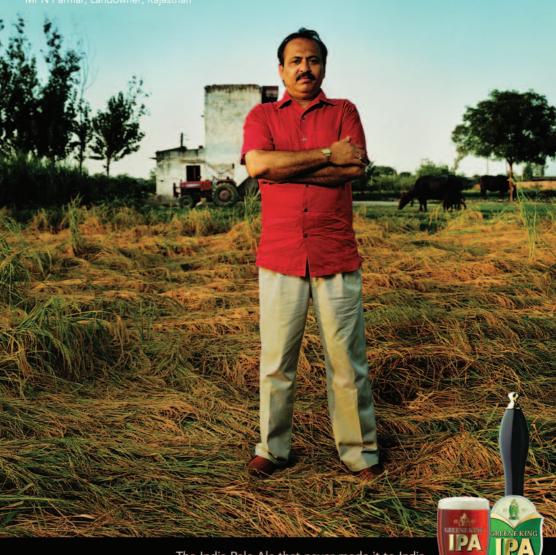


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London Drinker is published by Mike Hammersley on behalf of the London Branches of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale Limited, and edited by Geoff Strawbridge.

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

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#### What's in a name?

Recently it was asked why CAMRA were so critical of given their Greene King, commitment to real ale, when the international giants like Coors do not care about real ale at all. I have an answer to this; it is because they take over and close regional breweries. This leads to a loss of local beer styles and brewing heritage as well as restricting consumer choice. They do, of course, usually continue to produce the beers of those breweries but this is in itself a problem. It is one that has been covered in this magazine several times but I do not apologise for raising it again, especially as there have been recent variations on this theme.

I am not singling out Greene King; the same applies to any company who does this. I believe that it is misleading for breweries to market beers which they produce themselves at their own premises using the names of breweries that they have taken over and closed down. It creates the impression that these breweries still exist and that customers are being offered a choice - a guest beer even - which they simply are not. It also creates a false impression of the health of the regional brewery sector. Some of my colleagues who feel strongly about this issue use the terms *false* branding or even passing off to describe this practice. I would not go as far as that but I would ask those involved to show respect to their customers with a little transparency. I am not saying that they should not use the names – the names are legally theirs and I acknowledge that quite often a lot of genuine effort has been put into matching the new versions of the beers. What however is wrong with the likes of Ruddles County or Morlands Old Speckled Hen having a simple note such as 'A Greene King Beer' on their pump-clip? Their brewing staff themselves might even be proud of their products and appreciative of the acknowledgement.

When this subject was last debated at a CAMRA national conference, the issue became confused over quality. argument is not that these replacement or copy beers are automatically going to be of poor quality. They will, of course, be different because that is the nature of the brewing process, but they may be perfectly acceptable products. They simply are not the products that they were when they came from their original homes and should not be presented to customers as such.

This situation of course recently raised its head in London with Fuller's purchase of George Gale and Young's change to their brewing arrangement. There have been complaints of favouritism by CAMRA in that we criticised Fuller's for taking over Gales but supported Young's. I can see a distinction. There was in fact no criticism of Fuller's for the take-

#### **Editorial**

over itself; if it wasn't them, it would have been someone else. probably less to our liking. What we hoped was that Fuller's would continue to brew at Horndean. Disappointingly, that was not possible. Fuller's are continuing to use the Gales brand name and have made it clear to their publicans (sorry: I refuse to call them 'designated whatevers') that they must not use pump-clips Horndean. mentioning enough but not enough; why can't the pump-clips just say 'A Fuller's Beer'?

As for Young's, this was not a take-over; the company simply changed the arrangements for the supply of their beer. It is still beer from a Young's-owned brewery that is being served in Young's pubs, even if the beer is not quite the same. Indeed, as a result of the deal, there are now more Young's pubs in which to drink it. It cannot be denied that important brewing heritage was lost in the process here too but, if this was the price of keeping

Young's as an independent company, then perhaps it was a price that had to be paid. At least it was Young's themselves who made the decision about their own heritage.

That said, I hope that when the Wells & Young's Brewing Company start selling their newly-acquired Courage brands, the Wells & Young's name appears on the pump-clips.

Tony Hedger



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#### Smoking ban latest

The ban gets closer. CAMRA has conducted a survey which, promisingly, has revealed that the 6.2 million people (17% of all adults in England and Wales) who visit pubs regularly are likely to visit pubs more often. Of that group 97% were non-smokers. 840,000 people who currently never go to a pub are likely to do so after the smoking ban. Added to the figure for people who currently visit regularly, that is a total of 7,040,000 people who will visit pubs more often.

Furthermore, 68% of regular smokers say it will not change their pub visiting habits at all whilst only 3% said they would not visit pubs at all as a result of the ban. Smokers, apparently, are typically lager drinkers (43% of lager drinkers said they smoke, by contrast with only 25% of real ale drinkers).

CAMRA Chief Executive Mike Benner said: "The smoking ban will be a difficult transition for licensees, but it is encouraging that only 3% of people surveyed by CAMRA said they would not visit pubs at all as a result of the ban. The key will be to ensure that other factors such as quality of real ale, food, atmosphere and welcome are all superb. If this is the case then the traditional community pub will have a bright and healthy future."

Most importantly, Government has finally released its definitions of 'enclosed' and 'semi-enclosed' spaces. A space is enclosed if it has a ceiling and a roof and, except for doors, windows or passageways, is wholly enclosed, whether on a permanent or temporary basis. A space is substantially enclosed if it has a ceiling or a roof but there are permanent openings in the walls which are less than half of the total area of the walls. account can be taken of openings in which doors, windows or other fittings can be open or shut. This is called the 50% rule. Tents and marquees will also be classified as enclosed premises. There; now you know. One interesting point is that a retractable awning is still a roof if it covers a substantially enclosed space, whether it is open or closed. I suspect that we will hear more on this subject.

As regards penalties, pubs can be fined up to £2,500 for allowing smoking on their premises whilst individual offenders can be fined up to £50. For publicans who are worried about those who smoke out of sight, a firm called Radal Technology has come up with the Cig-Arrete alarm. This is triggered by tobacco smoke and emits a voice message warning smokers that it is against the law. I am still open to suggestions as to what will happen to all the ash trays.

