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Agriculture ministers' summit. See page 7.



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EDITORIAL

WHAT HAVE WE THE RIGHT TO EXPECT?

Whilst not ignoring the terrible events that occurred later that week, the takeover of Ridleys by Greene King left me thinking and these thoughts have been reinforced by GK's subsequent take-over of Belhaven Brewery.

We place great importance on tradition in connection with cask conditioned ale. We need to get it in context however. I think that most of us would not object to 'technical' improvements such as the replacement of copper brewing vessels, however nice they look, with stainless steel, it being that much easier to keep clean and thus maintain quality. Where tradition is important is in beer styles and recipes. For 'traditional' here you could substitute 'local'. With all due respect to the many excellent small breweries that have sprung up in the last twenty years or so, it is the long-established regional breweries, often family-owned, who are the custodians of our British beer tradition.

Thankfully, many of these companies respect their heritage. Anyone who has had the privilege – and that is the correct word – of being guided around Harvey's Brewery by Miles Jenner will know that the tradition of their distinctive beers from the South Downs hoplands is in safe hands. Some however are powerless whilst others simply do not have the commitment. For the former, I think back to Charles Eld, the managing director of Morrells, another true enthusiast, whose brewery was sold from underneath him because the other shareholders preferred the quick financial fix that came with selling the brewery site rather than a steady dividend over the coming years. For the latter, think of Ridley's. I recall seeing one report that described the Chairman of Ridley's as 'Monaco-based' which probably says it all. I would guess that the owners really did not have any personal involvement in the business and were happy to sell out when a good offer came along. I suspect that with Belhaven, it was also a case of an offer too good to refuse.

In fairness, we must acknowledge that we are touching on people's private affairs here and if they legitimately own an asset, whether they created it or inherited it, they are free to dispose of it as they see fit. Similarly, those in charge of PLCs have a legal duty to obtain the best return on capital for their shareholders, whoever those shareholders may be and whatever their motives.

All well and good but with take-overs such as Jennings and Ridleys we have lost distinctive local beers. Where a takeover is contested, CAMRA has a way in for campaigning but where it is not, sadly, the breweries are not going to pay much attention to our protests. Where we have our doubts, our campaigning should include making sure that those involved fully understand the value of what they own in terms other than hard cash. With those brewery-owners who do care, we should make sure that they know

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

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Material for publication should preferably be sent by e-mail to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

Press releases and letters by post should be sent to Tony Hedger, 7 The Square, Peabody Estate, Fulham Palace Road, London W6 9PX

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EDITORIAL

that they have our support.

There are practical measures as well. CAMRA has called on Greene King to make the Ridley's brewery available as a going concern rather than close it. Perhaps also, if a brewery is to close following a take-over and its new owner does not want to adopt its brands under the new owner's name, it should be asked to offer them and the recipes to other local breweries. I know that it will not be the original product but it must be better than the alternative. Keep the beer in our locals local.

Tony Hedger

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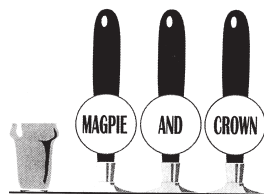


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CIDER AND PERRY MONTH

Are we sitting comfortably? I want to tell you a story. Once upon a time not so very long ago there was a group of like minded people who cared about what they consumed. In fact it was only in 1983 that Common Ground was formed. And what a lot they have achieved in just a few years. Common Ground have helped save many orchards and advised and contributed to the planting of many more, in particular Community Orchards. Part of their evangelising for the humble apple was the organising of Apple Day, the first of which was held at Covent Garden on the 21 October 1990, expanding to over 50 events in 1991 and now with events, open days, orchard tours, fruit identification days etc, etc, up and down the length of the nation. Who, for instance, hasn't been to a Farmers' Market? The first of these was held in September and October 1997 when Bath City Council held three markets to support Apple Day which is now celebrated on 21 October every year.

In 2003, following Common Ground's lead, CAMRA established October as its own Cider and Perry Month. CAMRA declared its interest in cider and perry many years ago and has its own dedicated special interest group APPLE, the Apple and Pear Liaison Executive. APPLE meets on a regular basis to ensure that CAMRA values regarding quality, choice and value for money are upheld for the consumer with regard to cider and perry. CAMRA is kept up to date on news of producers and outlets through a network of regional representatives, who in turn are members of their local CAMRA branches. Despite this the impact of CAMRA with respect to cider and perry is overshadowed by the success in beery fields, although J.D. Wetherspoon pubs which, despite what many think of them, do an incredible amount to promote cask ale, are now stocking ciders and perries. It may only be Thatcher's perry, if you can find it, Sheppy's sweet cider and Weston's out of a wine-box style packaging, but cider and perry it is.

In the Greater London Area there are pitifully few cider or perry outlets. The London entries for the forthcoming Good Cider Guide are:

North London - the Wenlock Arms and the threatened Oakdale Arms

North West London - the Head of Steam, Euston, the Duke of Hamilton and the Dartmouth Arms

South West London - the Priory Arms, Stockwell, and the Kings Tun, Kingston

West London - the Magpie and Crown, Brentford, and the Fox, Twickenham.

There are more, I am sure, who occasionally have a cider, some just at their Beer Festivals. If there are others out there, please let me know via the address below. We are not interested in which pubs sell Strongbow, Dry Blackthorn, Magners and the like - these at best can only be described as apple based products - just real ciders and perries. (See the CAMRA web-site for definitions!).

Then of course there are all the CAMRA festivals where you can be guaranteed a good selection. There are two local Beer and Cider Festivals being held during October. The first is Wallington, ably run by CAMRA Croydon and Sutton branch, which runs from 13 to 15 October and has ten ciders and perries. The following week, from 20 to 22 October, is Twickenham Beer and Cider Festival, where there will be six perries and seven or eight ciders. As a special treat, a locally produced cider, which won cider of the festival in 2004, will be available in very limited quantities. There are only 10 gallons left, so attend early to avoid disappointment. I must admit a vested interest in this as Hounslow Cider

Co-operative is my cider and Twickenham is my branch festival.

On 29 and 30 October I shall be holding a cider and possibly a perry making weekend at the Red Lion, Linkfield Road, Isleworth. So, if you have, or can get hold of any spare apples or pears, be they windfalls, freshly shaken down or picked, please bring them along over the weekend and we will put them to good use. There will also be a "longest apple peel" competition open to everyone.

Simon Stevenson

For further information about Apple Day events see: www.commonground.org.uk

For a potted history of West London Orchards see the cider and perry page of Richmond and Hounslow CAMRA at: <http://gimber.net/rhcamra>

Send your cider pub details to:

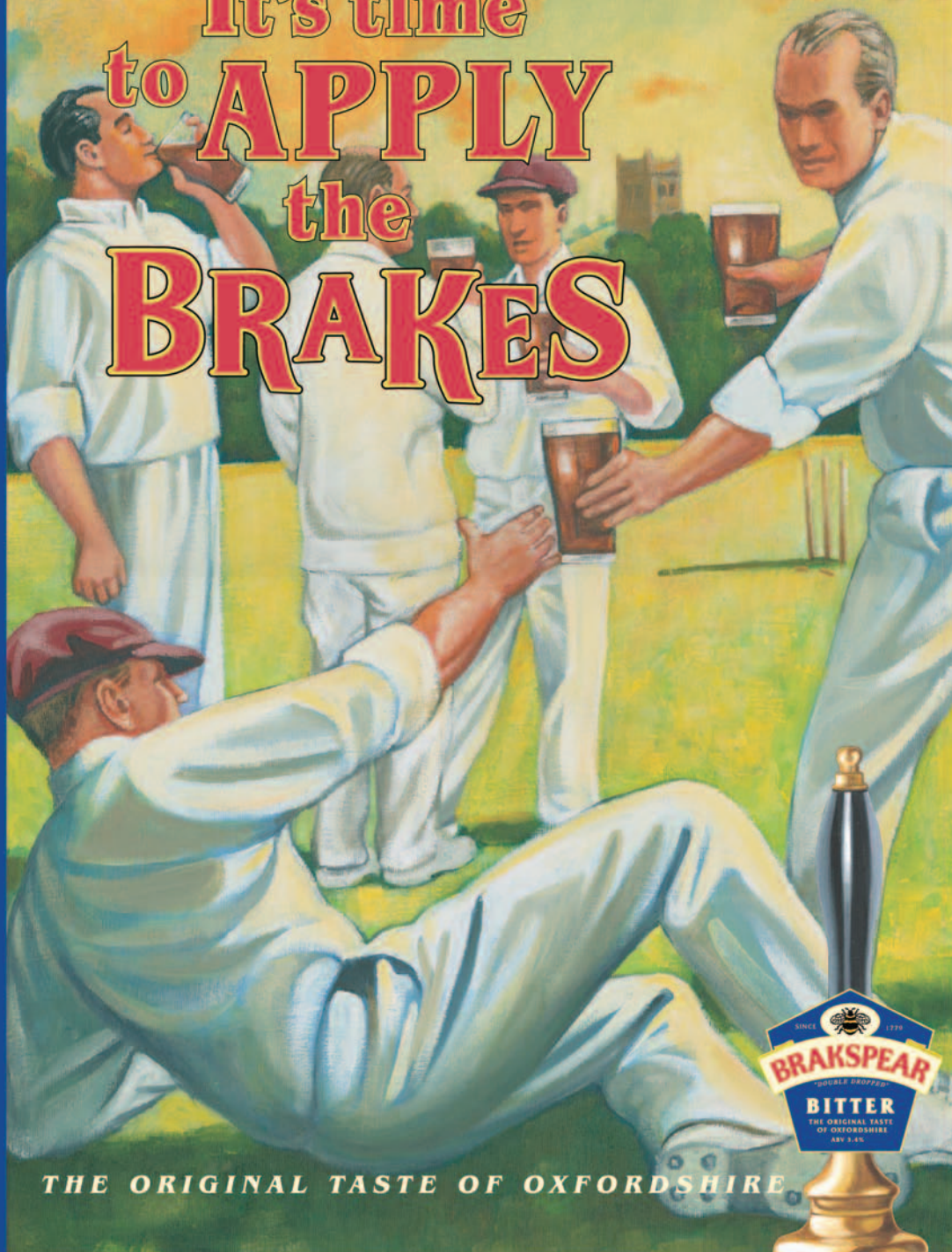
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WINNING BEER STYLES

Jamie Segust of Walthamstow won the June/July competition. His beer choices were a George Melly (Old & Fruity), a Patrick Moore (Old & Stout) or an Ann Robinson (Ginger & Bitter). Tasty!

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NEWS ROUND-UP

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◆ EU ministers see how British beer is brewed

Twenty agriculture ministers from European Union member states, recently in Britain for an agriculture ministers' summit at the start of the British presidency, visited Young's brewery to learn from the horse's mouth how traditional British beer is brewed. Head horsekeeper Kevin Flynn led them on a tour of the Victorian stables at the back of the Ram Brewery, where Young's keep ten horses for daily deliveries of beer to pubs in the Wandsworth area. Then they travelled on a horse-drawn dray to



the brewhouse, where head brewer Ken Don and his team showed them around the production area and explained how beer is brewed and how traditional

British beer, or real ale, differs from most beers on the Continent.

The ministers came from long-standing EU members such as France and Germany, others that have recently joined, including Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Malta, and countries such as Bulgaria and Romania that hope soon be part of the EU. They were all able to sample such award-winning real ales as Young's Bitter, Waggle Dance and Special London Ale, as well as the brewery's own stouts and lagers. The cover photograph shows some of the ministers on board a dray: the two nearest the camera are Francis Agius of Malta (left) and Hans Christian Schmidt of Denmark.

◆ Done for in Dunbar?

Both Greene King and Wolverhampton & Dudley have been reported to be building up 'war chests' for further growth by raising cash through the issue of bonds. First to show has been Greene King who, hot on the heels of their acquisition of Ridleys, have now taken over Belhaven Brewery. The deal valued Belhaven at £254 million although this included £67 million of debt which may be a clue as to why the Belhaven directors considered the offer to be "fair and reasonable". The formal announcement says

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that the deal gives GK “a unique opportunity to achieve instant scale in a market in which it has little presence currently”; in other words, Scotland on a plate. Although Belhaven only have 300 tied houses, they have 2,500 free trade accounts. The announcement also suggests that GK will keep Belhaven as a separate identifiable operation and Stuart Ross, Belhaven’s Chief Executive described GK as “ideal partners” but how exactly are you partners with someone who owns you 100%? There will be “synergies” in such areas as “purchasing savings”, “cross-selling of products” and “management and operational expertise”. GK’s managing director, Rooney Anand, said that the 286 year old Dunbar brewery would not be closed but quite where that leaves Belhaven’s beer range it is hard to tell. I suspect sadly that instead of their 80/- Ale – one of the best of its type in my view – it’s going to be Och Aye PA...

Ironically, Ridleys won an award in CAMRA’s Champion Beer of Britain competition (a joint bronze in the Speciality Beers category for Rumpus) but that could be their epitaph. My spies report that in the Chelmsford area many pubs have already changed over to Greene King beers and very little Ridleys was available. CAMRA’s campaign to keep the brewery open continues however. Over 1,300 people signed the on-line petition in the first 24 hours, calling on Greene King to reconsider its decision to close the brewery and axe a number of Ridley beer brands. The petition also objects to any future application to convert the brewery to any other use other than brewing. Mike Benner, CAMRA’s Chief Executive said that the response showed that beer drinkers are concerned about losing a brewery that is part of Britain’s brewing heritage and the possibility of losing some popular beers brewed in Essex. He concluded, *“I would urge everybody who enjoys good beer and appreciates Britain’s unique brewing industry to sign the petition to help us show Greene King how unpopular their plan is to close this historic brewery in Essex.”*

The ball in this game of big business ping-pong is now in Wolverhampton & Dudley’s court. They are reported to have £800 million to spend, raised from ‘securitised debt’ – mortgages, more or less – on their 2,000 pubs. Greene King are reported to have raised £600 million with their bonds, so they still have some left. Who next?

