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REAL ALE



The Star Tavern, Belgravia. See page 13.

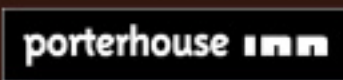
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EDITORIAL

WILD ABOUT MILD?

May is the month when CAMRA members turn their thoughts to supporting one of our oldest beer styles. The focus of this campaign is Mild Day on 7 May.

Mild Month in May is already an established part of the calendar for many pubs, breweries and CAMRA branches. Because of this it is the time of the year that most seasonal milds are produced, and a time when more milds are easily available at the pub. CAMRA branches will as usual be organising a variety of events during the month to celebrate this fantastic beer style. These will include socials and pub-crawls involving pubs selling Mild, as well as Mild tastings. Details of the events in the London area will be found on the Branch Diary pages within this magazine; please support them.

Look out for new 'Wild about Mild' posters to support the campaign and leaflets giving more information on the style. There will also be a National 'Spot Mild in the Wild' competition, whereby prizes can be won for notifying pubs where mild has been spotted during May. Details of the competition will appear at www.camra.org.uk/mild.

But what is a Mild? Normally under 4% ABV, they range from black to dark brown to pale amber in colour. Malty and possibly sweet tones dominate the flavour profile but there may be a light hop flavour or aroma. Slight butterscotch flavours may also be noted. Pale milds have a lightly fruity aroma and gentle hoppiness. Dark milds may have a light roast malt or caramel character in aroma and taste. There are also a few stronger milds, up to 6% ABV, which are fuller bodied with a malty richness. They may also be richer in caramel, or have a light roast malt character in aroma and taste. Quite a few milds do not have the word in their name, so you may even be drinking one without knowing it.

And where might you spot Mild? We are hoping that a good number of pubs in London will get behind this campaign as usual. Any pubs needing ideas of what to stock and where to get it from are referred to the web site mentioned above. The Royal Oak, SE1, the Wenlock Arms, N1 and now the Trafalgar, SW19 usually sell mild all year round, so are good bets. Also good bets during May are the Brewery Tap, SW19, the Oakdale Arms, N4 and the Head of Steam, NW1.

Please search out this wonderful style of beer and give your taste buds a treat. You may even end up being as Wild about Mild as I am!

John Norman

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RESPECT OUR HERITAGE

I would like to say a few words to the Drinker and for that matter, any other publication to which I am able, to express the grievances of myself and many, many others regarding the assumption that pubcos and other owners make that ALL younger patrons have a preference toward modernised/'trendied' pubs or establishments converted to theme bars or worse.

There are a fair few of us younger generation of pubgoers, not all of whom are CAMRA members, or even ale drinkers for that matter, that tend to opt for a more traditional feel establishment. Indeed, many of us are positively repulsed at the sheer vandalism of these apparently mandatory conversions from good condition, comfortable and agreeable surroundings, to pure hellholes, for those of us who do not welcome unnecessary change.

Of course, under certain circumstances, this kind of change could be deemed necessary, i.e.; when a building has been left in such a dilapidated state that any type of refurbishment could be regarded as a change for the better, or when a certain venue is viewed as a troublesome spot and 'fresh clientele' are desired. (Or if a pub has already been closed down and perhaps has deteriorated or has experienced some work then it is generally too late anyway).

However, this sometimes occurs to listed heritage buildings - and this is totally unforgivable! It is playing into the hands of property developers and, simply put, goes against the grain of what part of this country is about - just that - heritage! Old things generally. Preservation. Like the crown jewels or Warwick Castle. It's the primary reason that we have a tourist trade.

These old gems are closed and operated on without any warning or planning permission from the relevant authorities, or public consultation, a case in point here being the Black Lion in Kilburn High Road. This saw some extremely old and original bar fittings lying on the pavement awaiting collection, presumably from the Council. These gorgeous old features are of Victorian origin and rarely seen any more. Without doubt, there was some degree of loss resulting from this charade, but I believe much of this furniture had to be refitted due to pressure from the Listings Commission and the London Pubs Group, who were alerted by a passer by.

The few Victorian and pre-war pub interiors and exteriors that we do still have are every part as much of our country's heritage as Buckingham Palace or the Changing of the Guard! We cannot afford to lose them any more! But even those that are not quite that old have been converted beyond recall, usually to attract a more affluent public and keep up

with current trends. But when those trends change - what then? Further conversion? One day they might start building 'retro' theme pubs in a vain attempt to resemble the traditional boozer!

For this very reason I have found the London Pubs Group to be an extremely useful tool to have and would urge anybody with any news or even suspicion that any London area pub may be under threat of closure, buy-out or re-vamp to contact them via website: www.londonpubsgroup.co.uk. They meet monthly at the Royal Oak, Tabard St. SE1.

A pub in my home town has been the same in appearance for literally decades and always very busy and appealed to a wide age range, had occasional bands for those who liked band night and was dearly loved! It has been totally demolished and the space is now in use as a plush club/bar which appeals to ninety-five percent of under 25s, serves one keg-flow beer, tap lager and cocktails to accompany music played at stadium concert volume into the special licence hours. I have friends under twenty five and not all of them would wish to go anywhere near such a place. Some of us like to hear the conversation. Also, some of us who work in pubs need to hear what their customers are requesting of them (probably to reduce the volume in most cases!). Do you have a beloved pub in your area that you would not wish this to happen to?

I think I can safely say that most of us who care about this issue would sooner witness a change from the trad. to the more 'contemporary' than a complete conversion to 'exclusive' residential premises or restaurant, music venue, (in)convenience store, petrol stationtake your pick, they've all happened. But why spend the money if locals and other regulars are happy with their surroundings?

Remember the old adage: 'If it ain't broke'?

Paul Johnson

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

The Chancellor's budget does rather seem to undermine the Prime Minister's alcohol harm reduction strategy. Freezing the duty on spirits whilst once again increasing the already exorbitant duty on beer must surely encourage the trend towards teenage binge drinking on vodka. Joined up government, anyone?

In the probable run up to a general election do any of the politicians want the beer drinkers' vote, or really care about young people's health?

BULL'S HEAD JAZZ IS SAVED

The world-famous jazz club at the Bull's Head in Barnes has been saved from the threat of closure. The pub's owners, Young's, are to spend £64,000 on soundproofing the music room where jazz legends such as Coleman Hawkins, Humphrey Lyttleton and Jamie Cullum have played over the past 45 years.

Richmond Council had issued a noise abatement order on the Bull's Head after receiving a complaint from a resident of a new housing development next door. That order has now been extended to allow Young's to carry out the work, after a series of meetings between representatives of Young's, Bull's Head licensees Dan and Liz Fleming, officers from Richmond Council and

executives of Laing, developers of the new homes.

Young's spokesman Michael Hardman said: "The council were sympathetic towards our position and brought in an acoustics consultant to help us draw up a schedule of works to improve sound insulation at a cost of less than half of what we were originally quoted. We have been greatly encouraged by hundreds of letters, e-mails and telephone calls from jazz fans pressing us to do everything in our power to keep the music going. We would also like to thank Laing for their co-operation and the Jazz Development Trust, whose director, Sebastian Scotney, has given us constant support and offers of help in the future."

LONDON DRINKER MAGAZINE SURVEY

Thank you to the many readers who have responded to the survey on pages 5 and 6 of the February/March edition of *London Drinker*. The deadline for completing the questionnaire has been extended to 30 June. You can now send it

electronically using the form on the website at www.londondrinker.org.uk

The results of the survey will be published in the August/September issue.

Yes, we meant WC1

We apologise for the error in the title of John Cryne's article on page 18 of the February/March issue.

The Fox



- ◆ Ever changing guest beers - recently Robinson's Robin Bitter, Titanic's Full Steam Ahead and several Grand Union brews
- ◆ Maggie's Home Cooking
- ◆ Contained Pub Garden
- ◆ Quiz Night Thursdays

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WHAT'LL IT BE THEN? A PINT OF THE USUAL, OR A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE?

Allow us to introduce you to an old friend. Fuller's ESB, three times Champion Beer of Britain, seen here in its smart new livery. Don't worry, the beer's just the same as ever. But if it's been a while, maybe it's time you reacquainted yourself with its uniquely rich, deliciously fruity flavour and long, satisfying finish. It could well be the happiest reunion of your life.



ESB. THE CHAMPION ALE.

NEWS ROUND-UP

Don't forget, this column now has its own e-mail address: ldnews@btinternet.com. All contributions and *constructive* comments welcome. Any abuse should be sent to the editor. Thank you to Colin Price for spotting that the Dartmouth Arms is in NW5 and not in NW3 which is where I relocated it with a typing error.

◆ News from Fuller's

Fuller's have announced their first ever 'Spring Festival' starting from 7 March. It follows on from the success of their last two Autumn Festivals and will give their customers, both in Fuller's own estate and the free-trade, the opportunity to sample some unusual beers. Come and gone by the time that you read this will be London Porter, normally an export bottled beer, at 5.4%. From March 28 comes India Pale Ale at 4.8% ABV and finally, for the first time since 1993, Hock, a dark mild ale, "packed with caramel and nutty flavours" at 3.5% ABV. Fuller's describe Hock as classic old ale, the name of which comes from an old English word for harvest. Use of the word Hock for beer apparently predates the German wine of the same name by a few centuries. 300 pubs have already pre-ordered their beers and a full list of participating pubs can be viewed on the Fuller's website at www.fullers.co.uk. Changes have been made to the brewing process for Chiswick Bitter and from what I have sampled recently, these have made a significant improvement to its flavour and keeping.

In the latest annual awards presented by the *Publican* newspaper Fuller's won the gong for Pub Company of the Year (tenanted/leased, more than 100 outlets category) so congratulations to them for that. Meanwhile, they have acquired four more pubs, the Antelope (SW1), the Harrow (EC4), the Viaduct (EC1) and the Old Hatchet in Winkfield, Berkshire. There are plans to refurbish all four in due course.

◆ Now you see it, now you don't...

During his police service in the 1960s, my late father occasionally worked on plain-clothes teams that dealt with street gambling, especially in Oxford Street in the run-up to Christmas. The routine was that the trickster would set up a card table, deal three cards, one of which was a queen, shuffle them around and invite punters to bet on 'finding the lady'. The first punter – the gang's stooge – was successful, everyone after was not as the trickster slid the 'lady' up his sleeve. The game was also known as 'Crown & Anchor'. In Chiswick High Road, Young's have similarly deftly 'lost' a pub by the same name. Young's apparently received an offer that they could not refuse for the property although oddly, when the London Pubs Crawl passed by on 19 February, there was a 'for sale' sign

outside. The exterior features very distinctive late 19th century green and cream tiling including Young's logos. Looking through Young's own book, "Forever Young's" (which I recommend), the only other pub anything similar is the Ram on the brewery site at Wandsworth. The building is Grade II listed so I am not sure that the new owners can remove the references to Youngs.

Young's is a PLC which of course has an obligation to its shareholders to obtain best return on capital. If a good deal is on offer then they must take it seriously. These things happen but that does not preclude CAMRA from taking a different view as a consumer organisation, going as far as to contest planning applications where possible. There are times when we are going to have to agree to differ but in the long term I feel that we have more aims in common with Youngs than we have differences.

If Young's need convincing as to the popularity of the traditional pub, they need only look at the result of South West London Branch's Pub of the Year competition. The winner was the Trinity Arms, Brixton with the Grapes, Wandsworth and the Hand-in-Hand, Wimbledon Common as runners-up; excellent, straightforward pubs all. Young's also have their own beer quality and cellar competition. Joint winners this year were the Popes Grotto in



Twickenham (photographed) and the Wheatsheaf at Borough Market.

◆ Nicholson's

The Nicholson's chain, now part of the Mitchells & Butlers organisation, are running a promotion called Real Ale for Sale using Dick Whittington as the theme of pub trails around London. There will be separate leaflets for each pub trail of around 10 pubs themed around parts of London, such as Theatreland, Soho, the City etc. Some were distributed at Battersea Beer Festival and were quite



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impressive. You can win a T Shirt if you manage to get your leaflet stamped in 5 pubs. Youngs are involved in the promotion and sponsor the leaflets; their logo is on the T shirt. Future promotions will be London Pride served from three handpumps - yellow, red and blue around election time - show your allegiance by your choice of handpump - and a Charles Wells promotion around St George's Day.