#### Wells & Young's Brewery news

espite being owned by the two parent pub companies, it sounds as if the Brewery Company intends having a life of its own. As well as acquiring the Courage brands, they have invested just over £1 million in Bombardier's sponsorship of the ITV programme, Al Murray's Happy Hour. W&YBC's director, managing McNally, rather pointedly said that the deal was better value than Greene King's sponsorship of Ant & Dec's Saturday Takeaway. W&YBC are also looking to change their marketing strategy for their Red Stripe lager brand, planning to have it available in every live music venue in the UK over the next two years.

#### News from Fuller's

Fuller's have announced signature of a three-year agreement for London Pride to be the official beer of the Flora London Marathon from 2007. Fuller's Beer Company managing director, John Roberts, said: "I am delighted to be announcing this deal. The Marathon is an icon of our capital city and, as London's

brewer, it is highly appropriate that we should be supporting it. The Fuller's business is all about pride and passion, and the Marathon is a perfect reflection of these values". The agreement with the Flora London Marathon gives London Pride official beer status and the rights to use the Flora London Marathon logo on point of sale and advertising material.



Race director David Bedford said: "London's favourite ale and London's favourite race are all about passion, quality and dedication to achieving perfection. The Flora London Marathon has been a great fund raiser throughout the years, and much of that money has been raised in pubs - which is another reason why I'm delighted to be linking up with Fuller's. While we wouldn't necessarily recommend a beer as part of the Marathon runner's training regime, London Pride is certainly the best thing with which to celebrate your achievement."

#### News from Young's

Young & Co have announced that James Young, their Deputy Chairman and son of the late John Young, will be retiring on 31st March 2007. Mr Young has worked for the company for over 30 years and has been on the board since 1984. I am sure that all *London Drinker* readers join

# **News round-up**

Young's chairman, Chris Sandland, in wishing James a long and happy retirement.

Chief Executive Stephen Goodyear meanwhile is looking to end speculation over company's future. In response to stories about a takeover, he said:-"I've no idea where this came from but we have no intention of selling the business. What came out of the article in auestion was that the family is still involved and remains a major shareholder. Thev are committed to the business and are supportive of our strategy of taking the company forward."

In a gesture towards responsible drinking, Youngs are ending sales of 'ready-to-drink' products – what used to be called alcopops.

#### New beer award

CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain award has a rival. Cask Marque, in association with the Morning Advertiser and the Daily Telegraph, have launched the Best of British Beer Awards. Certain Cask Marque pubs will be designated 'polling stations' and, during the period 17 to 25 March, drinkers will be able to vote in those pubs by using promotional beermats. The country will be divided into 11 regions and each regional winner will go forward to a final in London. The final judging will be made by regional representatives in a blind tasting. In that respect at least, it reflects the final stage of CAMRA's competition. There is a fee of £35 for pubs that want to take part. Look out for more details in the Telegraph.

### News from the pub

The Massive Pub Company, which runs the Tup chain amongst others, has announced that all of its outlets will be

smoke-free by April whilst Admiral Taverns, in what looks like a move towards increasing food sales come the smoking ban, have appointed Sam Peddar as its first Head of Food. Ms Peddar joins AT from the coffee-shop chain Coffee Republic where she developed their 'deli' concept. Her remit is to boost profit margins by revamping pub menus.

Pub chains may be looking to expand food operations generally but they need to take care. In an initiviative called 'Scores on the Doors', the Food Standards Agency is proposing that the results of Environmental Health inspections will be displayed on signs by the entrance of the pub. Details are currently being agreed with local authorities and it is intended to carry out a pilot programme in the Spring. All London borough councils will be involved in the pilot. This has not gone down well with the trade.



### **News round-up**

The Chief Executive of the Federation of Licensed Victuallers Associations said:- "licensees take it for granted that EHOs will always find at least one thing wrong to justify their job."

Michael Cannon who has previously bought and sold J A Devenish, Morrells and the Magic Pub Company, has now sold the Dorchester-based Eldridge Pope chain to Marstons (Wolverhampton & Dudley as Mr Cannon paid £82 million for EP just over two years ago and sold it for a reported £155 million. Marstons will be keeping most of pubs. They have also acquired a further 33 pubs in the East Midlands from Sovereign Inns.

Regent Inns, the Walkabout and Jongleurs chain, after a general slow-down in the six months to the end of December, had a strong festive season with sales rising 3.4% in the last six

weeks of the period. The fall-off in trade was attributed to poor early evening sales since the change to the licensing laws.

# New initiative on binge drinking

he Portman Group, which deals with the social affairs of number of the major and international national breweries, has set up a new campaign called the Drinkaware Trust to promote responsible It is contributing £6 million over three years and hopes that a similar amount will come from other drinks industry sources. Alcohol campaigners have however pointed out that this is not a lot when compared to the £110 million that each company spends on advertising each year. The Portman Group's response to this was that there was nothing wrong with their members spending what they do on advertising as long as they did it responsibly.

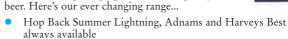
Meanwhile, the Publican newspaper has come to the fore in the campaign against cheap beer sales by supermarkets. In an open letter to supermarket chief executives. editor Caroline Nodder said:- "the on-trade has faced hugh criticism and pressure from government and media in recent years as a result of the controversy surrounding bingedrinking. Some of the criticism was fair and the pub trade has done a lot to get its house in order with, for example, all members of the British Beer & Pub Association, which accounts for two-thirds of Britain's pubs, signing ир organisation's voluntary code on promotions in 2005. But there is growing concern that the pub efforts sector's being undermined by off-trade pricing and promotions."