◆ Community Pubs Foundation

The fate of breweries is somewhat academic if there is nowhere to buy their beers and, sadly, pub closures continue relentlessly. Research into pub closures compiled in 2000 showed that 20 pubs were closing every month. This has now risen to 26 per month and is blamed mostly on property prices.

The recent survey, conducted through local planning authorities, also found that there are over 400 pubs which are currently closed and whose future is in doubt. In response CAMRA has announced plans for the new Community Pubs Foundation. The CPF is a not-for-profit organisation that will provide advice, information and limited financial support to groups campaigning to prevent pub closures. The aim is not to help the pub itself but the community that is fighting to save it. The CPF will be run by a board of trustees, two from CAMRA plus pub heritage expert Geoff Brandwood and John Longden, Co-Ordinator of the Pub is the Hub campaign. A collection held at the Great British Beer Festival raised £3,000 to get the campaign started. One of its first cases may be here in London, the Radnor Arms in Warwick Road, W14, just around the corner from Olympia and which featured in a spy scandal a few years back.

◆ Short measures

Once you actually find a pub selling a decent local beer, it would be nice to be served a full pint. The latest champion of this long-standing cause is Joan Walley, the MP for Stoke on Trent who has tabled an Early Day Motion calling for an ‘honest pint’ law. The motion already has the support of some 100 MPs, CAMRA and the professional organisation for trading standards officers. Hopefully this will stop the Government putting through the proposed regulations that will allow 95% liquid to be a legal pint.

◆ Grand Union racks up the awards

London-based American Mark Broe has already won nine awards for his British beers just one year after retraining to become a brewer. Now head brewer at Grand Union Brewery in Middlesex, Mark won two gold awards and one silver at the SIBA South East Beer of the Year competition, and took the overall champion award with 3.7% ABV Grand Union Bitter.





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The competition ran side by side with Beers on Broadway, the Ealing Beer Festival. Not only did Mark win the SIBA overall champion beer, he also came first, third and fifth in the festival competition, which had over 150 entries. The wins at Ealing follow gold awards by Grand Union at the Reading Beer Festival in May for Grand Union Gold (4.2%) and Honey Porter (4.9%), the runner up Beer of the Festival.

At the Peterborough Beer Festival in August, Mark's newest brew, Liberty Blonde (4.2%), won the silver award in the bitter category.

From Atlanta, Georgia, Mark moved to Britain in 1997 to work as a chiropractor in Lincolnshire. Looking for a change in career, and having acquired a taste for British ale, he enrolled for the British Brewing Technology course at Brewlab, Sunderland, in January 2004. After completing the course and passing the IGB (IBD) General Certificate in Brewing, Mark started work at Grand Union Brewery and just one year later, was promoted to the position of head brewer. Mark says *"I am passionate about real ale, and I was frustrated at being unable to get a reliably good pint in Lincolnshire, so I decided to change careers. Nowhere on the planet has better beer than Britain, and to be part of the brewing scene here is incredibly exciting for me. I am very grateful to the Grand Union Brewery and to former head-brewer Tom Madeiros for the opportunity they gave me to develop my brewing skills."*

◆ News from Fuller's

Fuller's have sprung quite a surprise by purchasing the Head of Steam at Euston. Tony Brookes, owner of the Head of Steam chain explained that his concept never grew large enough to sustain a national operational control structure and that it is not easy controlling one pub in London from their head office, which is now in Hexham, Northumberland. He continued, *"In looking for a successor to ourselves in London, we wanted a firm who would hold to the things we and our many loyal customers hold dear – the freshness and variety possible with independent operation. We found that company in Fuller's – one of London's great independent real ale brewers and pub operators. They produce excellent ales, but, more importantly, recognise what the soul of the Head Of Steam is all about. So, the good news is 'the king is dead, long live the king!' – Fuller's will introduce some of their real ales onto our 10 handpumps, but the range of rare beers we supply will continue. Our company is proud of what we have achieved at this peculiar little site"*. At Mr Brookes's request, the pub is to change its name - to the Doric Arch, in commemoration of an architectural feature of the original Euston

station, demolished in 1962.

Fuller's have also expanded into South Hampshire for the first time, with the acquisition of the Wine Vaults, Southsea, and they are looking for more pubs in the area.

◆ Young's refurbish pubs and promote taste

Two Young's pubs in South West London have reopened after extensive refurbishment. The new MP for Putney, Justine Greening, did the honours at the Queen Adelaide in Putney Bridge Road which



has been closed for some months. The Wandsworth pub has been transformed into a "bright, stylish and elegant venue with a modern twist" by the addition of a comfortable dining room and by rearranging the layout of the early Victorian building to create more space. The pub's large garden has been paved, decked and partially covered with giant umbrellas and there is a brand-new kitchen serving a wide variety of high-class meals and snacks. Ms Greening, who met licensees Alex and Debbie Gibson and members of Young's management, as well as two of Young's Shire horses, said after enjoying a pint of Waggle Dance that she would make the pub her local.

Whilst on the Queen Adelaide, congratulations to their sporting cricket team on a good season, ending with a third victory over the CAMRA South West London side. We'll be back!

Just to the north, in Fulham, the Duke of Cumberland has become a "stylish new eating and drinking venue". Again to quote the press release: "Young's have transformed the Victorian building into an elegant, modern pub with a relaxed, comfortable dining room while retaining traditional features such as an original ornate tiled wall. The

NEWS ROUND-UP

exterior of the Duke has been opened up to allow passers-by to see its beautiful interior and to bring a feeling of space to customers eating and drinking.”

Although I cannot quite see why, the refurbishment has required a change of name to the ‘Duke on the Green’. Originally called the Duke’s Head, there has

been a pub on the site in New King’s Road since the 17th century. It was renamed the Duke of Cumberland in 1971, the year it won the prestigious Evening Standard Pub of the Year competition. No Scot who knows their history will object to the change of name. As was – and I hope still is – explained on a panel inside the pub, the Duke of Cumberland, one of the sons of George II, was a thoroughly nasty man who zealously suppressed the Jacobites following the failure of the 1745 rising. He was nicknamed ‘Butcher Cumberland’ and we are not talking about sausages...

As ever with these matters, it is down to personal taste, so take a look and let us know what you think.

Sales of Young’s 3.7% ABV Bitter, brewed from English malted barley and Fuggle and Golding hops, are growing at 9.1%, an increase of more than a million pints on 2003-04. Young’s Bitter is now the ninth best-selling standard cask ale in Britain, with 65% of sales achieved outside its perceived core area of Greater London, where it is fourth in the table of top-selling cask ales. Market analysts A.C. Nielsen have recorded a jump of 60 places by Young’s Bitter in its annual list of the best-selling drinks in Britain, putting it in the top 50 brands with a 5% share of the



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ale market.

A new pump clip on a distinctive handpump will be available to Young's tied houses, free houses and outlets belonging to pub companies and other brewers from October, with tasting notes on the back to help bar staff describe the beer to new customers. (*Beer menus too: see Letters – Ed.*)

◆ Badger taste charts assist customer choice

Meanwhile Hall & Woodhouse have introduced taste charts on Badger bottled ales. On beers such as: Tanglefoot, Badger Golden Champion, Badger Golden Glory, Badger First Gold, Fursty Ferret and Blandford Fly new labels on the back of the bottles carry a unique taste profile chart with a graph showing the levels of bitter, sweet, hoppy, malty and fruity tastes present. This enables customers to make a selection based on their own personal preferences.

In addition, as part of a continuing campaign to match different beers to food, a number of Badger bottle labels now include suggestions for the types of foods that go best with each ale. In line with current best practice, Badger Ale labels also indicate the number of alcohol units in each bottle as well as a responsible drinking message and required allergen warnings.

◆ Whingeing about bingeing

I still find it annoying that the press can only cover the new licensing legislation in terms of '24 hour opening' which is simply not what it is about. In this context I applaud the explanatory notice that has appeared in the window of the Sultan in South Wimbledon alongside the legal notice which explains that they are only applying for long hours to cover eventualities, not because they actually intend to open all day. The industry generally could do more to reassure the public as to their intentions.

The police in the form of ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) are now coming out strongly against the new licensing legislation. I find this odd as I am sure that I can recall them being in favour of it originally. More precisely, they were in favour of varied closing times so as to avoid conflict with everyone out on the streets looking for taxis and kebabs etc at the same time and because the new legislation gives them more powers to target known trouble-spots. This all still seems to make sense to me.

One possible adverse development that I heard suggested in a radio article however is that pubs where people meet before going on to clubs may stay open late in order to try to keep their customers there and these pubs will turn into quasi-clubs. If we

get into some sort of price war as a result, this could be a genuine 'binge' problem. It might also see town centre pubs opening as late as 8pm to cater for this trade without increasing staff costs.

Under-age drinking has also been quoted as an argument against extended opening but this also makes no sense. A recent survey reported that a quarter of 11 to 15 year olds were regular drinkers. Where do they get their supplies from? Not from pubs, I suspect, whilst the only drink retailers who are set to sell alcohol 24 hours per day are the supermarkets. Yet this appears to be happening without concern from the police.

◆ Pulling Punches

There has been more movement in the PubCo merry-go-round. Punch Taverns, having acquired the 410 pub estate of Avebury Taverns, has offloaded 45 pubs to Admiral Taverns. Analysts believe that these were underperforming pubs from the Avebury acquisition. Admiral had previously purchased 250 similarly underperforming pubs direct from Avebury. I wonder what the attraction of underperforming pubs could be. Avebury was made up of mostly 'local' pubs acquired from Bass, Whitbread and Scottish & Newcastle by managing director David Myers who reportedly will make over £1 million on the sale. Wolverhampton & Dudley have used a little of their aforementioned war chest in acquiring the 14 pubs comprising English Country Inns for £13.6 million. This brings W&D's estate to around 2,300. Greene King have roughly the same number whilst Punch have 8,200.

◆ Farewell to Olympia

CAMRA's last Great British Beer Festival at Olympia was a great success and, as one who worked all through the event, I have no hesitation in saying that I was proud to be involved. Some 47,000 came through the doors – 2,000 more than last year – and put away some 240,000 pints. CAMRA recruited over 1,000 new members including food writer Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, who came to launch a new bottled beer from Badger, Stinger, which is made with nettles. Unfortunately, Hugh was not the star of Badger's elaborate stand. That accolade must go to the much-travelled Buttercup who, for a fibreglass cow, certainly got around the site. I suspect that she may have had help there... We look forward to seeing her again from 1 to 5 August next year at Earl's Court.

One bizarre feature is the ability of those attending GBBF to generate small change. No 5p, 2p or 1p coins were put out in the tills but we ended up banking £595 in 5p, £82 in 2p and £45 in 1p – a total of over 20,000 coins. Where does it all come from?

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◆ Nicholson's and Adnams unite

In our June/July edition I was rather scathing about the research produced by the British Beer & Pub Association (BBPA) which reported that pubs who invested in cellar management and beer dispense delivered an average volume sales increase of 3%. I am pleased to say that something positive has come out of it. The Nicholson's pub company, which owns 53 pubs across London, and most of which have Cask Marque accreditation, has teamed up with Adnams to highlight their commitment to cask beer. According to Sarah Glover, Nicholson's Marketing Manager, "to have the support of a brewer such as Adnams who have an excellent reputation for producing the highest quality beer is recognition of our commitment to the service and traditions of cask beer. Customers are becoming more discerning and rightly demand the highest quality." Absolutely.

◆ The word of the law

The pub trade paper, the Morning Advertiser, has a very useful column in which it answers readers' queries about legal matters. Here are two examples which LD readers may also find interesting. The

first relates to pub hours. Pubs are not currently under any legal obligation to display either their permitted or actual opening times and neither is it included in the new legislation. It is however possible that the new licensing authorities may make it a recommendation. Note incidentally the distinction between 'permitted' and 'actual' hours which may become more significant under the new rules. Why don't pubs do this as simple common sense anyway?

Another publican wanted advice when a customer insisted that a half-pint must by law be exactly half the price of a pint. Nice try but not quite right. It all depends on the pub's price list. If only the price of a pint is listed then a half-pint must be half of that but if a half-pint is listed as a separate item, then the price can be whatever is on the list, however unreasonable. That is, of course, assuming that you can find the price list...

◆ Strongest beer in the world (again...)

We have not had one of these for a while. Harald Schneider, a Barvarian brewer, has come up with a beer which has an alcohol content of 25.4%. The brew, which according to its brewer, "tastes like a quirky mixture of beer and sherry" is fermented for 12 weeks and served only in single shot glasses. You have to ask, what is the point?

◆ Small is beautiful

By contrast, we have a new 'smallest brewery in the world', as verified by the Guinness Book of Records. This is the Bragdy Gwynant, based at the Tynllidiart Arms in Capel Bangor. It is less than 5ft square and has a brew-run of 72 pints. Neat.

◆ Dark and interesting

For those who like the occasional continental treat, I found this on the realbeer.com website. "Brewing giant Interbrew plans to resume brewing Artois Bock, a 6.2% abv beer last made in the 1950s. Artois Bock was the forerunner of Stella Artois and the drinks giant is hoping that the new beer will benefit from the halo effect of the £40 million investment behind the Stella brand, as well as an association with Interbrew specialty beers like Leffe and Hoegaarden.

Phil Rumbol, marketing director for Interbrew UK, said: "The familiarity and trust of the Artois name among consumers will enable Artois Bock to 'bridge the gap' between premium lager and specialty beer, widening our drinks repertoire." I wonder where it will be brewed.

Tony Hedger

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ESB. THE CHAMPION ALE.

On 7 July English Heritage launched the 2005 edition of its *Greater London Buildings at Risk Register*, revealing an increase in the number of threatened buildings in the capital. Overall, 65 buildings were removed from the Register and 86 were added, with a total of 692 buildings now classed as being at risk. There have been some notable additions to the Register. In Westminster, Crocker's Folly pub in Aberdeen Place, NW8, has been added after it closed in autumn 2004. The Grade II* building, which was built c1900, has an uncertain future, remaining vacant with no proposals or applications for re-use having been submitted to the Council.

