estcourt Arms.
Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

WEST LONDON

Paul Charlton 07835 927357,

contact@westlondon.camra.org.uk; Social Sec: Alasdair Boyd: 020 7930 9871 x 143 (2.30-3.30 and 6-9.30pm Mon-Fri), banqueting@nlc.org.uk, fax 020 7839 4768.

October – Tue 2 (7pm) Meet the brewer. Union Tavern, 45 Woodfield Rd, W9 2BA (must book with pub). - **Wed 3** SW1 survey crawl: meet (7pm/7.30) Buckingham Arms, 62 Petty France, SW1H 9EU. - **Tue 16** (7pm/7.30) Mtg. Walmer Castle (upstairs), 58 Ledbury Rd, W11 2AJ. - **Wed 24** W2 survey crawl: meet (7pm/7.30) Leinster Arms, 17 Leinster Terr, W2 3EU.

November – Tue 6 (7pm) Meet the brewer. Union Tavern, 45 Woodfield Rd, W9 2BA (must book with pub). - **Tue 13** (7pm/7.30) Mtg. Star Tavern (upstairs), 6 Belgrave Mews West, SW1X 8HT. - **Wed 14** W1 survey crawl: meet (7pm/7.30) Argyll Arms, 18 Argyll St, W1F 7TP. - **Tue 27** SW6/W6 survey crawl: meet (7pm/7.30) Durell Arms, 704 Fulham Rd, SW6 5SB.

Website: www.westlondon.camra.org.uk

WEST MIDDLESEX

Roy Tunstall, 020 8933 4934/07585 744533,

info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk

October – Wed 3 Hanwell/Northfields cider crawl: (7pm) Dodo Micropub, 52 Boston Rd, W7 3TR; (8pm) Grosvenor, 127 Oaklands Rd, W7 2DT; (9pm) Owl & The Pussycat, 106 Northfield Ave, W13 9RT; (10pm) Plough, 297 Northfield Ave, W5 4XB. - **Fri 5** (8pm) Harefield Beer Fest soc. 41 High St, UB9 6BY. - **Thu 11** (8pm) Ealing BF washup mtg. Forester, 2 Leighton Rd, W Ealing, W13 9EP. - **Wed 17** (8.30) Mtg. venue TBC. - **Wed 24** Ruislip cider crawl: (8pm) Hop & Vine; (10pm) J J Moons, 12 Victoria Rd, HA4 0AA

November – Thu 1 (8pm) Branch CotY presn. Questors Grapevine Bar Beer Fest, 12 Mattock La, W5 5BQ. - **Fri 9** (5pm) Watford Beer Festival (see page 49) - **Thu 15** South Ruislip (HA4) soc: (8pm) Bell Inn, 298 West End Rd, 6LS; (9pm) Black Bull, Victoria Rd, 0EF; (10pm) Middlesex Arms, Long Dr, OHG. - **Wed 21** (8.30) Mtg. Southall Conservative Club, Fairlawn, High St, UB1 3HB. - **Thu 29** HA5 'H12' crawl: (8pm) Moon & Sixpence, 250 Uxbridge Rd, Hatch End HA5 4HS; (9pm) Pinner Arms, Whittington Way, Pinner, HA5 5JS; (10pm) Village Inn, 402-408 Rayners La, HA5 5DY.

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Electronic copy deadline for the December/January edition is absolutely no later than Sunday 11 November 2018. Please send entries to ldnews.hedger@gmail.com.



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NATIONAL YOUNG MEMBERS FORUM AND AGM – 6 OCTOBER 2018

The forum and AGM, this time in Derby, is our national young members' flagship event. This is a great opportunity for young members from across the UK to get together and have a real impact on the future.

There will be three or four topics of discussion, followed by an open forum when any member may put forward their own ideas or thoughts on how we can improve the young members function. After the Revitalisation Project, this is the best time to get involved in this process.

This will be followed by the AGM during which we will elect the National Young Members' Coordinator for the next year.
Victoria Bishop Rowe

PIG'S EAR BEER FESTIVAL

The Pig's Ear Beer and Cider Festival, organised by CAMRA's East London and City branch and now in its 35th year, returns from 4 to 8 December.

Once again the venue will be the iconic Round Chapel in Hackney. This wonderful Grade II-listed building dating from the 1870s is the perfect spiritual home for our event. While the surroundings may be traditional, the festival is embracing the latest technology with payment cards (including contactless payments) being taken at the entrance and at all sales points.

This year we are featuring a staggering 230 beers, many of which you are unlikely to have tried before. There is a particular emphasis on new breweries that we have not featured before; a mixture of new seasonal and Christmas beers plus a few surprises. These include casks never before released from brewers who don't usually supply their wares in cask form, such as 40FT, Affinity, Brewheadz, Orbit, Pillars, Pressure Drop, Pretty Decent and Solway Society.

Also look out for O'Hanlon's Brewers Reserve 2010 Vintage (12.9% ABV). As far as we know there are only two casks left in existence; the other cask is in Japan and is currently waiting to be used at a beer festival over there. The beer is now eight years old and still maturing. We have also managed to secure a cask of Brentwood Brewery's Oak Aged Year Old Champagne Vlad Imperial Stout (9.5% ABV).

We will also be reintroducing a small KeyKeg bar and details of the beers to be featured will appear on the website and social media in the run up to the event.

Over on the British Bottled Bar we hope to have up to 40 different lines that will showcase another superb selection of magnificent beers from around Britain. Most of the beers are stonkingly strong and would make ideal gifts for someone to sip over the holiday season. There are many imperial stouts and a choice of barley wines among others. Making a debut on the British Bottled Bar will be Cullercoat's Brewery's Royal Sovereign (11% ABV) which is an all-English barley wine. We will also have Tynt Meadow, an authentic Trappist product brewed by the monks of Mount Saint Bernard Abbey at Charnwood Forest in Leicestershire.

The Foreign Bar will again feature bottled beers (and a few cans) from some of the smaller breweries of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the USA. Styles represented will include blonde, dark, lambic, wild saison, sour, fruit, Kolsch, aged and wheat. One to look out for is a collaboration brew between Het Uiltje from the Netherlands and Alvinne from Belgium called Cuvee Du Owl which is a whopping 15% ABV. We also have another 15% ABV beast this time from the Dutch Brewery Emelisse, called White Label Barley Wine (Heaven Hill). There will also be a small amount of draught beer dispensed from kegs.

We will be supporting and promoting real traditional cider and perry made from freshly pressed juices, with the cider bar taking centre stage under the pulpit of the chapel.

As usual, a range of hot and cold food will be available within the festival. Keep checking our social media for our updates as we will be posting news during and leading up to the event.

Although the event is organised by CAMRA, you don't need to be a CAMRA member to attend; everyone is welcome!

Finally we would like to thank our key sponsors, One Mile End and Windsor & Eton breweries for their support. For full details see www.pigsear.org.uk.

Alan Perryman

GREATER LONDON CLUB OF THE YEAR

Not for the first time, CAMRA's Greater London Club of the Year is the Orpington Liberal Club. The award will be presented by Regional Director Geoff Strawbridge on the evening of Friday 12 October. The club will also be holding a beer festival from Thursday 11 to Saturday 13 October. For more details see <http://orpingtonliberalclub.co.uk/beer-and-cider-festival/>.

Neil Quarmby

CAMRA COUPLES WITH EPPING ONGAR RAILWAY FOR FESTIVAL SUCCESS

From Friday 20 to Sunday 22 July the Epping Ongar Railway hosted its 6th Beer Festival at North Weald station. Over 1,900 drinkers enjoyed an expanded range of ales, downing more than 6,350 pints, including 1,375 served from the on-train bars! This year saw the railway formally join forces with CAMRA, who provided the equipment and expertise to grow the festival further. The event is now one of the biggest each year at the railway and contributes much towards keeping the heritage buses and trains in service for everyone to enjoy. Visitors also raised an incredible £924 for the Essex and Hertfordshire Air Ambulance in the process.

Highlights on the beer front were 18 casks drafted in from the North West, as well as many interesting ales from both London and Essex. Colchester Brewery's Cats Whiskers (a milk stout) was voted beer of the festival: this is very apt as



Organiser Alan Perryman (right) with two volunteers from the Air Ambulance

milk churns bound for the City of London were a primary cargo carried by the railway from Ongar during steam days.

In 2019, the railway plans to continue its regular series of ale trains and will be featuring several different breweries throughout the year. While the trains may be vintage, the bars are now employing the latest technology. Since August, we have been taking card payments on board on the move. For more information and news on the ale trains see www.eorailway.co.uk. 2019's festival is expected to be held in mid July.

Alan Perryman

A PAIR OF SUMMER PUBS

CAMRA's Kingston and Leatherhead branch have a Summer Pub of the Season award which is ideally made

to a pub that has improved in quality over the past year. The award is voted for by branch members and this year there were joint winners, one in Kingston and the other in Leatherhead.

The Kingston winner was the Willoughby Arms. In the past year the landlord of the Willoughby Arms, Rick Robinson, has agreed a free of tie agreement and can now source his real ales from any brewery he chooses. At the end of August Rick and his wife Lysa celebrated twenty four years at the Willoughby and offered a



Rick is on the right

generous discount to members of CAMRA and the SPBW (Society for Preservation of Beers from the Wood). The award was presented on 1 August by Chris Miller, the branch

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Pub Protection Officer in front of a number of members of both organisations who enjoyed a range of excellent ales that included a mild, a stout, some bitters and golden ales. Rick will have to find room among the many other awards that he has received over the years.



Dan is on the left

The Leatherhead winner was the Jolly Coopers in Epsom. The significant development here is that as mentioned in the June/July edition, the pub now has its own brewery, Fuzzchat. The brewery is expanding already and is awaiting the delivery of two new 120 litre fermenters.

Hopefully this will enable the brewery to produce some dark beers for the winter. The presentation was made to the general manager, Dan Clamp, by branch chairman, Richard Russell. The pub is also hoping to arrange a number of beer related activities, including a beer club, meet the brewer evenings and a beer festival.

Clive Taylor

A complete collection of *London Drinker* magazines is available on our website: www.london.camra.org.uk. You can use the website version to read *London Drinker* in larger print.

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Ever fancied owning a slice of brewing history?

If so, the 33rd National Breweriana Auction, organised by CAMRA's Games and Collectibles section, is just the thing for you. It will be held on Saturday 24 November 2018 and it promises over 150 interesting auction lots; everything from mirrors to trays; wall signs, bottles and books. There are also a number of stands selling brewery memorabilia to add to the atmosphere in the Victorian splendour of the Town Hall, Burton upon Trent.

There are all sorts of items from all over the country to decorate your home. Starting in the Midlands, we have an Offiler's jug from Derby (1876-1966); a mirror from Northampton Brewing Company (registered in 1887, merged with Phipps, closed in 1974) and a snuff box from (then) local brewer Marston's in Burton. We also hope to have a really unusual lot: two horse harnesses from



Nottingham's Shipstone's Brewery, (founded in 1852, taken over by Greenalls and closed in 1991).

From the Capital, we have an iconic Watney wall plaque, two plastic Charrington's pump clips in



the shape of toby jugs and a Mann, Crossman & Paulin water jug; the latter brewery closed in 1958.

If you have never been to the National Breweriana Auction before, the auction is great fun to take part in and is an opportunity to get some great bargains. And many of the items on sale can appreciate in value. Of course, as at any CAMRA event, there is some good beer on sale all day, sourced from a local brewery.

The event starts at 10.30am with the opportunity to view the lots and browse the breweriana stands. Bidding starts at noon and is normally finished by 3pm, giving you a chance to have a final perusal of the stands before visiting some of Burton's iconic pubs and then heading home.

Entrance is by catalogue (£3.00), available on the day, or £4.00 (including postage) in advance, by post from Bill Austin: 07789 900411 or baustin1951@btinternet.com. If you can't get there, postal bids are accepted, just contact Bill. For more details see: www.gandc.camra.org.uk. The Town Hall is in King Edward Place, Burton upon Trent, DE14 2EB and is wheelchair accessible.

Christine Cryne



Little Green Dragon – a dream comes true

Richard Reeve has always been fascinated by the concept of micropubs, so much so that in 2015 he embarked on a sponsored bike ride around one hundred of them, as reported in this magazine.

Then in 2017 he gave up his day job and opened one, the Little Green Dragon in Winchmore Hill. That however wasn't the end of his dreams: Richard has now found out that his pub has won CAMRA's Greater London Pub of the Year 2018.

Richard said, *"I was quite taken aback when I got the phone call. My family and I put a lot of hard work into Little Green Dragon but we must also give great credit to our lovely regulars who make strangers feel so welcome in the pub. Big thanks also to the many micropub owners who have given us so much help and advice and ultimately gave us the confidence to have a go ourselves. Thank you, CAMRA, for choosing us as Pub of the Year for Greater London."*

David Fenton, Pubs Officer for CAMRA's Enfield & Barnet Branch added, *"The Little Green Dragon was the first, and is still, the only micropub in our branch and it is the first time our branch has had a winner in the Greater London regional competition. In addition, this award brings the title back north of the river for the first time in four years. To get this prestigious award, the pub had to beat the thousands of pubs in London selling cask beer on a number of different factors from cleanliness and décor to welcome and community focus as well as, of course, the quality of the beer. The pub now goes on to be judged in CAMRA's National Pub of the Year competition so we are keeping our fingers crossed for even more success."*



no handpumps; all the beers are served by gravity, straight from the cask from a temperature controlled cellar room. Although beer is the core product, Richard has expanded the range of alcoholic drinks to satisfy the local community with real cider and perry, gins and even a couple of keg beers (from a local brewer) also available.

The presentation of the award is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday 9 October.

The pub's full address is 928 Winchmore Hill, London N21 2AD. T: (020) 8351 3530; E: littlegreendragonenfield@gmail.com; W: www.littlegreendragonenfield.com.

Opening times: Closed Monday, 4-10pm Tuesday to Friday, 12-10pm Friday and Saturday, 12-7pm Sunday.

David Fenton

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Great British Beer Festival

As usual, a very large number of people had a very good day out at this year's Great British Beer Festival. Amongst these were a party of CAMRA Greater London Region's Young Members.

YOUNG MEMBERS BRAVE THE BOTTLE AT GBBF!

At this year's GBBF young members were lucky enough to get a tutored tasting of bottled beers from across the UK. Run by Christine Cryne (who is fantastic!) we spent an hour and a half, away from the main action at Olympia, learning how to taste beer from the bottle and discover some new favourites.