◆ Smoking

I was surprised to learn that as from 5 February, smoking in public places was banned in Cuba, a nation of prolific smokers and home of arguably the world's best cigars. The JD Wetherspoon organisation has announced that it will follow Fidel Castro's lead and ban smoking from all of its pubs as from May 2006. Wetherspoons made it clear some time ago that they were not going to follow the industry line but this is a bold move and likely to be more permanent than their initiative over lined glasses a few years back; more below. The impression that I get from the trade press is that the pub companies and breweries see the partitioning of pubs into smoking and non-smoking (and therefore food) areas as the outcome that they will settle for. Pity that their predecessors knocked through so many public bars in the 1970s and 1980s, isn't it? I say public bars but the Chief Executive of the Mitchells & Butlers pubco - who are faced with having to stop serving food in about a quarter of their 2,000 pubs - was quoted as wanting to see a *"return of the old saloon bar and the snug, where there would be an exemption (that is, smoking permitted) and the lounge bar for families that want to eat"*. Is this an attempt to have the public bar airbrushed out of pub history?

◆ Champion Winter Beer

Old Tom from Robinson's in Stockport was chosen the Supreme Champion Winter Beer of Britain 2005 by a panel of judges at CAMRA's national winter celebration of beer in Manchester. It was the second time the barley wine has won. Old Tom is 8.5% abv and is described in the 2005 edition of the Good Beer Guide as "A full-bodied, dark beer, it has malt, fruit and chocolate in the aroma, a delightfully complex range of flavours including dark chocolate, full maltiness, port and fruits lead to a long, bitter-sweet aftertaste." The silver prize went to Somerset-based Bath Brewery for an ale called Festivity, and the Bronze award went to Woodforde's brewery from Norfolk for Headcracker.

◆ National Pubs Week

CAMRA held its National Pubs Week from 19 to 26 February and the idea appears to have been

very well received by the pub trade generally. A number of London branches ran events. For example, my own branch, South West London, had a crawl of pubs that still have two separate bars.

CAMRA itself reached a significant milestone in signing up its 75,000th member. This puts the campaign three-quarters of the way to its target of 100,000 members by 2007. CAMRA was formed in 1971 but has seen its membership increase by 25% since January 2000 and is the UK's biggest, single-issue consumer group. For those who still cling to the old stereotype, CAMRA members are not all male, single and middle aged. It has a strong female representation with women making up over 27% of the total membership and at least 30% of them under 35 by contrast with some 17% of CAMRA's total membership under that age. There are now 7,242 members in Greater London which puts us third regionally behind East Anglia with 12,652 and the East Midlands with 7,327.

For those of you into themed weeks, look out for "International Turn-Off TV" week 25 April to 1 May and British Sandwich Week, 15 to 21 May. This information comes courtesy of the *Publican's* 2005 events calendar.

◆ Royal refusal

As CAMRA has fallen out with HRH the Prince of Wales. At a food show in Italy where he was pictured pulling a pint of Hop Back Summer Lightning, HRH expressed an interest in CAMRA membership and hoped that his Duchy Original beers might compete for CAMRA awards. Unfortunately, the beers do not qualify as bottle-conditioned because they are pasteurised.

◆ The Welsh alternative

On the subject of Wales, the French have a law against sports teams advertising alcohol on their kit and so this presented the Wales Rugby Union team with a problem when they played in Paris recently because they are sponsored by Cardiff brewers Brains. On the day, instead of running out with 'Brains' on the front of their shirts, they had 'brawn'. What this did for sales in France of a traditional British dish involving boiled pig's heads, I can't imagine. The Welsh won anyway.

◆ Rescue for Smiles

Despite selling their pubs and arranging to supply their beer to Youngs last year, Smiles, the Bristol brewers went into administration last December. New companies have been formed to market the beer and operate the two pubs and the beer is now being brewed by the Highgate Brewery in Walsall who have contract-brewed it previously.

◆ White Horse on Sea

It is not unusual for those who live in the Fulham area to have a second home by the sea or in the country but Mark Dorber, renowned licensee of the White Horse at Parsons Green and beer-with-food pioneer, has gone one better by acquiring a weekend pub. Mark has taken the lease of the Anchor at Walberswick, Suffolk just across the river from Southwold where he hopes to repeat the formula of top quality beer, wine and food that has made the White Horse famous. He is not however reducing his involvement at the White Horse to any great extent. Good luck to him.

◆ Opening hours

The uncertainty about extended opening hours continues. I heard a report on the radio about the situation in Finland where 24 hour opening was introduced several years ago. The Police in Reykjavik are on the whole happy with the situation and quote the same reasons as some did here originally such as no fights over taxis or in fast food queues when everyone is turned out at the same time. One unforeseen consequence however has been a rise in drug abuse. The use of amphetamines in particular has risen sharply as people try to ward off the normal effect of drinking and stay awake to keep on drinking. Perhaps the AB caffeine beer mentioned last issue would be a better alternative although nearer to home, the Meantime Brewery have produced a coffee beer for Sainsburys; sadly I have not been able to find any to sample.

◆ Full pint developments

I said in the last issue that I hoped that this time we would get some action on full pints. I am pleased to say that the Government has now announced that it will be setting up a new regulatory body to supervise the serving of full pints called OfLicence, which comes into being on 1 April this year. The main weapon in their campaign will be a variation on the ASBO called the Anti-Social Barsteward Order. If the staff of a pub accumulates three ASBSOs in a month then the pub will be fined or, for repeat offences, even closed for a time. OfLicence will not however have enough inspectors to cover all of the pubs in the country so it is looking for volunteer inspectors. Sadly, they have made it known that CAMRA members will not be considered for recruitment because, according to their legal advice, CAMRA's long-standing campaigning for the full pint will have "fettered their discretion". For anyone who wants to volunteer, there is an e-mail address: r_u_shaw@oflicence.afj.uk.

Further to the item in the last edition, I had hoped that OfLicence would also take responsibility for pub toilets but apparently this will be part of the remit for a new body covering all public sanitary facilities called OfBog.

◆ Absolutely fabulous

After several changes of ownership including a long period of closure since its glory days as an early Wetherspoon pub, the Spotted Dog in Garratt Lane, Wandsworth still parades the legend, 'Fabulous Real Ales'. According to the dictionary, besides its colloquial use for 'wonderful', the word 'fabulous' can also mean incredible or indeed, for that matter, imaginary or fictitious - like the real ales of which the Spotted Dog now has none.

Tony Hedger

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BEAUTIFUL BEER (AND FOOD)

The British Beer & Pub Association is leading a campaign called Beautiful Beer to revitalise the image of beer. It aims to improve beer quality, educate and enthuse people about beer and help change positively the image of beer with consumers.

Beautiful Beer is the name for a number of activities targeting the licensed trade and consumers, with the aim of encouraging more people to make beer their drink of choice on more occasions. The good news for the current beer drinker is that the trade activity will focus on training licensees and their staff on beer standards and quality. Another interesting initiative for the drinker is the promotion of a smaller glass, a third of a pint. Although it is intended to "encourage more women to try beer", it will be particularly useful in pubs with a large beer range when the drinker wants to try a variety but only wants to drink a pint or two.

The campaign is looking to promote beer's diversity, its natural ingredients and its affinity with a range of foods, to encourage people to consider it more often than they do currently. Greene King is one of a number of breweries who have already been advocating beer with food. Not so long ago, they launched "Beer to Dine For" in bottles but unfortunately it has never been bottle conditioned. In March, they joined up with the trade magazine, the Morning Advertiser, to push a Beer and Food Week, similar to the CAMRA initiative last autumn. The launch took place at Michael Moore's restaurant in Blandford Street, off Baker Street with Michael producing different food for a range of Greene King's beers.

The results were interesting. It would come as no surprise to Londoners, who traditionally drank Porter with their oysters, that the dark Suffolk Strong (only occasionally in a real form) was recommended with oysters. The Old Speckled Hen went well with pork, the strength of the flavour balancing the crackling beautifully. Abbot was suggested with duck (which did not work) but it did go with a curry; a nice change from cold lagers usually available. However, the surprise was Greene King IPA with fresh pineapple and mango, a wonderful combination. Give it a go.

Christine Cryne

FULLER'S HEAD BREWER ROADSHOW

THE STAR TAVERN, BELGRAVIA

Legend has it that back in the early 1960s a group of shifty looking chaps entered the upstairs room of the Star Tavern, Belgravia, and they were planning one of the 20th Century's most famous crimes, the Great Train Robbery. Nearly 42 years after the robbery, another group entered the same room on a less sinister mission, to highlight the delights of Fuller's beers to a captive audience at the latest of the Chiswick brewer's 'Head Brewer's Roadshows'.

Fuller's head brewer John Keeling's regular forays into the outside world are fast becoming an industry institution. The evenings present an opportunity for real ale fans (and inquisitive lager drinkers) to meet one of the most enthusiastic people in British brewing, sample a selection of Fuller's ales and ask any burning questions.

With a small bar at one end, the room looked to be perfect for such an event. Jason and Karen Tinklin, the relatively new managers at the Star, had set the room out for about 30 people seated. At 8pm, the guests began to file into the room, quickly taking up all of the available space, including a curious group in their mid-twenties who had reserved spaces right in the middle. The room was so full that Fuller's area manager for the Star, Neil Bellingham, was squeezed

out of the room and had to stand in the doorway.

Although the evening is mainly about the beer, John also uses the opportunity to pass on a few nuggets of information about the history of Fuller's. One of the most intriguing stories involves Fuller's wisteria plant, which has clung to the outside of the brewery building for almost 200 years. Fuller's and Kew Gardens received specimens at the same time but the world-famous botanists at Kew promptly killed theirs! The funny thing is that the care of Fuller's wisteria (now the oldest example in Europe) is now in the hands of... you guessed it, Kew Gardens!

After raising a few more laughs John proceeded to the first of the evening's beers, talking us through the tasting process before asking for any thoughts on the appearance, aroma and taste of the beer. London Pride was a familiar starter and some of the guests who, by their own admission, did not consider themselves beer drinkers, were suitably impressed. The Pride was served from the hand pump at the bar and was beautifully clear, with a wonderful amber colour to it.

The beers flowed as John's 'serving wenches' (and whatever the masculine equivalent of 'wench' is) replenished guests' glasses with the next beer, ESB.

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FULLER'S HEAD BREWER ROADSHOW

With palettes suitably teased by the Pride, the ESB slipped down smoothly, and with a lovely orangy finish. John explained how ESB is now matured in tank for longer, and hopped later in the process but I don't think anyone particularly cared as the proof of the beer really was in the drinking.

Next on the hymn sheet was organic Honey Dew. We tried the bottled version which, at 5% ABV, belies its light, golden appearance. This is the UK's best selling organic beer, beating even Prince Charles' own Duchy Original, and you can easily see why. It has a wonderful, zesty feel on the tongue, which I can describe as nothing more than a 'zing'. The honey is not overpowering but is definitely in evidence, especially towards the finish.

At this point we were treated to something really rather special, Extra Special in fact. Special Edition ESB, originally produced exclusively for Michael Jackson's Rare Beer Club, is a fantastic bottle-conditioned beer, full of tangy, orangy flavours. It is made to the original ESB recipe with the same proportion of pale ale malt, crystal malt and flake maize. However, the alcohol content has been

pushed up to 6.1% ABV, compared to 5.5% for the original ESB. The Special Edition is hoppier than the normal, which John explained was due to the fact that the late copper hopping rate is doubled. If you're ever lucky enough to sample this amazing beer then I suggest you jump at the chance.

Towards the end of the evening, as the snow came down outside, the beers were getting darker and more complex. Next in line was London Porter, a rich blend of brown, crystal and chocolate malts. With a dark, imposing look reminiscent of a stout, London Porter is remarkably easy going with an aroma and taste both dominated by coffee and chocolate notes.

The penultimate beer, although not the penultimate tasting, was Fuller's widely acclaimed bottled beer, 1845. First brewed 10 years ago to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the partnership of Fuller, Smith & Turner, 1845 is a warming, fruity beer with hints of fruitcake and spices. This beer has to be one of the most satisfying to sample on a cold winter's evening.