Crocker's Folly, which opened as The Crown, is a fine example of the richly-decorated Victorian pubs which were built at the end of the nineteenth century, and features a saloon bar, billiard room, restaurant and concert room. The saloon bar is particularly grand with a lavish use of marble on the fireplace, wall covering and counter. As was common with pubs at this time, much space is devoted to billiards, and the Crocker's Folly billiard room used to house two tables with seating for up to forty spectators. The billiard room also has a highly decorated Jacobean-inspired ceiling.

Like many historic pubs, Crocker's Folly has many interesting stories and myths associated with it. The pub is supposed to have been opened as a hotel to serve future travellers on the Great Central Railway. Instead, the story goes, the railway terminus was built one mile away in Marylebone

and the publican threw himself from an upstairs window in despair. In fact, the line of the railway was widely known and its original publican, Frank Crocker, died of natural causes several years later.

The English Heritage London Buildings at Risk Register is a list of the capital's most vulnerable grade I, II* and II buildings and monuments. Now in its fifteenth year, it is an invaluable measure of what the capital stands to lose if funding to repair and, where appropriate, a viable future cannot be found for its most precious assets. Paddy Pugh, Head of Advice and Grants for London Region at English Heritage, said: *"One of our principal reasons for publishing the Register is to draw attention to particular building types which are now at risk or facing an uncertain future. Grand, richly decorated Victorian pubs are becoming increasingly rare. In spite of having a fabulously lavish interior, Crocker's Folly is vacant and facing an uncertain future. We hope that inclusion on the Register will help bring forward proposals for its re-use."*

The 2005 English Heritage Buildings at Risk Register is available on <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/bar>

English Heritage protects and provides advice on this country's unique legacy of historic buildings, landscapes and archaeological sites. It also manages over 400 sites and welcomes more than 11 million visitors to these each year. Over 90 per cent of buildings from the first (1991) London Register have now been repaired and brought back to use.

LONDON REGIONAL INVENTORY

This update on the London Regional Inventory of Pub Interiors of Special Historic Interest comprises additions, deletions and changes since February 2005.

Central London

EC1 **Hand & Shears**, 1 Middle Street, Smithfield - now also on the National Inventory

EC4 **Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese**, 145 Fleet Street, Holborn - now also on the National Inventory

East London

E1 **Golden Heart**, 110 Commercial Street, Spitalfields - new addition

North West London

NW5 **Bull & Gate**, 389 Kentish Town Road, Kentish Town - new addition

NW5 **Lord Southampton**, 2 Southampton Road, Kentish Town - new addition

South East London

SE15 **Ivy House** (formerly Stuart Arms), Stuart Road, Nunhead - new addition

SE24 **Commercial**, 210-212 Railton Road, Herne Hill - now deleted

West London

W4 **Duke of York**, 107 Devonshire Road, Chiswick - new addition

W4 **Old Pack Horse**, 434 Chiswick High Road, Chiswick - new addition

W6 **Hope & Anchor**, 20 Macbeth Street, Hammersmith - now listed Grade II

Jane Jephcote

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"The Good Beer Guide...the perfect book when you're Out!" – *Andrew Flintoff*

The 2006 edition of CAMRA's annually updated guide to Britain's real ale pubs is now on sale. It features 4,500 pubs, as commended in March this year by their local CAMRA branch volunteers. Unique to the *Good Beer Guide* is a list of every brewery in the country, large and small, with details of all the cask-conditioned and bottle conditioned beers they brew, and tasting notes.

All pub entries are surveyed regularly by CAMRA members – other guides may only send a questionnaire – and there is no charge for an entry into the *Good Beer Guide*. Information is given about facilities for families and the disabled, history, architecture, food, accommodation, local places of interest...and, of course, the beer: these pubs can be expected to serve the finest real ale in the country.

Special features this year highlight

- **the number of new breweries** – more than 80, almost twice as many as in the previous year. There are now over 500 micros, 35 family-owned breweries and several bigger regional producers, offering greater choice now than at any time since the Campaign for Real Ale was founded in 1971.

- **new national brewing giants** – Greene King and Wolverhampton & Dudley now threaten diversity and choice according to the new guide. Greene King has recently closed Ridley's brewery and bought Belhaven in Dunbar whilst W&D have bought leading Cumbrian brewer Jennings of Cockermouth.

- **our pub heritage** – Geoff Brandwood traces the pioneering work that created CAMRA's National Inventory of Pubs with interiors of historic importance worth of saving. The Guide includes a full list of these pubs

- **the Bat & Ball at Hambledon** – a classic rural pub that marks the birthplace of modern cricket. It had been destroyed by a big brewer and has now been rescued by a family-owned independent;

- **the Swan at Kettleshulme** – Villagers in Cheshire raised cash to buy their *Good Beer Guide* listed local when it was threatened with closure.

The *Good Beer Guide* is priced £13.99 but CAMRA members may buy their copies for £10.00, plus £1 postage, from the CAMRA headquarters at St Albans.



West London Pub Guide

After some years of research and preparation, the new CAMRA *West London Pub Guide* has at last been published and is now available to help you find your way around.

The guide covers all areas from the West End out as far as Uxbridge: those with a W or WC post code as well as the outer districts of West and North West London, taking in the boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hillingdon and Hounslow, plus the part of Richmond north of the Thames.

Set out in a classic style, sorted by post code and accompanied by 50 simple, clear maps, the guide is very easy to follow and the 1,300 pubs easy to track down. The 800 pubs that sell real ale are obviously given priority with a fuller write up for each pub, together with over 200 photographs.

It is a guide in the fullest sense with much other



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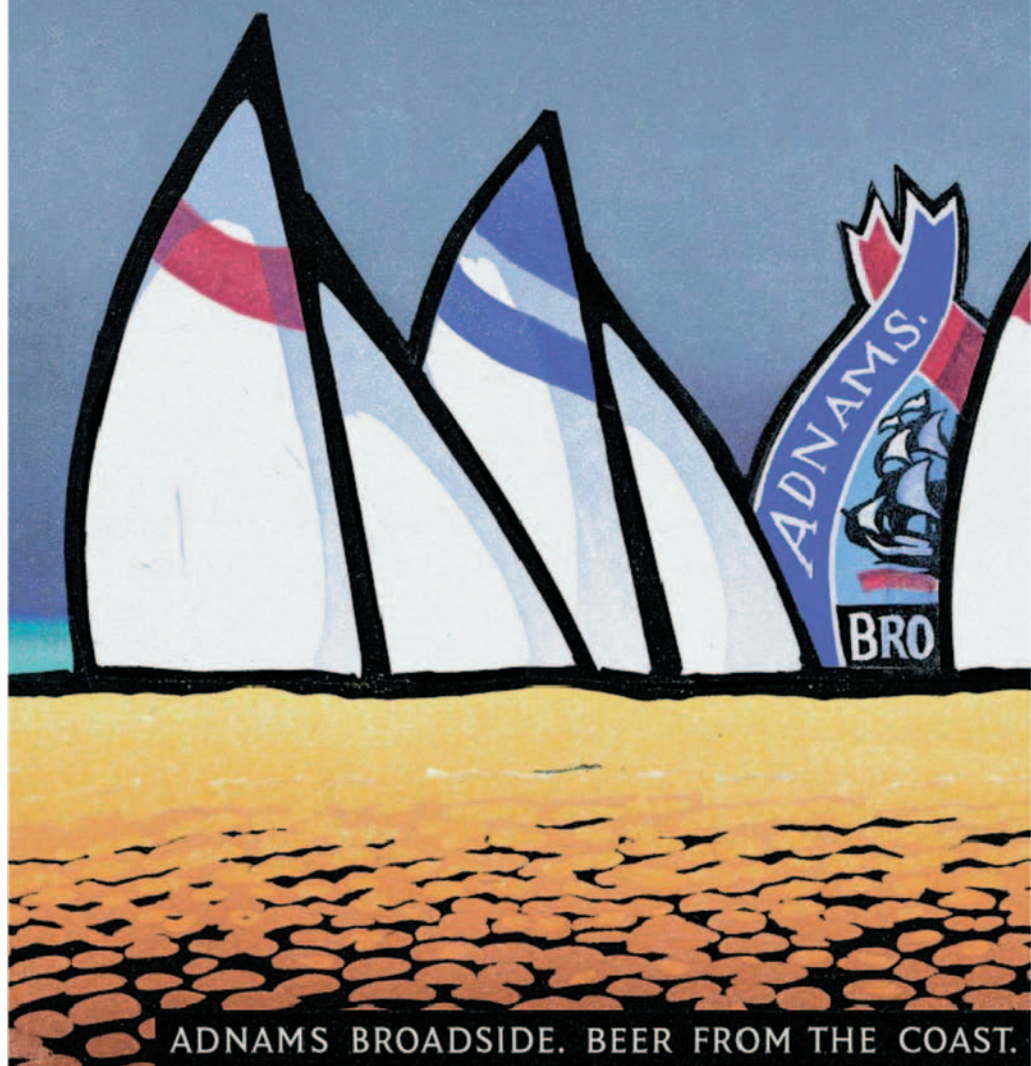
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NEW BEER GUIDES

material including valuable local authority contacts to whom to protest about planning applications and a list of the 210 local pubs that have been lost in the last few years.

Pocket sized, this guide is an essential part of the pubgoer's armoury if you live or travel in the West of London. It is priced at a very reasonable £5.95 and available at www.camra.org.uk with a £1 postage charge. Alternatively, CAMRA members can save a pound on the cover price and also save the postage if you buy your copy at the Twickenham Beer Festival on 20-22 October.

East Surrey Pub Guide

The Kingston & Leatherhead and East & Mid Surrey branches of CAMRA are proud to announce a brand new area pub guide covering East Surrey from Lingfield to Worcester Park and including the towns of Ewell, Epsom, Banstead, Leatherhead, Dorking, Gatwick Airport and Horley,

Redhill, Reigate and Godstone.

The guide covers all (391) pubs but the emphasis is, of course, on real ale in the region. Towns and villages are given in alphabetical order, featuring their pubs and their real ales (or lack of!) and attributes such as meals, outdoor and disabled facilities, nearest railway station or whether the Surrey Cycleway is nearby. Pictures of over 100 pubs are included, and maps show pub locations in the larger towns. Articles feature real ale in a bottle, public transport in East Surrey, 'Why start a brewery', walking in East Surrey, the breweries, and cider pubs in the area

Priced £4.95, the guide is available from the CAMRA shop at <http://www.camra.org.uk/>

Copies can also be bought for £5.70 including postage and packaging from East Surrey Pub Guide, Follies End, Nower Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 3DJ. Cheques should be payable to 'CAMRA East & Mid Surrey'.

2005 LONDON PUB OF THE YEAR



Wow! Its done it again. The Robin Hood and Little John, Lion Road, Bexleyheath has become CAMRA's London Pub of the Year for 2005, an award it last won in both 2000 and 2001, and now goes forward to a Super Regional Semi-Final against pubs from Kent, Surrey/Sussex and East Anglia. Winning this award for the third time in six years is indeed a significant accolade for a pub that is the embodiment of much of what we at CAMRA are working towards, a friendly welcoming pub serving quality real ale with great service.

For the Johnson family (Ray, Katrina and son Tony) who have run the pub since 15 May 1980, winning this title has been the perfect way to round

off their Silver Jubilee celebrations. Ray, 59, was originally a tailor in Borough High Street before entering the Licensed Trade and taking over the Robin Hood and Little John when Courage Best was just 47p a pint. He only expected to be there for a couple of years but clearly he grew attached to the old place.

This excellent little back street pub dates from the 1830s but, despite being overtaken by suburbia, has managed to keep its rural charm. Eight well kept real ales are on offer, mostly from independents. Regulars include Adnams Bitter and Broadside, Brains Rev James, Brakspears Best, Fuller's London Pride and Harveys Sussex Bitter. Featured recently have been beers from Westerham Brewery in Kent. Mention must be made of Katrina's home-cooked food at lunchtimes, with themed specials and regular Italian dishes that can be eaten at tables made of old Singer sewing machines.

For anyone wishing to visit this hidden gem, the pub can be found in Lion Road, about 300m south of Broadway on the west side of Bexleyheath. It pub sticks to the tradition of closing during the afternoon - opening times can be found in the Good Beer Guide.

A presentation evening is being planned for early November as this edition of London Drinker goes to print. Look on the CAMRA Bexley branch website at www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk for details.

Peter Trout, CAMRA Bexley Branch

CAMRA's Greater London Club of the Year for 2005 is Questors Theatre Grapevine Bar, Mattock Lane, Ealing.

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Friday 14 th :	5pm - 10.30pm	£3 (Members £2)
Saturday 15 th :	11am - 6pm	FREE ALL DAY

Last Evening Admission is 10pm. Right of admission reserved

See our website for further details:

www.croydoncamra.org.uk



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REAL ALE



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WOODIES BEER FESTIVAL HAILED A HUGE SUCCESS

Hundreds of folk descended on Woodies Pub, Thetford Road, New Malden in mid August for a wonderful weekend beer festival. With more than 30 real ales on offer from all around the country, including Triple fff, Stonehenge and Weltons, all day BBQ, sports, stalls and horse rides, there was something for all the family.

Highlights were rides in the Young's brewery horse drawn dray, and a chance for the kids to clamber inside a fire engine. More than £1000 was raised for the local Shooting Star Childrens Hospice.

Linda Thompson-Jones, the manageress of Woodies was delighted with the weekend, and sends thanks to all her customers and staff, and also to Fuller's, Young's and Courage breweries for their help and support.