Watercress beer might not be top of your list to try but with some very helpful guidance (look first, smell second, taste third) we put our new skills to the test and discovered a fair few of us do like pepper beer! My personal favourite was the Bexley Brewery Summer ale but there were a few very convinced by the milk stout.



Christine leads the way

Of course it wasn't just tasting; with Christine sharing her fascinating knowledge of all things beer with us, we came away with fun facts to wow friends at the pub, and an intrigue to pair chocolate with our next pint.

Thanks to Christine and Catherine Tonry, the festival organiser, for helping us put on a great event!
Victoria Bishop Rowe

This year's festival charity, fittingly given that we will soon be commemorating the centennial of the end of the First World War, was the Royal British Legion to whom generous festival goers donated over £17,500.

The dates for next year are Tuesday 6 to Saturday 10 August, 2019.

THE CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN

These are the overall winners from this year's Champion Beer of Britain competition:

- **Supreme Champion Gold:** Broken Dream Breakfast Stout from Siren Brewery (Berkshire).
- **Supreme Champion Silver:** Ripper from Green Jack Brewery (Suffolk).
- **Supreme Champion Bronze:** Workie Ticket from Mordue Brewery (North Shields).

Full details of the winners by category can be found on page 48.

THE WINNER

The Siren Craft Brewery is based in Finchampstead, Berkshire. Broken Dream Breakfast Stout (6.5% ABV) is described as a deep and complex blend of chocolate, coffee and a touch of smoke. The judges commented that it stood out for its aroma, taste and finish, all of which were superb. This follows Siren Craft's winning a silver award in this year's Champion Winter Beer of Britain competition at the Great British Beer Festival Winter back in February.

Founder Darron Anley said, "What a huge achievement that the Champion Beer of Britain is a heavy stout with coffee and lactose flavours in the midst of such warm summer weather! Broken Dream Breakfast Stout is one of our core beers and one of the first beers we ever brewed. We're absolutely delighted."

Nick Boley, CAMRA's National Director responsible for the competition added, "Congratulations to Siren Brewery for taking home the Champion Beer of Britain award with their Broken Dream Breakfast Stout. This is a distinctive, strong, well-balanced stout from an outstanding craft brewery. If there is any beer in the world that is dangerously drinkable, it's this one!"

Tony Hedger

BEER CITIES FORUM

Readers will recall that each year we carry information on the 'Norwich – City of Beer' event. Several other cities, notably Derby and Sheffield, also lay claim to the title. Indeed there are now around fifteen such events with more being planned.

Happily, courtesy of funding by the Brewers' Research & Education Fund (BREF), the rivals are getting together and have formed the British Beer Cities Initiative which aims to establish Britain as an international beer destination, encourage people to visit pubs and raise awareness and interest in brewing, beer styles and flavours. This applies not just to tourists but also to locals who may be unaware of what is on offer right on their doorsteps.

The first National Beer Cities Forum will be held on 8 and 9 October at the Georgian Townhouse, Norwich, NR2 2RB and it is hoped to attract representatives from beer weeks and beer city organisers, travel, tourism and heritage organisations, beer and travel journalists and beer, brewery, pub and travel trade associations. The aim is to share information, experiences and best practices across different localities.

This is not a CAMRA initiative but it is welcomed. Unfortunately, registration will have closed by the time that you read this but I'm sure that some CAMRA members will be there. For more information see <https://beercities.org.uk/forum>.

From a CAMRA memorandum



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Around the Blue Posts

'Meet me in the Blue Posts. I'll be there once I've finished my pint here in the Blue Posts. Then we'll go on to the Blue Posts, pop into the Blue Posts on the way and finish up in the, err, Blue Posts.' Not a line from Monty Python sketch but a plausible snatch of conversation from this London pub crawl.

In large towns or cities, it might be feasible to string together a pub crawl of half a dozen pubs of the same name: Red Lions, Royal Oaks and so on. However, according to CAMRA's What Pub website, every single Blue Posts pub in the country can be found in London's West End. I'll abbreviate the name from here on to BP.

Real ale drinkers love a challenge like this and a crawl between all five can be achieved by following a fascinating two mile route between Green Park and Tottenham Court Road by way of deepest Soho. And it's worth doing the crawl while it's possible; it wasn't for almost all of 2017 while one of the pubs underwent a lengthy refurbishment.



Two schools of thought compete over the name's origin. One is that blue posts were boundary markers when Henry VIII used Soho as a hunting ground ('Soho' was supposedly a hunting cry). There is some geographical logic to this, particularly as there used to be seven BPs in the area. The rival theory, and one endorsed by some of the pubs' signwriters, is that blue posts signified stops for sedan chairs. These were a popular form of transport for the wealthy in the 17th and 18th centuries, given the filthy state of streets. It is possible that both explanations are correct and, perhaps, linked.

The first BP is in Bennet Street, St James's, just off Piccadilly, around the corner from the Ritz (convenient if you're doing the crawl after taking afternoon tea). There has apparently been a pub on this location since Charles II's time but this version was built as recently as 2015, replacing a 1950s incarnation but looking quite similar to the old one from the outside. Inside it's the largest of the BPs, one spacious, open-plan room with some raised seating. Being



under three years old, it might not even fool a loud-trousered American tourist into thinking it's a historic pub. However, it compensates with Victorian-style fittings, many mirrors and dark wood plus plenty of old tube posters and vintage photographs of the locality on the walls. It's now a

Greene King pub, although its six handpumps offer the chance to sample guest beers outside the Greene King range (Sambrook's Junction on my visit).

The second BP is just the other side of Piccadilly Circus, on Rupert Street, in the margins of Soho and Chinatown. This pub only reopened at the end of 2017 after an extensive refurbishment by landlords, Shaftesbury. The building apparently dates back to 1739. The pub itself seemed to have been unchanged for almost as long, being a well loved haunt of many local Soho characters, including many theatre workers. As with many ex-pubs in Soho, this BP could have easily have been lost and turned into a 'canteen' or a burger joint. It is therefore reassuring that, post-refurbishment, the downstairs bar remains somewhere you're still welcome to pop into for a



quick pint (although the prices are such that you may think twice about a second one). Moreover, the real ale on offer is from a local London brewery, Sambrook's. The Wandle and Pumphouse Pale were well kept on our visit. The first floor and basement of this BP are a cocktail bar and counter-service restaurant respectively, the whole operation being managed by Zoe and Layo Paskin, who have been behind other nearby eateries that have recently caused a stir amongst London foodies. When the Blue Posts reopened at the end of 2017 it was for evenings only but they plan to open all day from the spring. In 1963, the day after recording *She Loves You*, the Beatles were photographed in the alleyway running along the side of this Blue Posts. They posed for photographer Dezo Hoffman against a backdrop of signs for striptease joints and the like, as this part of Soho was considerably less salubrious than the present day. It is said that it reminded the band of Liverpool.

The journey to the third BP is through what remains of the seedy heart of Soho. Go under the bridge above Walker's Court, the site of the famed Raymond's Revue Bar and drag-queen central, Madame JoJo's, and through Berwick Street



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Around the Blue Posts

market. The buildings are currently undergoing a substantial redevelopment and one sex shop still survives amongst the builder's hoardings. These celebrate the area's red-light past although it's a fringe theatre, not another strip club, that will open here in 2019. The pub dates from the early 20th century and is also historic in its way, altered very little from its 1970s incarnation as an archetypal Watney's tied house and as such one of an endangered breed, especially in central London. You'd be forgiven for expecting Regan and Carter to crash through the doors at any moment. The pub's clientele includes many Soho locals who know what's behind the red door in the bar marked 'Private'. The island bar serves Directors and Adnams Bitter and what the beer lacked in variety it compensated for with quality on our visit.

The fourth BP is a five minute walk away via Broadwick Street into Kingly Street, which runs parallel to swinging Carnaby Street. The area is a magnet for tourists and, unfortunately, the criminals who prey on them as I discovered when my pub crawl ended with a trip to Charing Cross police station to report property that was stolen from me here. This BP is a busy Greene King house with a downstairs bar featuring high tables and additional seating in a lounge upstairs. Ales are the standard Greene King range (IPA, London Glory, etc). There's another Beatles connection with the band being rumoured to hold early business meetings in the pub, manager Brian Epstein's offices being nearby on Argyl Street. The Bag O'Nails club, just down the road, is also where Paul McCartney first met his wife, Linda.

The fifth and final BP is just inside Fitzrovia, less than a ten

minute walk down a publess stretch of Oxford Street. Alternatively, the Soho back streets sport many fine pubs which aren't called the Blue Posts, if refreshment is required en route. Turn up Newman Street, opposite the under-construction Tottenham Court Road Crossrail station and it is the Sam Smiths' pub on the far corner which is fortunately one of their pubs that offers real ale: many don't. In true Yorkshire style you have a choice of one, Old Brewery



Bitter but, in its defence, it is cheap. Sam Smiths brew a wide range of beer; their lagers being some of the better examples from traditional British brewers. The spacious downstairs bar features lots of dark wood and there's a more elegantly furnished bar upstairs. As with many of their central London premises, Sam Smiths have restored the pub to its Victorian splendour and, as a consequence, it's certainly very different from the previous four Blue Posts. It's a reminder that, although the pubs share the same name, collectively they serve as a great example of the extraordinary diversity of the British pub.

Mike Clarke

THE GOOD BEER GUIDE

CAMRA's flagship publication has now reached its 46th iteration. As ever, it is the familiar format but equally as ever, the content has been fully revised and updated. Unlike other guides, the GBG includes its unique breweries section which lists every brewery – micro, regional or national – that produces real ale in the UK as well as describing their core beers. There are also tasting notes for the beers, contributed by CAMRA's regional tasting panels.

The Good Beer Guide is completely independent; no payment is expected or sought for inclusion and the pubs listed are exclusively as recommended by CAMRA members.

Thanks go to Cask Marque who have supported the Guide since 1990. Any entry that has Cask Marque accreditation is flagged up accordingly. Paul Nunny, director of Cask Marque said, *"The Good Beer Guide is still the leading publication listing the best pubs in Britain and will be celebrating its 46th year of publication. An entry in the book can have a significant impact on the awareness of a pub, which is why we continue to lend our support to its publication."*

There is also a Good Beer Guide 'App'. This is a live database of over 4,500 GBG pubs plus 30,000 other pubs and bars. It also includes the breweries section plus map references and links to navigation apps on your phone or tablet. Subscriptions start at 99p per month or £4.99 for a full year. A subscription is required to unlock the full functionality of the app. You can find full details on the website <https://gbgapp.camra.org.uk/>.

Cribbed from a CAMRA press release



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CORRECTION

Apologies to the redoubtable Dave Mountford who, in the PubCo tie update article in the last edition, I described as a former publican. As Chris Miller of CAMRA's Kingston & Leatherhead branch has politely pointed out, Dave is no such thing. He and his wife Lorraine are the tenants of the Boat Inn in Cromford, Derbyshire. This historic pub is in the Derwent Mills World Heritage site and looks well worth a visit. You can find full details on CAMRA's on-line pub guide, *WhatPub*: <https://whatpub.com/pubs/MAT/2046/boat-inn-cromford>.

APPRISE PUBS

I've not heard of Apprise Pubs before but private equity firm Downing LLP has provided them with £4.7 million of capital to acquire closed freehold sites in the Home Counties and convert them into high-quality gastro-pubs. The pubs will be operated by Oakman Inns. The first site, the Refectory in Hampton Hill, was acquired in April. With thanks to George Gimber of Richmond and Hounslow branch for the information.

FAUCET INN

This company, I think that it is fair to say, has a mixed reputation in pub preservation circles. They acquired the William Morris on the Merton Abbey Mills site some time ago and three years ago announced a total refurbishment, including the installation of a microbrewery. They even went as far as to purchase an adjoining building. Planning permission was obtained over two years ago and the pub closed in December 2017. Alas, they have now put the lease of the site on the market although it reads as if the landlords want it to remain a pub and want the purchasers to take up the granted planning permission for the microbrewery.

INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT

This story runs counter to the normal expectation. The Restaurant Group, who own, among other chains, Garfunkel's, have purchased the Food & Fuel pub chain for a reported £15 million. F&F owned eleven upmarket pubs including the Queens in Crouch End and the Prince of Wales in Putney. They intend continuing to run the pubs as pubs and are also planning to convert some of their restaurants into pubs. Their returns from their restaurants have been falling off and so they see this as a way of reviving the company.

JOHN SMITH'S GREAT BRITISH PUB AWARDS

The winners of the 2018 competition, organised by the *Morning Advertiser*, were announced at the beginning of September. Three London pubs featured. The overall Great British Pub of the Year (and Wine Pub/Bar of the Year) is the Red Lion & Sun, a Greene King outlet in Highgate.

The award for the Best LGBTQ+ Bar of the Year went to the Two Brewers in Clapham and the one for the Best Sports

Pub of the Year to the Famous Three Kings, next to West Kensington tube station.

Some pubs companies also had their own awards and the Greene King Pub of the Year was the Queen's Head in Pinner while the Punch Pub of the Year was the Albion in Islington.

HOW MUCH!

At the end of August the press made a great issue of the Craft Beer Co selling a beer at £22.50 per pint. This was Speedway Stout Hawaiian Special Edition (12% ABV) imported from the AleSmith Brewing Company based in San Diego, California. It features Blue Mountain Coffee from Hawaii. I say fair enough. So long as the price was clearly displayed, which I am sure in a Craft Beer Co pub it was, you make your choice and pay your money. As Martin Hayes of the CBC commented, *"it is a rare imported beer and is intended to be sold in thirds of a pint."* Beer sommelier Jane Peyton added on BBC Radio 5 Live that it should be compared to a glass of good wine which few people would complain at paying £7.50 for. One customer however said, somewhat enigmatically, *"It looks like Guinness but tastes like regret."*

Of course, whether beer in general is overpriced is a different matter.

LABELLING FOR KEYKEYS

The main problem with KeyKeys is the word keg. Perhaps we should call them keycasks? It is possible to serve cask conditioned beer from a KeyKeg but how do you know that this is what you are getting? CAMRA is trialling point of sale material which says 'CAMRA Says this is Real Ale'. This can be applied either to the wall or the tap. Just in case a pub is not sure one way or the other, the trial is being carried out with the help of brewers.

From a CAMRA press release

ON THE UP

The organisers of the Great British Beer Festival constantly try to improve what is on offer but they cannot match the vision of the site's owners who are planning to spend £700,000 on various improvements over the coming years. These will include a rooftop bar and a 'street food hub', a new theatre, cinema and conference centre, two hotels and office space. They cannot however touch the main halls, which are listed. These will just be upgraded. Consequently this represents no threat to the GBBF.