The last beer, and another special treat for everyone, was Vintage Ale. To highlight the difference age can make to a bottle-conditioned beer, John brought along two different years: 1999 and 2002. Even the first year's Vintage, 1997, is said to still be at its best, nearly eight years after bottling. The Vintage Ales were a perfect way to end proceedings and the delights of an aged beer were clear with just one taste. First, we were treated to the 2002 version. Themed 'Golden', to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee, the 2002 Vintage had a distinctly nutty and malty feel to it, with a hint of Christmas cake in there somewhere. The 1999 Vintage felt similar but at the same time different, perhaps a little smoother. Marmalade and cherries resonated right through the mouth.

All in all the evening was a great deal of fun, and educational too. Everyone was handed a Fuller's goody bag as they left, which contained a bar towel (perfect for wiping down that snooker cue or cleaning the grass off your 4-iron), London Pride mug and a copy of *First Draught*, Fuller's Fine Ale Club magazine. Throughout the evening John also handed out spot prizes to the bright sparks who came up with the best description of Special Edition ESB and who could answer such objective questions as 'who is the best football team in England?' – bearing in mind John is an avid Manchester United fan!

As we left, I had an overwhelming feeling that something had been achieved that night. Perhaps not a grand plan in the same vein as Buster, Ronnie and the gang but hopefully John's legacy will be remembered for just as long, if not longer.

Tony Johnson

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THE FIFTEENTH BATTERSEA BEER FESTIVAL

The withdrawal symptoms due to the loss of Pig's Ear 2004 were felt at Battersea Beer Festival in February this year. During the three days more than 4,000 thirsty drinkers packed the venue - a few hundred short of the all time record when of course Battersea was a 4 day event - and got through over 15,000 pints. The feedback received was all very positive on the event generally, the range of beers and the food. There were some comments about the number of bar staff at busy times - if you thought it was busy, just think how busy it was for those behind the bar. Don't forget any CAMRA member is welcome to work at the festival - and you don't have to pay for the beer if you do!

As usual there was a wide selection of milds and dark beers. Voting for beer of the festival was strong this year and the run away winner was Bushey's Ruby Mild from the Isle of Man. Festival organisers were pleased that a very respectable third place, behind

Dark Star Hophead, went to the local Battersea Brewery's Power Station Porter. Although it sold out very quickly there was considerable interest from customers.

A CAMRA South West London branch member, Stephen Nockolds set up the Battersea Brewery in 2001 to brew without adjuncts or chemicals. Located on an industrial estate in Battersea, it supplies numerous pubs and clubs throughout the south-east, although regularly only two in our area, the Hole in the Wall at Waterloo and the Prince Albert in Albert Bridge Road, though it also appears as a guest occasionally in other south west London pubs. Further outlets in South-West London are being sought. Two beers are brewed, with plans to expand the range, the hoppy Battersea Bitter and the distinctive Power Station Porter, the latter being the brewer's favourite (and festival drinkers').

Stephen Blann

WHAT AN END TO PUBS WEEK!

South East London CAMRA rounded off National Pubs Week this year with a fancy dress special at the Royal Oak, Borough. Everyone was invited to come dressed as their favourite pub, and the response from locals and CAMRA members was amazing - all sort of outfits were on display, allowing unsuspecting visitors to do a pub-crawl without moving far! Pubs including the Castle, Moon and Stars and Bird in Hand were represented, and some of the efforts had to be seen to be believed.



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Friday: After 5pm £3.50 / CAMRA Members £2.50
Sat: Free all day

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For Real Ale

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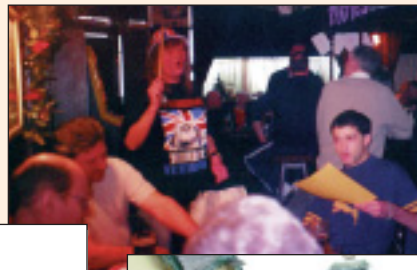
ENFIELD & BARNET REPORTS

The traditional New Year's Day Enfield and Barnet Branch 'Cobweb Social' was held at the Orange Tree, Highfield Road, Winchmore Hill N21. As usual, licensees John and Marie reserved an area of the bar and provided a buffet, and also an audio system for our rendition of 'Last night of the Proms' favourites. Photographed here is Sandie Ward, branch chairman, in full voice and suitable attire, conducting a rousing chorus of Rule Britannia.

Owen Woodliffe

Enfield & Barnet CAMRA held several events for National Pubs Week, ending with a crawl on 26 February from Cockfosters to New Barnet. We started in the Cock & Dragon, Chalk Lane, Cockfosters, where Titanic Iceberg was on form, then went to an estate pub, the Jester, for Courage Best. Both these pubs are somewhat off the regular area so we were able to put about the CAMRA presence and survey the beers and prices. We next visited the Builders Arms, a real back street local, with Greene King IPA and Abbot. As well as the nearby Wetherspoons, the Railway Bell, there are five more pubs in this area. All had to be visited and real ale, where available, was sampled with enthusiasm.

Ron Andrews



BOOK REVIEWS

HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM PUBS

In Tempus's popular *Images of England* series, *Hammersmith and Fulham Pubs* is an illustrated overview of the public houses, past and present, of this ever-changing area of inner London. The 211 photographs are largely from the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham's archives, and span more than 130 years of the borough's history, from a time when it was known for its orchards to the present day of heavy traffic and ever-shifting populations.

Here are the well known pubs of the borough's town centres: the Swan and the George in Hammersmith, the Eight Bells in Fulham, and the riverside pubs - the haunted Black Lion, the atmospheric Dove. Here also are little street-corner houses, many of which have been swept away by redevelopment - especially in central Hammersmith where an entire network of streets with its pubs gave way to the A4 flyover, road widening, and housing developments. Pubs such as the Duke of Edinburgh, the Rose and Crown, the Ship; and in Fulham the Lord Clyde, the Swan (at Fulham Riverside) and the Californian, are now only known through monochrome photographs like these. Many of the pubs that survive are now renamed and have succumbed to

theming or been refurbished with a single interior space, white or dark red walls, polished wood floors, leather couches, and a wine list on a chalkboard....

CAMRA's London inventory of pub interiors includes three pubs in the borough: the Dove (Upper Mall), the Hope and Anchor (Macbeth Street), and the Queen's Arms (Greyhound Road): all three are in here.

The book also deals with the changing use of the pub: places like the Clarendon, the Greyhound, and the Red Cow were live music pubs as recently as the 1980s and, of those, one has been demolished, the next is a single-space fashionable bar, and the third - also a regular location in *The Sweeney* - has been demolished and rebuilt.

The pictures are a sociological record as much as an architectural one. The book is not really intended as a guide to what's available nowadays, but the current status of pubs is mentioned. 150 pubs past and present are depicted and several more are named.

Joe Balham

Images of England: Hammersmith and Fulham Pubs, Chris Amies, Tempus Publishing, 2004, 128 pp. £12.99

DISASTROUS DEMOLITION OF PUB HERITAGE IN N1

The North London Branch of CAMRA is calling for an end of the destructive policies that are annihilating pubs in N1.

Over the last 6 months, the Branch has been surveying the pubs in the N1 postal district and were dismayed to find that the area had lost almost a third of its pubs in the last eight years. Of these, 41% had been converted to residential use, 23% had been demolished and 11% changed to office or other commercial use.

York Way, near King's Cross, originally had six pubs of which half sold a real ale. Now, half have been demolished and not one offers a drop of the real stuff. Hoxton Street tells a similar story and both pubs in Clouesley Street have closed, leaving the road totally publess. These areas are not unique.

Mick Lewis, the Branch Chairman, said "If we carry losing pubs at this rate, there won't be any left in 20 years. Too many pub owners have taken a fast buck and sold them for residential use or even demolished them to replace them with commercial premises. Pubs are the heart of the community and we can never replace these. But there are still some great pubs left. From the backstreet locals such as the Wenlock Arms and the Prince Albert, to Grade II architectural gems such as the Island Queen and the

Crown. The area has a tremendous history".

The guide lists over 60 pubs selling real ale in the N1 postal district. Thanks to support from the Suffolk brewers, Adnams, and the Wenlock Arms in Wenlock Road, this pocket-sized, full colour guide is selling for only £1.50. The guide is available at the Wenlock Arms, most London CAMRA beer festivals or from CAMRA, 01727 867201.





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

THE SHIP & SHOVEL(L)

Although Ray Manchester suggests that the rededication of the Ship & Shovel to celebrate Sir Cloudesley Shovell might be the result of sloppy research (London Drinker, Feb/Mar 05), there is the possibility that it might be the result of some unusually *diligent* research.

I drank there regularly in the 60s when it was run by an Irishman named 'Jim' who, as well as keeping a good pint, was equally well known for the quality of his grilled kidney & bacon rolls, and for his appearance – he wore a large black patch over one eye (and may have acquired the name 'Jim' as a result!!).

Jim told me that in the distant past, the pub was called 'The Craven Arms', and to illustrate his point revealed a normally obscured window behind the main entrance door which, sure enough, had 'Craven Arms' etched into the glass.

Following the recent correspondence in LD I looked up historical references to 'Craven Arms' in that area and found only one – a pub listed as "being in Craven Court, Strand, now known as 'Craven Arms', but previously known as 'The Cloudesley Shovel'" (*sic*). Unfortunately no dates were given for the name changes. It seems to me that the multiple rededications of 'The Ship & Shovel' have almost come full circle!

There is however a further piece of evidence which actually supports Ray's explanation of the name. Before the rebuilding of Charing Cross station there was an alley which ran from the back of the Playhouse Theatre up towards the Strand. This alley was called 'Brewer's Lane' on the 1888 Bacon Street atlas of the area. In the 1960s there was no access to this alley – one end terminated behind the tobacco kiosk next to the Playhouse, the other end terminated behind the south/west half of the Ship & Shovel (used in those days by Jim only as a store). When the Playhouse was being underpinned for restoration as a theatre (having been abandoned as a music studio by the BBC some years previously) I was invited down into the very deep excavations under the theatre where the contractor was able to show me the fact that 'Brewer's Lane' was in fact the top of a jetty built on substantial brick arches with mooring rings and wharfage for boats all the way up to the Strand. The point at which Brewer's Lane originally crossed Craven Passage is now the site of The Ship & Shovel – so it *is* built on a coal wharf after all!

Incidentally, further to Ray's belief that Sir Cloudesley was an unlikely candidate for pub dedications, it's notable that (according to Larwood, *History Of Signboards* 1907) a Pig & Whistle in

Bermondsey was renamed Ship & Shovel in commemoration of Sir Cloudesley, and a Ship & Shovel near Guy's Hospital in Southwark claimed also to be named in his memory. I've no idea whether either of these pubs still exists.

Bob Conduct
Shepherds Bush

Dear Editor

THE PLOUGH INN

173 Wood Street, Walthamstow, London E17

The Plough Inn, Wood Street is a gem of a pub located in an area perhaps not best known for the quality of its hostelries. Since it reopened following a change of ownership a few years ago, a great deal of time and money has been spent in turning this pub into a place where people genuinely want to be. It is now a Fuller's house, and the regular draft ales are London Pride and ESB. There is always a third Fuller's ale, recent examples being Jack Frost and the excellent and very limited edition London Porter. All draft ales are excellently kept, due in no small part to the Manager having passed the Fuller's Cellar Management Course with distinction. A framed certificate on the wall is testament to this. Other beers are also available - Leffe and Hoegaarden being recent additions - plus a fine selection of bottled beers.

The rear of the pub has a function room which in addition to a second and equally well-stocked bar also hosts regular live entertainment, ranging from Blues and Jazz to comedy and theatre. It has been described as 'an oasis of culture in Walthamstow' which I think is a fair statement.

The Plough Inn is located directly opposite Wood Street railway station, which is one stop from Walthamstow Central or about fifteen minutes from Liverpool Street on the Chingford line. Bus 230 also stops right outside the pub, with the W16 stopping within thirty seconds walk away. Several other buses stop nearby at Whips Cross.

I recommend it highly. Give it a try - I doubt you will be disappointed!

John Prodigie

Dear Editor

1999 REVISITED

I was most interested to see Katy Andrews's letter in February London Drinker about the Globe in E9 as I had walked past the pub when in Hackney a few days beforehand. So as I had to pay another visit to Hackney a few weeks later I took the opportunity to visit the Globe and was most impressed, especially with Young's Bitter at £1.60 per pint.