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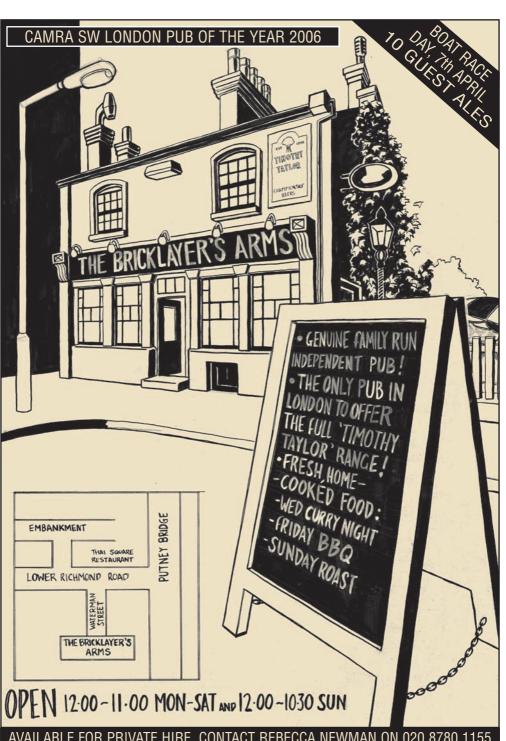
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### **News round-up**

"And worst of all, there is increasing evidence that young drinkers are taking advantage of your cheap prices and drinking excessively at home or on the streets before they go to the pub, where the publican must deal with their subsequent drunkenness and often take the blame for it from the authorities."

Well said, I think. Very much in line with CAMRA's stance.

#### News from SIBA

n their annual report on the brewing industry, SIBA, the Society of Independent Brewers, has complained of 'corporate inertia' on the part of pub companies who are not making the most of their opportunities to locally-brewed SIBA's research shows that six out of ten pub customers want a locally-brewed beer in their pub and, despite the success enjoyed Admiral Taverns Enterprise Inns in using SIBA's Direct Delivery Scheme, sadly no other pubcos seem interested. SIBA's Chairman, Keith Bott, said:- "Local is coming and it is going to affect everyone. There are opportunities for retailers here and now, waiting to be exploited".

#### Glasses ban proposal

Although the ban that was proposed for Glasgow last year was defeated, the idea is by no means dead. Julie Morgan, the MP for Cardiff North, has put down an Early Day Motion in the House of Commons which urges all local authorities to impose the mandatory use of plastic glasses and bottles in licensed premises after 11pm. The motion has attracted 33 signatures so far. I

have to say that I am not sure how this arrangement would operate.

More practical in my opinion is for the licensing authorities to use the powers that they already have and were given for this purpose in the Licensing Act 2003. For example, a pub in Brighton was shut down over Christmas following a mass brawl in which three door staff were injured. Amongst the conditions subsequently imposed to permit the pub to reopen was that no drinks could be served in glass after 6pm. They also had to get rid of their pool table.

#### Budweiser wins again

we have not had one of these recently. The latest skirmish in the battle of the names was fought over Portugal. Anheuser-Busch lost their claim to exclusive rights to the name in the Portuguese Supreme Court and they appealed to the European Court of Human Rights which ruled in favour of the Czechs. The legal action had been going since 1981. Well played, the lawyers.

There has however been a remarkable development. Ouite amazingly, given 100 years of bad feeling, AB is going to become the official importer and distributor of Budyar in the United States. The beer will continue to be brewed in the Czech Republic and will be marketed as 'Czechvar'. President and Chief Executive of Anheuser-Busch, the wonderfully -named August A Busch IV, (a family brewery?) said: "After years of differences, this is a meaningful step for two great brewers to form a relationship that is good for both of our businesses".

Mind you, this may not last. The Publican (22 February) reports rumours from Brazil of a merger between A-B and InBev. Both companies so far have simply said that they do comment on market speculation.

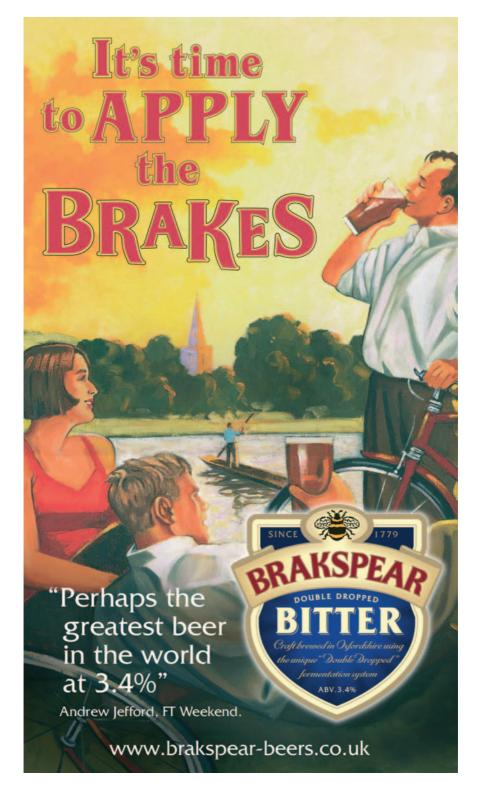
#### Chucking out time

■ ore useful information from Mthe Morning Advertiser's legal column. Can licensees still use force to eject someone from their pubs? Unlike the 1964 Act, the 2003 Licencing Act is, as the lawyers say, silent on the issue. However, there is a provision now that it is an offence not to leave licensed premises when asked to do so by a responsible person without good reason and, if the responsible person calls the police, the police are actually obliged to assist in the removal of the person concerned from the The recommended premises. practice is for the police officer to ask the publican to repeat the request and, if the person being requested to leave again refuses to do so, reasonable force becomes an option. I of course hope that no London Drinker readers will ever be in this position.

#### The Circle is unbroken

have come across the name of the Durden Park Beer Circle several times but I have never known much about them, apart from their being a highly-respected group of home brewers. I am pleased to say that I have received a press release which tells me more. The group, whose original activity was research, production and appreciation of old British bers from around 1840 to 1914, meets monthly in

Letters and articles for publication in London Drinker may now be submitted online at www.londondrinker.org.uk



# **News round-up**

Perivale, North-West London. Michael Jackson said of them: "the work of these hobbyists recaptures flavours that we beerlovers thought had gone forever. To sample their brews is to taste history: agricultural, industrial, economic, social and gastronomic". For more information, take a look at their website:

www.durdenpark beer.org.uk.

#### And finally...

n American electronics student has developed a

fridge with a built-in catapult that that throw you a can of beer from a distance of 10 feet. It can hold 10 cans in its magazine with 14 in reserve.