Compiled by Tony Hedger

You can keep up to date with these and other stories via the CAMRA London Region Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GreaterLondonCAMRA (login not required) and on the news page of the regional website: <http://london.camra.org.uk>

Britain's Beer Alliance, the people who brought you *There's a Beer for That*, launched a new campaign called *Long Live the Local* on 19 July. The BBA was formed in 2014 and is a trade-funded body whose principal members include the British Beer & Pub Association (BBPA – the POBs' trade body), ABInBev, Carlsberg, Heineken and Molson Coors. A number of small breweries and individual pubs have also joined to support LLtL. Their stated aim is to 'raise consumer, political and trade awareness of the importance of our pubs and the unprecedented financial pressures that they are under'. They have specifically identified beer duty, business rates, the apprenticeship levy and auto-enrolment pensions under this heading. They are encouraging people to write to their MPs, although not lobby them as CAMRA are, and they have set up a petition calling for a cut in beer tax. You can find out more at www.longlivethelocal.pub.

Although not paid-up members of the BBA, CAMRA supports this campaign because in many ways we originated the notion of pubs having a social benefit and they campaign on some – but significantly not all – of the issues that we do. You will note that their aims omit one of the issues that CAMRA have included in our Mass Lobby (see page 3).

To use the old saying, 'he who pays the piper calls the tune'. Consequently LLtL is not going to campaign against the massive abuses that are endemic in the tied house

system. Please see the article about the Blue Bell on page 28 for an illustration. I must make it clear that this is my personal view and not necessarily that of CAMRA nationally or regionally but I feel uncomfortable with CAMRA identifying itself with an organisation whose senior members are diametrically opposed to our views on what we all know is one of, if not the most, important pub campaigning issues of the day. Strangely, I can see where Professor Gilmore is coming from (see page 40).

Tony Hedger

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Wetherspoon's ban dogs

The JD Wetherspoon organisation have banned dogs or, to be precise, they are now enforcing what apparently has always been their policy. As Shakespeare would have it, it was 'a custom more honoured in the breach than in the observance.' This does, of course, exclude assistance dogs.

Listening to the debate on BBC Radio 5 Live on the day the decision was announced, there were a lot of people who would prefer them to ban children. Dogs are, Wetherspoon's say, unpredictable but I would have thought that that applied to people of any age as well.

I feel sad for the many single, often older, people who enjoy taking their canine companion for a walk and then stopping for a quick pint. In many parts of outer London there isn't anywhere else for them to go, (arguably because of JDW but that's another debate) although it is always possible that a micropub, most of which appear to be dog friendly, might come to their rescue. I can appreciate that it can be a nuisance to have someone else's dog sniffing

around while you are eating but would it not be possible to have some 'dog free' dining areas? Most JDWs are big enough.

I have no personal axe to grind here; I am not a dog owner but CAMRA campaigns for pubs to be at the heart of the community. Readers will recall the *Friends on Tap* report that CAMRA commissioned from Professor Robin Dunbar of Oxford University early in 2016. The first line of the summary says 'Nothing is more significant, both to our lives and to the national economy, than our health and happiness. The more friends you have, the happier and healthier you are.' It seems a shame that one part of community will now be excluded from one of London's major pub chains.

Finally it is slightly ironic that JDW do, of course, have a pub called the Barking Dog. Perhaps they will now change the name.

Tony Hedger

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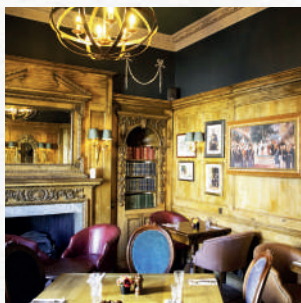
NEW LONDON PLAN

Preparations are in hand for the Examination in Public early next year of the Greater London Authority's new draft London Plan, the basic framework for all planning decisions in Greater London, on which we commented in support back in February. A later draft showing minor suggested changes is now available at www.london.gov.uk/london-plan-eip.

Jane Jephcote, the chair of London Pubs Group, spotted the following passage at 7.6.6 in the night time economy section: 'Boroughs are encouraged to consider appropriate management strategies and mitigation measures to reduce negative impacts on the quality of life of local residents, workers and night-time economy customers, particularly in areas with high concentrations of licensed premises.'

Geoff Strawbridge, CAMRA's Regional Director for Greater London, commented, 'I'd understood that those high concentrations of licensed premises had been consciously allowed by Boroughs in order to enhance the quality of life for night-time economy customers. However, I can see that concentrations of cocktail bars could create problems with itinerant hordes of youngsters smashed out of their heads on spirits, who may need sensitive and adequate policing.' We understand that is the concern.

On a more encouraging note, the following suggested addition in the pub protection section 7.7.4 may offer some hope that not all those long closed and unoccupied pubs landbanked by developers in recent years may be allowed to remain derelict indefinitely: 'Boroughs should consider the listing of a pub as an ACV as a material consideration when assessing applications for a change of use and consider compulsory purchase orders where appropriate.' Amen to that.



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Sometimes a story comes up that simply says it all. I know that the Blue Bell isn't a London pub although I'm sure that many readers have visited it when in York. What is happening there could happen to any pub anywhere that is tenanted and owned by a pub owning business (POB). The following is extracted from an article which first appeared on the website <https://www.yorkmix.com/> and was written by Nick Love, a beer writer and the Pub Protection Officer for CAMRA's York branch.

The Blue Bell is a Grade II* listed pub on Fossgate which dates back to 1798. It is important because it is York's smallest pub and it boasts an unaltered 1903 Edwardian interior. It is also the birthplace of York City FC. Despite making a success of this tiny pub, the charismatic landlord, John Pybus, only the 4th licensee in over 100 years, is facing an uncertain future. John's tenancy has come to an end. He wants a new one, possibly taking the Market Rent Only option (MRO) as is permitted by the 2016 Pubs Code. His POB do not want that, of course. It takes away their highly profitable 'double bubble' of charging him rent for the pub and grossly inflated prices for the beer that they supply. Nick says that in York POBs will charge £120 for a firkin of beer that is available on the open market for £65.

Consequently Punch have served a Section 25 notice (Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 – lease termination and eviction) to end his tenancy and force him to leave his business and his home. These notices are intended to cover

situations where the tenant has arrears of rent, has let the property fall into disrepair or where there are other serious breaches of the lease. None of these apply. What does apply however are the provisions that allow them to terminate a tenancy if the landlord (a) intends to redevelop the property or (b) intends to occupy the premises themselves. A Punch spokesman said, "We recognise the importance of the character and ambience of the Blue Bell and any investment will be sympathetic to retaining these qualities and maintaining the existing charm. Our proposal is that the Blue Bell will be operated under the terms of a retail contract, this is the ideal opportunity for a self-employed publican to operate on a turnover share agreement rather than the traditional tied lease or tenancy. With most of the operational costs associated with running a pub being covered by Punch, this gives the publican the opportunity to focus entirely on delivering a great pub offer while driving sales and profit." Either way, it's hard to see that this is a valid use of a Section 25 notice. Indeed, it sounds rather like what John Pybus could do if he had an MRO tenancy and as for redevelopment, this is a Grade II* building.

The legislation covering residential tenancies contains provisions prohibiting so-called 'revenge evictions'. These are when a landlord tries to evict a tenant after they have made complaints against him for failure to carry out repairs or similar. Given that John Pybus stands to lose his home as well as his business perhaps this is an area that the Pubs Code Administrator could look at.

CAMRA's York Branch has launched a petition calling on Punch to withdraw the S.25 notice and start negotiations. They were looking for 5,000 signatories and it had reached 4,433 by 5 September.

Ah yes; the Pubs Code Administrator. The POBs are obliged to submit annual reports on their compliance with the code. CAMRA submitted a Freedom of Information request asking the PCA to release details of these reports. He refused and so CAMRA appealed to the Information Commissioner who ruled in CAMRA's favour. Unfortunately by the time that CAMRA received it, it was not of that much use. The point has however been made that the PCA must operate with a proper level of transparency. To assist him in this, the PCA has appointed an Intelligence and Compliance Manager.

Working from the first set of compliance reports, the PCA has identified certain issues of concern, including the use of S.25 notices, which he is taking up with the POBs, by way of meetings with individual CEOs. I hope that he gets a move on. We are still losing three pubs a day.

Tony Hedger

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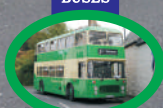
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You will find most of our regular pub news in the WhatPub Update column but here are some items that merit further comment, some positive, others alas not...

ALCHEMIST, WANDSWORTH

This pub was demolished in 2015 but was in a conservation area so that demolition without the Council's consent was illegal. The owners have now obeyed the order served on them by Wandsworth Council and have rebuilt this Victorian pub as instructed. From the picture that I have seen, it looks like a reasonable job. Alas, given that Wandsworth acted on planning rather than pub preservation grounds, its reopening as a pub is highly unlikely. If it does however I hope that it returns to its original name of the Fishmongers Arms.

BARREL VAULT,

ST PANCRAS INTERNATIONAL STATION

Wetherspoon's latest venture is due to open on 1 October, in celebration of the station's 150th anniversary. It will start with a beer festival selling 150 beers running until 31 October.

BLACK DOG BEER HOUSE, BRENTFORD

This was formerly the Albany which dates from 1900 and was closed down in 2010 by the police for unlicensed activities. It has now been acquired by one of the family who own the Express Tavern and the Sussex Arms and will open late September/early October as the Black Dog Beer House. There are also plans to install a nano-brewery. It just goes to show that it is always possible for a pub to come back from the dead.

BURN BULLOCK, MITCHAM

The latest news is that hotel accommodation will be built on the area behind the pub and the pub will be returned to its 'former glory'. One unresolved issue is the historic cricket pavilion which forms part of the site. There is much concern locally as to what will happen here as it is vital to the continuation of the club who have been playing on this site for 300 years.

CARLTON TAVERN, MAIDA VALE

Following on from the Alchemist, readers will recall that the local council also ordered this pub to be rebuilt and although progress has been slow, (the deadline for completing the rebuild was the end of July this year), I have seen reports that ground floor walls have appeared although it is difficult to fully see what progress has been made because of the hoardings around the site.

DOCTOR JOHNSON, BARKINGSIDE

This interwar estate pub was listed by CAMRA as having an interior of special historic interest right from the first edition of the Regional Inventory for London in 2004. It has however been closed since 2010, is semi-derelict and it looks like we will have to accept its loss as a pub; nothing now will stop it from becoming a Co-op shop. Some effort will however be made to retain its historic features. The planning application as approved includes the restoration and reinstatement of the bar counters and back bar areas and all existing windows and doors will be retained and restored, as will the plaster cornices. It is going to be a very odd shop. With thanks to CAMRA's Pub Heritage Bulletin.

EARL OF ESSEX, MANOR PARK

This Grade II listed building has stood empty since it closed in 2012. The current owners bought it in 2016 but their plan to turn it into flats upstairs and a pub downstairs was rejected by Newham Council in April. Recently, local campaigners who keep an eye on the pub noticed signs of illegal occupation. Even worse, those involved were trying to sell off the pub's fixtures and fittings on a shopping website! Fortunately, when Newham Council enforcement officers visited the pub (with a police escort!) they found that the fixtures that had been offered for sale were still there. The police warned the squatters not to try it again as it would count as selling stolen property. That said, the law around the protection of heritage assets is weak. Subsequently, the owners of the property obtained a possession order, the squatters were evicted and the site has been properly secured. It is good that this potential damage was brought under control but we still have a magnificent pub now tinned up and still in limbo after six years.

FOX AND PHEASANT, WEST BROMPTON

CAMRA's Pub Heritage Report for July included this item: this delightful small pub, tucked up a private road has now reopened after fifteen months. During this time there's been a substantial scheme to add a glazed-in conservatory at the rear but this does not impact on the two interwar bars at the front which can still be enjoyed. Sadly the interwar loose tables and chairs have been ejected in favour of a depressing mish-mash of second-hand furniture. More details on whatpub.com/pubs/WLD/16324/fox-pheasant-chelsea.

FOUNTAIN, NEW MALDEN

Famous locally as the one end of the 152 bus route, this pub, closed since June, will be reopened but with the loss of its extension, garden and car park, as well as its first and second floors which previously housed a kitchen, meeting rooms and staff accommodation. Overall the pub site will be reduced from 413 square metres to 214 to permit the construction of new blocks containing 43 flats and a shop or cafe. The planning committee welcomed the

Pubs update

developer's promise to donate £20,000 towards restoring the adjacent Fountain roundabout. CAMRA's Kingston and Leatherhead branch had objected to the application.

GRAPE AND GRAIN, CRYSTAL PALACE

Readers will recall that JD Wetherspoons bought the freehold of this pub in 2014 but allowed the popular existing tenant to see out his lease. JDW had great plans for the site, but Bromley Council rejected two planning applications, the most recent about a year ago. The reason given was that they made the site over prominent and out



of character in a conservation area. The first of these was also dismissed on appeal. There are no further applications in the pipeline and pub is currently closed. Local residents, who were unhappy at the loss of the old Grape and Grain anyway, are concerned for its future and CAMRA's Bromley branch are also investigating.

KING'S ARMS, EPSOM

This pub was built in the early 19th century and a prominent façade was added in 1903. It is not statutorily listed although it is on the Local Listed buildings schedule. It was originally a Young's pub but they sold it some time ago. Planning permission is being sought to demolish it in its entirety and replace it with housing. Objections are being led by the Epsom and Ewell History & Archaeology Society



A postcard of the pub around 1920

who do not want to see a genuinely historic building replaced by what they describe as a 'very poor design in a bland, square block devoid of any particular character.' CAMRA's Kingston and Leatherhead branch are on the case to add their support. With thanks to Steve Nelson for the information and the wonderful old postcard.



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LANDSEER ARMS, UPPER HOLLOWAY

After winning CAMRA's North London branch's Pub of the Season last summer with a pub in Islington, Steve Hall has won the award again; this time at the Landseer Arms in Upper Holloway. John Cryne, North London's Chairman, said, "This pub has gone through many guises. Originally called the Stanley Arms, the pub was closed as being uneconomic, then came back as a Wetherspoon's (a JJ Moons) before becoming the Landseer Arms in 2002. The refurbishment last year put the pub back on the map and it's great to see it being used by all ages, a pub that is truly serving its local community". Steve added, "I have really appreciated all the support from real ale drinkers. It's nice to get the recognition for all the work the whole team has put in. It's a real pleasure to be able to have a pub where we can showcase and support some of London's burgeoning local brewers."