I also found three other real ale pubs in the

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

immediate vicinity. The Railway Tavern is opposite Hackney Central station and sells one real beer from Charles Wells. The Baxter's Court is a two storey Wetherspoons with a big screen TV for sport in the upstairs bar and a more traditional TV-free downstairs bar. The Chesham Arms is a small free house in Mehetabel Road on the other side of Tesco's from the Globe and had six real ales on, including three from Nethergate. The last time I had visited the Chesham was the last millennium (well 1999) when I chose it as my E9 pub for my Postal Drinker series of articles. On that visit I was disappointed to find only Courage Best available.

Long standing readers of London Drinker may remember that series of eleven articles in which I described my experiences of drinking a pint of real ale in every one of the 119 London Postal Districts over a year in 1999. These articles were variously described as "summing up the very essence of what CAMRA is all about" and "the biggest load of old rubbish ever printed in London Drinker". Newer readers who would like to know what all the fuss was all about might like to view the articles which are posted on the internet at www.hassrale.co.uk or www.edmund1.demon.co.uk. Long standing readers of London Drinker may like to sit down.

I have also recently revisited the pub I did for N5, the Bank of Friendship, for the first time since 1999. This is a small friendly local close to the current Arsenal football ground with three real ales available, Courage Best and Directors and Fullers London Pride, and it is well worth a visit if you are in the Highbury area. As the inner North London areas are not noted for real ale I was pleased to discover another two real ale pubs in N5 on the way back to Canonbury station. These are the Highbury Barn (Adnams Bitter and Broadside) and the Snooty Fox, formerly the Grosvenor Arms (Old Speckled Hen and Abbot).

Colin Price

Dear Editor

BREWERY HISTORIAN WANTS EPHEMERA

As a brewery historian, and having just written a book on brewing in Reigate and Redhill, I am now busy assisting in the conversion of the Brewery History Society's national photographic archive from photos into electronic .tif files. As well as doing research, I am also personally trying to build up an archive (started in the 1960s) of brewery paper ephemera – that is to say, letters, compliment slips, invoices, business cards, labels, etc.

Now I am fully aware, and no doubt you are also, that "classic" material (e.g. pre-war labels and letterheads) fetches very reasonable prices on the internet, but the reason for writing is that, although



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I also collect classic stuff and pay good prices for it, I also collect the later material which so often is not wanted and often ends up in the bin.. You know the kind of stuff, those by-products one is left with after writing round the breweries for visits or promotional stuff following beer festivals etc.

I am particularly interested in stuff from independent breweries from the 1960s onwards, and also modern micro breweries etc - particularly those which have come and gone within the last two decades.. More than 500 new micro-breweries have started up since the late 1970s and a great many have come and gone so quickly that they have just simply "passed me by". I am now trying to fill in the missing spaces by contacting as many CAMRA branches as I can on the off-chance that somebody has an accumulation of this material and is happy to part with it for a good cause, and which otherwise in the normal run of things is binned.

If any of your readers have some of the sort of stuff I am seeking, no matter how little, could they please not hesitate to contact me. I am even happy to pay modest sums for any material that people may have, if only as an incentive to rummage!!

*Richard Symonds
147 Farhalls Crescent
Horsham, West Sussex
RH12 4BU*

Dear Editor

EAST LONDON & CITY BEER GUIDES

Gordon Joly praised the excellent web guides for City & East London in the Feb/March edition. Whilst I am responsible for the upkeep and web design I cannot take any credit for the content. I may have been the editor but what exactly did I do? The 599 descriptions were all supplied by surveying branch members and other than a handful I edited due to what I considered were unfair comments on landlords all went in as submitted. Unlike some editors (GBG springs to mind) I respect contributors though I may not have liked their particular style.

Grammar, did I correct that? No. Copy was sent to a university type, I knew they had their uses and Tony, our ex branch treasurer corrected some smelling mistakes and generally mucked about with commas. Not that it made any difference because when copy was returned from the print processor all commas were missing. Look closely and you will find they were all put in by hand! The photos? All supplied by our branch photo archive, taken again by branch members.

All the information was processed from a database. Did I design it? No. Cue another university type who was duly awarded a life peerage - I mean life

membership. Thanks Stuart. Adverts? Most were obtained by Hugh Smith.

My contribution? I put the numbers on the maps, wrote the odd article, took the odd photo and developed and printed the photos. The Brewery History Society wrote an article at my request. There's only one thing left - the typing! Yes that's what I was, a typist. Every word (not comma!) was input by my ten digits. I knew those typing lessons would come in handy.

The beer guides? Take the link from www.pigsear.org.uk to all the pubs. Unless the pub entry has a date in text the information is unchanged since 1991! Take the link from the guide page to the original 1991 and 1986 data. Some information from the 1983 guide is available but as this was pre computer days the information has to be retyped again. Another job for me.

Incidentally if 90 pubs still show Charrington IPA on sale then it is because no one has told me differently! Come on you lazy gits, Colin Price can't do all the work.

Other on-line guides?

<http://www.pigsear.org.uk/downloads.html> lists some and there are two links to other sites with a list of guides you may find useful.

*Keith Emmerson
Chingford*

Dear Editor

BACKWARD CRAWL

Back in January I visited a friend in E3 and, when I left, I jokingly suggested we have a drink in the Imperial Crown. This was followed by a suggestion of a crawl of E3 including the Imperial Crown, Priory Arms, Pearly King, Moulders Arms, Bombay Grab, Caledonian Arms and the Bromley Arms.

In a similar spirit I have also suggested to SW Essex CAMRA a crawl of Dagenham including the Chequers, Anglers Retreat, Henry Ford, Pipers (ex Fanshaw Tavern), Church Elm. Merry Fiddlers, Royal Oak and Robin Hood.

The joke is of course that all of these pubs have closed in recent years. Possibly other readers can make up similar crawls for their localities.

Another game my friend and I sometimes play is great beers of the Eighties where we reminisce about beers brewed then by the major (and not so major) brewers. Watney's Fined, Taylor Walker Mainline, Truman's Sampson, Charrington Crown, Young John's Ale etc etc. Again perhaps other readers can join in.

*Colin Price
Barking*

BRANCH DIARIES

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

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

LONDON REGIONAL MEETING

May – Wed 25 (8pm) London Liaison Committee (Regional co-ordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1. *Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk*

LONDON PUBS GROUP

Jane Jephcote 020-7973 3102 (W)

April – Wed 13 Evening crawl of Limehouse, Isle of Dogs and Greenwich: (7pm) Grapes, 76 Narrow St, E14; (8pm) George, Glengall Grove, E14; (8.30) Cubitt Arms, 262 Manchester Rd, E14; (9.30) Spanish Galleon, 48 Greenwich Church St, SE10; (10pm) Richard I, 52 Royal Hill, SE10. Public transport will be required at times.

May – Wed 11 (7.15 for 7.30) Meeting. Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs). All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

LONDON YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

April – Wed 13 Tour of Fullers brewery in Chiswick, £2 per person, meeting at the brewery at 6pm. Pre booking is essential, as numbers are strictly limited. Please contact Owain Roberts at *young_members@camra-enfield-and-barnet.org.uk* or 07905 393 309 for further information or to reserve a place.

BEXLEY

Martyn Nicholls 01322 527857 (H), contacts@camrabexleybranch.org.uk

April – Wed 13 (8.30) Mtg. Prince Albert, Bexleyheath. - **Sat 23** (8.30) St Georges Day Social. Dartford Working Men's Club.

May – Wed 11 (8.30) Mtg. Robin Hood & Little John, Bexleyheath.

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON

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

April – Tue 12 (8.30) Sutton social. Lord Nelson, 32 Lower Rd. - **Tue 26** (8.30) Mtg, Dog & Bull (upstairs room), 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

May – Sun 1 (noon) Beersfest social. Windsor Castle, 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton. - **Wed 11** S. Norwood Social. Alliance, 91 High St. - **Thu 26** (8.30) Mtg. Windsor Castle (Cottage Room), 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton.

Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY

Roy Jenner 020-7502 0984 (3pm-9pm only)

April – Tue 12 (8pm sharp) Branch AGM. Black Lion, High St, Plaistow E13: please attend. - **Thu 21** Wanstead social: (7.30) George; (8.30) Duke of Edinburgh, Nightingale La; (9.15) Nightingale.

May – Tue 10 (8pm) Mtg. Sekforde Arms, Sekforde St, EC1. - **Wed 25** City crawl: (6pm) Lamb Tavern; (6.45) Swan; (7.30) Elephant; (8.15) East India Arms.

Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET

Sandie Ward 020-8884 0075 (H), publicity@camra-enfield-and-barnet.org.uk

April – Wed 6 (9pm) Social. Elephant Inn, 283 Ballards La, North Finchley N12. - **Thu 14** (8.30) Special social with Ringwood Bitter. Old Bell, 223 Baker St, EN1. - Tuesday 19 Three pub EN5 social: (8.30) Weaver, 27Greenhill Parade;

(9.15) Queens Arms, Great North Rd; (10pm) Old Red Lion, Underhill, Great North Rd. - **Sat 23** Wetherspoons Saint George's Day Hop (note, public transport will be required). Meet 12 noon at Gilpins Bell, 50-54 Fore Street, Upper Edmonton. Contact branch for further details. - **Thu 28** (8.30) Mtg. Winchmore Hill Cricket Club, Firs La, N21.

May – Tue 3 (9pm) Mild promotion & social. Old Sergeant, 29 Parsonage La, Enfield EN2. - **Sat 7** New River walk led by Sandie Ward. Meet (12 noon) outside Halfway House (junction of A10 and Carterhatch La). - **Wed 11** (9pm) Mild promotion & social. Madden's, 130 East Finchley High Rd, N2. - **Thu 19** (9pm) Mild promotion & social. Woolpack, 52 High St, Southgate N14. - **Thu 26** (9pm) Social & *London Drinker* pick up. Old Mitre, 58 High St, Barnet EN5. - **Tue 31** (9pm) Mild promotion & social. Whole Hog, 430-434 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13.

News Grp: camraenfieldandbarnet-subscribe@yahoo.co.uk

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

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor 020-8949 2099 (H) 020-8540 1901 (W), kandl@camrasurrey.org.uk.

April – Sat 2 Train trip to Brighton, catching 11.12 from Clapham Junction. - **Tue 5** (8.15) Mtg, Rising Sun, Heathcote Rd, Epsom. - **Sun 17** (3.20) Crawl from Walton to Weybridge, starting at Ashley Park Hotel, opposite Walton Stn.

May – Tue 3 (8.15) Mtg. Bear, Portsmouth Rd, Esher. - **Sun 8** Visit by train to English Farm Cider Centre, Firl, to choose cider for Kingston Beer Festival, catching 10.53 from Clapham Junction. - **Sat 14** (7pm) Barbecue, Jolly Farmer, Princes Road, Weybridge. - **Tue 17** (8pm) Joint Mild Social, Trafalgar, High Path, Merton, SW19.

Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk

NORTH LONDON

Social contact: Mike Rose 07986 458517, mikewrose@blueyonder.co.uk; Branch contact: Mick Lewis 020-7935 1350 or 07952 244687 (M), orientmoron@yahoo.com

April – Tue 5 (8pm) N8 Social. Princess Alexandra, Park Rd; then Kings Head, 2 Crouch End Hill. - **Tue 12** (8pm) Mtg and Pub of the Year selection. Kings Arms, 11a Northington St, WC1. - **Tue 19** Hampstead crawl: (8pm) Flask, Flask Walk; then Holly Bush, Holly Bush Hill; Duke of Hamilton, New End. - **Tue 26** WC1 Social: (8pm) York, Roger St; then Pakenham Arms, 1 Pakenham St; Calthorpe Arms, Grays Inn Rd.

May – Tue 3 Mild Month N4 social: (8pm) Salisbury, 1 Grand Parade, Green Lanes; then Oakdale Arms, 283 Hermitage Rd. - **Tue 10** Highgate social crawl: (8pm) Flask, 77 Highgate West Hill; then Gatehouse, Hampstead La; Wrestlers, 98 North Rd. - **Tue 17** (8pm) Mild Month social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd, N1. - **Tue 24** N1 Social: (8pm) Hen & Chickens, 109 St Paul's Rd; then Bierodrome, 173-174 Upper St; Compton Arms, 4 Compton Ave. - **Wed 30** (8pm) Mild Month social. Head of Steam, Euston Station Colonnade, NW1.

Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW

Brian Kirton 020-8384 7284 (H), sk014j4253@blueyonder.co.uk

April – Tue 5 (8pm) Joint social darts night with West Middlesex branch. Red Lion, 92 Linkfield Rd, Isleworth – locals v. CAMRA members knockout. £1 entry. Prize for winner. - **Thu 14** (8.30) Twickenham beer festival subcttee mtg. Cabbage Patch, 67 London Rd, Twickenham. - **Fri 22** (W/E) CAMRA members weekend, Glasgow. Contact branch contact for details of visit. - **Thu 28** (8pm) Branch AGM. Fox, Church St, Twickenham. All welcome, buffet provided.

May – Tue 3 (8pm) Branch quiz night. Red Lion, 92 Linkfield

Rd, Isleworth. Teams of four or fewer. - **Wed 11** Richmond social crawl in search of Fuller's Hock mild: (8pm) Prince's Head, 28 The Green; (9pm) Sun, 17 Parkshot; (10pm) Triple Crown, 15 Kew Foot Rd. - **Thu 19** (8.30) Mtg. Hare & Hounds, 216 Upper Richmond Rd, Sheen. - **Sat 21** (9.30am) Festival staff trip to Moor brewery in Somerset. See branch contact for more details. - **Tue 31** (8.30) 4th Twickenham Beer Fest 2005 mtg. Kings Arms, 40 Albion Rd, Twickenham. All welcome.

Website: www.camra.org.uk/richmond

SOUTH EAST LONDON

Richard Martin 020-8402 0424

April – Wed 6 (8pm) Branch/cttee mtg. Duke of York, 47-48 Borough Rd, SE1. - **Tue 12** (8pm) Social. Phoenix at Denmark Hill, Windsor Walk. - **Thu 21** (8pm) Out of area social. Ye Olde Mitre, Ely Court, Ely Pla (off Hatton Garden), EC1. - **Mon 25** (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning mtg. Dog & Bell, 116 Prince St, Deptford SE8. - **Thu 28** (8pm) Social. Two Doves, 37 Oakley Rd, Bromley Common.

May – Wed 4 (8pm) Branch/cttee mtg. Dulwich Wood House, 39 Sydenham Hill, SE26. - **Sat 7** (1-4pm) Social at the New Forest Cider Stall at Borough Market, SE1 and who knows where afterwards. - **Sun 15** Social in conjunction with the Walking Lewisham Festival. Lewisham to Catford pub crawl starting (7pm) at the Watch House, 198-204 Lewisham High St. - **Tue 17** – Second social in conjunction with Walking Lewisham, starting (7pm) at Zero Degrees, 29-31 Montpellier Row, Blackheath, and heading off towards the Dog & Bell, SE8. - **Mon 23** (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning mtg. Dog & Bell, SE8. - **Sat 28** This is turning into a very energetic month: the third Walking Lewisham Social, starting (2pm) at the Capital, 11-21 London Rd, SE23, then on towards SE26.

Website: www.selcamra.org.uk

SOUTH WEST ESSEX

Andrew Clifton 01708 765150 (H), swessex@clara.co.uk

April – Wed 6 (8pm) Out of area social. Royal Oak, 44 Tabard St, SE1. - **Wed 13** (8.30) Social, Standard Bearer, 7/13 Goodmayes Rd (B177), Goodmayes (near Goodmayes Stn) - **Wed 20** (8pm) Social at Maldon Beer Festival, Town Hall, Market Hill, Maldon. Coach from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster and Stanford le Hope. Details/bookings contact Alan Barker on 07711 971957. - **Thu 28** (8pm) Out of area social, Black Lion, 59-61 High St, Plaistow, E13. **May – Mon 2** (12 noon) 1st "Sunny Summer Weekend" social, White Horse, 173 Coxtie Green Rd, Coxtie Green. Cycle, drive if you must, or even walk from Brentwood station! (For more details see Branch Website.) - **Thu 12** (8.30) Social. JJ Moons, 48/52 High St (A124), Hornchurch. - **Mon 15** (8.30) Social. Fairlop Oak, Fulwell Cross/Fencepiece Rd (A123), Barking. - **Sat 28** (8pm) Social (during Pub Beer Festival), Station Arms, Southminster (trains to and from Branch area). *Website: www.swessex.clara.net*

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H), 020-7147 2860 (W), markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk

Cricket contact: Andy Robinson 020-7403 5566 (W)

April – Mon 11 (7.30) Branch/cttee mtg. Freemasons, 2 Wandsworth Common North Side SW18. **May – Wed 4** (8pm) Branch Pub of the Year presentation, Trinity Arms, 45 Trinity Gdns, Brixton SW9. - **Thu 12** (7.30) Branch/cttee mtg followed (8pm) by Branch AGM. Priory Arms (upstairs room) 83 Lansdowne Way, South Lambeth SW8. Written nominations to Branch Contact by 11 May. - **Tue 17** (7.30 onwards). Joint social with Kingston & Leatherhead Branch to celebrate National Mild Month, Trafalgar, 23 High Path, Merton SW19.

Cricket matches every Sunday, weather permitting.

Website: www.swlcamra.org.uk

WATFORD & DISTRICT *Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104, branch@watfordcamra.org.uk*

April – Fri 8 (8.30) Birthday social. West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford. Please note that the West Herts is a members' club. Visitors must be signed in by a member. Contact the branch for details. - **Wed 13** Oxhey social: (8.15) Royal Oak, Watford Heath; (9pm) Villiers Arms; (9.45) Victoria. - **Sat 23** (from 1pm) St. George's Day social. Clarendon Arms, Chandler's Cross. - **Mon 25** (8.15) Open cttee mtg, Estcourt Arms, Watford, 8.15pm.

May – Fri 6 (8.30) Mild social. Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty, Herongate. - **Tue 10** (8.15) Unicorn, Abbot's Langley; then (9pm) King's Head, Hunton Bridge; (10pm) Southern Cross. - **Thu 19** Annual Breweriana Auction, West Herts Sports Club function room. Viewing from 7pm. - **Mon 23** (8.15) Open cttee mtg, Estcourt Arms, Watford, 8.15pm. - **Sun 29** (8.30 for 9pm start) Quiz Night at the Southern Cross. *Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk*

WEST LONDON *Alasdair Boyd (Social Secretary) 020 7930 9871 ext 143 (9am-2.45/6pm-9.30 Mon-Fri or leave message), banqueting@nlc.org.uk Fax: 020-7839 4768*

April – Sat 2 Trip to Dunstable Beer Fest. Meet (10.30) St Pancras Stn for 11am train to Luton. - **Wed 6** (7pm) Branch cttee mtg. Carpenters Arms, 12 Seymour Pl, W1. - **Fri 15** (7pm) Social. Radnor Arms, 247 Warwick Rd, W14. - **Tue 26** (7pm) White Horse, 1 Parsons Green, SW6; (8pm) Duke of Cumberland, 235 New Kings Rd, SW6. - **Sat 30** Trip to Reading Beer Fest, King's Meadow, Reading (Meet noon at Cider Bar).

May – Wed 4 (7pm) Morpeth Arms, 58 Millbank, SW1; (8pm) Jugged Hare, Vauxhall Bridge Rd/Junction with Rochester Row, SW1; (10pm) Wetherspoons, Victoria Station, SW1. - **Thu 12** (7.30 for 8pm) Branch AGM. Back Room, Southside Bar, Princess Gdns, South Kensington, SW7. - **Thu 19** Joint social with Reading, Slough and W Middlesex branches. (7.30) Conservative Club, Fairlawn, off High St, Southall then curry at Nagina Karahi. - **Tue 24** (7.30) Cheshire Cheese, 5 Little Essex St, WC2; (8.15) Devereux, 20 Devereux Court, WC2; (9pm) Edgar Wallace, 40 Essex St, WC2. - **Tue 31** (7.30) Victoria, 10 A Strathearn Pl, W2; (9pm) Royal Exchange, 26 Sale Pl, W2; (10pm) Mad Bishop & Bear, Paddington Stn.

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

April – Fri 1 (8pm) London Drinker distribution. Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford (pick-up) then Fox, Green La, Hanwell (1st drop-off). - **Tue 5** (8pm) Joint darts social with Richmond & Hounslow. Red Lion, Linkfield Rd, Isleworth. - **Wed 13** (8.30) Mtg. Questors' Theatre Grapevine Bar, Mattock La, Ealing. - **Thu 21** (8pm) New Members' social. Bridge Hotel, Western Avenue, Greenford. - **Sat 30** Joint crawl with Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead: (11am) Swan, High St, Iver to Black Horse, Slough Rd, Iver Heath (6pm). Details of times at other pubs from branch contact. Stopping train arr 1055 Iver or 58 bus ex-Uxbridge Stn at 1047.

May – Wed 4 (8pm) Social. Master Brewer, Western Avenue, Hillingdon. - **Wed 11** (8pm) Branch AGM. Drayton Court Hotel, The Avenue, West Ealing. Membership cards reqd. - **Thu 19** (7.30) Joint social in Southall - see under West London, above. - **Fri 27** (8pm) London Drinker distribution. Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford (pick-up) then Fox, Green La, Hanwell (1st drop-off).

Website: www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the June/July 2005 edition: 11th May 2005. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

CASK MARQUE AWARDS

Formed in 1997, Cask Marque is an independent accreditation scheme jointly funded by participating brewers and retailers, which recognises excellence in the service of cask ale. The award is made not to the pub but to the licensee, who has to

pass two unannounced inspections with assessors sampling up to six beers checking temperature, appearance, aroma and taste. Further inspections are made twice a year, with additional random inspections triggered by customer comment.

ADDITIONS

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

CENTRAL

W1(S), CLACHAN, 34 Kingly St. M&B. (W41, U80, U90, U101, U151)

WC2, GLOBE TAVERN, 37 Bow St. M&B. (W54, U151, U182)

NORTH

N1, YORK, 82 Islington High St. M&B. (N62, U151)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, DOGGETS COAT & BADGE,

1 Blackfriars Bridge. M&B. (SE13, U151, U182)
SE1, MARKET PORTER, 9 Stoney St. Market Taverns. (SE25, U147)
SE1, MUDLARK, Montague Cl. M&B. (SE27, U119, U182)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(W), MARQUIS OF GRANBY, 41 Romney St. M&B. (SW49, U137)

DELETION

The following outlets no longer hold the Cask Marque award.

EAST

COLLIER ROW, ASPEN TREE. Formerly PICKLED NEWT. Greene King. (X43, U168)

NORTH

N1, ALL BAR ONE, 1 Liverpool Rd. M&B. (Closed) (N37, U182)

WEST

W6, AUTUMN HOUSE. Formerly PENNY FARTHING. Wizard. (Closed) (W76, U92, U166, U168, U179)

LAGRAD LONDON GROUP

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

April – Wed 6 (7pm). New members' social. King's Arms, 23 Poland St, W1 (020-7734 5907). - Tue 19 (7pm) Meet at the Grange, opposite the Fort, Adnam's Broadside, Fullers London Pride and food, then (8pm) Fort, 131 Grange Rd, SE1 (020-7237 7742). Don't arrive early as it opens at 8pm. Usually has a Young's beer. Cruise in the dark night....

May – Wed 4 (7pm) Social. King's Arms, 23 Poland St - Wed 18 Croydon crawl: (6pm) Bird (formerly the Bird of Pride), Sydenham Rd, 20 mins north west of East Croydon station, just over the railway bridge, then along the path by the railway to the Goose and Carrot, 128 Wellesley Rd (7pm).

Over 3,150 licensees have the Cask Marque award. The beer in their outlets has been independently inspected for beer quality.