The Nakahara Liquor company of Hokkaido, Japan, have developed 'bilk' - a drink that is 30% milk and 70% beer. The concept behind it is to use up surplus milk and boost dairy farming. Sorry, but it sounds absolutely disgusting.

In Holland however, a pet shop owner has developed a beer

for dogs. The non-alcoholic brew is made from beef extract and malt and is called 'Kwispelbier', kwispel being Dutch for a wagging tail. It sounds better than 'bilk'...

The logo for this year's Battersea Beer Festival picked up on the ...007 theme but I think that we have to concede the point to Wigan Beer Festival, whose event this year is subtitled 'the pie who loved me'.

Tony Hedger

#### **Across the Commons**

The new CAMRA Guide to pubs in Barnes, Roehampton, Putney, Wimbledon and Raynes Park, priced £2, is now available from three independent bookshops:

Bookshop, 375 Upper Richmond Road West, East Sheen The Barnes Bookshop, 60 Church Road, Barnes Wimbledon Books Ltd, 40 High Street, Wimbledon Village



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#### Alarm over pub closures

As this issue of *London Drinker* goes to press, the Prudential is closing down the Radnor Arms in Kensington to clear the way for flats. Ahead of CAMRA's Community Pubs Week in February, figures collated from CAMRA branches nationwide suggested that a staggering 56 pubs a month are lost forever, and 1,300 pubs were currently closed with an uncertain future. Of pubs permanently lost, 80 per cent are in urban areas.

High demand for housing often means city and town residents have to watch their community pub ripped from them to make space for another soulless development. Many pubs are also being converted to restaurants, shops and offices. CAMRA believes pubs are a unique sector and therefore should be placed in a separate Use Class from other retail businesses.

Currently there is a legal loophole which allows developers to demolish pubs without the need for planning permission. CAMRA is lobbying MPs in an effort to have this loophole closed and is also calling for all new large housing developments to include provisions for a pub.

For London, the past 3 years' Capital Pubcheck updates detail known pub closures as follows:

2004: 165 lost of which 71 have been recorded as

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converted to other uses including flats, shops, offices etc, 29 demolished and 65 closed and boarded up and mostly in the hands of property speculators awaiting their fate (generally subsequently converted or demolished for residential use once planning permission has been obtained).

2005: 142 lost of which 45 converted, 30 demolished and 67 closed awaiting fate

2006: 203 lost of which 54 converted, 30 demolished and 119 closed.

Losses have generally been traditional pubs, often dating from the 19th and early 20th Century and all across the Capital. The losses are driven largely by high property values for alternative uses, particularly residential, rather than lack of patronage. Pubs are often deliberately run down by owners, (now mainly pub companies backed by foreign banks, rather than breweries), who see pubs as assets to be realised, and wish to avoid campaigns by customers to keep them open as community facilities.

The general pattern is that pubs in central locations and suburban high streets go for shops, offices and restaurants, pubs in inner residential areas go for flats and pubs in outer London on large sites (with gardens, car parks etc) go for blocks of apartments or, if on main roads, for fast food outlets.

Historic West End pubs that have closed in recent months include in W1 the Lyric Tavern and Red Lion in Windmill St and the Intrepid Fox in Wardour St, Soho; the Black Lion & French Horn in Pollen St, Duke of Albemarle in Stafford St and Grosvenor Arms in Grosvenor St, Mayfair; the Cambridge in Newman St, Fitzrovia; the Beehive in Crawford St and the Barley Mow in Dorset St, Marylebone; in WC1 Holborn the Bull & Mouth, Friend at Hand and Prince Albert; and in WC2 Covent Garden the Globe Tavern, Kembles Head and Marquis of Granby.

There are however signs that some councils are waking up to the pace of erosion of our community heritage. On 9 February, Wandsworth Council rejected a bid to turn a historic Roehampton pub into flats. The Grade II listed King's Head was first used as a public house in 1721, its building dating back to the 1670s and thought to be the oldest in the borough, excluding churches. The proposal would have seen the it divided up into four flats with a further three provided through alterations and extensions to adjoining buildings and seven more built over its garden area. Deputy planning applications chairman Piers McCausland said, "The scheme fails on almost every count. The design bears no relation to the neighbouring properties in Roehampton Village while the plan to build on the pub's garden would take away a large outdoor space. The flats would ruin the setting of the garden, the listed building and the conservation area and do nothing to



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#### **Pub closures**

further the Council's objectives for regenerating this local centre."

In Merton, on 1 March, the planning committee decided unanimously to refuse a change of use to the Prince of Wales in Western Road, despite the pub having been closed since August 2003. Grounds for refusal were that the application had failed to meet the requirements of Merton's Policy L16 (Protection of Public Houses) and Policy L15 (Community The committee found that the Facilities). requirement of Policy L16 overrode the industrial zoning of the area. This may be the first time that Policy L16 has successfully been cited as the ground for refusal of a pub closure in Merton. committee also found that token offers of a 'fag end' of a lease did not absolve the applicant of the duty to show that he had also sought a freehold buyer. The

current condition of the premises did not remove this obligation. The position of the pub in a regeneration zone and the fact that it was the only pub in the ward carried great weight. All three councillors of the ward were present at the planning meeting.

Three weeks earlier, Merton had also rejected proposals to demolish and replace the King of Denmark on the Ridgway in the Commons conservation area, though the application has since gone to appeal.

In all three cases, objections had been lodged by CAMRA as well as from the local communities.

Statistics from Capital Pubcheck on London pub openings and closures since 1999 are available at www.londondrinker.org.uk

# New pub guide shows disastrous demolition of pub heritage in NW1 and NW5

The North London Branch of CAMRA is calling for an end to the destructive policies that have annihilated pubs in Camden and Euston. Surveying over the last 6 months for a new local pub guide, the Branch was dismayed to find that the area had lost a quarter of its pubs in the last decade. Of the pubs lost, 49% had been converted to residential use, 10% had been demolished and 17% changed to offices or restaurants. The west part of NW5 has been hit the hardest, losing almost 60% or its pubs.