John presents the certificate to Steve (left)

The Landseer Arms is a Victorian corner pub with two rooms, one with an open kitchen and a lantern ceiling creating a light airy atmosphere. There is also outside seating for warmer weather. The pub's name comes from the Victorian artist Edwin Landseer, whose works include the Trafalgar Square lions and the 'Monarch of the Glen' painting. The latter is normally based in the Scottish National Gallery in Edinburgh but will be at the National Gallery in London for two months from the end of November. "Very timely!" said John.

The pub has regular music (blue grass) on Tuesday nights and runs an annual beer festival at the end of September. The full address is 7 Landseer Road, Upper Holloway, N19 4JU and it is open 12-11 Monday-Saturday and 12-10.30 Sunday. Food is served Monday-Friday 12-3 and 6-10; Saturday 12-4 and 6-10; Sunday 12.30-4.30 and 6-9.30.

John Cryne

Pubs update

MASON & COMPANY, ELIZABETH PARK

Five Points Brewery closed this outlet on 7 September. Refreshingly, they released a very informative statement as to why and, quite simply, it was a matter of footfall through the former Olympic Park area. In the summer and when there were events on they did well, but most of the time this was not the case. There are many reasons why pubs fail but the simplest is that if there is not enough money coming into the tills then they cannot survive.

QUEEN'S ARMS, BATTERSEA

This Victorian pub (1865), now closed for two years, was saved from becoming a shop because of Wandsworth Council's blanket Asset of Community Value (ACV) listing. The Council has however now agreed an application to add an extra storey to create a three bedroom flat while the first and second floors together with a new side extension will be turned into four flats. The ground floor and basement will however remain a public house. The local CAMRA branch, South West London, did not object because the owners have made an initial lease agreement with a pub company which has a good track record and already operates two excellent pubs in Lambeth. The local community was consulted and the majority of responses were in favour. One neighbour wrote that *'with some love and care it can be brought back to its former glory'*. The chairman of Wandsworth's planning committee, councillor Will Sweet said, *"While we were aware of concerns about the loss of ancillary living space above the pub, we agreed with CAMRA that getting the pub back into use was a priority. We feel that the extensions agreed have preserved the character of this much-loved pub and we look forward to it being at the heart of the community again."*

SEXTONS OF HAMPTON COURT

This is just a small matter but it has annoyed me. The former name of the pub, the Cardinal Wolsey, was etched into the fabric of the outside wall. During external redecorations however, it has been cemented over. Shame, I say.

TRAFALGAR, SOUTH WIMBLEDON

I am very sad to report that Emma, the lovely little cat who resided at the Trafalgar in South Wimbledon, had to be put down following her ingesting some sort of poison which caused irreparable organ failure.

Compiled by Tony Hedger

The print run for this issue of London Drinker is 25,000. It is distributed by CAMRA volunteers to some 1,200 pubs and clubs in and around Greater London and a link to the on-line version is e-mailed to all CAMRA members in Greater London for whom we have e-mail addresses.



PRESENTS...



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It is amazing how time just creeps up on you. Recently, it was a bit of a shock to say to Duvel's master brewer, Olaf Blanchard, that I had met his mother! And what a famous parent at that. Madame Blanchard was the owner of Liefmans Brewery at a time when sour beers were unpopular. She came across to the Great British Beer Festival in Brighton in the late 1980s, when CAMRA was supporting threatened iconic breweries. The Liefman's name still exists and although today the beer is much sweeter than the beers I seem to remember back then, it shows how breweries need to adapt and change to survive and that also goes for Duvel.

These days in the UK, on the whole, we prefer to drink draught beer rather than packaged (can or bottle) but bottled Duvel is the product that has developed Olaf's reputation. The brewery believed that by developing a draught beer it could introduce new drinkers to the beer but they were very concerned that a draught version would not have the in-depth flavour of the bottled one and so a project was started to address this. After two and a half years, they felt that they got it right and, in the spring, the draught version was launched in the UK.



Christine in action

The beer is produced in exactly the same way, including 90 days maturation, and is unfiltered and unpasteurised. It is dispensed with carbon dioxide but, said Olaf, "only enough to push the beer through". The key was to get the right bore size for the dispense pipe; it's very small and non-recyclable. The refrigeration unit is set alongside the keg and so any outlet needs a reasonable amount of space beneath the bar.

Duvel have taken their time with this product. It was launched in Holland about eighteen months ago and then tested in France with further tests planned for the USA and China. In the UK, they have been cautious as to where to put the beer. At the moment there are just two outlets: the Canal House in Nottingham and the Draft House in Old Street. Why not go along and make your own mind up as to whether they have achieved their goal of emulating the bottled version?

Christine Cryne

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Here are the latest adventures of CAMRA's London Tasting Panel.

ENFIELD – A TRIP TO THE OUTER REACHES

Like so many of the breweries in London, there is an interesting story behind Enfield Brewery. The idea came about when Rahul Mulchandani decided to go out on his own. Rahul's grandfather came to Britain after the partition of India and Pakistan and founded Natco, the spice company. Then 32 years ago, Rahul's father set up a wholesaling business, C&C, which has gone on to be the biggest independent drinks wholesaler in Europe. It supplies both shopkeepers, who pick up their stock, and other wholesalers around London. Rahul worked in the business for seven or eight years, building his knowledge of the beer industry, particularly the craft sector. Rahul explained, "It was fairly clear my dad wasn't going to retire anytime soon and I was keen to run my own business; so setting up a brewery seemed a good idea."

Construction started in 2014 and the result is a very large building set between the wholesalers and a banqueting hall called the Meridian Grand, which is run by Rahul's cousin. The first brew took place in the new brewery mid 2016.



The reception committee

The brewery currently occupies only about half of the structure, so there is plenty of room for growth. It houses a 20 barrel mash tun, six 40 barrel fermenters (so they can double brew) and a bottling line. They hand fill their kegs, which they are slowly discontinuing. Rahul commented, "Bottles were our biggest seller but cask is taking over. We brew two to three times a week using water from our own borehole but any increase on that then we'll have to increase the number of fermenters."

There are four brewers with a definite international bent. Alongside Don Burgess, founder of Freeminer, in the Forest of Dean who joined them a few months ago, there is a Brazilian, Felipe Baswieisia and Alistair Brumley who is part Japanese, part Australian. They also have a sales person but delivery is done by themselves plus help from one 'external' person.



The brewery; much less crowded than many

The core range is Pale, Lager, IPA and Porter. They have been adjusting the latter's recipe using more brown malt and are looking to introduce a 4% ABV traditional bitter and a 6% ABV strong bitter. Most of the beer tends to be at the stronger end of the scale due to the prominence of bottled beers and the need for a reasonable shelf life. The designs used are simple; Rahul explained, "With everyone going bright and complex, we decided to keep it simple. I am dyslexic and simple means it's easier for me too. We are also redesigning our pump clips for improved readability." Rahul's dyslexia also had another impact. Enfield is the old Saxon spelling for the area as listed in the Domesday Book but Rahul missed out the 'i' when filling in the forms to set up the brewery and so the name has just stuck.

Many London Wetherspoon's stock the 6.5% ABV Pale in bottles (look out for it) and the brewery had an open day in late September and there may be more in the future: see <http://enfieldbrewery.co.uk/>. Notes on the beers tasted by the London Tasting Panel can be found on the brewery pages of the CAMRA London website: <https://www.london.camra.org.uk/>.

PORTOBELLO, A WESTSIDE STORY

It still might be remote but Portobello is a brewery worth seeking out. It was back in 2013 when the London Tasting Panel paid their first visit to Portobello and a lot has changed in five years.

The brewery was set up by Rob Jenkins at the end of 2012



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with Farooq Khalid as the brewer. The following year, after some persuasion from Rob, Portobello were joined by Joe Laventure. Joe and Rob are old colleagues; they worked together at Whitbread and both subsequently spent time with various breweries including Brakspear's and Ridley's. Joe's last role was heading up Budvar UK, so both have a wealth of experience and the resilience to adapt to an increasingly competitive market.

Like many brewers at the beginning of London's brewery revolution, Portobello have done well. They have invested heavily and increased their brew length to 30 barrels, put in an office on the ground floor and a mezzanine in the brewery



The Tasting Panel at work

for storage. There are now nine fermenters, ranging from ten to 60 barrels. Farooq explained, *"Our mash tun is adaptable, meaning we can use it a third full. This gives us a lot more flexibility in the beers we can produce."* More investment is planned for the future. Farooq would like to buy a hop infuser; this works like a giant tea bag, enabling the brewery to increase the hop character in their beers.

It is pleasing to see another London brewery grow: their turnover is in excess of £1.5 million. There are now twelve people employed: four in the brewery (including Farooq), three drivers, a part time credit controller, two account managers plus Rob and Joe. They have a small export market in addition to supplying some 450 pubs. Rob noted that of these, about a third are keg as they need to keep the beer longer. Farooq added that the intention had been to go fully keg but customer demand means that 25% of the turnover is still cask. Currently, the bottling and canning is done off site by Marston's. The bottles are pasteurised but hop oil is added to help address the hop character loss that

the pasteurisation causes. The canned beers are microfiltered. Much of the London Pilsner production is also done off site.

Portobello use dry yeast to maintain their quality. Unusually, they use a lot of Polish hops such as Marynka. Interestingly, Poland currently grows more hops than the UK and Farooq explained that they are value for money. Their core range is London Pilsner, which is stocked by Tesco (it also sells well in the Portobello district of Edinburgh!), Westway Pale Ale, Star and Market Porter. They also produce two seasonal beers plus the odd one-offs, such as O Canada brewed for the Maple Leaf in Soho for Canada Day. The tasting notes of these beers plus a couple more, as put together by the Tasting Panel, can be found in the Brewery section of the CAMRA London regional website as above.

As well as pubs, Portobello have stands at markets and other events and they continue to look at new initiatives. They have started to brew at the George & Dragon in Acton, at what was formerly the Dragonfly Brewery. Look out for more details or visit their website: www.portobrewing.com.

FOURPURE – A RISING STAR

Each year, *Drinks Retailing News* runs the International Beer Challenge to find the best beers and breweries in the world. Over time, there have been more and more entries and 2018 saw entries from 39 different countries. It was therefore no mean feat for London's Fourpure Brewing Co to win the Glenn Payne Rising Star trophy as the best up and coming brewery in the world. They took home a worthy gold, a silver and two medals across all the categories judged. See www.internationalbeerchallenge.com/winners for a full list of winners.



The Fourpure crew

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HERE WE GO AGAIN

At the end of August we were treated to yet another 'study of studies' called the Global Burden of Diseases compiled by the University of Washington in Seattle, USA. It included data from 195 countries covering 694 studies involving 28 million people during the period 1990 to 2016. The outcome is, predictably, that there is no safe level of alcohol consumption, not even our own Chief Medical Officer's 14 units. The study has, of course and equally predictably, been welcomed by the anti-alcohol lobby. So what does this study tell us? I assume that in making it as widespread as possible, the authors hope to persuade us that it is near infallible. Given that drinking cultures vary so much across the world, I am far from convinced.

AND AGAIN...

Just as we go to print, following a YouGov poll that indicates that one in five adults in the UK drink more than their 14 unit guideline, Public Health England and the Drinkaware Trust have come up with a new campaign urging people to have at least two days off the booze each week. I suspect that most readers of this magazine already do that and, indeed, it has been advocated in these pages more than once so thanks for nothing. A personal view this, but I can't help thinking that it would be better if the money spent on these surveys was donated instead to the NHS to help with the treatment of those unfortunate people who suffer from serious alcohol-related illness – and it is an illness, not some sort of moral failure.

There has been some fallout. The Drinkaware Trust is largely funded by the drinks industry and not everyone is happy with the link. Consequently Professor Sir Ian Gilmore, the chief external alcohol adviser to Public Health England, has resigned.

NEWS FROM DRINKERS' VOICE

Drinkers' Voice, the movement which 'encourages conversation around how drinking in moderation can play a positive role in our lives', has appointed Rachel Auty as a director. Ms Auty, a CAMRA member, is a marketing and communications professional of 20 years standing who founded Women On Tap in 2017. She is passionate about both the beer industry and the representation of women within it. She said, "I'm really looking forward to contributing to the shaping of Drinkers' Voice. It's so important to call out the inaccuracies and scaremongering, and to highlight the counter arguments on health, wellbeing, and drinking in order to rebalance opinion. The anti-alcohol lobby has held a monopoly on this subject for too long. It's time to provide the public with the facts they need so they can form new and better informed viewpoints."

Drinkers' Voice is run by volunteers and funded entirely by donations from the public. To help support the movement, donate at drinkersvoice.org.uk/campaigns/donate/.

LOW ALCOHOL BEERS

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) recently opened consultations on the definition of low alcohol beverages. The British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA) wants the definition of 'alcohol free' changed from 0.05% ABV to 0.5% ABV (from a twentieth of to a half of one percent). This

will bring the UK in line with Europe, the USA, Australia and New Zealand. They also want to see the introduction of a 'low strength' classification (between 0.5% ABV and 1.2% ABV) and a 'lighter' or mid-strength classification for beers between 1.2% ABV and 3.5% ABV, as has recently been introduced by the Australian government, which provides tax relief on beers of this strength; these now make up around 25% of the market. Dear me! What would Bazza McKenzie say? In the UK there is a lower rate of duty on beers from 1.2% to 2.8% ABV and many would like to see this extended to 3.5% ABV.

In the *Guardian* on 10 September, the sports commentator Adrian Chiles, who has been very candid about his own problems with alcohol, reviewed some low alcohol beers. He tried ten of them and his winners were Sainsbury's Low Alcohol Czech Lager (0.5% ABV) and Samuel Smith's Alpine Lager (2.8% ABV).

GETTING THE FULL PICTURE

As part of the above, the BBPA also want the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) to relax their rules to permit the wider advertising of low strength drinks. According to the *Guardian* however, the apparently yet unnamed charity formed by the merger of Alcohol Concern and Alcohol Research claims that the drinks market is badly regulated. It was very critical of the industry-funded Portman Group for its alleged inconsistency and claimed that with the ASA dealing with advertising and OfCom regulating sponsorship, no-one was 'seeing the full picture'. I am loath to concede anything to the anti-alcohol lobby but as a believer in joined up government I can see their point.