J.J. Duffy



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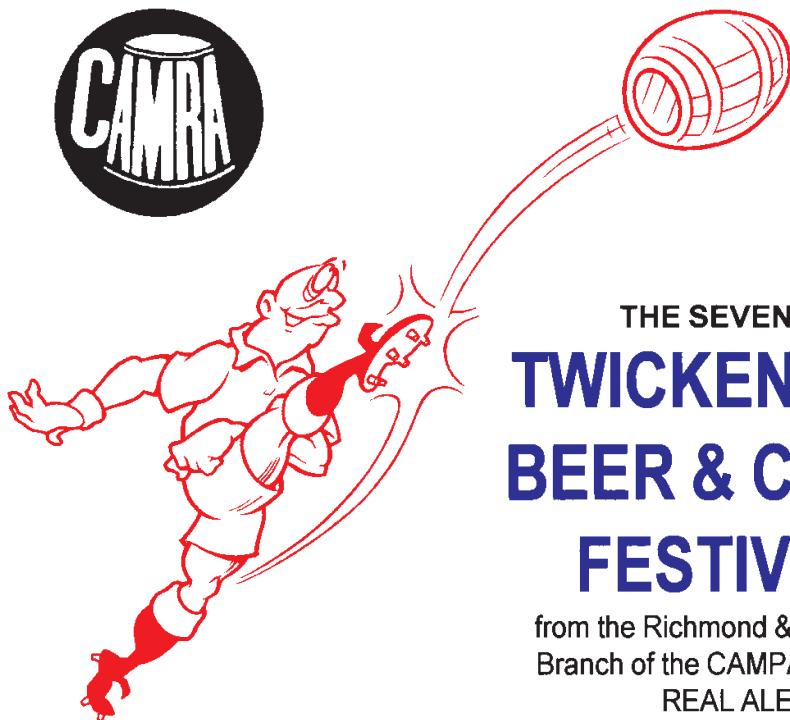
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Friday 21st October	-	11.00am to 10.30pm
Saturday 22nd October	-	11.00am to 10.30pm

Admission £1.50 (£1.00 Friday lunchtime)
CAMRA members 50p (FREE Friday lunchtime)

www.camra.org.uk/richmond

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A NO SMOKING EVENT

LONDON FOR FREE - MORE POUNDS TO SPEND ON BEER

ALL IN GOOD TIME

'What's at Greenwich?' 'Some very fine architecture and a fine stretch of muddy river'. 'That all?' 'And some good pubs'. 'We're going to Greenwich' — Josephine Tey, *The Daughter of Time*, 1951.

In order to explore England's nautical heritage and its connection with GMT, head for Greenwich. Having visited the area briefly 29 years ago, I was flabbergasted with the number of free exhibits to visit now. One fascinating venue led to another, all creating the perfect day out complemented by a visit to a pub filled with history and character.

Getting to Greenwich on the Docklands Light Railway is probably the best way to go from Central London. It's easy and efficient, plus you have the bonus of seeing what gentrification has done to the Docklands as you go from stop to stop. Alight at Cutty Sark station for the nearest point to see the sights listed below; if you want a longer walk and a look at Greenwich itself, stay on until the Greenwich station.

Ample free literature abounds to help you make decisions about what to see first and how to spend your day. Located near the clipper ship in dry dock, Cutty Sark, the Visitor Centre is one of the best I've seen, with so many leaflets, not only about the Greenwich area but the rest of England as well, that I could have spent a good hour perusing them. However, that would have cut into my visiting time, so I picked up a Visitor Map of Greenwich, a copy of 'Time Out London: Guide to Greenwich, Docklands and Tower Hill', and a couple of other informative pamphlets. Armed with these and an invaluable book, *Walking Village London* by Andrew Duncan, I proceeded to read over them and make my choices. See also www.greenwich-guide.org.uk for more places to visit than are given in this article.

If you want a general overview of Greenwich without visiting the free museums, go on the 5½ mile walk recommended by Duncan. He takes you by the highlights, including the Fan Museum (admission charge) and Ranger's House, home to the Wernher Collection of nearly 700 works of art (admission charge). Of, if you prefer, print out a 2 mile walk on The Millennium Trail from English Heritage from www.English-heritage.org.uk

I highly recommend that you spend at least part of your day exploring all the free museums, which include the National Maritime Museum, the Royal Observatory, and Queen's House as well as the Painted Hall and St. Paul's Chapel in the Greenwich Hospital, formerly the Royal Naval Hospital, designed by Christopher Wren. With a trip to a local

pub and the park, these will make for a well-planned visit.

For those with naval interests, the National Maritime Museum is a must. To see the coat worn by Admiral Nelson when he was killed at Trafalgar, the 'Beagle Voyages' exhibition, the portrait of Captain James Cook, the ornate Prince Frederick's Barge and so many other exhibits relating to England as a sea-faring nation and London as a sea-faring city will fulfil any buff's curiosity. Nautical paintings are displayed as well. The range and variety of this museum set it up as a first-class information centre that appeals to children as well as to adults.

The University of Greenwich is housed in what was formerly the Greenwich Hospital, which was a home for veteran sailors; also on the campus is Trinity College of Music, from whose windows the passer by can hear a variety of music being played. These buildings became the Royal Naval College in 1873. In addition to the Information Centre located in these buildings, you can visit the Painted Hall and St. Paul's Chapel, both well worth your time. The magnificent Painted Hall took artist Sir James Thornhill 19 years to complete, 'for which he was paid . . . the equivalent to £3 a square yard for the ceilings and £1 for the walls', according to the Events and Attractions pamphlet available in the Visitor Centre. After the Battle of Trafalgar, Nelson's body lay in state here, a fitting tribute to the nation's most famous sailor. As you gaze at the beautiful ceiling and walls of the Painted Hall, imagine Thornhill's travail as he committed 19 years of his life to this massive project. St. Paul's Chapel, originally designed by Christopher Wren for sailors home from the sea, was rebuilt in 1779 after a fire. Its acoustics are perfect for concerts, and public worship services are held every Sunday at 11am, so you might want to build your day around these.

I would suggest a break here to visit a nearby pub, the **Trafalgar Tavern**, Park Row at Crane Street, London SE10; 020-8858 2437, directly on the Thames. For further information, see www.trafalgartavern.co.uk It is a historic pub often mentioned in guidebooks and is associated with Dickens and Thackeray. On a recent visit, Flowers Original Strong Ale, Fuller's London Pride, Trafalgar Bitter, Bass, and Draught Cider were available. Its maritime affiliations are evident not only in its name but also in the old photos of Greenwich, prints of ships, and portraits of famous sailors. The Nelson Room upstairs is a huge function room. Downstairs seating is comfortable with gold-ceiling rooms with black fireplaces. To look out on the river with the Millennium Dome across the way and think about the history of

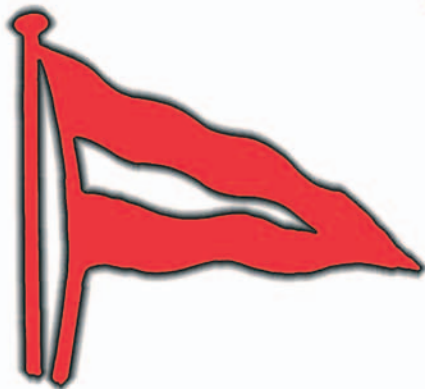
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**LONDON FOR FREE -
MORE POUNDS
TO SPEND ON BEER**

English naval men, the pub's literary associations and the famous whitebait dinners brought the past and present together in a single moment of time, getting me ready for my visit to the Queen's House as well as the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, at the top of the hill.

The Queen's House is delightful. It contains over 4,500 paintings by such artists as Canaletto, Sir Joshua Reynolds and William Hogarth as well as the largest number of paintings of English maritime subjects, a perfect exhibition for them. They are housed in a beautiful building which has associations of Greenwich with Samuel Pepys and the Royal Navy. The views from the windows of the Inigo Jones-designed retreat for Queen Anne, wife of James I, are glorious, revealing the ever-changing face of the Thames in the distance.

I was at the Royal Observatory when the orange ball dropped at 1pm and then went inside, amazed at the concept of time and its proponents found within the walls of the observatory. The significance of the orange ball on its roof is to help sailors on the Thames set their chronometers. The building abounds with clocks of all kinds as well as information about the observatory's famous astronomers who devoted their lives to solving problems of time. To actually see the Prime Meridian marking the boundary between Eastern and Western hemispheres and to realize the true meaning of GMT brought me a new respect for scientists. One could spend hours going around the displays and letting the information sink in.

Finally, if time allows, relax in Greenwich Park by the Boating Pond; view General Wolfe's statue near the observatory; stroll through The Wilderness, once a deer park. The associations with the Tudors, especially Henry VIII who was baptised in nearby St. Alfege Church, and his daughter Elizabeth I, are evident here. Greenwich is an escape from the concrete and bustle of London to a different time and place, blending old and new in a seamless timeline.

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Dear Editor

At last, Young's are displaying a beer menu on the back page of their menus in at least two pubs (the Crown in Burnt Ash Hill, Lee, SE12 and the Plough at Beddington) we visited today (11 August). Hopefully there are more. We thought you might consider mentioning this perhaps in the next *London Drinker* and congratulating Youngs. The beers described were Ordy, Special and Waggledance (draught) and Special London Ale, Double Chocolate and Champion Live (bottled). A very good start we think!

Sue 'n' 'Arry

Dear Editor

My local, 'The Old Bull and Bush' Askew road W12 is owned by Greene King and the resident beer is Abbot, at £2.40 per pint, this is par for the course, however it is constantly served 'short' and top ups are refused by the part time staff with the explanation that they were trained to serve it that way.

I know that they are breaking the law but the weights and measures dept will not be interested unless illegally short glasses are used or the beer is watered down which is not the case. What redress does the customer have in this situation?

John Dodd, *Shepherds Bush*

(I am told that the 'rules' Courts tend to follow when considering the composition of a pint of beer are those contained in the BLRA's 'code of practice'. This states that beer served in a brim measure should be a minimum of 95% liquid after the collapse of the head, and top ups should be given if required. If Mr Dodd's pub is serving beer in a quantity less than 95% liquid and they refuse to "top it up", I am sure that his local Trading Standards Department would be interested - Ed.)

Dear Editor

I would like to thank all the regulars, visitors from other Wetherspoon pubs and the few visiting CAMRA members who attended the Your Choice Beer Festival at the Moon Under Water, Hounslow over the weekend of 9-11 September.

The festival has been hailed a great success, and I've been asked to consider the timing for another similar event later this year or early next. Of the 12 handpumps available eight held a regularly changing range of ales as requested by London CAMRA members; these were of all styles and hopefully provided something for everyone. The couple of ales from Dark Star Brewery, Hophead and Over the Moon went particularly well as did some of the stronger ones. Old Thumper always sells well here.

To all those CAMRA members who couldn't make

it out to the far flung reaches of Hounslow and/or preferred to watch cricket, well you missed it. Your loss was our gain. I hope to see you all at Twickenham Beer and Cider Festival for lots of lovely ciders and perries, no excuses.

Simon Stevenson, *Richmond & Hounslow CAMRA Hounslow Cider Co-operative*

Dear Editor

On the evening of Wednesday 13 July I ventured to Fulham and Chelsea, being very warm. I wasn't quite sure if this was a good idea, but all the same I went to see what I could find. Alighting at Fulham Broadway I made my way to the Pelican; I noted the Pickled bit had been dropped. I had the London Pride which was not to bad considering the weather. Continuing on past the Morrison Lounge to the Fulham Tup I made do with Courage Best, rather nondescript and not very cool. Back to the Kings Road I found a Jim Thompson's, almost wasn't going to bother but on looking I was a little surprised to find that Bass was on. The pub in its Chinese style was quite busy as I sat outside with my glass of so so not very cool Bass, probably the only one drinking it.

Carrying on along the main road next I came to the Imperial, surprise surprise Haggards Horny Ale and Hogsback TEA were on, but oh dear, it was warm. The pub was rather quiet so I wasn't totally surprised, shame really because someone must be a bit keen. Turning right into Lots Road I carried on until I came to what is now called the Lots Road Pub and Diner, a bit different from its previous Firkin name. It was actually quite busy with most people probably making use of the open style kitchen as opposed to the Adnams, the only ale on at the bar which, incidently, was the best so far this evening, getting to be almost cool.

Retracing my steps slightly and around a corner I got to my first GBG pub, the Chelsea Ram, a Youngs pub in a rather trendy style. I went straight in for a pint this time and I wasn't disappointed, the first really good cool beer this evening, a pleasure to drink. Leaving here I doubled back along the Kings Road to call in the Southern Cross, another modern style pub and a half of warm GK IPA. On to my last port of call for the evening, the White Horse at Parsons Green, a pub familiar to a lot of us. For only the second time this evening straight in for a pint, Roosters, a wonderful pint, good tasting and nice and cool for a warm summer's evening, what more could one want? I suppose the answer has to be a lot more pubs that can keep the beer at a good temperature when the weather does get warm. When they start serving warm beer and people won't go back for more, so the beer gets left untouched and gets worse. Some pubs manage it when the weather

LETTERS

gets warm with up to the pump cooling , so they should sell the beer instead of having to throw it away because nobody is drinking it. One good thing to come out of this evening's little stroll was that the only really good beers were the ones in GBG pubs - need I say more!

Clive Taylor, Kingston & Leatherhead CAMRA

Dear Editor

Gordon Joly (August LD) asks whether he can look forward to the first major London non-smoking beer festival. I am delighted to inform him that the forthcoming Twickenham Beer Festival at York House from Thursday October 20th to Saturday October 22nd is an entirely non-smoking event. We made this decision in response to feedback from previous visitors and in consultation with the hall providers. I invite all who enjoy the pure taste of a perfect pint to Twickenham in October.

Brian Jobin , Twickenham Beer Festival Publicity Officer

Dear Editor

Saturday 9 July, King's Head, East Barnet EN4. Abbot was on sale at £1.50. It was off. When I asked why it was on sale, the bar woman said that was why it was £1.50.