John Cryne, the Branch Chairman, said "If we carry on losing pubs at this rate, there won't be any left in 20 years. Too many pub owners have taken a fast buck and sold them for residential use or even demolished them to replace with commercial premises. Pubs are the heart of the community and we can never replace these. We found this out whilst surveying for a guide to the real ale pubs in NW5 and NW1. I must say it was a great shock to see the decline. We are calling on people to lobby their MPs to campaign against the loss of valued community pubs and to support the Sustainable Communities Private Members Bill. This will give local government (and thus local people) a greater say in how central government money is spent locally".

"We still have some cracking pubs left in these two postal districts, covering all sorts of tastes and interests and plenty of history. Try the Camden Arms in Randolph Street which was the site of the last fatal duel, which has resulted in a ghost in residence, or the Globe Tavern in Marylebone Road, built in 1753, where the first ever omnibus service used to stop. We have a duty to ensure that this pub heritage is kept alive for the next generation".

The Camden and Euston guide lists over 70 pubs selling real ale. Thanks to support from Wells & Young's, this pocket sized full colour guide is selling for only £2.00. The guide was launched on Tuesday 6 March in the Somerstown Coffee House, Chalton Street NW1, itself a pub with plenty of history. The name dates back to the early 1700s when this site did host a coffee house, but the current pub was probably rebuilt in the 1930s. It is now a Charles Wells house. Ales on tap at the launch were Eagle IPA, Bombardier and Young's Bitter.



John Cryne, left, Mike Andrews from Wells & Young's and Steve Williams, CAMRA London Regional Director toast the success of the new guide.



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Kids (11 and under) one
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£25 each. Camping £20 per
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Book online or by post
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Line up subject to change

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www.rhythmfestival.net

## **Sustainable Communities**

ocal Works, the coalition organisation for the Sustainable Communities Bill, has been campaigning on it for over 3 years. Over 80 national organisations have joined the coalition including Friends of the Earth, Transport 2000, CAMRA, Age Concern and the National Federation of Retail Newsagents. The Bill can be found at http://www.publications.parliame nt.uk/pa/cm200203/cmbills/071 /2003071.htm It will enable local communities to drive government policy from the bottom up. It is based on the philosophy that local communities are the experts on their local problems, as well as the solutions to them - not civil servants in Whitehall. Under this Bill, communities could force the government to take measures to communities make more sustainable.

It is a crucial time for the campaign. The Bill has already entered Parliament, it passed through its second reading on 19 January unopposed and could be law as early as June this year. It has massive cross-party support from over 400 MPs, as well as 20.000 individuals and over 1000 local and parish councils. Despite this, the government is still not convinced about the need for this Bill and could block it when it goes before Parliament again in April. So, this is crunch time.

The campaign is holding a rally on Monday 26 March from 7 to 9pm at the Methodist Central Hall, Storey's Gate, Westminister (3 minutes from

Westminster tube station). Speakers include David Cameron and Sir Menzies Campbell, and Ruth Kelly, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, has been invited. The more people who can attend this meeting, the better!



# THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BILL RALLY

HOW COUNCILS AND COMMUNITIES CAN BE EMPOWERED TO:

SAVE OUR SHOPS

SAVE OUR POST OFFICES

SAVE OUR PUBS

SAVE OUR COMMUNITIES

SAVE OUR PLANET

#### MONDAY 26TH MARCH 2007

7.00pm - 9.00pm

METHODIST CENTRAL HALL, STOREY'S GATE, WESTMINSTER (3 minutes from Westminster tube station)

The Rt Hon David Cameron MP Leader of the Conservative Party

The Rt Hon Sir Menzies Campbell OBE MP Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party

INVITED — The Rt Hon Ruth Kelly MP — INVITED
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Tony Juniper Executive Director: Friends of

the Earth Ruth Bond

Chair of Public Affairs: National Federation of Women's Institutes

Hugh Lanning Deputy General Secretary: PCSU Jean Lambert London's Green Party MEP

Andy Furey Assistant Secretary: Communication Workers Union

Kate Hoey MP Chair: Countryside Alliance/ All Party Post Offices Group

ALL THE CANDIDATES FOR DEPUTY LEADERSHIP OF THE LABOUR PARTY HAVE BEEN INVITED





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# LONDON DRINKER



Selection of Imported Beers Food all sessions

Camden Centre, Bidborough St, WC1H 9DB (Nearest tube Kings Cross) Wednesday 28th March Thursday 29th March Friday 30th March 12 - 3 5 - 10.30pm 12 - 3 5 - 10.30pm

12 - 10.30pm

Admission free Wednesday & Thursday lunchtimes, £3 at other times, £1.50 for CAMRA members. Last admission 10 pm

Organisers reserve the right to refuse admission

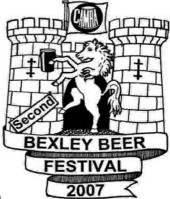








# SECOND BEXLEY BEER -FESTIVAL



12-14 April 2007

Sidcup Sports Club Crescent Farm, Sydney Road, Sidcup DA14 6RA

# 60 Beers & Ciders

Souvenir glasses, snacks, entertainment

Updates available nearer the date on www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

#### Admission:

Thursday 12 April 6pm-11pm £1, CAMRA members free Friday 13 April 11am-5pm £1, CAMRA members free

5pm-11pm £2, CAMRA members £1
Saturday 14 April 11am-11pm £2, CAMRA members £1

CAMPAIGN

All rights of admission reserved



#### AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!







CAMRA West Middlesex Branch is pleased to announce that this year, for the very first time, the 18th "Ealing Beer Festival" will be held under canvas.

Located at the huge ex-Barclays Banks Sports ground just North of Ealing Broadway station, W5 in Park View Road (not far from The Wheatsheaf in Haven Lane).

#### 16th-19th May 2007

with 120 Cask Beers, Ciders & Perries, draught & bottled foreign beers, Real Ale in Bottles, Fruit Wines and Mead.

Pub games will be available and interesting stalls will stock a wide range of merchandise. Children's Area. Loads of space and plenty of seating.

Open from 12am to 11pm on 16th May, 11am to 11pm on 17th & 18th May and 11am until 10pm on 19th May.

A wide range of hot and cold foods will be available at all times.

Volunteer help required between 12th and 21st May, extra benefits for those helping during setup and takedown. Camping facilities available by prior booking.