Compiled by Tony Hedger

BEER FROM THE WOOD

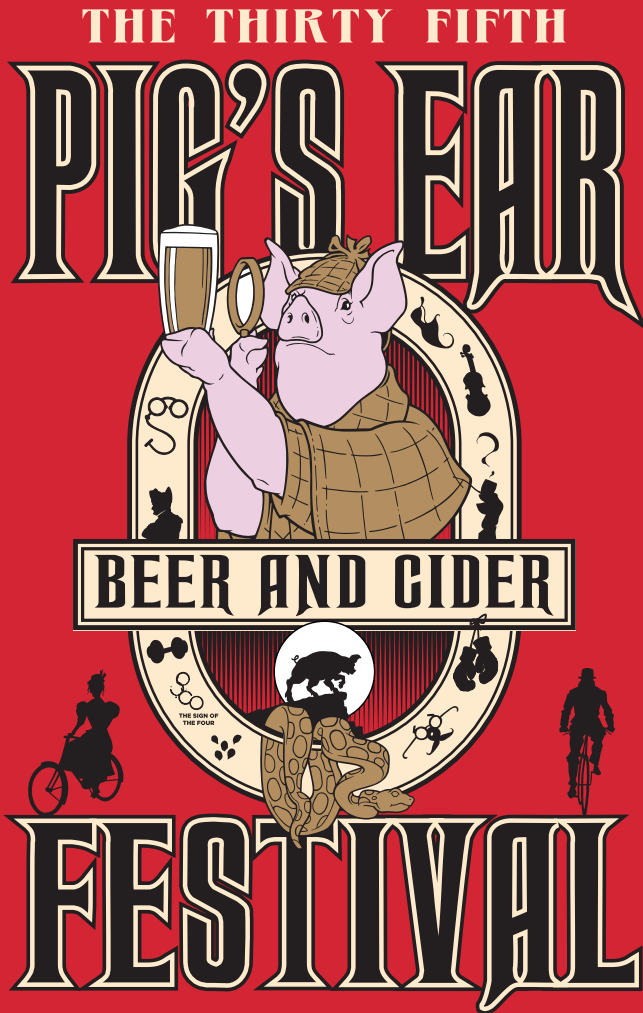
CAMRA recognises that storing beers in wooden casks for a period of up to two years has considerable historical precedent and can have a positive effect on the characteristics of some beers, and that skilful brewers may choose to use this technique when conditioning a beer or preparing it for sale.

CAMRA believes that:

- In order to give the consumer the most accurate information, the term 'barrel-aged' should be confined to those beers that have been stored in a wooden cask for a minimum of six months.
- Where the name of the wood is stated in the claim then the container must be primarily constructed of this type of wood.
- In cases where the beer has been in contact with wood for less than six months the use of the term 'aged' is inappropriate.
- Where the effect is imitated by the introduction of wood chips or some similar means and the storage period six months or more these beers may reasonably be described as 'wood-aged'.

From a CAMRA factsheet

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ANSPACH & HOBDAY

A&H obtained the funds for their original brewing kit through the non-equity platform Kickstarter. Now, four years later and faced with shortly being at full capacity, they are looking to move to new, larger premises capable of brewing up to 5,000 hectolitres. High rents in the Bermondsey area mean that these will not be near their current premises in Druid Street but most likely in the Deptford, Lewisham or Croydon areas. Wherever they end up it will definitely be within the M25 if for no other reason that they want to stay in the Thames Water area to help

maintain the water profile of the beers. The existing tap room (one of the best on the 'Bermondsey Mile' in my opinion) will be retained and expanded although some production will be retained.

A&H intend to fund the expansion through another round of crowdfunding as opposed to taking money from the national breweries as seems to be the current trend. If you are interested, see their website: www.anspachandhobday.com or email your interest to invest@anspachandhobday.com. To celebrate the project, A&H have brewed a special 3.8% ABV rye pale ale called Crowdfunder.

I should make it clear that our mentioning it here does not constitute a recommendation and any reader who is not sure what is involved should seek independent financial advice.

BLOCK BREWERY

Block are based in the cellar of the renowned Wenlock Arms in Hoxton but operate as an entirely separate business. They will be brewing a one-off Export Stout exclusively for the forthcoming Pig's Ear Beer & Cider Festival. It will be strong, probably around 8% ABV, and will be available in cask and bottled form.

Keen Massey

FULLER'S

It has been announced, much to my surprise I have to admit, that some Dark Star Hophead is now being brewed at Fuller's brewery in Chiswick. I would not have thought that they had capacity unless some Fuller's brands have gone the other way. That said, the most recent pint of Hophead that I had, which might have been from Chiswick, was very much back on form.

REUNION ALES

The move into the adjoining unit has been completed. All brewing is carried out in the initial unit and the new unit is being used to store filled casks, kegs and cans. The new visitor centre/brewery tap will also be sited in this unit at mezzanine level. Reunion currently brew on four days a week but this will move to five shortly with the aim being to move to a seven day cycle sooner than later to cover cask, KeyKeg and cans. It is also likely that a new cold liquor tank will be needed soon.

The core beers remain Opening Gambit, Incredible, Beardtongue and Talwar. Isotonic, an earlier trial brew, is to be brewed more frequently throughout the year during major

sporting events and Engage will be brewed during major rugby tournaments.

PIA, a South Pacific Porter with Waimea hops and available in can and keg won Gold in its category at SIBA SEBeerCon and will go on to national awards in 2019. The beer is not filtered or pasteurized and is unfiltered.

Doug Scott

SOLVAY SOCIETY

This Newbury Park based brewery specialises in Belgian-style beers and has just launched a one-off collaboration with Epping Good Honey. The beer is called Duality (4.2% ABV) and is available in 330ml bottles (bottle conditioned) and in both steel keg and KeyKeg form. The beer is described as a Belgian Session Pale Ale with wildflower honey. The brewery are not usually associated with cask but they will be supplying the Pig's Ear Beer & Cider Festival with two different beers.

Keen Massey

TAP EAST

On 4 October the brewer will be taking part in a student event in Westfield Stratford City where he will be doing a tutored tasting of some of Tap East's beers and giving impromptu brewery tours for those who are interested between 6.30 and 7.30. On 26 October Tap East will be celebrating their birthday by releasing an unfiltered Vienna Lager, dry hopped with Saaz, Tettnanger and Mandarin Bavaria hops. They will also have a number of rarely seen specials from other breweries on the taps.

THAMES SIDE BREWERY

Apologies to owner/brewer Andy Hayward; Thames Side are both inside the M25 and members of the London Brewers' Alliance so I should have included them in the list of London beers in my article about the Great British Beer Festival in the last edition.

Andy reports that as part of their sponsorship of a local seven-a-side rugby team, he produced a special beer for their end of season bash at the Masons Arms in Teddington. The team is called Tropics and so the beer was called Tropical Pale Ale, brewed with citrus hops and additions of mango and mandarin. Andy commented, *"Being a traditional chap I had never attempted anything like this before and I was hugely nervous on the night. However, from the first pint poured, it was hugely popular with both the team and the pubs regulars."* It may now become a regular beer.

TWO TRIBES

Here is another new taproom to try out. Their brewhouse and taproom can be found at Tileyard Studios, Tileyard Road, N7 9AH which is just north of King's Cross Station. It is approximately 10 to 15 minutes walk or alternatively on the 390 bus route. Expect to find ten taps serving at least eight of their own beers plus two guests.

The taproom hours are: Mon 11-7; Tue and Wed 11-11; Thu 11-10; Fri 11 to midnight; Sat noon to midnight and closed Sun.

Keen Massey

Tony Hedger except where credited

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Underneath the arches

Only with sufficient years does one remember an integrated British Rail. There was a vast property empire which subsequently was not the first priority of Railtrack. Consequently for many years the arches beneath some parts of the track were neglected and they became the home of emerging industries attracted by low rents such as vehicle workshops, artists' ateliers, craft workshops and of course, breweries. Recently facilities provided by the landlords have been enhanced but it has been reported that the rents sought have increased, in some cases by 500%.

If one alights at Bethnal Green underground station, walks along the south side of Bethnal Green Road and slips through the furniture establishment, one finds a recent addition to the brewing scene: Old Street. It is a mile or so from the street in question. Adjacent to a provider of comestibles there is a small establishment with ambitions. If one continues underneath the railway line to the north of Bethnal Green Road in Paradise Row, you will find the well established bottle shop, Mother Kelly's.

Continuing to the north the Redchurch Brewery awaits. It has a mezzanine floor bar which is open on Thursdays, Fridays and during weekends. It is about a kilometre from Redchurch Street.

If a similar meander appeals, alight at Hackney Central station and cross the road diagonally into Bohemia Place. Keep walking along the south side of the bus garage. The first brewery is Saint John's, which takes its name from the parish where it is located. This was the brainchild of a vicar but is now a commercial venture with an adjoining arch for provender and seats. The staff have interesting views on recycling and protecting the environment. Currently beers are served from tanks above and behind the bar.

Move on from arch 16 to 19 to find the experimental brewery

for Pressure Drop and Verdant. Some offerings include locally sourced botanicals.

Last year Deviant and Dandy moved from Broadway Market to 184 Nursery Road (at the end of the row of arches). Proceed up Nursery road to arch 185 which is a continuation of the run of arches. Turn left at the lights into Morning Lane and left again for Ponsford Street. You will find the Boxcar Brewery in arch 221.

The award winning Chesham Arms is nearby at 15 Mehetabel Road (check the opening hours).

None of the breweries I have mentioned currently offers real ale; two of them only serve on site. Some have aspirations and some of the beers are matured in the wood. It will be interesting to follow their fortunes.

J W Grayson

Editor's note: worryingly, as we go to press, it was reported that over 5,000 railway arches have been sold by Network Rail as a package for £1.5 billion to a joint venture put together by private equity fund Blackstone Property Partners and UK asset manager Telereal Trillium. They have been sold on a 150 years lease with Network Rail retaining the freehold for operational reasons. In an open letter to the tenants of the arches, the investment duo committed to a 'tenants first charter'. The managing director of Telereal Trillium, Adam Dakin, told the *Daily Telegraph* that it would be 'absolutely crazy' to make tenants' lives more difficult financially and that "Our rationale for buying this isn't to come and squeeze a load of money out of it." The Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA) has registered their concern.

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The drinkers of the Czech Republic consume more beer per head than anywhere else in the world, so why not celebrate it? Recently, the Czech Embassy in Notting Hill hosted an event in their garden to showcase the products of seventeen different Czech brewers and the sun shone!

Budvar were there with their original lager and the less available unfiltered hazy version, alongside their dark lager. You may also have heard of Bernard and Zubr but most of the breweries were unfamiliar. Interestingly, what really struck home was the age of some of the breweries and how lucky the Czech Republic is to still have them. Pivovar Herold dates from 1506, Breckav from 1522 and Hubertus is even older, having started in 1457, making it one of Europe's oldest breweries.

Even the newer entrants to the market such as Praga, who gypsy brew, base their brews on beer recipes dating from the late 1700s and London's own Bohem Brewery in Tottenham were also there publicising their authentic approach. Most of the beers available from the breweries were lager styles but there was a huge variety in flavour, from bitter to sweet, from gold to amber to dark.

So what makes a Czech lager special? It needs between 100 to 200 days to brew and, typically, a real Czech lager uses double or triple mashing. Then, unlike many beers, the fermentation only transforms three quarters of the sugars with the rest taking place during the long, cool maturation, which gives a depth of flavour. Try it against most UK

brewed lagers, which take ten days to brew; you can taste the difference.

The Czech Republic's motto is 'Land of Stories', and with breweries such as Kutna Hora, who can date brewing since 1573 in the UNESCO listed medieval royal city of the same name, there are plenty of beer tales!

If you are interested in finding out more, the Czech Tourist Office produces a map of Czech breweries listing forty of them: www.czechtourism.com. Enjoy!

Christine Cryne

Editor's note: there were two Budvar 'tank' beers at the Great British Beer Festival this year, topped up fresh each day, and very good they were.

**The Oxford English Dictionary
defines real ale as
"Cask-conditioned beer that is
served traditionally, without
additional gas pressure"**

HOGS BACK HOPS

Readers will recall that the Hogs Back Brewery in Tongham, Surrey have been growing their own hops for some time now. Following the summer heatwave, they are expecting a high quality crop, although with some reduction in quantity.

This will be the fourth and last harvest from the current garden. They are moving to a new, much larger eight acre site, formerly a wheat field. The existing vines will be transferred and new ones planted. Like the current site, it will still be close to the brewery's Manor Farm home. Eventually the new garden will provide around half of the brewery's hops. Hogs Back currently grow four varieties: Farnham White Vine, Fuggles, Cascade and Pioneer. White Vine was the local variety that Hogs Back revived from near-extinction. Fuggles are used in their TEA (Traditional English Ale) best bitter, Cascade in Hogstar Craft English Lager and Pioneer is one of the blend that goes into their seasonal Home Harvest Ale.

Rupert Thompson, Hogs Back's managing director said, "This is a huge investment in the future of Hogs Back Brewery and we're proud to be continuing the journey that started with the planting of our hop garden in 2014. The new hop garden embodies everything Hogs Back stands for as a 'farmer brewer' and will make us an even more sustainable, environmentally conscious business. We can measure the distance from hop garden to brewery in 'food feet' rather than 'food miles'!".

From a Hogs Back press release



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YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A BREWERY

By now, if you are a CAMRA member, you will have received an email inviting you to vote for beers to go forward to the Champion Beer of Britain. Do have a go, as your vote can really make a difference to a London brewery. This year, three London beers got through to the finals at the Great British Beer Festival in August: East London's Orchid (which achieved an overall bronze in the mild category), Reunion's Opening Gambit and Weird Beard's Black Perle. But to get there all beers have to be judged first in the London & South East beer competitions that take place over many months and this is where you come in. You can vote for the London beers that go forward to be judged.

You don't have to vote in every beer style category (there are eleven of them), nor use all five voting places in each category, but every vote counts and it takes just a few minutes. So why not have your say by going to <https://bis.camra.org.uk/cbobvoting/login.asp>. Voting closes on 1 November.

Christine Cryne – Chair, London Tasting Panel

Editor's note: As we go to press, we have been warned that the CAMRA Brewery Information System is undergoing essential maintenance. We hope it will be back on line soon.

CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN – THIS YEAR'S CATEGORY WINNERS

The big winners from this year's Champion Beer of Britain competition are highlighted on page 18.

The full list of category winners is as follows. The last four categories shown were judged at the Winter GBBF in Norwich earlier this year.