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



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

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

The Magpie & Crown

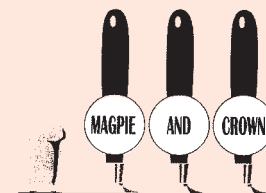
128 High Street
Brentford, Middx
Tel: 020 8560 4570



- ◆ Only 30 minutes from main line Waterloo
- ◆ 4 ever-changing guest ales from £2.10
- ◆ 3 traditional ciders & the occasional perry
- ◆ Foreign bottled beers selection

- ◆ Draught Budvar, Hoegaarden, Paulaner Münchener Lager & Bavarian Wheat Beer
- ◆ Quiz Night Thursday
- ◆ Bar billiards
- ◆ Cycle rack
- ◆ 2005 Good Beer Guide
- ◆ Beers from Grand Union and Twickenham Breweries

AT THE TIME OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT WE HAVE SERVED ~~1351~~ 1356 DIFFERENT BEERS



Steve and the staff look forward to seeing you soon

6X change



Change to 6X at a pub near you

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 182

The aim of 'Capital Pubcheck' is to share information about the latest happenings on the London pub scene including new pub and bar openings, name changes, acquisitions, closures, notable changes to beer ranges etc.

Information is gathered from a variety of sources including London Drinker readers, individual CAMRA members and branch contacts, breweries, pub operators, landlords etc. If you would like to contribute to 'Pubcheck' please send your news to the address below.

This time we welcome the acquisition of three pubs by Fullers from M&B in EC1 and EC4 in the City and SW1 Belgravia. The full Fuller's range is available, including the new seasonal beers. Former 'Hogsheads' continue to be renamed following their disposal by Laurel and an ex-Firkin brewpub in SE5 Denmark Hill has reinstated real ale after five years in the doldrums as a phoney Irish themed 'O'Neills'. Can we hope that others will follow? On the down side, Youngs have closed their sole W4 Chiswick pub and sold it to a property company without prior warning, which does not bode well for the future of other similar pubs in its estate. Wetherspoons

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC2, **GEORGE**, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool St. Adnams: Bitter; Greene King: IPA; Wells: Bombardier; Guest beer. Separate entrance from Liverpool St. (U155)

EC4, **JAMIES**, 34/36 Ludgate Hill. No real ale. Fizz taps installed in former wine and cocktail bar. Formerly 34 LUDGATE HILL, originally SLURPING TOAD. (U131, U154, U156)

EC4, **MANSION HOUSE**, 44 Cannon St. No real ale. New Free House/bar created on ground floor of office block.

EC4, **PATERNOSTER CHOP HOUSE**, Warwick Court, Paternoster Sq. Greene King: IPA; Wells: Bombardier. New Conran bar and restaurant with very British menu.

EC4, **TAO**, 11/11A Bow Lane. No real ale. New Free House/bar and restaurant.

EC4, **VIVO**, 17 Watling St. No real ale. New M&B basement bar (entrance fee after 10.30).

WC1, **TAVISTOCK HOTEL BAR**, Tavistock Sq. Greene King: IPA. Hotel bar open to non-residents (until 11pm), to right of foyer.

WC2, **ALBANNACH**, 66 Trafalgar Sq. No real ale. New Free House/Scottish style bar in former bank premises on south western side of Square. May introduce a Scottish real ale in future.

WC2, **NAMA**, 245 Shaftesbury Ave. No real ale. A Free House/bar and restaurant in former restaurant premises.

NORTH

N1, **ALMA**, 59 Newington Green Rd. Draught Bass;

are also selling nine pubs in Greater London, but as licensed premises, hopefully to other pub operators. Closures, demolitions and conversions to other uses, mostly residential, are reported across the capital. The former French brewpub in WC2 Covent Garden is now a cocktail bar.

Cross references to CAMRA's various pub guides covering Greater London are provided to enable easy updating. The numbers in brackets after each entry refer to the page numbers in the following guides: E - East London & City Beer Guide, 3rd edition; H - Hertfordshire Guide to Real Ale, 2000 edition; HB - Holborn & Bloomsbury Pub Guide; K - Guide to Kent Pubs, 10th edition; 8K - Real Ale Guide to Kent Pubs, 8th edition; KT - Kingston Pub Guide; N - North London Beer Guide, 3rd edition; SE - South East London Pub Guide, 4th edition; 3SE - South East London Pub Guide, 3rd edition; SW - South West London Pub Guide, 2nd edition; W - Real Beer in West London; X - Essex Beer Guide, 9th edition.

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

Courage: Directors Bitter. Reinstatement of real ale. Now a Free House owned by Rosetta Rd Ltd, ex-Bass. (N37, U154)

N1, **BARING ARMS**, 55 Baring St. Adnams: Bitter; Fuller: London Pride. Imposing cosy pub with modern décor. Now a Free House owned by Kabuki Ltd, ex-Ascot. Open 12-3/4-9 Mon-Fri, 12-7 Sat/Sun.

N1, **BROWNS (ON THE GREEN)**, 7-9 Islington Green. No real ale. Fizzy fonts installed in former cocktail and spirits bar.

N1, **LION & LAMB**, 46 Fanshawe St. Adnams: Bitter. Now Enterprise, ex-Courage. Community and family local. Open all normal hours. (N50)

N1, **MACBETH**, 70 Hoxton St. Renamed **HOXTON DISTILLERY**. Fuller: London Pride. Now Enterprise, ex-Belhaven, formerly Truman. Formerly the WHITE HART, it was apparently originally a gin distillery. Open all normal hours. (N50)

N1, **INN PUB**, Jurys Inn (Hotel), 60 Pentonville Rd. No real ale. Hotel bar open to non-residents to right of foyer. Open since 1997 but not previously reported.

BARNET (EN5), BLACK HORSE, Wood St. Greene King: IPA. Reopened and refurbished. Now Bell & Buckley Taverns Ltd, previously Benskins. (N250, H19, U181)

NEW BARNET (EN4), BAILEY, Victoria Rd. Draught Bass. Formerly **WARWICK HOTEL**. (N247, U157, H83)

NORTH WEST

NW1, **PRINCE OF WALES**, 119 Hampstead Rd. Reopened and renamed **POSITIVELY 4TH STREET**. No real ale. Now a Free House/bar, ex-Taylor Walker. (N172, U130)

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 182

SOUTH EAST

SE5, **O'NEILLS**, 5 Windsor Walk. Renamed **PHOENIX (AT DENMARK HILL)**. Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; Wells: Bombardier; Young: Bitter. A welcome reinstatement of real ale at what was originally the PHOENIX & FIRKIN, one of David Bruce's original Firkin chain, created in the former Denmark Hill station building. A wide range of Belgian bottled beers and Czech Herold black lager. (SE61, U151, U157).

CROYDON, GIPSY TAVEN, 12 Station Rd, West Croydon. No real ale. Free House/bar in former wine bar.

SOUTH WEST

SW1(W), **CAFÉ (CRÈME)**, Thistle Westminster Hotel, Buckingham Palace Rd. No real ale. Hotel bar open to non-residents, with separate entrance from street.

SW16, **RAILWAY HOTEL**, 2 Greyhound Lane. Adnams: Bitter, Broadside. Probably now Free, ex-Bass. (SW108, U153)

NEW MALDEN, FOUNTAIN, 120 Malden Rd. Fuller: London Pride, Young: Bitter. Still badged as a 'Barras' pub. Reinstatement of real ale. (SW151, U132, U165, KT35)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC4, **DOME**, ex-Whitbread, converted to 'Strada' pizza restaurant. (U131)

W1(F), **WINDMILL**, Spirit, ex-Taylor Walker, closed along with whole block and under renovation. Believed to be destined for conversion to a bank. (W33, U50, U98)

W1(May), **VIGO'S (CAFE BAR)**, ex-S&N, now converted to shop. (W40, U48, U90, U92, U141, U179)

WC1, **CROWN**, 51 New Oxford St, Sam Smith, closed and under reconstruction. (W46, U59, U108, N21, U109)

WC2, **BAR INTERVAL**, Free, converted to 'L'Ulivo' Italian restaurant. Formerly **INTERVAL**. (U168, U169)

WC2, **BRASSERIE LES SANS CULOTTES**, ex-brewpub, now converted to a cocktail bar named 'Octave'. Sad end for London's former unique French brewpub. Formerly **HENRYS**. (U92, U164, U172)

WC2, **O'REILLY'S**, Free, closed and to let. (U129)

WC2, **OLD ORLEANS,S&N**, converted to 'Papagano' restaurant. (W55, U106)

WC2, **SOUTHSIDE BAR**, Free, closed and absorbed in 'Wagamania' noodle bar next door. (U129)

WC2, **SPRINGBOK (BAR)**, Free, closed and to let. Formerly **BAD BOBS**. (U117, U129, U178)

EAST

E1, **ARCHERS**, ex-Whitbread, H removed. (E60, U161)

E1, **SEVEN STARS**, 49 Brick Lane, ex-Watney, closed and boarded up. (E73, U67)

E3, **LORD TREDEGAR**, ex-Inn Business, no real ale. (E91, U79, U91, U99, U136)

E9, **ADAM & EVE**, ex-Taylor Walker, H removed. (E119, U79, U166)

APPLICATION TO JOIN CAMRA

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

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signature _____ Date _____

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

	Individual Annual		Joint Annual		Individual Life		Joint Life	
UK and EEC	£18	<input type="checkbox"/>	£21	<input type="checkbox"/>	£325	<input type="checkbox"/>	£378	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rest of the World	£22	<input type="checkbox"/>	£25	<input type="checkbox"/>	£396	<input type="checkbox"/>	£450	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under age 26	£10	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Unemployed/Disabled	£10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of birth _____					
OAP	£10	<input type="checkbox"/>	£13	<input type="checkbox"/>	£180	<input type="checkbox"/>	£234	<input type="checkbox"/>

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



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 182

E9, **TIGER**, ex-Whitbread (formerly Youngs), H removed. (E122)
 E12, **BURNELL ARMS**, ex-Bass, still closed and boarded up. (E131, U133, U166)
 E16, **DURHAM ARMS**, ex-Bass, H unused. (E159, U167, U170)
 E16, **ORDNANCE ARMS**, Greene King, H removed. (E160, U98, U117, U142, U144, U153)
DAGENHAM, ROBIN HOOD, now Greene King, ex-Whitbread, closed. (X45, U160, U161)

NORTH

N1, **ALL BAR ONE**, 1 Liverpool Rd, ex-Bass, closed and boarded up. (N37)
 N1, **CROWN & ANCHOR**, ex-Watney, converted entirely to residential (correction to U159). (N40, U137, U159)
 N1, **H2O**, ex-Free, ground floor converted to shop, flats above (correction to U159). (U161)
 N1, **KING EDWARD VI**, Free, H removed. (N49)
 N1, **MURRAY'S BAR**, Free, converted to 'Latino' cocktail bar, now renamed 'Kinky Mango', a cocktail lounge and club. (N52, U176)
 N1, **ROYAL GEORGE**, ex-Courage, ground floor remains closed/vacant, upper floors converted to flats (correction to U163). (N57, U152, U163)
 N10, **GREEN MAN**, S&N, closed and boarded up.