Andy Hutton, Enfield & Barnet CAMRA

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 now meets regularly on the second Monday of every month from 7pm onwards in either the basement on ? to Heaven (even numbered months), or upstairs at Compton's, Old Compton St (odd numbered months). The Surrey & Sussex group meets on the second Sunday of every month from 9pm. onwards in either the back bar of the Bedford Tavern, Western St, Brighton (odd numbered months) or the PV, Upper North St, Brighton (even numbered months), 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.lagrad.org.uk

October – Mon 10 (7pm) Half Way, 7 Duncannon Street, WC2, (020) 7930 8312, second Monday programme planning meeting in the basement. All welcome. - **Thu 27 (6.30)** Social. Coleherne, Earls Court. One of the country's oldest gay pubs, now serving London Pride

November – Mon 14 (7pm) New members' social. Upstairs at Comptons, Old Compton St. London Pride at £1.50 a pint: happy hour all evening! - **Thu 24 (6.30)** Birdcage, 322 Chiswick High Rd (south from Turnham Green tube, and left at the High Road, a 5 minutes walk). Charles Wells Bombardier. Another newish venue. Large open pub in a 'wine bar' style with food in the evening.

Local CAMRA 2004 Pub of the Year

The Red Lion

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www.red-lion.info

(BR 2 mins)



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Beer Festivals May & August

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 October and November are listed below.

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

LONDON REGIONAL MEETING

November - Wed 30 (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 020-7720 6327*

October - Sat 15 Daytime crawl of North London: (11.30) Beehive, Stoneleigh Rd, N17; (12.30) Birdcage, 58 Stamford Hill, N16; (2pm) Rose & Crown, 199 Stoke Newington Church St, N16; (3pm) Shakespeare, 57 Allen Rd, N16; (3.45pm) Army & Navy, 1-3 Matthias Rd, N16; (4.45) Rosemary Branch, 2 Shepperton Rd, N1; (5.30) Stag's Head, 55 Orsman Rd, N1. Public transport will be required at times.

November - Wed 16 (7.15 for 7.30) Mtg. Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs). All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

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

October - Wed 12 (8.30) Branch mtg. Charcoal Burner, Sidcup.

November - Wed 9 (8.30) Branch mtg. Black Horse, Bexley. *Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk*

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

October - Thu 6 Bensham Manor Social: (8pm) Victoria Cross, 228 Bensham La; (9pm) Pawsons Arms, 69 Pawsons Rd; (10pm) Lion Arms, 182 Pawsons Rd. - **Thu 13 - Sat 15** 12th Croydon and Sutton Beer Festival, Wallington Hall, Stafford Rd, Wallington. - **Wed 19** (8.30) Post-festival social: Sun, 4 North St, Carshalton. - **Tue 25** (8.30) Branch mtg, Dog & Bull (upstairs room), 24 Surrey St, Croydon. - **Fri 28** Out of Branch social: Redhill Beer Festival, Merstham Village Hall, Station Rd, Merstham: meet 6.30 at venue.

November - Sat 12 Greenwich visit: (6pm) Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Grove; (7.30) Admiral Hardy, 7 College Approach; (9pm) Greenwich Union, 56 Royal Hill. - **Wed 16** Wallington crawl: (8.30) Rose and Crown, Wallington Corner, London Rd; (9.30) Duke's Head, 6 Manor Rd. **Thu 1 December** (8.30) Deferred Nov. Branch mtg and *London Drinker* pick-up, Windsor Castle (Cottage Room), 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton *Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk*

EAST LONDON & CITY *Marion Robbins 07960 268773*

October - Tue 11 (8pm) Branch mtg. Black Lion, Plaistow. - **Wed 19** (7.30) Branch social at our Pub of the Year, Black Bull, Whitechapel. Chance to visit a local curry house. - **Tue 25** Walthamstow Village crawl led by George Ingleby: meet 7.30 Walthamstow Bus Station.

November - Tue 8 (8pm) Branch mtg. Artillery, Bun Hill Row, EC1. - **Sat 12** Spoons Festival pub crawl No1 by bus, led by Ron Andrews. Meet at the Drum for 12 noon departure. *Website: www.pigsear.org.uk*

ENFIELD & BARNET *Sandie Ward 020-8884 0075 (H)*

October - Wed 5 (8.30) Barnet Pub of the Year presentation and local GBG launch. Mitre, High Barnet. - **Thu 13** (8.30) Branch Club of the Year presentation (CAMRA members only: bring card). Winchmore Hill Cricket Club, Firs La, N21. - GBG Promotion Socials (all 8.30): **Tue 18** Lord Nelson, 14 West End La, Barnet; **Wed 26** Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, Enfield.

November - GBG Promotion Socials (all 8.30): **Tue 1** Railway Bell, 13 East Barnet Rd, New Barnet; **Thu 10** Picture Palace, Ponders End; **Tue 15** Rising Sun, 137 Marsh La, Mill Hill NW7; **Wed 23** Dog & Duck, Hoppers Rd, Winchmore Hill N21; **Thu 1 December** Sebright Arms, 9 Alston Road, Barnet EN5 4ET

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD *Clive Taylor 020-8949 2099 (H) 020-8540 1901 (W), clive@paylor2003.wanadoo.co.uk, klandl@camrasurrey.org.uk.*

October - Thu 13 (8.15) Branch mtg and Pub of the Year presentation. George & Dragon, High St, Thames Ditton. - **Tue 18** (8pm train from Surbiton) Evening visit to Walton on Thames for cider week, including Plough, Ashley Rd, and Regent. - **Thu 20** (8pm) Social evening at Twickenham Beer Festival. - **Thu 27** (8pm) Pub of the Year presentation. Wych Elm, Elm Rd, Kingston.

November - Thu 3 (8.15) Branch mtg. Manor, Sheepphouse Way, Malden Manor. - **Thu 17** (8pm) Epsom crawl including Symonds Well and Jolly Coopers. Meet Assembly Rooms (Wetherspoons) for 8.30 dep. - **Tue 22** (7pm for 8pm) Korean evening in New Malden: meet in Bar Malden for drinks, then to nearby restaurant.

Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk

NORTH LONDON *Social contact: Mike Rose 07986 458517, mike@wrose@blueyonder.co.uk; Branch contact: John Cryne 020-8452 6965, john.cryne@uk.pwc.com*

October - Tue 4 (time TBA) Presentation to Young's Brewery. Places limited: please book with Mike Rose. - **Tue 11** (8pm) GBG launch. Three Compasses, 62 High St, N8 - **Tue 18** (8pm) Cider month event, Branch mtg and Pub of the Season selection. Oakdale Arms, 283 Hermitage Rd, N4. - **Fri 21/Sat 22** Cider month Beer and Cider Festival: Fri 6-11, Sat 12-11: Wenlock Arms, Wenlock Rd, N1. - **Tue 25** Cider month Hampstead NW3 crawl: (7pm) Spaniards, Spaniards Rd; then Bull & Bush, North End Way; Duke of Hamilton, New End; Three Horseshoes, 28 Heath St. - **Mon 31** (Cider month social: (8pm) Junction Tavern, 101 Fortress Rd, NW5; then Dartmouth Arms 35 York Rise, NW5.

November - Tue 8 (8pm) London Drinker Beer Festival mtg 2. Kings Arms, 11a Northington St, WC1 - **Tue 15** (8pm) GBG selection mtg. Three Compasses, 62 High St, N8 - **Tue 22** Social & curry evening Meet (8pm) Doric Arch (former Head of Steam), Euston Station Colonnade, NW1, before going for a curry and returning to the Doric Arch afterwards. - **Tue 29** Highgate crawl: (8pm) Angel, 37 Highgate High St, then Prince Of Wales, 53 Highgate High St; Bull, 13 North Hill; Wrestlers, 98 North Rd.

Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

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

October - Tue 4 Publicity crawl for Twickenham Festival. Meet (7.30) Eel Pie, Church St, Twickenham; then (8.00) Fox; (8.30) Up & Under; (9.30) Cabbage Patch; (9.15) Rugby Tavern; finally (10.40) Moon under Water, London Rd, Twickenham. - **Sun 9** Local Pub of Year final judging. All day event. Meet (1pm) Express, Kew Bridge; then Magpie & Crown; finally Lion, Teddington. All branch members invited to judge, just turn up at start time. - **Tue 18/Wed 19** Twickenham Festival set up. - **Thu 20 to Sat 21** Twickenham Festival open. - **Wed 26** (8.30) Festival debrief. Cabbage Patch, 67 London Rd, Twickenham. One free drink for festival workers, all invited to give ideas for next year. - **Sat 29/Sun 30** The Great Red Lion cider making event. Bring apples to the pub for cider making, fun and prizes. Red Lion, Linkfield Rd, Isleworth.

November - Thu 10 (8.30) Branch mtg. Windmill, 80 Windmill Rd, Hampton Hill. - **Fri 18** (provisional date) Pub of the Year

BRANCH DIARY

party night. Details and location on website after Twickenham Festival. - **Thu 24** Old Isleworth crawl. Meet (8pm) Victoria, 56 Worpole Rd (corner with Talbot Rd), Isleworth; then (9pm) Castle, Upper Square; (9.45) Swan Inn, Swan St; finally (10.15) London Apprentice, Church St.

Website : www.camra.org.uk/richmond

SOUTH EAST LONDON. *Richard Martin 020-8402 0424*

October – Sat 1 Ramsgate trip. Meet 9.45 London Bridge to take advantage of group save tickets for 10.23 train, arr. 12.38 for fish and chips for lunch then Gadd's Ramsgate Brewery. Contact number on the day is Andrew on 07903 729672. - **Wed 5** (8pm) Branch Cttee mtg. Royal Oak, 44 Tabard St, SE1. - **Thu 13** Bromley social: (8pm) Partridge, 194 High St; (9pm) Lion, 10 North Rd. - **Wed 19** (8pm) Social. Dacre Arms, 11 Kingswood Pla, SE13. - **Tue 25** (8pm) Social. Moon & Stars, 164-166 High St, Penge, SE20. - **Sat 29** Cider trip, a great day out sampling the best of Kentish cider. Meet (11.15) Bromley South Station for 11.37 train. More details nearer the time from Ian on 07749 395510 or on the website.

November – Wed 2 (8pm) Branch/Cttee meeting. Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Grove; (9.45) social afterwards: Mitre, 291 Greenwich High Rd. - **Thu 10** (7pm for eating) Social. Bridge House, 218 Tower Bridge Rd, SE1; then (9.15) Leather Exchange, 15 Leather Market St, SE1. - **Tue 15** (7.30) Social. Rose's (Prince Albert) Free House, 49 Hare St, SE18. - **Thu 24** Social: (8pm) Rutland Arms, 55 Perry Hill, SE6, then (9.30) Blythe Hill Tavern 319 Stanstead Rd, SE23 for an evening of Irish folk music. - **Sat 26** Pickle Festival, Dog & Bell, 116 Prince St, SE8. Entries taken between 7.15 and 7.45. - **Wed 30** (8pm) 2006 Catford planning mtg. Tigers Head, 350 Bromley Rd, SE6.

Website: www.selcamra.org.uk

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

October – Sat 1 (12noon at Brewery) Trip to new Nethergate Brewery, Pentlow, Essex. Details/bookings to Alan Barker 07711 971957. - **Tue 5** (8.30) Social. Grays Athletic FC, Bridge St, Grays - **Wed 12** (8.30) Social, Eva Hart, 1128 High Rd (A118 - corner of Station Rd), Chadwell Heath - **Wed 19** (8.30) Social, White Lion, Lion Hill (B1420), Fobbing - **Thu 27** (8.30) Social, Chequers, cnr North St and Billet La, Hornchurch. **November – Thu 3** (8.30) Social, JJ Moons, 48/52 High St (A124), Hornchurch - **Wed 9** (8.30) Social, Prince of Wales, 199 Roman Rd (B1002), Mountnessing - **Mon 14** (8.30) Social, Travellers Friend, 496-498 High Rd (A104), Woodford Green. - **Tue 22** (8pm) Social at Rochford Beer Festival, The Freighthouse, Rochford (just outside station). (For further details see SE Essex branch website -

www.seecamra.org.uk/festival.html). - **Thu 1 December** - (7pm) Social at Harwich & Dovercourt Winter Ale Festival, Kingsway Hall, Dovercourt (For further details see Colchester branch website www.colchestercamra.org.uk or Harwich Net website www.harwich.net/beerfest.htm)

Advance Notice – Fri 13 January 2006 (8pm) Branch 30th Anniversary social, The Lodge, Corbets Tey Rd, Upminster. Tickets £6 inc buffet, Beer 30/- a pint. Tickets/enquiries to Branch Contact.

Website: www.swessex.clara.net

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

October – Wed 5 (7.30) Branch cttee mtg (GBG 2006 distribution), Angel, 11 High St, Roehampton SW15. - **Fri 21** (from 6pm) Trafalgar Day social. Trafalgar, 23 High Path, Merton SW19.

November – Mon 14 (7.30) Branch cttee mtg (GBG 2007 long-listing), Priory Arms (upstairs room), 83 Lansdowne Way, South Lambeth SW8. - **Mon 28** Two pub Battersea social: (7pm)

Castle, 115 Battersea High St; (9pm) Prince Albert, 85 Albert Bridge Rd.

Website: www.swlcamra.org.uk

WATFORD & DISTRICT *Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104, 07854 988152 (M), branch@watfordcamra.org.uk*

October – Thu 6 Watford social: (8.30) Essex Arms; (9.30) Beaver; (10.30) Southern Cross. - **Wed 12** London social: (6pm) Lamb, Lamb's Conduit St; (7pm) Swan, Cosmo Place; (7.45) Night & Day, Russell Square; (8.30) Square Tavern, Tolmer's Square; (9.30) Head of Steam (Doric Arch), Euston Station Colonnade. - **Mon 24** (8.15) Branch cttee mtg. Estcourt Arms, Watford. - **Fri 28** (8.30) Cider month social. Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty, Heronsgate.

November – Wed 2 (8.30) Watford Beer Festival and GBG 2006 publicity social. Southern Cross, Watford. - **Thu 10** (8.30) Watford Beer Festival and GBG 2006 publicity social. Sportsman, Croxley Green (Branch Pub of the Year). - **Thu 17-Sat 19** 11th Watford Beer Festival, West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford. - **Mon 28** (8.15) Branch cttee mtg. Estcourt Arms, Watford.