Mild

Gold – Greene King XX Mild
Silver – Rhymney Dark
Bronze – East London Brewing Orchid

Bitter

Gold – Orkney Red MacGregor
Silver – Mighty Oak Captain Bob
Joint Bronze – Bank Top Flat Cap and
Acorn Barnsley Bitter

Best Bitter

Gold – Mordue Workie Ticket
Silver – Bishop Nick 1555
Joint Bronze – St Austell Tribute and
Salopian Darwin's Origin

Strong Bitter

Gold – Dark Star Revelation
Silver – Bays Devon Dumpling
Bronze – Kinver Half Centurion

Golden

Gold – Salopian Oracle
Silver – Salopian Hop Twister
Joint Bronze – Abbeydale Moonshine and
Windsor & Eton Knight of the Garter

Speciality

Gold – Colchester Brazilian Coffee & Vanilla Porter
Silver – Cromarty Red Rocket
Bronze – Derventio Cleopatra

Barley Wine & Strong Old Ale

Gold – Green Jack Ripper
Silver – Boot Beast
Bronze – Exmoor Beast

Old Ale & Strong Mild

Gold – Tintagel Excalibur
Silver – Untapped Ember
Bronze – Jennings Sneek Lifter

Porter

Gold – Red Cat Mr M's Porter
Silver – Dunham Massey Dunham Porter
Bronze – Grain Slate

Stout

Gold – Siren Craft Broken Dream Breakfast Stout
Silver – Cairngorm Black Gold
Bronze – Fixed Wheel Blackheath Stout

Congratulations to East London Brewing and Windsor & Eton for flying the flag for London.

Tony Hedger (with help from a CAMRA press release)

London LocAle scheme

The following pubs have joined the London LocAle scheme since the last issue of *London Drinker* went to press:

Lord Clyde 340-342 Essex Road N1 3PB
Merton Apprentice The Apprentice Shop, Merton Abbey Mills
Watermill Way SW19 2RD
Real Ale Way 55 Station Approach, Hayes BR2 7EB
Woodbine 215 Blackstock Road N5 2LL

The following pub has left the scheme.

Flying Pig 58-60 East Dulwich Road SE22 9AX

There may be more information on these pubs in our WhatPub? update column.

The complete list is maintained at www.london.camra.org.uk

Ei Group: Hackney and others
Independent: Redemption

Independent: at least one Larkins beer normally available
Independent: various including Hammerton, Sambrook's, Truman's

Closed (the replacement cafe sells alcohol but no real ale)



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WhatPub? Update publishes news items collated by Greater London branches, often from information supplied through the 'Submit Update' button on **WhatPub**. We aim to report all openings and closures of places that satisfy the CAMRA definition of a pub (including those selling draught but not cask beer); all pubs that add or remove cask beer; and changes of name, ownership or beer policy. Readers are encouraged to visit **WhatPub?** for pub details, and to 'Submit Update' when they find incomplete or out-of-date information.

In this edition we report new outlets for Brewhouse & Kitchen in E2; City Pub Co in Woodford Green, SW4 and SW6; ETM Group in W12; Mosaic Pub & Dining in E2; Shepherd Neame in EC4 and WC2; and for Young's in N4 and Teddington.

There are also new brewery taprooms in E2 (Old Street Brewery), E8 (Pressure Drop and Verdant), N7 (Two Tribes) and N13 (Brewheadz), and micropubs in SE25 and Hayes (Kent).

We also report the demise of heritage pubs in Barking, NW3, W4 and W11 as well as a Wetherspoon pub in Sutton.

NEW & REOPENED Pubs & Pubs Converted to Cask Beer

CENTRAL

EC1R 1UU, AMWELL ARMS (Winnicott), 68 Amwell St. Was FOUNTAIN, FILTHY MCNASTYS, SIMMONS. Having closed following Winnicott's demise more than a year ago, reopened by Sybaritic Holdings as **GEORGE & MONKEY**. Still no cask beer.

EC1A 7BX, LE PARIS GRILL, 6 Little Britain. Was POETS CORNER, PAVILION, NYLON, SPECTATOR. Reopened by Hearth Hospitality as **LAMB & TROTTER**. Cask beer introduced, e.g. Sharp's.

EC1M 6HR, SMITHFIELD TAVERN (ex-Punch), 105 Charterhouse St. Was WICKED WOLF. Now owned by Aries Properties Ltd. Having closed in 2015 for building redevelopment, reopened as a **SIMMONS** bar. No cask beer.

EC4N 8AR, BRIGADIERS (JKS), 1-5 Bloomberg Arcade. Opened in June, Indian restaurant with separate bar area. No cask beer. Keg beers such as Burning Sky, Siren, Thornbridge.

W1T 1QQ, NEWMAN STREET TAVERN (Affinity), 48 Newman St. Was CAMBRIDGE. Having been repositioned in 2016 as a bar with no draught beer, taken over in July by Inception Group as **MR FOGG'S HOUSE OF BOTANICALS**. Draught beer restored but no cask beer.

EAST

E2 8HZ, BEAGLE, 397-400 Geffrye St. Taken over and renamed **BREWHOUSE & KITCHEN**. On-site brewery in one railway arch, drinking area in two arches. Cask beer introduced, four brewed on the premises. Keg beers also include four of their own, plus Camden, Crate, Kernel.

E2 0EJ, OLD STREET BREWERY TAPROOM, Arch 11, Gales Gdns. New brewery taproom. No cask beer. Four tank beers and four guest keg beers.

E8 1DU, EXPERIMENT, 19 Bohemia Pl. New brewery and taproom run by Pressure Drop and Verdant. No cask beer. Closed Mon-Wed; 5-10 Thu & Fri; 12-10 Sat; 2-8 Sun.

NORTH

N1 2XD, COMPTON ARMS (ex-Greene King leased), 4 Compton Ave. Reopened by Local Club Ltd, who also run the Gun E9. Adnams Broadside plus three cask beers from Purity.

N1 0NY, RATTLESNAKE OF ANGEL (Star), 54-56 Upper St. Was THREE WHEATSHEAVES, WALKABOUT. Having closed in 2013 to become a restaurant, taken over by Redcomb Pubs and reopened in August as **ALPHABET**, relaunching a modern bar brand that previously operated in Soho. No cask beer. Four keg beers.

N4 2GB, NATURALIST (Young), 14 Woodberry Down. New-build pub opened by Young's in August, another in their series located in Berkeley Homes developments. Three cask beers.

N7 9AH, TWO TRIBES TAPROOM, Tileyard Studios, Tileyard Rd. Taproom for adjacent Two Tribes brewery. No cask beer. Their own keg beers may include fruit gose, lingonberry porter, sour and stout as well as more common styles, plus guests e.g. Gipsy Hill, Nomad, Yeastie Boys.

N8 0RE, JAM IN A JAR, 599 Green Lanes. Opened in 2013, live music bar. No cask beer. Five keg beers and bottles such as Kernel.

N15 5NR, WEST GREEN TAVERN (ex-Punch), 68 West Green Rd. Having closed in 2015, reopened by True Craft Pizza & Beer Ltd as **TRUE CRAFT**, with the help of Tottenham's Opportunity Investment Fund. No cask beer. Ten keg beers (half from Tottenham breweries) e.g. Beavertown, Brewheadz, Mikkeller, One Mile End, Redemption, Rooster, Seven Sisters, Tiny Rebel. Large selection of bottled beers, for on- or off-premises consumption.

N17 6XE, ELMHURST (Star), 131 Lordship La. Reopened, still no cask beer.

ENFIELD (EN2 9AJ), ROSE & CROWN (Star). Having been closed and boarded in May, changed hands and reopened later in the summer. Sharp's Doom Bar.

NORTH WEST

NW1 6UG, PERSEVERANCE (Winnicott), 11-12 Shroton St. Having closed in 2017 following the operator's demise, reopened in July by Mr Happy Bars who also run White Mustache NW1. St Austell Tribute and a guest.

NW1 4NU, REGENT'S BAR & KITCHEN (Benugo), Inner Circle, Regents Park. Large and pleasant park café, off the western side of the Inner Circle. No cask beer. Limited keg beers.

NW3 4RL, SIR RICHARD STEELE (Faucet Inn), 97 Haverstock Hill. Having closed in January for residential

conversion upstairs, reopened in July. Adnams Broadside and Portobello Star.

HARROW WEALD (HA3 6SE), CASE IS ALTERED (M&B leased), Old Redding. Sold. Reopened again in August. Two cask beers from Watling Street.

SOUTH EAST

SE10 9TZ, THIRSTY DRAGON, 166 Trafalgar Rd. Opened in July, board game bar. No cask beer. Four keg beers, mainly Hop Stuff.

SE16 3LR, SPARTAN BREWERY TAPROOM, Arch 8, Almond Rd. Was **PARTIZAN BREWING BAR**. Having opened in January, now has one of their beers in cask as well as keg, bottles and cans. Open Saturday afternoons only.

SE19 1RX, CRAFT & COURAGE, 28 Westow Hill. Bottle shop & bar. Relocated across the road from no.53, with a bar. No cask beer. A few keg beers, e.g. Gipsy Hill, Kernel, London Beer Factory.

SE24 0JT, MILKWOOD, 214-216 Raiton Rd. Was **ESCAPE BAR**, **JAZZ ON THE HILL**, **POET**, **BAR 216**. Reopened in July as **AGILE RABBIT**, a jazz bar once again. Still no cask beer.

SE25 6XU, CRAFT BEER CABIN, 210a Selhurst Rd. 'Craft' micropub opened in August. No cask beer. Six keg and keykeg beers, and 100+ bottles and cans.

BROMLEY (BR2 9QW) CHATTERTON ARMS (Enterprise), 41 Chatterton Rd. Transferred to Craft Union format. Cask

beer restored in July, Sharp's Doom Bar and Timothy Taylor Landlord.

CROYDON (CR0 1BF), OBIA BAR & GRILL, 49c South End. Restaurant & bar opened in December. No cask beer.

HAYES (BR2 7EB) REAL ALE WAY, 55 Station Appr. Micropub opened in July, opposite Hayes station. Up to eight cask beers, mostly from Kent breweries.

SOUTH CROYDON (CR2 6PW), BASKERVILLE (Star), 13-15 Selsdon Rd. Was **LE REFUGE**, **SPOOFERS BAR**, **FOLLY**. Having closed in September last year, reopened in August as a **WHELAN'S** branded Irish-themed pub. Fuller's London Pride and a guest.

SOUTH WEST

SW9 0JG, OVAL LOUNGE, 24 Clapham Rd. Reopened as **24 THE OVAL**. No cask beer. Keg beers such as Beavertown, Gipsy Hill, Kernel, Orbit.

KINGSTON (KT2 5EB), ACORN 20 (Star), 20 Richmond Rd. Was **SOUTH WESTERN TAVERN**, **ARTFUL DODGER**. Having closed early last year, reopened this summer as a **WHELAN'S** branded Irish-themed pub. Cask beer restored, Fuller's London Pride and a guest.

SURBITON (KT6 4QU), VINOTEQUE OF SURBITON, 12 Claremont Rd. Was **CORKY'S**, **XZYTE**. Having closed in 2016, reopened September last year as **BLUE ORCHID**. Still no cask beer.

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WEST

W7 3SP, DUKE OF YORK (Star), 161 Uxbridge Rd. Having closed late last year, reopened but no longer has cask beer.
W12 7HB, MAPLE (ETM Group), Westfield Sq. New bar & restaurant in the Westfield Centre. No cask beer. 'Tank' beers e.g. Long Arm Lucky Penny, Sambrook's Pale Ale.
HAYES (UB3 4AZ), BEEFEATER (Whitbread), Millington Rd. Chain dining pub in the Hyde Park development, opened in August. Cask beer e.g. Sharp's Doom Bar, Thwaites Wainwright.

TEDDINGTON (TW11 0AB), PARK (Galleon Hotels), 19 Park Rd. Was **CLARENCE HOTEL**. The only London hotel owned by a small operator, acquired in April by Young's. Due for refurbishment later this year. Cask beer restored, Wells Young's Bitter & Special.

WEST DRAYTON (UB7 9NA), DR O'DRISCOLL'S (IHG), Crowne Plaza Hotel, Stockley Rd. This huge hotel (formerly a Holiday Inn) has a nameless main bar immediately off the lobby, with no cask beer, but down an adjacent corridor is this small bar with one cask beer, e.g. Windsor & Eton Windsor Knot.

PUBS CLOSED, CONVERTED, DEMOLISHED OR CEASED SELLING CASK BEER

CENTRAL

EC1M 4AN, WHITE BEAR (Punch). Sold c.2013. Now owned by Aries Properties Ltd. Closed in July for building redevelopment, which will take most of the year, retaining the pub.

EC2V 5BT, EL VINO (Davy), 12-14 Masons Ave. Was **CORNEY & BARROW**. Cask beer discontinued.

EC2R 6AR, GABLE (Novus). Cask beer discontinued, unclear whether before or after sale to Stonegate (see box).

EC2N 1AP, OTHERIST (Drake & Morgan). Was **CORNEY & BARROW**. Cask beer discontinued.

WC2E 8PS, MASONS CAFÉ BAR (LT Management). Was **HENRY'S**. Closed, becoming a Taiwanese restaurant.

WC2R 0AA, SMOLLENSKY'S (Kornicis). Closed in May, future uncertain.

EAST

E1 4BS, CARLTON. Closed, partially demolished to make way for residential development, permission to change use of the ground floor was refused and so it may reopen.

E1 7NE, DUKE OF WELLINGTON (Punch), 12 Toynbee St. Acquired c.2013 by Mendoza Ltd. Various planning applications were rejected, but it has recently closed.

E2 8PB, ACORN (MacNeil Ltd). Having closed in 2016 after expiry of lease, planning application to demolish and build residential was finally granted this year on appeal.

E14 8JH, ANCHOR & HOPE (Admiral). Having closed in 2008, sold in 2010 to MacNeil Ltd. After building work upstairs, the ground floor finally became a fitness centre this year.

E20 3BS, MASON & CO. Closed citing poor footfall, future uncertain.

BARKINGSIDE (IG5 0ES), DOCTOR JOHNSON (ex-Tattershall Castle Group). After closure in 2010, permission has finally been granted to convert this former National Inventory pub to a Co-op, apparently retaining many internal fittings.

RAINHAM (RM13 9YW), PHOENIX (Enterprise). Closed following death of licensee, will hopefully reopen.

NORTH

N1 9RG, CANAL 125 (ex-Punch). Was **WHITE SWAN, BABUSHKA**. Having been reported closed last year, now a Chinese restaurant.