(N103, U157)
 N11, **TURRETS**, ex-Courage, now sold to property company. Formerly KITES. (N107, U109, U110, U170)
ENFIELD (EN1), **ENFIELD ARMS**, S&N, closed for proposed road scheme. (N229)
ENFIELD EAST (EN3), **HORSE & DRAY**, ex-Whitbread, closed. (N241, U161)
ENFIELD WEST (EN2), **BAR ME**, ex-Whitbread, closed. Formerly COACH HOUSE. (N233, U159, U166)

NORTH WEST

NW1, **GOAT IN BOOTS**, ex-Taylor Walker, closed. (N167)
 NW1, **WINE PRESS**, Free, converted to Hotel gym. (N177)
 NW3, **WHITE HORSE**, Faucet Inns, closed. (N185, U153, U168)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, **FLOWERS OF THE FOREST**, 14 Westminster Bridge Rd, ex-Courage, H unused. (SE16)
 SE1, **GEORGE**, 23 Keyworth St, ex-Watney, demolished and replaced by housing. (SE17)
 SE1, **PRINCE OF WALES**, 23 Lant St, ex-Belhaven, demolished. (SE29)
 SE1, **PRINCE OF WALES**, 51 St Georges Rd, ex-Watney, H removed. (SE29)

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 182

SE1, **WINCHESTER**, Free, demolished and replaced by small block of flats. (SE39, U102, U120)
 SE15, **RED BULL**, ex-Taylor Walker, closed and boarded up. (SE139)
 SE15, **WALMER CASTLE**. Renamed PHARAOHS, ex-Inntrepreneur, closed and boarded up. (SE140)
CROYDON, JOLLY GARDENERS, ex-Allied, demolished and site now used for a hand car wash. (3SE244, U55, U177)
CROYDON, WINDY CITY, S&N, closed. Formerly JODIES FLAT, STOP, RAT & PARROT and originally CROYDON. (3SE239, U98, U107, U176, U179)
CROYDON, WISE GUYS, Free, now being demolished. (U140, U149)
KENLEY, ROSE & CROWN, ex-Allied, closed and boarded up. (3SE258, U50)

SOUTH WEST

SW2, **McCLUSKIP'S**, Allied Leisure, H now removed. (SW31)
 SW9, **GRESHAM**, ex-Bass, now converted to flats. (SW82, U142)
 SW9, **RUSSELL HOTEL**, ex-Inntrepreneur, confirmed flats upstairs with A3 unit to let on ground floor. (SW83, U162, U176)
 SW16, **WHITE LION**, ex-Wychwood, H unused. (SW108, U153)
 SW19, **BAOBAB**, Punch, confirmed no real ale. Formerly RIVERSIDE, originally ROYAL SIX BELLS. (SW119, U142, U170, U173, U178, U179)
MITCHAM, BULL, ex-Young, already reported closed; sold and planning application for housing now submitted. (SW145, U170)
MITCHAM, HOP PICKERS, Enterprise, demolished for new housing. (SW146, U146, U149, U172, U177)
MITCHAM, HORSE & GROOM, ex-Allied, demolished for new medical centre. (SW146, U127, U131)

WEST

W4, **CROWN & ANCHOR**, Young, closed suddenly, sold to a property company and now rumoured to be about to be converted to a Mothercare shop! Sad loss of Young's only Chiswick pub and a former GBG entry, and does not bode well for the future of other Young's pubs in high street locations. (W68)
HOUNSLOW, QUEENS ARMS, Punch, now demolished. Formerly GREYHOUND. (W126, U89, U95, U108, U174)
HOUNSLOW, TANKERVILLE, Free, now demolished. Was BIG HAND MO'S for a while. (W128, U95, U98, U107, U147, U172)
HOUNSLOW, WINDMILL, Greene King, no real ale. (W128, U71, U77, U82, U95, U101, U102)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC1, **VIADUCT TAVERN**, -beers listed; +Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, London Pride, ESB, seasonal beer. Acquired by Fuller's from M&B in January. (E26, U121, U151).

EC4, **HARROW**, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; + Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, ESB, seasonal beer. Acquired by Fuller's from M&B in January. (E49)
 W1(Mar), **ARISTOCRAT**. Renamed UNION, -beers listed; +Young: Bitter, Winter Warmer. Still owned by Faucet Inn Pub Co. (W33, U148, U168)
 W1(S), **BRB**. Now BAR ROOM BAR (BRB), still no real ale. (U161)
 W1(S), **MOON & SIXPENCE**. For sale by Wetherspoon. (U93)
 WC1, **KINGSLEY HOTEL**. Bar now called KINGSLEY 2 BAR, hotel now renamed Thistle Hotel (Bloomsbury). (W47, U81, N23, U171)
 WC1, **POINT 101**. Now simply 101, still no real ale. (U141)
 WC1, **TWO ANGELS BAR**. Now 2 ANGELS BAR, still no real ale. Formerly PETERS BAR. (W50, U108, N28, U155)
 WC2, **GLOBE TAVERN**. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (W54, U151)
 WC2, **STONEWALLS**. Reverted to BRIEF ENCOUNTER. Formerly SITE (BAR). (W52, U168, U178)
 WC2, **VILLIERS**. Renamed NEW PLAYERS THEATRE BAR. (U174)

EAST

E3, **MATCH MAKER**. For sale by Wetherspoon. (U160)
 DAGENHAM, **LORD DENMAN**. For sale by Wetherspoon. (X45)

NORTH

N1, **COOPERS**. Renamed DUKE OF YORK, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Young: Bitter. Formerly YORK TAVERN. (N62, U109)
 N1, **H (RESTAURANT & BAR)**. Renamed SOCIAL. Formerly HANBURY ARMS. (N47, U144)
 N1, **YORK**. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (N62, U151)

N4, **WHITE LION OF MORTIMER**. For sale by Wetherspoon. (N77)

NORTH WEST

NORTHWOOD, **SYLVAN MOON**. For sale by Wetherspoon. (U82)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, **CZAR BAR**. Renamed SUCHARD. Formerly BRIDGE and HORNS. (SE21, U102, U112, U157, U158)
 SE1, **DOGGETT'S COAT & BADGE**. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (SE13, U151)
 SE1, **GIBALTAR**. Renamed LYE TONG and now Free, ex-Watney. Predominantly a Thai restaurant but drinkers welcome. Still no real ale. (SE17)
 SE1, **MUDLARK**. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (SE27, U119)
 SE5, **CASTLE**, -beers listed; +Adnams: Broadside; +Grand Union beers. Recently Time Out's 'Pub of the Week'. (SE56)
 SE18, **PITCH & PINT**. Renamed CLANCYS. Formerly DOCKERS BAR, MANHATTAN CAFE and MILLION

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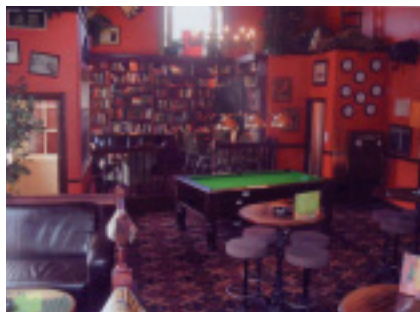
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CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 182

HARE, originally LORD HOWICK. (SE169, U102,
U159, U166, U181)
SE25, WILLIAM STANLEY. For sale by Wetherspoon.
(U142)
BROMLEY, G PAMPHILON. Renamed
WALKABOUT. (U97, U158)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(B), ANTELOPE, -beers listed; +Fuller: Chiswick
Bitter, London Pride, ESB, seasonal beer. Acquired by
Fuller's from M&B in January. (SW37, U136, U151)
SW1(W), MARQUIS OF GRANBY. Now M&B
(Nicholson), ex-Bass. (SW49, U137)
SW9, LIVING ROOM. Renamed LIVING. Formerly
ISOBAR, originally COACH & HORSES. (SW82, U141,
U149, U152)
SW16, HOGSHEAD. Renamed FIVE BELLS, beer range
unchanged. (U131, U146, U176)
MITCHAM, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER. For sale
by Wetherspoon. (SW150)
MORDEN, LADY ST HELIER. For sale by
Wetherspoon. Formerly WETHERSPOONS. (SW151,
U147)
KINGSTON, DRUIDS HEAD (HOGSHEAD). Now
simply DRUIDS HEAD. (SW141, KT21)

WEST

W13, COACH & HORSES. Renamed CASTLEBAR
(W92, U68, U78)
ISLEWORTH, MILFORD ARMS. Renamed TC'S.
(W131, U53, U99, U107, U177)
TWICKENHAM, MOON UNDER WATER. For sale
by Wetherspoon. (U68)

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 181

NEW PUBS ETC

SW19, COMMON ROOM. Is a Free House.

PUBS CLOSED ETC

EC1, SPORTSMAN. Delete entry. Building work
ongoing.
WC1, RECESSION. Add ref: N30.
WC2, LONG ISLAND ICED TEA SHOP. Delete entry;
retain on database: continues to sell draught beer.
E1, BRITANNIA. Address is 44 Morris St.
E2, WEAVERS ARMS. Refs should read: E85 etc
N1, ARTFUL DODGER. Add: 'Flats being constructed
on site.'
N1, KESTON LODGE. Delete entry. Still trading
(confused with ALL BAR ONE above).
N1, MARQUEE. Add: 'Replaced by flats.'
N1, PRINCE ALBERT. Address is 29 Elmore St.
N1, PRINCE ALFRED. Add: 'Flats upstairs.'
N9, TUDOR INN. Add: 'Formerly HORSE &
GROOM.'
BEDDINGTON, RED LION. Delete entry. Still open.

OTHER CHANGES ETC

N1, MITRE. Address is 183 Copenhagen St.
SW1(W), PAGE. Should read: SW1(P).

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LONDON FOR FREE - MORE POUNDS TO SPEND ON BEER

A HIGHER VIEW

When you get jaded with the sameness of your surroundings, head for Hampstead for a much-needed lift of spirits. Wandering on foot around Hampstead Village as well as the Heath can inspire the visitor, especially when he has had a few pints at The Duke of Hamilton.

Do not drive in Hampstead; gridlock is a constant condition on the main streets and parking is at a premium. Instead, take the Tube to Hampstead (zones 2/3) and walk. Hampstead is home to the rich and famous; if you don't want to window shop in the trendy stores or eat in the many cafés or restaurants, head right up the hill towards Kenwood House, our free destination in this area (Hampstead Lane, Hampstead, NW3; 020-8348 1286; consult the following web sites for information: www.theheritagetrail.co.uk/stately20homes/kenwood, www.speeldemon.co.uk/other/iveagh.htm and www.tourku.co.uk/london_houses/kenwood_house1.htm

Home of Edward Cecil Guinness, first Earl of Iveagh and heir to the Guinness brewery, Kenwood was bequeathed to the nation, along with a large portion of the owner's paintings. Guinness (1847-1927) began working at the family brewery at age 15 and five years later inherited 'the world's largest porter brewery'. An inveterate collector of fine art and benefactor of good causes, Guinness gave his home on the edge of Hampstead Heath to the nation, and it remains a free treasure for visitors interested in art. It also is the site of concerts in the summer.

This jewel is a 'must visit' place. An eighteenth century house with magnificent grounds, it was purchased by Guinness in 1925 to house his art collection, the Iveagh Bequest. Among painters represented are Rembrandt, Reynolds, Turner, and Gainsborough. See Bob Speel's web site (listed above) for information on Victorian painters in the Bequest. See the other web sites for general information such as opening times, events, special exhibits, etc. After you've visited the house, either have some refreshments at the café, or take a picnic

and explore the lake and surrounding walks. Then be adventurous and walk on the Heath back to Hampstead Village. You can hear traffic off in the distance, so don't fear becoming lost; highwaymen such as Dick Turpin used to ply this area, but it's relatively safe now. Turpin's father allegedly was the landlord at the Spaniards Inn, an historic pub close by. Since there was a turnpike by the pub, Turpin would spot his victims from his upstairs window, then follow and rob them. Now his life is part of lore.

After your walk across the Heath back to the Village, you will have worked up a thirst. Hampstead has many fine pubs, three of which are listed in CAMRA's 2005 Good Beer Guide. The Duke of Hamilton (23 New End, NW3; 020-7794 0258; Hampstead Tube) has had a consecutive entry in this Guide for 13 years and was CAMRA North London Pub of the Year 2002 and 2003. There is a reason for this: the landlord, Michael "Woody" Wooderson, keeps his beer in excellent condition. Fuller's ESB and London Pride plus a seasonal beer are on draught. This is a 'real' pub with the landlords on the premises, overseeing the business and chatting with their customers, regulars (some famous) and visitors, often back for a second or third time. The pub is named after a Civil War soldier, James, Duke of Hamilton, (1606-49), a leading Royalist nobleman and King Charles's principal supporter in Scotland. He was executed after leading the ill-fated Engager invasion of England in the Second Civil War. It is located off the main drag on a quiet street and has the flavour of a neighbourhood pub. You will find no food or music here and only the occasional sports event on television, but those who want a quiet talk can sit outside in the summer or at the rear of the main room. The repartee between the regulars and the landlord can be quite lively.

Weary after your walk to Kenwood House and back across the Heath and full of superbly kept beer, make your way home after another full day of London for Free.

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Plus Beers from Adnams & Battersea Brewery.

In addition, Roger Protz, editor of the Good Beer Guide, will be giving tutored beer tasting seminars upstairs at the pub for £8.00 a ticket (cost includes the six beers tasted) on Thursday 7th (8.00pm) and Sunday 10th (2.30pm) of April.

Terrific food served all weekend from the Bread and Roses kitchen, to complement the award-winning beers.

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REAL ALE IN A BOTTLE RETURNS TO FAVERSHAM

With an overnight falling of snow, there was always a danger that the vicissitudes of public transport would prevent arrival in Faversham. But no, the train glided through the white-carpeted environs out of Victoria for a date at Kent's oldest brewery, Shepherd Neame.