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@nclc.org.uk Fax 020-7839 4768. Branch Contact Kim Martin 07915 383029, kimberlymartin@yahoo.com*

October – Thu 6 (7.30 for 8pm) Pub of the Year. Star Tavern, 6 Belgrave Mews West, SW1. - **Sun 9** Socials: (2pm) Old Fire Station, 244 Shepherd's Bush Rd W6; (3pm) Hammersmith Ram, 81 King St; (4.30) Salutation, 154 King St; (5.30) Cross Keys, 57 Black Lion Lane; (6.30) Black Lion, 2 South Black Lion La; (7.30) George & Devonshire, 8 Burlington La W4. - **Thu 13 and Fri 14** Socials. (7pm) Cider Bar, Wallington Beer & Cider Fest, Wallington Hall, Stafford Rd. - **Wed 19** SW1 visit: (7pm) Lord Moon of the Mall, 16 Whitehall; ending (10pm) Westminster Arms, 9 Storeys Gate. - **Thu 20** Social. (7pm) Cider Bar, Twickenham Beer Festival, York House, Richmond Rd, Twickenham. - **Thu 27** (7.30 for 8pm) Branch mtg. Upstairs Function Room, King & Queen, 1-2 Foley St, W1.

November – Wed 2 (7.30-9pm) Grouse & Claret, 14 Little Chester St, SW1. - **Tue 8** Social to welcome Andrea to the Cask & Glass, 39 Palace St SW1. - **Tue 15** (7pm) Duke of Wellington, 179 Portobello Road, W11; (8.30) Cock & Bottle, 17 Needham Road W11; (10.15) Uxbridge Arms, 13 Uxbridge St, W8. - **Thu 24** (7.30) Branch mtg. Non-smoking room, Adam & Eve, 81 Petty France, SW1; - **Mon 28** Fitzrovia socials: (7pm) Tottenham, 6 Oxford St; (8pm) Jack Horner, 235 Tottenham Court Rd; (10.15) Grafton Arms, 52 Grafton Way, W1.

WEST MIDDLESEX *David Bender 07734 509111 or contact@westmidddx-camra.org.uk*

October – Wed 12 (8.30) Branch mtg. Conservative Club, Fairlawn (off High St), Southall. - **Thu 20** (7pm) Beer Festival Social. York House, Richmond Rd, Twickenham. - **Wed 26** (8pm) Social. Paddington Packet Boat, High Rd, Cowley Peachey.

November – Tue 1 (7pm) New Members social. Grand Union Brewery, 2 Aberglen Industrial Estate, Betam Rd, Hayes. - **Wed 9** (8.30) Branch mtg. Drayton Court Hotel, The Avenue, West Ealing. - **Sat 19** (1pm) Beer Festival social. West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford. - **Wed 23** (8pm) BOB XVII Inaugural mtg. Questors Grapevine Bar, Mattock Lane, Ealing. - **Fri 2 December** (8pm) London Drinker pick up. Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford, then (9.30) Fox, Green Lanes, Hanwell.

Website: www.westmidddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the December 2005/January 2006 edition: 16th November 2005. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

The 'All New' Narrowboat

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...a unique canal-side pub introducing real
ales to the heart of Islington

Serving Fuller's London Pride,
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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 July are listed below

CENTRAL

EC1, OLDE MITRE (YE), Ely Court, off Ely Place. Spirit. (E20, U70, U185)

EAST

HAROLD WOOD, KING HAROLD, 51 Station Rd. Spirit. (X65, U185)

HORNCHURCH, CHEQUERS, North St. Spirit. (X71, U185)

DELETIONS

The following outlet no longer holds the Cask Marque award.

EC4, HOG'S HEAD, 12 Ludgate Circus

WC2, ALL BAR ONE, 58 Kingsway

CROYDON, ALL BAR ONE, 10 Park Lane.

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
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CO4 9HT
Tel: 01206 752212**

De Olde Mitre

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*This genuine 'Freehouse'
awaits you...*

...and offers a 'Warm Welcome'

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 185

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.

We report a number of new real ale outlets across London, including some reinstatements and an imaginatively converted fire station in W6 Hammersmith and a Geronimo Inns bar at Heathrow Airport. We also highlight a hidden gem selling an interesting beer range in SE1 Southwark. Fuller's have acquired four Free House/gastropubs in SW8 Battersea Park, W4 Chiswick, W6 Hammersmith and W9 Maida Vale. Moreover, they have acquired the Head of Steam at NW1 Euston, renowned for its microbrewery beers and one of the very rare outlets for such in London, where they are understood to be committed to retaining a choice of other beers besides their own and we hope this might include some from micros.

Wetherspoon have decided to keep six of the nine London pubs put up for sale earlier this year, one in W1 Soho has been sold to Broken Foot Inns and the other two are still under negotiation. The former O'Hanlon's pub in EC1 Finsbury has changed ownership and name yet again but retains a varied guest beer range. By contrast, David

Bruce's Capital Pub Co continues to acquire 'community' pubs but the opportunity to offer something different and support microbrewery beers is not being grasped.

A new comprehensive West London Pub Guide was published in August, (see page 17), the first to cover the area since 1989. Cross references to it are included in the listings below. Some very recent changes reported in Updates 183 and 184 were too late for inclusion in the new guide and are repeated below for completeness, shown in italics.

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; IS - N1 Islington Real Ale 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 - West London Pub Guide, 2nd edition; X - Essex Beer Guide, 9th edition.

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

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC2, HELL, 134 Curtain Rd. No real ale. Large new Free House/bar in former dance hall, originally commercial premises, opened in early 2005. Sells unusual Belgian keg beers including Maredsous, Steendonk and Palm.

W1(5), COMPTONS OF SOHO, 53 Old Compton St. Fuller: London Pride. (W65)

NORTH

N1, DRIVER, 2 Wharfedale Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Taylor: Landlord. Refurbished at the beginning of 2004. Reinstatement of real ale. Formerly GENERAL PICTON. (N44, U174)

N6, BULL, 13 North Hill. Highgate: Special Best Bitter; Taylor: Landlord. Reopened as a Free House/pub and dining room after 5 years as a restaurant. Pub area to right of entrance, restaurant area to left and on patio. Polished flooring and cream décor. Bar and games room upstairs. (N81, U151, U174)

ENFIELD (EN1), BROWNS, 29 Silver St. Reopened and renamed **TAPS IRISH BAR** in April 2004. No real ale. Formerly **DIVERS BAR**. (N229, U159)

NORTH WEST

NW3, WHITE HORSE, 154 Fleet Rd. Adnams: Broadside; Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; Fuller: London Pride. Reopened and refurbished, retaining some original features. Small side bar for diners. Formerly G E ALDWINKLES for a while. (N185, U152, U168, U182)

PINNER, GEORGE, Marsh Rd. Renamed **KING GEORGE IV**. Fuller: London Pride; Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; Wadworth: 6X. Refurbished. Formerly **FROTHFINDERS & FIRKIN** and **SEDGWICKS** for a while (W179)

SOUTH EAST

CROYDON, WINE VAULTS, 122 North End. Davy's Old Wallop (Courage: Directors) @ £2.95 a pint. Cellar bar under Marks & Spencer operated by Davy's Free House chain.

PURLEY, ELLIOTS, 5 High St. Fuller: London Pride. Bar/restaurant in former shop premises.

PURLEY, RECTORY, 908 Brighton Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Greene King: IPA, Morland Old Speckled Hen. A Barracuda Free House badged as part of the 'Smith & Jones' chain. Large, noisy,

bare floorboards and booths. Opened since 2003 but not previously reported.

PURLEY, RYAN'S BAR, 6-8 Tudor Ct, Russell Hill Rd. No real ale. New Free House/bar in former shop premises.

THORNTON HEATH, MUDDY WATERS, 61 High St. Reopened and renamed **THOMAS FARLEY**. Greene King: IPA. Now Greene King, ex-Taylor Walker. Formerly **WILTON ARMS**. (3SE285, U56, U108)

SOUTH WEST

SW19, COLLIERS TUP, 198 High St, Colliers Wood. Wells: Bombardier @ £2.80 a pint. Thoroughly refurbished, spacious, bright, airy and welcoming except to dodgy previous clientele. Formerly **VICTORY**. (SW120, U142, U178, U184)

WEST

W3, PUZZLE, 187-189 High St. Fuller: London Pride. Reinstatement of real ale. (W85)

W6, DUKE OF YORK, 2 Perrers Rd. Reopened and renamed **OLIVE TREE**. No real ale. Now a bar and restaurant in modern style (W102)

W6, OLD FIRE STATION, 244 Shepherds Bush Rd. Marston: Pedigree; Thwaites: Lancaster Bomber. New Free House/bar and brasserie run by Tofs chain based in Old Woking, Surrey. Imaginative conversion of a former fire station, opened in July. Retains original white tiling and large entrance doors infilled with glass. Large island bar with glass topped former maintenance pit containing plaque commemorating Great Fire of London. Beer 'cellar' viewable to side. Restaurant and function area at rear. Open all permitted hours

HEATHROW AIRPORT, TIN GOOSE, Terminal One (airside). Draught Bass; Caledonian: Deuchars IPA, Fuller: London Pride. New Free House/bar in new eastern extension, run by Geronimo Inns. Retro 1930s/1940s travel theme bar and gastropub named to commemorate the first all-metal aeroplane in 1927.

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC2, HOLE IN THE WALL, S&N, demolished. The loss of yet another characterful pub, originally part of the Youngers estate. (E32)

WC2, FINE LINE. Renamed **PAGLIACCI**. Now a Free House/bar and kitchen, ex-Fuller, H removed. (W32)

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 185

WC2, PARKER PLACE, M&B, closed. Formerly FULMAR & FIRKIN and originally KINGSWAY TAVERN. (W36)

EAST

E3, ALBION, ex-Belhaven, now demolished. (E87, U57, U184)
 E3, OLD DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, ex-Ascot, H unused. (E91, U72, U80, U99, U117, U159)
 E14, LOVAT ARMS, ex-Truman, now demolished and flats under construction on site. (E146, U156)
 E14, FESTIVAL INN, ex-Truman, H removed. (E145)
 E16, ROYAL OAK, 67 Barking Rd. Delete reference in U165 to demolition. Building refurbished with flats on upper floors but currently vacant. (E160, U80, U162, U163, U165)
 BARKING, FISHING SMACK, ex-Allied, still closed and boarded up. (X11, U165, U166, U170)
 CHADWELL HEATH, TOLLGATE, ex-Bass, H now removed. (X27, U174, U179)
 ILFORD, CAULIFLOWER, ex-S&N, H removed. (X72)
 ILFORD, PROVOKE. Renamed BLUE ICE. Modern style bar, ex-Whitbread, H unused. Formerly HOGSHEAD. (X73, U162)
 ILFORD, RED LION, sold by Wetherspoon in October 2004, H removed. Formerly BLAH BLAHS, previously RAT & CARROT. (X73, U144, U158, U163, U167, U176, U177)

NORTH

N1, DOVE REGENT, Free, still closed and for sale. Formerly ANGEL CAFÉ BAR. (N38, U159, U164)
 N1, DUCHESS OF KENT, 40 Half Moon Cres, ex-Courage, still closed and boarded up. (N41, U120)
 N1, FLYING SCOTSMAN, Free, H now removed. (N44)
 N14, OSIDGE ARMS. Now Spirit, ex-Taylor Walker, H removed. (N119)

N15, ROSE & CROWN, Free, closed and boarded up. (N125)
 N17, PLOUGH, ex-S&N, closed and boarded up. (N135, U106, U165)

NORTH WEST

NW1, COLLEGE BAR, Free, now demolished. Formerly SLUGGER O'TOOLE'S, originally COLLEGE ARMS. (N163, U112, U124, U184)

SOUTH EAST

SE10, FROG & RADIATOR. Now Enterprise, ex-S&N, closed and boarded up. (SE94, U107)
 BELVEDERE, ROYAL STANDARD, ex-Bass, no real ale. (K32, U151)
 BEXLEYHEATH, KINGS ARMS. Now Spirit, ex-Ind Coope, no real ale. (K34)
 CROYDON, BLUE ANCHOR. Renamed TREE HOUSE. Now Punch, ex-Taylor Walker, H removed. A bar and restaurant. (3SE236)
 CROYDON, EL PASO, Free, now absorbed into commercial premises next door and windows infilled with brickwork. (3SE241, U67)
 CROYDON, JT'S BAR CAFE. Renamed BAR R, Free, H removed. (U108)
 CROYDON, LARRY'S DINER, 24-26 South End. Renamed ELEPHANT BAR by October 2000 (delete reference in U156 to it being a new bar) and then converted to 'Ana Kali' restaurant, currently closed. (U108, U156)
 CROYDON, LAWSONS, Free, converted to 'Tikka Masala' restaurant. (U67)
 CROYDON, PADDOCK. Renamed OLD DERBY, Free, H removed despite Greene King IPA sign outside. Formerly DERBY ARMS. (3SE239, U82, U98)

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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.