N10 3HA, O'NEILLS (M&B). Was **FANTAIL & FIRKIN**. Repositioned autumn last year as a **MILLER & CARTER** steakhouse. Cask beer discontinued.

N13 4JD, FOX (Star). Closed, expected to reopen after major refurbishment of the area.

N13 4BD, WOODMAN (Marston). Taken over in July by local brewer Brewheadz as a taproom. Cask beer discontinued for now. Keg and bottled beers from Brewheadz and the likes of Redemption, Wild Weather. Turkish food.

N17 0HJ, OLIVE BRANCH. Closed a year or so ago, future uncertain.

N19 5NQ, OLD CROWN (Enterprise). Having closed in April, now a restaurant.

N20 9HS, SEQUOIA (ex-Spirit lease). Was **BULL & BUTCHER, I BAR, STONE MARQUEE**. Having closed several years ago, now an unlicensed Lebanese restaurant.

BARNET (EN5 5UW), RED LION (M&B). Was **DANDY LION, FELIX & FIRKIN, AVENUE**. Rebranded early 2017 as a Stonehouse Pizza & Carvery. Cask beer now discontinued.

NORTH WEST

NW1 6UB, GLOBE (Wellington), 47 Lisson Grove. Cask beer discontinued.

NW1 1BL, PACK & CARRIAGE (MacNeil Devdas Ltd). Was **SEYMOUR ARMS, ROWLEY'S, ELIXIR BAR**. Closed in August, building work under way, permission granted in 2015 to convert the upper floors to a hostel.

NW2 3ED, CLAYTON CROWN HOTEL (Dalata Hotel Group). Was **CROWN**. Cask beer discontinued.

NW3 2BD, LOAD OF HAY (Gresham Collective). Was **HILL**. Taken over in July by London-based hospitality company MJMK, with an on-site brewery, and renamed **BELROSE**. Cask beer discontinued, for now at least. Keg beers include one from Mondo and a house beer (currently brewed off-site).

NW3 2QX, WHITE HORSE (Star). Having closed last year, this Regional Inventory pub has become the Gresham Collective's third 'Cork & Bottle' wine bar, with no draught beer.

SOUTH EAST

SE2 9SU, BARGEPOLE (Wellington). Closed, demolished in spring.

SE5 8RE, GROVE (Young leased). Was BRB, GRAND UNION. Closed after a fire in July, expected to reopen.

SE8 5RE, BLACK HORSE (Enterprise). Cask beer discontinued. Keg beers include Pillar, Signature.

SE8 3HS, HARP. Having closed in 2014, became an estate agent last year.

SE16 3BW, BRAMCOTE ARMS. Having been reported closed in 2012, converted to flats a few years later.

SE16 2EW, CROWN. Having been reported closed in 2010, demolished in 2016 to make way for flats.

SE17 2NF, BANANA'S BAR (Enterprise). Was ROCK, LIAM OG'S. Having closed in 2016, sold the following year. Permission now granted for demolition to make way for residential development.

SE17 3LX, DUKE OF SUTHERLAND. Having already been reported closed, converted to flats in 2013.

SE17 3BN, JOURNEYS (Admiral). Was ROSIE O'GRADY'S, BISON. Sold in 2013 to property developer Urbancity. Closed some time since, upstairs converted to residential while the ground floor is offices.

SE17 2SB, MASONS ARMS (Admiral). Having been reported closed in 2011 for residential development upstairs, permission eventually granted for the ground floor to be a café.

SE17 3JD, ROYAL STANDARD. Having been closed since

at least 2010, demolished in 2015 to make way for residential development.

SE18 5NU, ST CLAIR'S. Was DERBY ARMS, FORTYS, WESTMINSTER ARMS. Closed, now a late night venue.

SE25 4UF, PORTMANOR (ex-Punch). Was SIGNAL. Having closed in 2014, permission for residential conversion was granted on appeal in June last year.

BROMLEY (BR1 1LR), JAZZMINS. Closed in 2010 following licence review but not previously reported, eventually became a café last year.

CRAYFORD (DA1 3QG), CHARLOTTE (Enterprise). After closure in 2016 for residential conversion upstairs, permission granted on appeal in December to convert the ground floor as well.

CROYDON (CR0 1YB), LA TASCA (Bay Restaurant Group). Closed in 2012 but not previously reported, now a Brazilian restaurant.

CROYDON (CR0 1YE), ODD SHOE. Was CROYDON, RAT & PARROT, STOP, JODIE'S FLAT, WINDY CITY. Closed in August, future uncertain.

CROYDON (CR0 1QE), R&R'S LOUNGE BAR. Was BAR RED SQUARE. Having closed in 2014, now a board game cafe.

CROYDON (CR0 5HA), SANDROCK (independent). Closed, planning application for residential development to include a pub.

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CROYDON (CRO 1XW), TAMWORTH ARMS. Having closed in 2015, permission granted last year to convert to a hotel with no bar.

ERITH (DA8 1QY), POTION (Wellington). Was **WHITE HART**. Reported closed in 2014. Sold in 2016 to Dhadda Estates Ltd. Building work now under way on a residential development, perhaps retaining a bar. The original frontage is being reinstated by order of the council.

LEAVES GREEN (BR2 6DQ), CROWN INN (Shepherd Neame). Cask beer discontinued.

SOUTH CROYDON (CR2 6EE), EARL OF ELDON (Hawthorn Leisure). Closed in August; permission was granted in December for residential development affecting the extension and garden.

THORNTON HEATH (CR7 6AW), WHEATSHEAF (Stonegate). Having closed in 2014, operated as a community centre in the meantime; permission granted in April for demolition to make way for residential development.

SOUTH WEST

SW1V 2RQ, SURPRISE (AT PIMLICO) (Golfrate). After closure in 2014 for residential conversion upstairs, permission for residential conversion of the ground floor was granted last year.

SW2 4DU, SULTAN (Enterprise). Cask beer discontinued.

SW6 5UB, ELK BAR (M&B leased). Was **ALL BAR ONE**. Closed suddenly this summer, future uncertain.

SW11 5QN, ICHNUSA GASTROPUB. Was **PUZZLE**, **TAYBRIDGE**, **ELEPHANT ON THE HILL**. Closed, being converted to a Co-op.

SW13 0PW, TREE HOUSE (Star). Was **EDINBURGH CASTLE**. Closed in September, future uncertain.

MITCHAM (CR4 4LA), QUEEN'S HEAD (Shepherd Neame), 70 Cricket Green. Having closed in 2016, now for sale with permission for residential conversion granted last year.

MORDEN (SM4 5LH) ROYAL SURREY. Was **ABBOT**. Cask beer discontinued.

SUTTON (SM1 1NR), GRAPES (Wetherspoon). Was **PITCHERS**. Closed and sold in August after their planning application to build flats on part of the land was refused, future uncertain.

WEST

W3 6FA, FOUNDRY (BAR & KITCHEN) (Imperial College Student Union). Closed in 2017, now a restaurant.

W4 2HU, DUKE OF YORK (ex-Fuller leased). Having been sold by Fuller's in June last year, this Regional Inventory pub has closed, future uncertain.

W5 1HG, MAGNAT (Star). Was **PARK ROYAL HOTEL**, **JOICES**, **RING**. Having closed in 2012, sold around the same time and now demolished apart from 1930s frontage to make way for a hotel development.

W6 9YD, YARDBIRD (Greene King). Was **TROUT**. Closed, future uncertain.

W9 2AF, SQUIRREL (Faucet Inn). Was **SKIDDAW**, **RED SQUIRREL**. Closed, Faucet are considering their options.

W10 5PE, NUMBER 10. Was **PRINCE ARTHUR**. Closed and boarded c.2011 but not previously reported. Upstairs converted to residential, the ground floor is now a private members club.

W11 4NJ, PRINCE OF WALES. This former Regional Inventory pub closed in 2011 but not previously reported, converted to residential use.

W12 8QE, WALKABOUT (ex-Intertain). Was **BOTTOM LINE**. After closure in 2013, permission granted this year to demolish while retaining the façade; the site will be incorporated into the adjacent hotel.

BRENTFORD (TW8 8EW), SIX BELLS (Fuller). Sold in July and closed, future uncertain.

HANWORTH (TW13 6RQ), SWAN (ex-Marston). After sale and closure in 2015, permission for residential development was granted in May.

YEADING (UB4 9BL), WALNUT TREE (Fuller leased). Closed and demolished.

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & CASK BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC4V 3PT, SAMUEL PEPYS (M&B lease). Acquired in July by Shepherd Neame. Shepherd Neame Spitfire and Whitstable Bay.

WC2R 0BA, SAVOY TUP (Urban & Country Leisure). Was **NEW SAVOY TAVERN**. Taken over by Shepherd Neame and renamed **SAVOY TAP**. Shepherd Neame Bishop's Finger, Master Brew and Spitfire.

EAST

E2 0EA, MISTY MOON (Upper Deck). Taken over by Mosaic Pub & Dining, whose other London pubs include the Running Horse E1 and Grey Goose E3, and renamed **BETHNAL GREEN TAVERN**. Three changing cask beers.

E8 4AH, HYSTERIA. Was **JUNCTION ROOM**. Renamed **JUNCTION HOUSE**. Still no cask beer.

E10 5NA, COACH & HORSES (Punch). Sold in 2015 to Chambers Properties UK Ltd. Taken over this June by Ronnie Finch, operator of the Duke E11. Three cask beers, e.g. East London, Truman's.

E11 2EY, NIGHTINGALE (Enterprise). Refurbished and renamed **NIGHTINGALE ON THE GREEN**. Fuller's London Pride, Greene King IPA and Sharp's Doom Bar.

E15 4QS, LANGTHORNE (Stonegate). Was **YATES**. Renamed **ABBEY TAP**. Cask beers such as Fuller's London Pride, Sharp's Doom Bar, Wells Bombardier.

WOODFORD GREEN (IG8 0PN), TRAVELLERS FRIEND (independent). Acquired in July by City Pub Co.

NORTH WEST

NW1 8AJ, LOCK TAVERN (Camden Bars). Taken over in August by East London Pub Co, who also run the Gun and Ten Bells in E1 and Edgeley Road SW4. Apparently will remain as a music venue.



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NW5 1SP, DARTMOUTH ARMS. Taken over from multi-operator Andy Bird by Disappearing Dining Club, who host food & drink pop-ups. They intend to maintain it as a community pub.

SOUTH EAST

SE8 5DJ, FARRIERS ARMS. Was WHELAN'S. Taken over by Town Centre Inns. Still no cask beer.

CROYDON (CR9 2BN), LANSDOWNE LOUNGE BAR. Was PHIBBERS. Hotel bar now renamed **URBAN XCHANGE**. Still no cask beer.

SOUTH WEST

SW3 5BS, PIG'S EAR (Star). Taken over in May by REL Pub Co, their first site. London Beer Factory house beer plus three guests.

SW4 0JT, JAM TREE. Was EXHIBIT B, GRAFTON HOUSE. Small operator with two London sites acquired in July by City Pub Co.

SW6 2EB, JAM TREE (Wellington). Was COME THE REVOLUTION, ONE. Acquired in July by City Pub Co.

SW8 2TH, VAUXHALL GRIFFIN (Star). Was BUILDERS ARMS, WYVILS. Taken over by the operators of the Fitzrovia Belle W1T and renamed **GRIFFIN BELLE**. Still has cask beers.

SW11 1SL, BAR 366. Was NAPIER ARMS, ONE TWO SIX, ARTISAN & VINE, JACKSONS. Renamed **STIRRED**, a café & bar. Still no cask beer.

RICHMOND (TW9 1LX), CRICKETERS (Greene King). Now has Greene King IPA and guests, e.g. Bedlam, Truman's, Twickenham.

WEST

W3 9DJ, GEORGE & DRAGON (Remarkable). Remarkable have struck a deal with Portobello Brewing Co to reactivate the former Dragonfly brew-kit at the back. Cask beers now from Portobello and others e.g. Burning Sky.

Stonegate have acquired 15 sites from Novus Leisure

EC2N 1HU, BABBLE. Was ONE OF 2, WALL.

EC2R 6AR, GABLE. Cask beer recently discontinued.

EC3N 1DD, ABBEY. Was BAR 38.

EC3V 3ND, FORGE. Was ABACUS.

EC4N 1TX, CORE. Was APT.

EC4A 3BQ, KANALOA. Was CROWN & ANCHOR, WALKABOUT, ALIBI.

WC2H 9JA, FOUNDATION. Was LANGLEY. No draught beer.

WC2H 9NY, LONG ACRE. Was LONG ISLAND ICED TEA SHOP, VERVE, SCARLETS.

WC2B 5BZ, SWAY.

W1D 5JL, BAR SOHO. Was HELVETIA, SOHO BRASSERIE.

W1J 6ER, FIFTY9. Was CHOCOLATE BAR, BABBLE.

W1F 9RA, GEM. Was CAIRO JACK'S, DIGRESS.

W1S 1AH, LOOP.

W1D 6QD, VILLAGE.

W1B 5LR, WARWICK. Was KING HENRY'S TAVERN, WEST ONE, SLAP HARRY'S.

Except where stated, these venues offer keg but not cask beer. Any renamings or changes of beer policy will be reported as they come to light.

Stonegate have also acquired the Be At One chain. Their 16 Greater London sites have not until now had draught beer and so do not currently count as pubs.

The 11 pubs run by Food & Fuel have been acquired by The Restaurant Group and will be added to their Brunning & Price gastropub division:

WC1X 8SF, QUEENS HEAD, 64 Theobalds Rd. Was COCO MOMO.

W1U 5JZ, COCO MOMO. Was RISING SUN, DUSK.

N8 9DE, QUEENS.

SW1V 1QT, QUEENS ARMS. Was SLUG & LETTUCE, PAGE.

SW7 4PL, COCO MOMO. Was HARRINGTON, RAT & PARROT, BLACK WIDOW, PRINCE REGENT.

SW10 0RJ, LOTS ROAD. Was FERRET & FIRKIN.

SW10 0BH, SPORTING PAGE. Was RED ANCHOR.

SW15 2ST, PRINCE OF WALES.

SW18 4ST, HALLOWED BELLY. Was OPEN PAGE, MEL'S CAFÉ BAR.

RICHMOND (TW9 1HP), DUKE. Was COBWEBS, RACING PAGE.

W4 1PU, ROEBUCK. Was RAT & PARROT, BIRDCAGE.

Not included in the transaction are seven pubs run by Food & Fuel under the auspices of their Frontier Pubs 'managed expert' partnership with Enterprise Inns.