Further details from Graham Harrison on +44 (0) 7971 547738 Or Brian Pipe on +44 (0) 7736 118448.

www.beeronbroadway.org.uk or www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Please see the website for admission prices, policies, maps, beer & other lists, details of stalls, other facilities and lots of other further details.

# 15th Catford Beer Festival 6th - 9th June 2007

Broadway Theatre, Catford SE6 4RU

Opening times: Wed: 5 - 11pm

Thurs - Sat: Noon - 11pm



# Plenty of beer at chilly Battersea

There were no complaints about warm beer this year as snow fell for the South West London Branch annual beer festival at the Grand Hall, Battersea Arts Centre. Between Wednesday 7 and Friday 9 February, 4,336 admissions to the festival were recorded, understandably slightly fewer than last year but with the result that there were still 37 cask ales available at the close. Sadly, the increased cider and perry order did not last the course, and so more again next time!

Clear winner as Beer of the Festival was Bazens Pacific Bitter, with two stronger beers, Leyden Crowning Glory and Downton Dark Delight in silver and bronze positions.

South West London Pub of the Year, announced on the Thursday afternoon on completion of branch members' secret ballot, was the Bricklayer's Arms, Putney, with the Trafalgar in South Wimbledon in second place and the Sultan third. The Mayor of Wandsworth was pleased to announce his local as the winner and warmly congratulate licensee Becky Newman on her achievement; two weeks later he visited her inaugural Yorkshire Beer Festival. Also present for the announcements was the Deputy Mayor of Merton; he may look forward to beer festivals at the Sultan and the Trafalgar in the autumn.



Staff at the Battersea Dogs & Cats Home manned a stand in the foyer in the evenings. On the Wednesday afternoon, a local tabby took up residence. She was finally escorted from the festival hall at 9pm, purring all the way.

The organising committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make the festival a success, especially the staff volunteers. Comments returned with the Beer of the Festival forms were once again appreciated. They may be read on the branch website: www.swlcamra.org.uk



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# BEER FESTIVAL

April 13th-15th 11am-11pm with 20 real ales and bar BBQ every day

- ◆ Fabulous beer garden
  - ◆ Wheelchair access

Main line trains: Strawberry Hill (5 mins walk) Underground: Twickenham (10 mins walk) Buses: R70, 281, 267 from Twickenham

Look forward to seeing you!

### **Award for the Baring**

s part of Community Pubs Week, CAMRA A North London Branch awarded its Pub of the Season award to the Baring, 55 Baring St, N1, a community focused local that supports local organisations, sponsors a local kids football team and has its own cricket team. They have a longterm plan to use the pub as a training base whereby local, out of work people can be offered the opportunity to work in a public house environment with catering. It is not quite Jamie Oliver, but you get the idea. They will be trained in the whole aspect of the business, not just how to pull pints!

Following an appalling and insensitive refurbishment, which led to locals deserting it, the pub was closed for a while and it was feared it would be yet another loss in Islington, which has seen the closure of over 30% of its pubs in 10 years. Instead the new owners have flipped it back to its roots, albeit with some up to date touches,



especially on the dining front.

The pub is run by Matt Wark and Emily Bagley who are seen accepting their award here from Branch Chairman John Cryne (right).

#### Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty voted Pub of the Year

Watford & District branch are delighted to announce that the Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty in Heronsgate has been voted branch Pub of the Year for the second year running. The branch would like to congratulate Martin. Gill and all their staff and to thank them for their efforts in making

the pub a beacon for quality real ale and CAMRA campaigning in southwest Hertfordshire.

The pub will now go forward to the Hertfordshire Pub of the Year competition, which Hopefully that feat will be last vear it won. repeated this year.

#### THE LAND OF LIBERTY, PEACE AND PLENTY **FREEHOUSE**

CAMRA Hertfordshire Pub of the Year!

#### **EASTER Beer Festival !!!** 5th - 9th April 20 plus ales over Weekend Including local and unusual beers

Real Cider & Perry always available Check website for full

details and other events



- Gourmet Food Night 1<sup>st</sup> Wed monthly
- · Free soft drinks for drivers of 3 + beer drinkers
- Over-sized lined glasses
- Indoor & outdoor games
- Large beer garden
- No under 14s in bar

#### Real Ales, Real Food and a Real Welcome in a Real Pub!

See www.landoflibertypub.com or call us for further details

#### The Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty

Long Lane, Heronsgate, Hertfordshire, WD3 5BS 01923 282226 R4 Bus Direct from Watford and Rickmansworth 2/3 mile M25 Junction 17, Follow sign to Heronsgate; 1 mile Chorleywood station 3 MINUTES WALK FROM THE NORTH END OF LONDON BRIDGE ...

66 The oldest small pub in the City of London 99

# THE BELL

29 Bush Lane, London EC4

Five cask ales always available including Deuchars IPA, Spitfire, Young's Bitter, Courage Best and a rotating guest beer

AND 3 MINUTES WALK FROM THE SOUTH END OF LONDON BRIDGE ...

# THE WHEATSHEAF

6 Stoney Street, London SE1

A full range of Young's cask and bottled ales and the occasional guest beer

Winner of 2004-05 Young's beer quality and cellar management competition

6 6 Boasts the best atmosphere of any of the Borough Market pubs 9 9

THE RED CAR PUB COMPANY

# **Regional Inventory**

### Regional Inventory pubs in paintings

Readers of London Drinker will be familiar with articles on London Regional Inventory pubs illustrated with photographs, but here is something different. On 21 February a painting was unveiled at the Royal Oak, Tabard Street, SE1. It shows the interior of the pub and was recently purchased for the pub. The artist is Mick Smee whose main subjects are the interiors of cafés and pubs both at home and abroad. The painting of the Royal Oak is called 'Respite at the Royal Oak' and won third prize in the Singer and Friedlander/Sunday Times Watercolour Competition at the Mall Galleries, London in 2005.

Mick was born in Chelmsford, Essex and studied at Colchester School of Art in the early 1960s. On leaving, he joined Birmingham Repertory Theatre as Scenic Artist and Designer and then, from 1967, he joined the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. During his time there he had his first London exhibition in 1968 at B. H. Corner Gallery. Later he joined the design department at Thames TV but continued to paint and exhibit. In 1974 he left Thames TV and became freelance, working on films and commissioned works. It was at this time that he moved to Tolleshunt D'Arcy with his young family. In 1978 Mick returned to his old art school in Colchester as a lecturer in drawing and painting.