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Address _____

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

CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 185

CROYDON, TOWN HOUSE. Renamed **MOJAMA**, ex-Whitbread, H removed. Formerly **TAVERN IN THE TOWN**. (3SE251, U98)

PURLEY, JOLLY FARMERS, ex-Ind Coope, now badged as 'Wm Whitakers'. All six handpumps unused. (3SE268)

PURLEY, STANLEYS, Free, demolished and site now occupied by an office block. Formerly **DOG & DUCK** and **BOURNE TAVERN**, originally **PAINTED WAGON SALOON**. (3SE268, U94)

SOUTH WEST

SW15, EARL SPENCER, ex-Inntreprenuer, now converted to 'Majestic Wines' off-licence. (SW101, U176)

SW16, BAROQUE. Renamed **MINT**, ex-S&N, H removed. Formerly **GENEVIEVE**. (SW105, U153, U184)

SW16, WHITE LION, ex-Wychwood, H now removed. Formerly **WHITE LION (HOBGOBLIN)**. (SW108, U127, U153, U182)

SW18, TONSLEY TUP. Reverted to **ROYAL STANDARD**, Massive, H removed. (SW114, U144, U157)

CHEAM, QUEEN VICTORIA. Renamed **MR Q'S** (its former Allied theme name), ex-Allied, H removed. (SW131)

HAM, WATER GIPSIES, ex-Inntreprenuer, now converted to children's nursery. (SW137, U171)

WEST

W2 GREAT WESTERN, Enterprise, H removed. (W72)

W4, DOME, Free, converted to 'Café Rouge' restaurant. (W88)

W4, JACK STAMPS BEER HOUSE, Faucet Inns, now converted to 'Balkan' restaurant, bottled beers only. Delete from pub database. (W89)

W4, PUG, Free, converted to 'Frankies' Italian bar and grill, bottled beers only. Delete from pub database. (W90)

W6, NUMBER ONE, Free, now converted to flats. (W103)

W9, TIME, Free, now converted to residential use. Formerly **WICKED WOLF**, originally **PRINCE ALBERT**. (W115)

W14, FOX, Greene King, H removed. Formerly **FOX, RATTLE & HUM; RAT & CARROT** and **FOX TAVERN**. (W128)

HAMPTON WICK, FORESTERS, Punch, H unused with new tenants. (W146)

HOUNSLOW, HUSSAR, Free, closed and boarded up and for sale. (W167)

SOUTHALL, ST GEORGE & THE DRAGON, Enterprise, demolished. (W188)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC1, MULLIGANS (LITTLE HOUSE). Renamed **OLD CHINA HAND**, -beers listed; +four varying guest beers including those from O'Hanlons, Sharps, Oakham etc. Acquired by new owner originally from Hong Kong, hence the name change. Retains light and airy cream décor. Screen for sport. Formerly **O'HANLON'S**, originally **THREE CROWNS**. Late licence up to 2am Mon-Fri. Opens 12 Sat/Sun. (E26, U90, U113, U117, U154, U175)

EC1, OLDE MITRE (YE), -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter, Broadside; Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; +Rooster: Yankee. Now Spirit, ex-Taylor Walker. Note correct title. (E20, U70)

EC1, PRINT WORKS. Wetherspoon pub now open to 2am on Thursday and Friday. (U116)

EC1, SIR JOHN OLDCASTLE. Now a non-smoking Wetherspoon pub. (U120)



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From 2pm

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CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 185

EC1, ST JOHN, 24 St John St, -beers listed; +Black Sheep: Best Bitter; +Wadworth: 6X; +occasional guest beer. (U116)

EC2, PRINCESS ROYAL. Now simply **PRINCESS (THE)**, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor Landlord. Opens 12.30-11 Mon-Fri, 5-11 Sat and 12-5 Sun. (E35, U169)

W1(F), MASONS ARMS, -beers listed except Marston: Pedigree; +Adnams: Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor: Landlord. (W46)

W1(S), MOON & SIXPENCE. Acquired by Broken Foot Inns from Wetherspoon in September. Retains five handpumps with varying beers. Due for refurbishment and probable renaming. (U93, U182)

EAST

E3, MATCH MAKER. No longer for sale, retained by Wetherspoon. (U160, U182)

CHADWELL HEATH, WHITE HORSE, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. (X27)

DAGENHAM, LORD DENMAN. No longer for sale, retained by Wetherspoon. (X45, U182)

HAROLD WOOD, KING HAROLD. Now Spirit, ex-Allied (Ind Coope). (X65)

HORNCHURCH, CHEQUERS. Now Spirit, ex-Allied (Ind Coope). (X71)

ILFORD, GENERAL HAVELOCK, -beers listed; +Courage: Best Bitter, Directors. (X72)

ILFORD, PRINCE OF WALES, -beers listed; +Greene King: Ruddles Best Bitter; +Young: Bitter; +Guest beer (e.g. Jennings). (X73)

ROMFORD, FORD & FIRKIN. Now simply **FORD**, still no real ale. (X101, U157, U166)

NORTH

N1, CRAIC HOUSE. Renamed **KING CHARLES I**, previously **CHARLES THE FIRST**. (N39, U137, U166)

N1, HALF MOON. Renamed **NEW ROSE**, still no real ale. (N47)

N1, KING EDWARD IV. Renamed **EDVI**. (N49, U182)

N1, LIGHT HOUSE BAR. Renamed **ORWELL (THE)**, still no real ale, no handpumps. Originally **GEORGE ORWELL**. (N46, U137, U152)

N1, QUEENS HEAD. Now simply **QUEENS** after a minor refurbishment, still no real ale. (N56)

N1, WELLINGTON, 119 Balls Pond Rd, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. Former Free House, now Greene King. Formerly **DUKE OF WELLINGTON**. (N41, U159)

N4, HORNSEY WOOD TAVERN. Renamed **ALEXANDRA BAR & EATING HOUSE**, -beers listed; +Courage: Best Bitter; +Wells: Bombardier. Revamped with food emphasis. Open 4-11 Mon-Thu, 3-11 Fri, 12-11 Sat-Sun. (N75, U141)

N4, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER. No longer for sale, retained by Wetherspoon. (N77, U182)

N11, RANELAGH, -beers listed; +Adnams: Broadside; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA; +Taylor: Landlord. Wide range of continental bottled beers and keg Belgian and German beers. Gastro style food. (N109, U110, U151)

N12, SWAN & PYRAMIDS. Now subtitled **SAFARI CLUB** and Punch, ex-Taylor Walker. Back bar now an Indian restaurant whilst front bar retains pub appearance. Still no real ale. (N112, U157)

N19, WHITTINGTON & CAT. Now badged as a McGovern Free House and currently under threat from redevelopment. (N145)

EAST BARNET (EN4), BAILEY. Renamed **BELL & BUCK**. Formerly **WARWICK HOTEL**. (N247, U157, U182)

NORTH WEST

NW1, HEAD OF STEAM, -beers listed except Hopback: Summer Lightning; +Fuller: Discovery (3.9%), London Pride, ESB, Seasonal beer; +Hol: Bitter; +four or five guest beers. Well respected Free House acquired by Fuller's from Tony Brookes in August. London

can ill afford to lose one of the handful of Free Houses offering a choice of micro-brewery beers and it is a relief to know that Fuller's are committed to retaining some beers from other brewers – they would be mad not to do so if they want the pub to remain such a popular beer venue. It is due for renaming to the **DORIC ARCH** to commemorate the erstwhile Euston Arch which used to form the entrance to the adjacent station. Otherwise little has changed except for the Fuller's beers; some of the railway paraphernalia has been kept. The support of London's discerning drinkers needs to be retained to ensure that Fullers continue to offer a varied beer range. (N168)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, POMMELERS REST. Now a non-smoking Wetherspoon pub. (U139)

SE1, RED LION, 160 Union St. Renamed **CHARLES DICKENS** about 3 or 4 years ago but not previously reported, -beers listed; +six changing beers from regionals and micros. A traditionally decorated Free House with wood panelling and bare floorboards. Open kitchen at rear. Food 11.30-2.30 and 6-9 Mon-Fri, 12-6 Sat and 12-5 Sun. Well worth seeking out. (SE29)

SE3, HARE & BILLET, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA, Abbot Ale. (SE46)

SE4, BROCKLEY JACK, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, Morland Old Speckled Hen. (SE51, U102, U117, U126)

SE9, OLD POST OFFICE, -beers listed; +Marston: Pedigree; +one guest beer (e.g. from Badger, Jennings). Now W&D, ex-Wizard. (U104, U159, U168, U178)

SE22, GOOSE & GRANITE. Reverted to **PLOUGH**. (SE201, U124)

SE25, WILLIAM STANLEY. No longer for sale, to be retained by Wetherspoon. (U142, U182)

BELVEDERE, CHEQUERS, +Adnams: Broadside. (K31)

BELVEDERE, LEATHER BOTTLE, -Courage: Directors; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Guest beer. (K32, U150)

BELVEDERE, VILLAGE INN, +Guest beer. Formerly **QUEEN'S HEAD**. (K32, U151)

BEXLEYHEATH, POLO. Reverted to **DRAYMAN**, still no real ale. (K34)

BEXLEYHEATH, PRINCE ALBERT, +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire, Bishops Finger or Seasonal beer. A Shepherd Neame pub. (K34)

BEXLEYHEATH, YACHT, 167 Long Lane, +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Guest beer. Note full address. (K35)

CROYDON (NEW ADDINGTON), BUNKERS KNOB. Renamed **RANDALL TAVERN**. (3SE237)

CROYDON, CLARET WINE BAR. Now **CLARET FREE HOUSE**. (3SE238, U51, U55, U83)

CROYDON, FOX & HOUNDS. Now **OLD FOX & HOUNDS**. (3SE242, U87)

CROYDON, LAURENS. Renamed **E BAR**. Open Thu-Sat evenings only. (U108)

CROYDON, ROCKWELLS DINER. Now subtitled **CRAZY H**. (U108)

NORTHUMBERLAND HEATH (ERITH), ROYAL OAK, +Guest beer. (K107)

SIDCUP, PORTRAIT, -Greene King: IPA; +Fuller: London Pride; +2 Guest beers (e.g. Fuller seasonal, Archers). (U167)

THORNTON HEATH, TIR NA NOG. Renamed **BRIGSTOCK**. Formerly **BRIGSTOCK ARMS**. (3SE282, U177)

SOUTH WEST

SW6, DUKE OF CUMBERLAND. Renamed **DUKE ON THE GREEN** after recent stylish refurbishment. (SW66)

SW7, TEA CLIPPER, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA; +Wells: Bombardier; +Young: Bitter. Now Capital Pub Co, ex-S&N and then Spirit. (SW73)



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CAPITAL PUBCHECK - UPDATE 185

SW8, MASONS ARMS. -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Jacob & Guinness Free House acquired by Fuller's in late August. (SW78, U141, U144)

SW15, PUTNEY PAGE. Reverted to **SPENCER ARMS**, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride. (SW104, U169)

SW16, BIG HAND MO'S. Reverted to **HORSE & GROOM**, still no real ale (H removed). (SW105, U153)

SW18, QUEEN ADELAIDE. Refurbished by Young's in contemporary style and food-orientated. Many period features removed. (SW114)

SW19, PLAYERS LOUNGE. Renamed **SWNINETEEN**, still no real ale. Formerly **PITCHER & PIANO**. (SW118, U177)

SW19, WILKIES. Renamed **HIDEAWAY BAR**, still no real ale. (U179)

SW20, WINNERS WINE BAR. Renamed **APOSTLES**, still no real ale. (SW125)

MITCHAM, BEEHIVE. Now planning application submitted for housing. (SW145, U177)

MITCHAM, WHITE LION OF MORTIMER. No longer for sale, to be retained by Wetherspoon. (SW150, U182)

MORDEN, LADY ST HELIER. No longer for sale, to be retained by Wetherspoon. (SW151, U147, U182)

WORCESTER PARK, OLD CROWN. Renamed **OLD DRILL**, -beers listed except Courage: Directors; +Courage: Best Bitter. (SW169)

WEST

W4, CROWN & ANCHOR. -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Brakspear: Bitter; +Greene King: IPA, Ruddles County. Young's beers no longer available in this Capital Pub Co ex-Young's pub. (W87)

W4, JUXTA BASE (JB). The original main 'John Bull' pub part has now been reopened under the name **JB BAR & DINER**. Open only at lunchtimes. (W89)

W4, PILOT. -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Jacob & Guinness Free House acquired by Fuller's in late August. (W90)

W5, HAVEN -beers listed; +Adnams: Broadside; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Guest beer (e.g. Grand Union Special). Delete reference to several name changes. It was however formerly **HARVEY FLOORBANGERS** for a while. (W96)

W6, LAURIE ARMS. -Fuller: London Pride; +Wells: Bombardier. Now operated by McCarty Pub Co. (W103)

W6, STONEMASONS ARMS. -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Jacob & Guinness Free House acquired by Fuller's in late August. (W106)

W9, GRAND UNION. -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Jacob & Guinness Free House acquired by Fuller's in late August. (W114)

HOUNSLOW, EARL RUSSELL. Renamed **BAR BHANGRA**, still no real ale. (W167)

SOUTHAL, WHITE HART. Part of building converted to 'Mission' nightclub and remaining part now named **WHITE HART AT CLUB MISSION**. (W188)

TWICKENHAM, FIVE OAKS. Renamed **BLOOMSBURY**, still no real ale. (W202)

UXBRIDGE, CONTINENTAL. Renamed **NAZDAROVYA**. (W206)

UXBRIDGE, GOOD YARN. Now a non-smoking Wetherspoon pub. (W210)

CORRECTION TO UPDATE 183

PUBS CLOSED ETC

W5, GRANGE TAVERN. Delete entry, still selling real ale.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 184

NEW PUBS ETC

EC2, WATERMARK CLUB. Is a Free House.

W1(Mar), AUBERGE. Add: No real ale.

N1, DRAPERS ARMS. Now Free, ex-Greene King.

NW1, CAPTAIN CUTLERS. Should read **CAPT CUTLERS**.

SE5, KERFIELD (now BLAKE). Add: No real ale.

SE10, L'ATTITUDE. Is a Free House.

SW11 BLUE MANGO. Should read **MATILDA**. Formerly **BLUE MANGO**.

W3, PUZZLE. Address is 187-189 High St.

PINNER, GEORGE. Should be listed under **NORTH WEST**.

PUBS CLOSED ETC

EC3, CITY LITTEN. Formerly **CITY FOOD, ALE & WINE HOUSE**.

W1(Mar), BOSWELLS. Delete from database.

WC2, PARKER PLACE. Is a M&B pub.

E3, NEW COTTON INN. Formerly **GEORGE & DRAGON**.

N1, JAY CUBED. Should read H removed.