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Hello again and welcome to autumn, the season when a young man's thoughts turn lightly to the Twickenham Beer & Cider Festival (and why not!?!).

It is autumn and the falling fruit

And the long journey towards oblivion . . .

Have you built your ship of death, O have you?

O build your ship of death, for you will need it.

(D H Lawrence)

Cheerful soul, wasn't he?! Let's have some number puzzles:

1. 300 M is the ML of the B in RU
2. 5 LB of the DDI (UOGJ – and S)
3. 9999 P in the RAHO
4. 8 E on a BBFTB
5. 50 M is the L of an OSP
6. 4 F on RMST
7. 101 is the FPN AOH
8. 2880 FO in a K
9. 3 NK of E
10. 8094 F is the OL of the FB

I don't know quite how it came to me but I had this idea for 5BY4 (quite simple really) to take some breweries and give them each a kind of score. Just to be nasty I thought I would leave you to see if you can work out how the scores are arrived at. It's nothing to do with beer quality or capacity or anything like that; see if you can work out the system. If not, I'll tell you at the end (so long as I remember).

- | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|
| 1. Oakham | A. | 7 |
| 2. Windsor and Eton | B. | 9 |
| 3. Reunion | C. | 11 |
| 4. Hammerpot | D. | 13 |
| 5. St Austell | E. | 15 |
| 6. Dark Star | F. | 16 |
| 7. West Berkshire | G. | 18 |
| 8. Triple fff | H. | 19 |
| 9. Downton | I. | 20 |
| 10. Thames Side | J. | 25 |

So there I was wondering where to start digging for trivial knowledge questions when this name jumped into my head, giving me the answer to question 1. After that it kind of grew and towards the end I found they were all coming out a bit geographical – and Commonwealth, to boot – so I carried on like that to the end. If you don't like geography, try again next time.

1. Which territory of Canada is the largest (and newest)?
2. From which other territory did it separate, and in what year (and date if you want to be flash)?
3. Legislatively, Canada is divided into territories and provinces. How many of each are there?
4. And which is the smallest province or territory of Canada?
5. Jervis Bay Territory, with an area of about 28 square miles is the smallest mainland territory of which Commonwealth country?
6. The archipelago of the Chatham Islands is an external territory of which Commonwealth country?

7. In terms of population, three of the four largest countries of the Commonwealth are India (1,353 million), Pakistan (199 m) and Bangladesh (166 m), but what country is third with a population of 195 million?
8. And again by population (just 10,116), what country is the smallest member of the Commonwealth?
9. The Commonwealth was set up on 11 December 1931 under the Statute of Westminster. How many countries (including the UK) comprised the Commonwealth at that time?
10. And finally, how many sovereign states comprise the Commonwealth of Nations (to give it its full title)?

So there we are then, that's about it. Oh yes! Before you all start sending me nasty tweets (Don't bother, I don't do social meeeja) the brewery scores are simply the total values in Scrabble of the letters forming their names, exactly as given (hence no ampersand in Windsor & Eton).

See you next time when we shall be approaching Christmas – How time flies! Oh, and did I mention Twickenham Beer Festival?

Andy Pirson

IDLE MOMENTS – THE ANSWERS

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 1924 first Winter Olympic games in Chamonix
2. 8 replacement players in a Premiership rugby match
3. 1919 first flight to Australia by Ross and Keith Smith
4. 19 arches of Old London Bridge
5. 5 Guys Named Moe
6. 29 locks on the Caen Hill Flight (Kennet & Avon Canal)
7. 4 cities on the River Severn (Shrewsbury, Worcester, Gloucester, Bristol)
8. 24 sheets of paper in a quire (traditionally)
9. 1931 first trolleybus ran in London
10. 16 oars in an eight man scull

5BY4:

Nobel Prize Winners for Literature (in the English language) and the years that they were awarded

1. Eugene O'Neill – 1936
2. Winston Churchill – 1953
3. V S Naipaul – 2001
4. Seamus Heaney – 1995
5. George Bernard Shaw – 1925
6. Harold Pinter – 2005
7. Bertrand Russell – 1950
8. William Golding – 1983
9. Saul Bellow – 1976
10. John Steinbeck – 1962

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

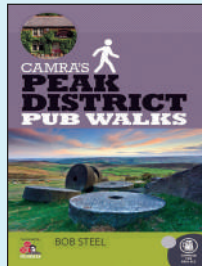
1. The fiddle (actually a viola) played by singer and musician Jackie Oates is unusual in that it has five strings.
2. The name of the fiddle with an extra set of drone strings under the main melody strings is a Hardanger fiddle.

3. A Weissenborn (as played on a couple of tracks of Joan Baez's 2018 album, *Whistle down the Wind*) is a kind of guitar, specifically designed for playing flat on the lap.
4. The instrument associated with folk (and other genre) musicians Brian (Brock) Brocklehurst, Dave Moses, Danny Thompson and Miranda Sykes is the double bass.
5. Talking of Danny Thompson, the other four members of Pentangle between the late 1960s and mid-1970s were Bert Jansch, John Renbourn, Jacqui McShee and Terry Cox.
6. The scientist who produced the X-ray diffraction image from which Francis Crick and James Watson deduced the structure of DNA was Rosalind Franklin.
7. The Cambridge pub in which Crick and Watson interrupted lunchtime patrons to announce their discovery in February 1953 was the Eagle.
8. In 1967 it was Dorothy Wilding's portrait of the Queen which was replaced by Arnold Machin's on British definitive ('normal') postage stamps.
9. The link between the British model and actress Norma Sykes and the River Severn is Sabrina – the Goddess of the river (and its name in Latin).
10. The London home of the Duke of Northumberland is Syon Park in Brentford.

EXPLORING THE PEAKS

CAMRA has recently published the third edition of its *Peak District Pub Walks* guide. Since the last edition, it has been completely updated to reflect changes to the Peak District pub and beer scene.

The rolling hills and breathtaking views of the Peak District have long captured public imagination and are home to some of the most unique and isolated pubs in the UK. This handy pocket sized book will guide budding hikers through this stunning national park, highlighting some of the best walking and best pubs in the area.



Written by Bob Steel, a geographer by profession and keen walker, this book also explores some of the region's fascinating industrial heritage and contains useful information about local transport and accommodation. Easy-to-use Ordnance Survey maps and concise route information make it perfect to guide both casual walks and more serious hikes.

The book retails for £12.99 (£9.99 with CAMRA members' discount). For more information and to order your copy, visit <https://shop.camra.org.uk/pdpw.html>. It may also be on sale at some CAMRA beer festivals.

Explore London's brewery and pub heritage with an expert guide

Join **Des de Moor**, author of *The CAMRA Guide to London's Best Beer*, on his regular walking tours.



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- City Sips and Holborn Halves: historic pub and beer tasting tour.
- Clenkenwell Craft and London history.
- Bottle Shop Bermondsey tastings.

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- Our monthly newspaper 'What's Brewing' (normally sent on-line)
- Our quarterly magazine 'Beer'
- Discounts on CAMRA books
- Discounts at some carefully selected holiday companies
- Free or discounted entry to most CAMRA beer festivals
- Discounts at some pubs, at their discretion

More importantly, you will meet new friends. CAMRA members are a wonderful mix of people of all ages, from all walks of life and we appreciate that not everyone has time to give so there are no expectations. If you look at the branch diaries at the front of this magazine you will see that CAMRA branches run a variety of social events. It isn't all committee meetings and you will not be jumped on to take a job of some sort, although if after a while you feel like doing so, more the better. Your help with such tasks as lobbying MPs, surveying pubs, submitting beer scores or liaising with breweries will be a great help. CAMRA is run by volunteers, right up to its National Executive.

Most CAMRA beer festivals are looking for volunteers and there is a very wide range of jobs available. There is a special sort of camaraderie among beer festival volunteers. It's hard work but there are many who, having tried it once, are hooked for life.

Single membership, paid by Direct Debit, costs £25 and Joint membership (partner at same address) £30.00. Add £2 if not paying by Direct Debit. Some concessions are available. You can find out more at <https://join.camra.org.uk> or search 'join CAMRA'.



Tributes

PAULA WATERS ADDENDUM AND CORRECTION

My old friend from GLC Real Ale Society days, Phil Kempton, has pointed out that Paula became National Chairman in 2003. He remembers it because it was the year of his election to the National Executive. Also, she stood down as National Chairman in 2010, but remained on the NE until she was not re-elected at the 2011 AGM and Conference in Sheffield.

Phil notes, sadly, that of the three people elected to the NE with Paula in 1996 at the Portsmouth AGM two others, Keith Dawson and Jim Fox have also died, all far too young.

This might be as good a point as any to advise any readers who are past or current members of the GLC Real Ale Society and who have not heard the sad news, that the inimitable Ion Castro, chairman for many years, passed away on 30 August. We send our condolences to Sue and his family. To quote the Bard again, "*Here was a Caesar, whence comes such another?*"

CHRIS 'PODGE' POLLARD

Many readers will know of Podge as the organiser, along with partner Siobhan McGinn, of beer tours, as regularly advertised in this magazine. These coach trips took dedicated drinkers to some of the best places to drink in Belgium under the banner 'Driving people to drink since 1994'. So far, he had got up to just short of one hundred trips.

Podge was also an accomplished author on Belgian beer. Fellow beer writer Tim Webb recalls on CAMRA's Discourse forum that when he first met Podge in 2003, Podge was deeply concerned as to the decline and possible extinction of Lambic beers, those beers brewed exclusively in the Pajottenland on the edge of Brussels and fermented naturally by airborne wild yeast, mostly from cherry trees. Consequently Podge produced *LambicLand*, the first book devoted to recording these unique beers and the culture that surrounds them. Much to his surprise and delight, the book was a success, all copies were sold and it went to a reprint. Podge also

developed the format of the *Around (wherever) in 80 Beers* series.

Tim mentions Podge's ability to find truly great beer cafes and write about them with unerring accuracy. One example that he quotes '*The Dalmatian is deaf*' could be straight out of '*Real Ale in Greater Grotley*'.

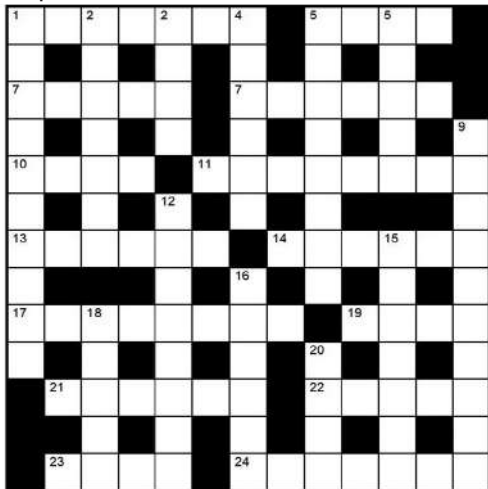
I am pleased to report from Tim that Podge and Siobhan were able to put plans in place to keep the tours going, so that it will be business as usual although, so very sadly, without the irreplaceable Podge himself.

Finally, sadly the threat to the Lambic beers which Podge championed has been renewed. The natural fermentation process occurs at night and needs specific temperatures. Climate change means that the number of suitable nights per annum is reducing year on year.

Tony Hedger, with thanks to Tim Webb

Check the Beer Festival
Calendar and visit the
London Events Calendar at
www.london.camra.org.uk

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON
£20 prize to be won



Name
Address

All correct entries received by first post on 21 November will be entered into a draw for the prize.

The prize winner will be announced in the February/March *London Drinker*. The solution will be given in the December/January edition.

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

Please Note: Entries on oversize copies of the grid will not be entered into the prize draw.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER'S SOLUTION



ACROSS

1. Note pain of going without food. [7]
5. Join some adipose Americans. [4]
7. Standing up before court. [5]
8. Misbehaving, cut off with nothing. [6]
10. Successful strikes. [4]
11. Finishes off spectre with fearsome head. [8]
13. Prune I chopped up is not ready. [6]
14. Outstanding example of a boxer. [6]
17. Former policeman and journalist let off. [8]
19. Clergyman to be beheaded soon. [4]
21. Album I mixed in California. [6]
22. Some more cream, please. Enough! [5]
23. Mark school rejected. [4]
24. Fear importing electronic goods. [7]

DOWN

1. O he refuses to be drunk in pubs. [10]
2. Officer shielded by complete protection. [7]
3. Ten cheers for very little. [4]
4. Look for a bird. [6]
5. Less upset taking hit in fights. [8]
6. A medical man injecting heroin for a particular purpose. [2, 3]
9. Severe strain distressed man. [10]
12. Against friend getting place. [8]
15. A guy may become attached to it. [4, 3]
16. Polish again get rejection. [6]
18. Public relations trouble for museum. [5]
20. The king's in danger, pal. [4]

The winner of the prize for the June/July crossword is
Richard Gregory of Faversham, Kent.

Other correct entries were received from:

Terry Ackie, Tony Alpe, Pat Andrews, John Barker, Melanie Benson Marshall, Stephen Block, Tony Bowles, Hugh Breach, Kelvin Brewster, Hilary Clark, Richard Conway, Kevin Creighton, Paul Curson, Peter Curson, John Dodd, Elvis Evans, Mike Farrelly, Richard Garton, B Gleeson, Marion Goodall, Nick Goodwin, Paul Gray, J E Green, Matthew Griffiths, Caroline Guthrie, Ms Gerry Guthrie, Stuart Guthrie, Peter Haines, James Harris, John Heath, William Hill, Alan Humphrey, Carol Jenkins, Claire Jenkins, Eric Johnstone, Mike Joyce, Roger Knight, M Lancaster, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, Marjorie Lopatis, Ken Mackenzie, Kevin McCarthy, Derek McDonnell, Pat Maginn, Steve Maloney, Rob Mills, Pam Moger, Adam Moon, Dave Murphy, Brian Myhill, Paul Nicholls, Mark Nichols, Mick Norman, Gerald Notley, Alan O'Brien, M Ognenovic, Steve Palmer, Gavin Parish, Nigel Parsons, Mark Pilkington, Robert Pleasants, Nigel Roe, Richard Rogers, John Savage, Pete Simmonds, Ruth Smith, C J Tansley, Ken Taylor, Bill Thackray, Mark Thompson, Barry Van Hire, Andy Wakefield, Eddie Wallhouse, Martin Weedon, Spud Whale, Richard Whiting, John Williamson, Sue Wilson, Nigel Woodford, Mrs V Woodford, David Woodward, Ray Wright.

There were also 18 incorrect, 3 incomplete and one anonymous entries.

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