The brewery has been through a few travails of its own recently – what with former Board Director, Stuart Neame, pursuing the company for unfair dismissal. Fallings out at family brewers have not always been good news, with many falling by the wayside in recent years in the rush to either exit brewing and/or cash in by selling the family silver.

But hopefully, this little hiccup is behind them and Sheps can face the next 300 years with confidence. They certainly seem to be exhibiting that in their recent capital investment in the brewery – over £5m in new warehousing, which has crucially allowed valuable space to be given to the brewing side.

These investments have helped bring about huge improvements in beer quality through the opportunity to take more time during the whole process, including longer storage of beer at the brewery before release to the trade. This quality initiative has been extended down into the pubs, through training initiatives, beer descriptors from former brewer, Peter Ogie, specialised glasses for different ales and lagers, the Bishops Finger charter, down to how to properly serve real ale. Some pubs are now being given far more emphasis as beer pubs.

Chief Executive, Jonathan Neame, explained the company's sourcing policy – for their beers they are looking to use only Kentish hops and to source only Kentish pearl barley. Needless to say, Kentish water comes from their own artesian well. He sees this as a way of distinguishing their beers from the nationals and is extending the policy down into the pubs, where landlords will be increasingly encouraged to source local ingredients for their food.

We were about to sample the very positive impact of both these policies. Sheps had been early players in the bottled conditioned beer market with Spitfire but

this was dropped some years ago. The improvements at the brewery have led them to conclude that they can now guarantee the quality of an unpasteurised, real ale in a bottle.

The result of this is a 6.5 % ABV beer called 1698, the year the brewery was founded. It is a thrice-hopped ale and the effort that has been put into this is amply demonstrated in the glass. Use of only Kentish hops and pearl barley gives a dark, amber coloured beer. Target hops are added at the start of the boil, to give a clean, hoppy bitterness; and East Kent Goldings are added at the end to impart more complex flavours. Finally, even more Goldings are added after the beer is transferred to the whirlpool, to produce a great tasting beer.

Production Director, Ian Dixon, said that "Bottle conditioned beer in the UK has a rich and varied heritage, and represents the peak of the brewer's expertise and craftsmanship. We want to encourage drinkers to discover a beer that also earns its place on the dining table". To demonstrate that, we were taken to The Sportsman at Seasalter, near Whitstable. This excellent pub, just an embankment's leap from the Thames estuary, presented great locally sourced food, including smoked eel (from Mick the eel) and a superbly succulent belly of pork, with classic crackling. All matched with fine ales from Faversham. It was cold outside, but we were all warm where it counted.

So back to Faversham – a truly marvellous old market town, it has no less than 475 listed buildings, with some fine medieval streets. It holds 17 royal charters and is the only town allowed to use the three lions crest from the Royal coat of arms, which unsurprisingly also adorns bottled 1698. Soon you will be able to sample the whole "1698 Experience" as Sheps look to put together weekend breaks which will include accommodation at local hosteleries, a visit to the brewery plus a visit to a local special event. At only an hour from London, it will be something to look out for. Here's to Sheps' next 300 years of fine ale brewing.

John Cryne



IDLE MOMENTS

Greetings, and a belated Happy Easter to you all. I was casting around for a witty aphorism with which to kick off this month's little parlour game when I received just the thing in the form of a birthday card from my good friends (See, I have some!) John and Mel. On the front was the following witticism from (who else?) Oscar Wilde:

The old believe everything;

The middle-aged suspect everything;

The young know everything.

So there we are then; let's get on with this month's number puzzles. At a National Pubs Week social somebody complained that they were getting too easy because he could do several of them. I'll try a bit harder then with these:

1. 24 C is PG
2. 8 D a W
3. 75 V in the R of OK (FE)
4. 2 B in a M
5. 1000 D in ABR
6. 13 SD to E at the LS
7. 53 is the GPN of W in a Y
8. 3 C on the TL
9. 20 S in a P (BD)
10. 10 NP in each IM

And let's barrel along with the brewery anagrams:

1. TELL VINCE "HAY"
2. CH...CHUNDER
3. COW RAP
4. BEC'S TOKENS
5. GEE! ROZ'S DEER
6. CARAFE SIN
7.OR LINED
8. PANIC MUG PARTY
9. MOST NO-ONE
10. REEF'N'SAND

This month I thought I would give 5BY4 the subtitle "It's a Rip-Off" for two reasons. Firstly I nicked the information from that estimable CAMRA publication, The Book of Beer Knowledge by Jeff Evans (Think of it as a free plug). The second reason the subject matter; in the 21 years between 1984 and 2004, 61 major breweries were closed (with 1992 and 1995 as the only years with no closures recorded). See if you can match the breweries to the years in which they were closed down:

1. Rayment's, Furneaux Pelham
2. Yates & Jackson, Lancaster
3. Gibbs Mew, Salisbury
4. Morrell's, Oxford

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IDLE MOMENTS

5. Home, Nottingham
6. Fremlin's, Faversham
7. Truman's, London
8. Ward's, Sheffield
9. Shipstone's, Nottingham
10. Wethered, Marlow
- A. 1991
- B. 1990
- C. 1996
- D. 1999
- E. 1988
- F. 1997
- G. 1989
- H. 1998
- I. 1985
- J. 1987

And let us finish off in time honoured manner with a batch of Trivial Knowledge questions:

1. What invention of Laurens Hammond first went on sale 70 years ago in 1935?
2. What is the link between London's newest brewery, Twickenham Fine Ales and veteran jazz man, Ken Collyer?
3. What is the source of the red food colouring agent (no, not Sudan 1), cochineal and from what part of the World does it come?
4. Which of America's Ivy League universities is to be found in New Haven, Connecticut?
5. Referring back to the last round, of the 61 breweries closed between 1984 and 2004, how many were closed by Whitbread?
6. The British Beermat Collectors' Society was founded in 1960. Who were its first (joint) Presidents?
7. And what is the posh name for a collector of beermats?
8. Charles Collier won the first ever TT race in 1907 on a motorcycle built by the company he founded with his brother Harry. What was the name of that company?
9. Second man home in the 1907 TT and winner of the Twin Cylinder class was Rem Fowler. What make of motorbike was he riding?
10. On 9th January 1861, which state of the USA seceded from the Union because it saw the election of Abraham Lincoln as a threat to its "right" to practise slavery?

And that's about it for this time. I shall be back in June (You have been warned).

Andy Pirson

FEBRUARY'S ANSWERS

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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 4 Firkins in a Barrel
2. 77 Sunset Strip
3. 2 Gold Medals of Kelly Holmes

IDLE MOMENTS

4. 28 Pence for a First Class Stamp
5. 1 Surface on a Sphere
6. 12 Ounces in a Pound (Troy Weight)
7. 160 Fluid Ounces in a Gallon
8. 3 Little Pigs
9. 1001 Tales of the Arabian Nights
10. 8 Teams Left in the Quarter Finals

BREWERY ANAGRAMS:

1. OLD WASHER - OLDERSHAW
2. TAR SELF - FELSTAR
3. FLAY MOWER - MAYFLOWER
4. STRAINS PEET - SAINT PETERS
5. FLINCH BLADE - BLANCHFIELD
6. LORRA GLAND - LORD RAGLAN
7. DIRE FLOW - WORFIELD
8. REVEAL COD - CORVEDALE
9. WESTON - TOWNES
10. GROUND NINA - GRAND UNION

5BY4 "Sad songs for a winter month":

1. Tears on my Pillow - Johnny Nash
2. Tears in Heaven - Eric Clapton
3. The Crying Game - Dave Berry
4. Cryin' - Roy Orbison
5. Sad Songs (Say So Much) - Elton John
6. Still I'm Sad - Yardbirds
7. The Tears I Cried - Glitter Band
8. Cryin' in the Rain - Everly Brothers
9. Cry Me a River - Julie London
10. The Tears of a Clown - Miracles

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. Garrison Keillor's "invention" the town of Lake Wobegon is located in the middle of the state of Iowa.
2. The organisation founded in 1953 by the Rev. Chad Varah is The Samaritans.
3. The English novelist with the forenames Charles John Huffham was Charles Dickens.
4. The establishment now housed in the building formerly known as "Bedlam" (or more properly the Hospital of St. Mary of Bethlehem) is the Imperial War Museum.
5. And the Bethlem Royal Hospital (as it is now known) is now located in Beckenham.
6. Rick Blaine is the lead male character in the film Casablanca.
7. The title of the first novel by H.G.Wells was The Time Machine.
8. And still on the subject of H.G.Wells, the event that happened at Horsell Common, near Woking was the landing of the Martians in The War of the Worlds.
9. In the Book of Revelation the four Horsemen of the Apocalypse signify war, civil strife, hunger and death.
10. In 1919 Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and D.W.Griffith got together to form the film production company, United Artists.

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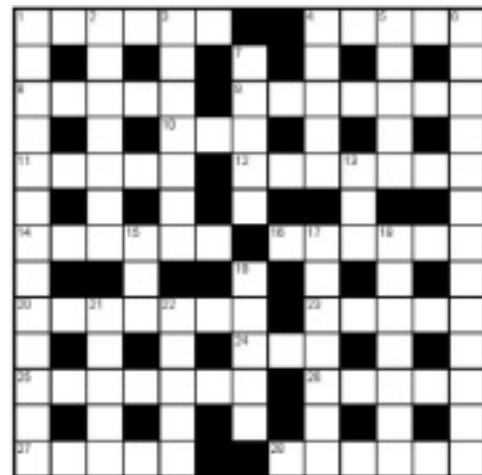
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LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



Name

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.....

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

Prize winner will be announced in the June 2005 London Drinker.

The solution will be given in the April edition.

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

SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY'S CROSSWORD



£20 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

1. Romantic entreaties capture the heart. [6]
4. Little bit of a fight. [5]
8. Innocent, I take refuge in church centre. [5]
9. In favour of music making lots of money. [7]
10. Spot the little girl. [3]
11. I penetrate other woman. [5]
12. On the edge of old river, reportedly. [7]
14. Is in charge of furniture. [6]
16. It's tied up in a fiddle. [6]
20. After score Ernie makes money in America. [7]
23. He flies to be first person in bed. [5]
24. Broadcast tune. [3]
25. Bad Shakespeare causes resentment. [3-4]
26. Provide a better picnic? [5]
27. Old coin dropping right in butter. [5]
28. Passes on and settles down again. [6]

DOWN

1. Arrogant politician on the way down. [13]
2. Catch water here? [7]
3. I heard, "move the boat darling, it's a beast." [3,4]
4. Support show off. [5]
5. There's nothing in the trick. Wake up! [5]
6. Shows a person sent it off. [13]
7. Boatman decapitated subsequently. [5]
13. Sailor turned up in desert. [3]
15. Cause disturbance in a firkin. [3]
17. Give permission for a very quiet tour. [7]
18. Moon at a festive meal. [7]
19. Hymn to some extent keeps Almighty God happy. [5]
21. It's played in room with nothing on. [5]
22. Be greatly offensive to women. [5]

Winner of the prize for the December Crossword:
Mark Antony, Streatham, SW2.

Other correct entries were received from:

Ted Alleway, Pat Andrews, Hilary Ayling, Geoff B, Clare Batty, John Blundell, S.J. Brown, Ben Burfutt, Eddie Carr, Chris Fran & a spotted dog, Brain Collins, Charles Creasey, K. Creighton, Paul Curson, Anne Davis, Robert Day, Richard Deterred, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Kathryn Everett, Mike Farrelly, Arthur Foxache, Dudley Freeman, Christopher Gilbey, Marion Goodall, Eileen Graves, Paul Gray, Alan Greer, Tarnya Haigh, John Heath, Kevin Henriques, Graham Hill, William Hill, Sheerluck Holmes, Carlos D. Jakhawl, Andrew Johnson, David Jones, Tom Kemp, Pete Large, Marcus of Guildford, K.I. May, M.J. Moran, Al Mountain, Terry Neill, E. Powell, Jeanette Powell, Rod Prince, Derek Pryce, M.S. Rew, Beverly Reynolds, Bryan Smith, Lesley Smith, Billy Sollocks, Ken Taylor, Bill Thackray, Thamesmead, Ra Visher, Tony Watkins, Martin Weedon, Ian Whiteman, J. Williamson, Sue Wilson, David Woodward, Yak.

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