Having left full-time teaching in 1996, he continued to teach part-time on the BA Hons Fine Art Degree course. He was invited to show at the Maldon Millennium Exhibition and also designed the stained-glass Millennium Window in St. Nicholas's Church, Tolleshunt D'Arcy. Since July 2004 Mick has been painting full-time and continues to exhibit his paintings in both solo and joint exhibitions.

It transpires that several of Mick's other paintings are of pub interiors which are on the Regional Inventory, so let us revisit them through Mick's eyes. First up is the Barley Mow, Dorset Street,



Marylebone, Wl which is particularly poignant now as this National Inventory pub is closed. The painting shows the interior of the pub at an usually quiet time of day with one of the famous drinking boxes at one end. The picture also shows the whole of the bar counter and one pane of cut and etched glass. The composition is beautifully lit, showing both the sunlight coming through the front doors and windows and the lamps over the servery. The Inventory description of the pub mentions that it is divided into three separate areas and two unique drinking boxes. It also has good panelling.

Then we have another National Inventory pub, the Dog and Duck, Bateman Street, Soho, W1. This painting shows the beautiful ceramic wall tiles and the splendid advertising mirrors as well as the early example of a pot shelf over the bar. The contrasts between the woodwork, the shiny mirrors and the colourful tiles is magical. It is an intimate scene and evokes the compact feel of this historic pub. The Inventory description says that the pub was built in 1897 to designs by architect, Francis Chambers. It also mentions fact that the interior has a mixture of Victorian and inter-war work.

The picture of the Island Queen, Noel Road,



Islington, N1 shown here conveys excellently the sense of height in this pub and makes the servery the centre of attention. Mick has actually painted another picture of the pub as well, called 'Morning Light in the Island Queen'. The Inventory description notes the traces of an inner porch on the left-hand side, the cast-iron columns, the full-height timber and glass screens and the etched and cut glass signed 'R. Morris & Son, 239 Kennington Road. SE'.

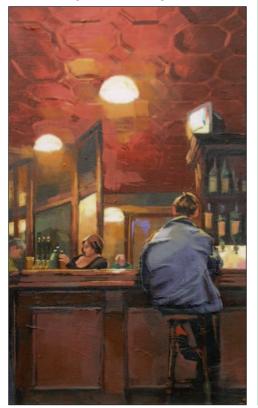
Next we have the French House, Dean Street, Soho, W1. This painting, entitled 'Back in the French', is shown from the back room of the pub, looking through to the front and showing wonderfully the reflective glass covering the framed

# **Regional Inventory**



memorabilia (photos, newscuttings, etc.) which adorn the pub. It also shows the fine linear front windows which are typical of the work of the architect, Alfred W. Blomfield. The Inventory description also mentions the low wall panelling in the small, single bar. Mick first frequented the pub in the '60s and the painting was produced in 1987, before the bar alterations - and Gaston Berlemont was still the landlord.

In Mick's picture of the Dolphin, Mare Street,



Hackney, E8 the focus is on the ceiling, the divisions between the areas and the plain bar counter. The atmosphere is one of calm – a refuge from the busy traffic outside. The Inventory description includes the magnificent wall tiling by W. B. Simpson and Sons, including blue and white tiles with pairs of birds and swirling Arabesque patterns and a tile panel depicting the legend of Arion who was saved from drowning by a dolphin.

Finally we have the famous National Inventory pub, the Princess Louise, High Holborn, WC1. The



painting emphasises the liveliness of the pub's highly decorative interior peopled by elegant customers. The Inventory description refers to the fact that the pub was remodelled in 1891 by the architect, Arthur Chitty. The description also mentions the wonderful wall tiles by W. B. Simpson and Sons, the sumptuous etched and gilded mirrors signed by R. Morris and Son of Kennington Road, and the magnificent gents' loos.

I hope that these wonderful paintings will encourage you to visit these special pubs. Mick Smee can be contacted on 01621 860240. He says if you're in Essex, visit the bar parlour at his local, the Queen's Head (a Gray and Son public house), Tolleshunt d'Arcy.

Jane Jephcote Chair, London Pubs Group

#### Dear Editor

#### All hands to the pumps!

What a delight was the inaugural beer festival held at the Bricklayer's Arms in Putney from 23 to 25 February. In view of the size of the pub I was really sceptical about where they would manage to serve more than 25 real ales from Yorkshire including their permanent range of all five Timothy Taylors' brews on handpump. Furthermore I wondered how they would also accommodate performances by the Majestic Brass band and the Hammersmith Morris Men. However they managed it all brilliantly. It really was a shining example of what a success a small local pub can achieve with all hands to the pumps and they were not even phased by a home football match at Fulham on the same Saturday.

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Telephone/Fax 01306 631729 Mobile 07779 245810 peter@hussey270.freeserve.co.uk The printed programme did however come with a flood warning for that weekend for drivers who might consider parking their cars nearby on the street down by the river. I believe that in the past one regular visitor did experience the water level up to the dashboard on his car whilst filling up with beer in the pub. At least he didn't have to worry about the diligent parking wardens in the area or drinking and driving after that. And I think that it would have been beyond the call to request the bar staff to exchange handpumps for bilge pumps although I suspect that they would have readily tried to oblige if they had been asked, judging by their community spirit.

I and many others thoroughly enjoyed the occasion, for which a very big thank you to Becky and all of her willing team for their passion, commitment and humour throughout the entire long weekend. It was also a pleasure to observe Peter Eells, the head brewer of Timothy Taylors, in attendance on the Saturday chatting to all and sundry. I understand that he has been a tremendous support to the Bricklayer's Arms in helping to make it the unique free-house that it now is (apart from its being the only pub in London with the entire range of Timothy Taylors' beers, I understand that nowhere else in the country is there another freehouse that permanently has the entire range of Timothy Taylors beers on handpumps.). I look forward to the next beer festival there on Boat Race day (and I will be heeding flood warnings!) but in the meantime I will be more than sated by regular tipples of Timothy Taylors' Golden Best and Dark Mild - only at the Bricklayer's Arms!