N1, PRINCE OF WALES. Delete entry: see correct entry under **OTHER CHANGES**

NW3, WHITE HORSE. Delete entry, already reported in U182

OTHER CHANGES ETC.

EC3, SPRINGBOK BAR. Now a Barracuda pub, ex-Old Monk.

WC1, PAKENHAM ARMS. Refs should read (W49 etc).

E17, TAVERN ON THE HILL. 'current' should read 'correct'.

N16, BAR LORCA. Refs should read (N128, U166).

SE22, FOREST HILL TAVERN. Should read **FORESTERS ARMS**. Refs should read (SE198, U122).

CROYDON, McCLUSKEYS. Should read **McCLUSKYS**.

SW9, LIVING ROOM. Delete entry, already reported in U182.

SW16 BUZZE BAR. Should read **SW11**.



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PETER ROBERTS (MEMORIAL) RAMBLE 2005

Peter Roberts had been a founder member of the East London & City branch of CAMRA in the early seventies and at the same time was involved with the Ramblers' Association in West Essex. So it was natural that he combined these interests in a real ale ramble. He led these for over 25 years in many areas of the Essex countryside.

Sadly, Peter died in May 2004, and so it was fitting that the branch should remember him by continuing with the Roberts Ramble. This year on 16 July it was led through Epping Forest, starting at Chingford Station at 11am and finishing at Epping Station at 10pm, covering seven pubs and approximately 7 miles.

The first pub visited was the **Warren Wood** on the Epping New Road (was A11



now A104). We sampled Archers.

At the second pub, **Victoria Tavern**, Smarts Lane, Loughton, five real ales included Harvey's Sussex bitter. We ate here. The adjacent Royal Oak fronting on to Forest Road has no real ale.

Keeping just inside the forest edge we soon arrived at the **Wheatsheaf** York Hill, an ex Charrington house now with Fullers London Pride and Adnams. The garden is on the other side of the road.

Then up a steep hill passing some interesting weatherboarded cottages and on to the **Gardeners Arms** at the junction of York Hill and Pump Hill, with a splendid view of East London and

Canary Wharf from the garden. Some however

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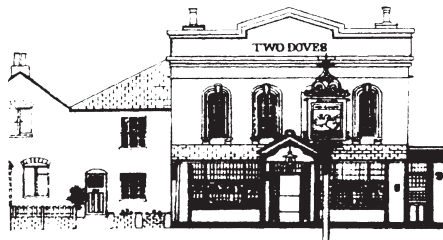
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PETER ROBERTS (MEMORIAL) RAMBLE 2005

enjoyed their pint out of the afternoon sun within the pub.

Still keeping to the edge of the forest, we moved on about a third of a mile to the **Foresters Arms** where five real ales were on, including Timothy Taylor's Landlord.

On leaving here we plunged downhill into the forest, then uphill to the Lost Pond - yes almost on top of a ridge, water drains from slightly higher land into a clay layer at the bottom of the pond. Like most Epping Forest ponds it is an old gravel pit. Its name derived from the fact that it was accidentally omitted from the 1 inch Ordnance Survey map in the 1950s. It is actually known as Blackweir Hill Pond.

After a more significant walk crossing the A121 at Goldings Hill just north of Loughton we followed the Green Ride to Jack's Hill (B172). Crossing here we turned east parallel to the road to a McMullen's house **Sixteen String Jack**, named after a highwayman. After



Sampling Country and AK we moved on in a northerly direction to the southern edge of Epping.

Evening was fast approaching, but what cannot be seen is we are walking on top of the M25, for here it was built in a cut and cover tunnel! This is the Bell Common tunnel so often featured in traffic reports.

Then on to a classic pub, the **Forest Gate** that's been in the GBG for 20+ years. Peter Roberts made a point of using this pub on his Epping Forest rambles. Ridley's IPA bitter was available - but for how much longer, with the devastating news that the owners of the brewery have sold out to Greene King! Also available were Adnams Bitter and Broadside.

It was such a warm evening we were able to sit outside until just before sunset, then to drop down through meadows to Epping Central Line Station.

Ron Andrews

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IDLE MOMENTS

Well here we are with Autumn fast approaching – well actually it's not. As I type this it is August Bank Holiday, the sun is shining out of a clear blue sky and it is warm. That's the problem with deadlines and holidays. Anyway, enough of my moans for now (I might come back to them later – You have been warned) – let's kick off with a limerick I heard from my big brother - it's new to me.

On the chest of a barmaid from Sale

Were tattooed the prices of ale.

And on her behind,

For the sake of the blind

Was the same information ... in Braille.

And having got that out of the way, it's time to annoy you with a few number puzzles:

1. 82 SA on a DB
2. 4 S on a V
3. 23 RC, EC
4. 7 Veils in the Dance
5. 10 is the CR of a T
6. 3 P on a T
7. 10,000 GOD of YM
8. 19 JLW in a TMAA in 1956
9. 6 W on a LTB (except No. 63)
10. 2 B over the C of the UBR

And as I might even get out for a ride on the new motorbike this afternoon (Well, I shan't be watching the fifth day of the Trent Bridge test. Tee hee hee!) we'll carry straight on with the brewery anagrams:

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. SKY AND CRAB | 6. IN TREWS |
| 2. NUMBER THORN, LAD | 7. TIN RACE CON |
| 3. BEATS RATE | 8. MRS. ACHE |
| 4. HIP? NO, LUNG | 9. NOR VENT |
| 5. CHIDE FILL | 10. LONG SAD FIR |

For 5BY4 this time I thought I would follow up last time's popular (Nobody complained) Latin names for birds with the same but for trees this time. All you have to do is match the trees in the first list with the scientific names in the second:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Aspen | A. Populus tremula |
| 2. Ash | B. Taxus baccata |
| 3. Beech | C. Pinus sylvestris |
| 4. Scots pine | D. Fraxinus excelsior |
| 5. Holly | E. Betula pendula |
| 6. Yew | F. Acer campestre |
| 7. Field Maple | G. Quercus robur |
| 8. English (common) oak | H. Tilia cordata |
| 9. Lime (small leaved) | I. Fagus sylvatica |
| 10. Silver Birch | J. Ilex aquifolium |

And finally, we come to the General Knowledge bit. If anybody can find a link between these questions to give an indication into my state of mind, I don't want to know. Just answer the questions:

1. In the Second World War, where was "Station X," the centre for decoding German cipher messages?
2. What service in London ran from 16th May 1931 until 9th May 1962?
3. Heights of places on O.S. maps are measured "above ordnance datum" which is mean sea level in which Cornish town? (Clue - it's on the coast)
4. Once upon a time there was a Tate Gallery - now there are four. Two are in London, but where are the other two?
5. Brown Willy is 1,377 feet high (and it's still not rude!). Where is it?
6. "Phossy Jaw" was a necrotic bone disease affecting the jaw which was prevalent among workers in what trade during the 19th Century?
7. Founded by Sir Henry Wood in 1895, what were always held in Queen's Hall, London until it was bombed on 10th May 1941?
8. In Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, what was written on the label of the Mad Hatter's Hat?
9. Cast in Bronze and suspended from a plain crimson ribbon, what is it?
10. Samuel Taylor Coleridge was interrupted by the arrival of "a person on business from Porlock" and so never got beyond line 54 of what poem in 1797?

So there we are then – that's it. Just time for a quick plug for Twickenham Beer Festival (a NO SMOKING event from this year) at York House, Twickenham from Thursday 20th to Saturday 22nd October. See you there?

Andy Pirson



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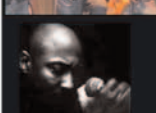
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IDLE MOMENTS

AUGUST'S ANSWERS

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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 29 is the Maximum Possible Score for a Crib Hand
2. 2000 Pounds in a Short Ton
3. 18 Holes on a Golf Course
4. 646 Members of Parliament in the House of Commons
5. 1 For the Money
6. 92220 Evening Star (British Railways' Last Steam Locomotive)
7. 168 Prime Numbers Under 1000
8. 1957 Launch of Sputnik One
9. 6 Points on a King David's Star (or more correctly Shield)
10. 0141 Dialling Code for Glasgow

BREWERY ANAGRAMS:

1. WIFE FLED OX BERRY - FOXFIELD BREWERY
2. CON NO LAND - OLD CANNON
3. LOP HIND - DOLPHIN
4. ROWS WITH BADGER - SAWBRIDGEWORTH
5. BE BY LABELS - ABBEY BELLS
6. HEED BRIAN - HEBRIDEAN
7. NEWS LOT - WELTONS
8. SHY BUS - BUSHY'S
9. HE'D HACK WINTER - WICKED HATHERN
10. HAIL FAX - HALIFAX

SBY4:

1. Starling – Sturnus vulgaris
2. Robin – Erithacus rubecula
3. Kestrel – Falco tinnunculus
4. Little owl – Athene noctua
5. Magpie – Pica pica
6. Corncrake – Crex crex
7. Mute swan – Cygnus olor
8. House sparrow – Passer domesticus
9. Wren – Troglodytes Troglodytes
10. Great tit – Parus major

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. The character Bibendum is more commonly known as the Michelin man.
2. There are seven red stripes on the United States flag - and six white ones, making the total of thirteen altogether.
3. According to Jeremy Clarkson (on Top Gear) the European country with the tallest population is The Netherlands. No, I can't verify that he was telling the truth.
4. As I said last month, plenty of RAF pilots travel at supersonic speeds, but Andy Green is special because he did so on land - as the driver of Richard Noble's Thrust SSC.
5. The name of the comet that was hit by JPL's probe Deep Impact on 4th July is Tempel 1.
6. And the initials JPL stand for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.
7. Designed by Sir John Fowler and Benjamin Baker and formally completed by the Prince of Wales on 4th March 1890 - we are talking about The Forth Railway Bridge.
8. For all you Avengers fans, did you remember that John Steed's assistant, Tara King drove an AC 428?
9. And, of course, Tara King's predecessor as Steed's assistant was Emma Peel, played by Diana Rigg.
10. Finally, the jazz club proprietor who once said of it, "Even the mice eat next door," could only have been Ronnie Scott.

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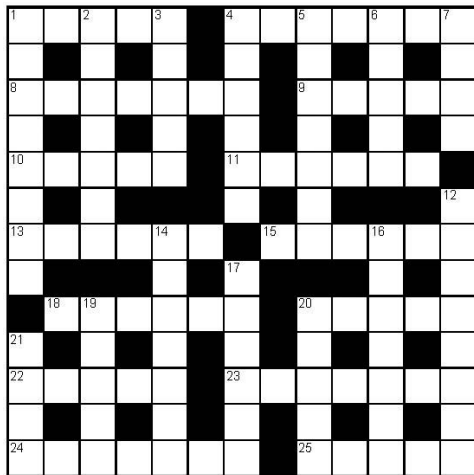
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LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

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All correct entries received by first post on 30th November will be entered into a draw for the prize. Prize winner will be announced in the February London Drinker.

The solution will be given in the December edition.

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

SOLUTION TO AUGUST'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Performs quiet songs. [5]
4. Gallant and largely right to have drink. [7]
8. Studying the town. [7]
9. Its good to water the barley. [5]
10. Nimble soldier gets in the beer. [5]
11. Sweat caused by worn halter. [6]
13. Wellington's foot? [6]
15. Man I defame without hesitation. [6]
18. Stealing arrowhead in a war zone. [6]
20. Yet it produces booze. [5]
22. Rumour involving leading broker's board. [5]
23. Welcome supporter with food. [7]
24. Extremely dirty, unpleasant family. [7]
25. Doctor struck off for fancy work. [5]

DOWN

1. Can be carried and may be drunk round back of bar. [8]
2. It's wonderful to have a mother with vitality. [7]
3. Introduction of sparkling diamonds creates interest. [5]
4. Treat man to a drink. [6]
5. Representatives, say, in lock-in. [7]
6. To behead the main robber is mad. [5]
7. Help the worker. [4]
12. It's wrong when grown on the Orient Line. [8]
14. Book of analgesics? [7]
16. A large drink for the lady? [7]
17. Ban crafty drinker. [6]
19. Flier introducing witchcraft to the Navy. [5]
20. Scotsman is up the mountain. [5]
21. Mainly read about the boss. [4]

Winner of the prize for the June Crossword:
David McHugh, London SW1

Other correct entries were received from:

Christine A, Tony Alpe, Pat Andrews, Hilary Ayling, Geoff B, Steve Block, John Blundell, James Blundell, Mark Broadhead, Ben Burfutt, Louisa Candy, Kyle Casey, Chris Fran & a spotted dog, J.G.Clark, C.Creasey, Brian Collins, Paul Curson, Jack Diamond, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Mike Farrelly, Arthur Fox-Ache, Dudley Freeman, Marion Goodall, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Alan Greer, Stuart Guthrie & Arsen Sakwax, Tarnya Haigh, Peter Haines, John Heath, Alison Henley, Kevin Henriques, Graham Hill, William Hill, Sheerluck Holmes, Mrs.P.Johnson, W.A.Johnson, Tom Kemp, P.Kerrigan, M.J.Lloyd, David Lopatis, S.P.Maloney, Marcus of Guildford, K.I.May, M.J.Moran, Stuart Moulton, Al Mountain, Mick Norman, Alf O'Coyle, Phil Park & Ros, Jeanette Powell, Rod Prince, Derek Pryce, Trefor Roach, Richard Rogers, Geoff S, D.Shaftoe, Bryan Smith, Lesley Smith, Eileen Stone, Nick Stone, Adrian Swall, Ken Taylor, Bill Thackray, John Vallintine, Tony Watkins, Martin Weedon.

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tea

"noun, a hot drink made by infusing the dried, crushed leaves of the tea plant in boiling water."
(Oxford English Dictionary)

TEA

"A pale brown best bitter with both malt & hops prominent in the nose. These carry through into a well rounded bitter flavour balanced by fruit & some sweetness. Hoppy bitterness grows in the aftertaste."

(Good Beer Guide)

Good Taste...



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