Tony Bell London SW6

#### Dear Editor

Being a Fairport Convention fanatic I was interested to read Colin Price's letter about Dave Swarbrick in the Feb/March issue.

Readers might like to know that, far from being dead, Dave has indeed made a remarkable recovery and recently had a superb new album released, accompanied by the great folk guitarist and singer, Martin Carthy.

Dave's legendary friends, Fairport Convention also have a new album out in their fortieth year. ('Fairly successful in the 1970s without making it big time' - PHHF!) I recently went to the launch party and was most amused to read in the press release that the Fairports have been affectionately dubbed 'the band that did for real ale what the Grateful Dead did for LSD'.

There's always a great real ale bar at their wonderful festival at Cropredy in August. Always loads of CAMRA members there!

Robin Forshaw-Wilson



# Young's

Decades of

brewing expertise

have gone into

making Young's Bitter

a favourite of those

who value great cask ale.

Available on discerning bars

across the capital -

you'll find the great pint

you've always

enjoyed



#### **Branch diaries**

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

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

#### LONDON REGIONAL EVENTS

April – Sat 28 (1pm followed by pub crawl from 4.30) Young Members Group mtg. Bromley Labour Club, HG Wells Centre, St Marks Rd, Bromley, BR2.

May – Wed 30 (8pm) London Liaison Committee (Regional coordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1.

Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk

#### LONDON PUBS GROUP

Jane Jephcote 020-7720 6327, jephcotej@hotmail.co.uk April – Wed 18 Evening crawl of NW3 Hampstead: (7pm) Horseshoe, 28 Heath St; (7.45) Holly Bush, 22 Holly Mount; (8.15) Flask, 14 Flask Walk; (9pm) Magdala, 2a South Hill Park; (9.30) Garden Gate, 14 South End Rd; (10pm) White Horse, 154 Fleet Rd.

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

Website www.londonpubsgroup.co.uk

#### BEXLEY

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

April – Thu 12-Sat 14 2nd Bexley Beer Festival, Sidcup Sports Club, see page 20. - Mon 23 (8.30) St George's Day social. Robin Hood & Little John, Lion Rd, Bexleyheath.

May – Wed 9 (8.30) Mtg and Mild Month social. Robin Hood & Little John.

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

#### **CROYDON & SUTTON**

Michael Fairweather 07905 611978, 0203 039 0379 (H), April – Tue 10 (8.30) Social. Cricketers, 47 Shirley Rd, (On A215 opposite Bingham Rd). - Tue 24 (8.30) Mtg. Dog & Bull (upstairs) 24-25 Surrey St, Croydon. - Sat 28 Pub walk led by London Pub Walks author Bob Steel; meet Clapham Junction plat 5/6 10.40am. Zone 2-6 Travelcard required.

May – Thu 10 Pub crawl: (8.30) Plough, The Broadway, Croydon Rd; (9.30) Harvest Home, 27 Beddington La, (Off A232 on B272). - Thu 31 (8.30) Mtg. Windsor Castle (cottage room) 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton.

Contact Michael Fairweather mob: 07905 611 978 hm: 0203 039 0379 Website: Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

#### EAST LONDON & CITY

John Pardoe 07757 772564, elacbranch@yahoo.co.uk
April – Tue 10 (8pm) Mtg. Peacock, 41 Minories EC3. - Sat 14
Visit to Maldon Beer festival and Mighty Oak Brewery
(awaiting confirmation from John Price); contact branch for
details. - Mon 23 St George's Day EC1 social: (8pm) Old
Fountain, 3 Baldwin St, then Artillery Arms, Bunhill Row and
more pubs in Whitecross St; contact for exact location on
night.

May – Tue 8 (8pm) Branch AGM. Crosse Keys, 9 Gracechurch St, EC3. - Fri 18 Mild Month EC1 social: (8pm) Ye Old Mitre, 1 Ely Ct, moving on to Crown Tavern, 43 Clerkenwell Green and ending Harlequin, 27 Arlington Way.

Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

#### **ENFIELD & BARNET**

Sandie Ward 020-8884 0075 (H), Branch Mobile 07757 710008 April - Tue 3 (9pm) Non-smoking social Alfred Herring 316-322 Green Lanes, Palmers Green, N13 - Wed 11 EN4 Three pub social: (8.30) Kings Head, 1 Cat Hill; (9.15) Cat & Lantern, 243 East Barnet Rd; (10pm) Prince of Wales, 2 Church Hill Rd. - Tue 17 (9pm) Social. Woodman, 128 Bourne Hill, N13. - Thu 26 EN5 Three pub social. (8.30) Weaver, 27 Greenhill Parade; (9.15) Queens Arms, Great North Rd; (10pm) Old Red Lion, Underhill, Great North Rd. May - Wed 2 (9pm) Mild Social. Orange Tree, Highfield Rd, Winchmore Hill N21. - Thu 10 N12 North Finchley two pub social: (8.30) Tally Ho, 749 High Rd; (9.30) Elephant Inn, 283 Ballards La. - Thu 17 (9pm) Mild social. Beehive, 24 Little Bury St, Edmonton N9. - Tue 22 EN5 High Barnet two pub social: (8.30) Old Monken Holt, 193 High St; (9.30) White Lion, 50 St. Albans Rd. - Thu 31 (9pm) London Drinker pick up and social. Old Wheatsheaf, 3 Windmill Hill, Enfield EN2. Website: www.camra-enfield-and-barnet.org.uk

#### KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor 020-8949 2099 (H), 020-8540 1901 (W), clive@paylor2005.wanadoo.co.uk

April - Tue 3 (8.15) Mtg. Star, Cheam Rd, Ewell. - Thu 12 Kingston curry evening: (7pm) Owl & Pussycat, then (8pm) to restaurant across road. - Sat 14 (12 noon) Surrey liaison meeting. Willoughby Arms, Kingston. - Sun 29 Afternoon walk around Weybridge: (1pm) meet Hand & Spear (near rail station), then British Volunteer and pubs towards river.

May - Thu 3 (8.15) Mtg. Green Man, High St, Ewell. - Wed 16 Evening crawl of Hook: (8pm) Royal Oak, Ewell Rd, then Maypole, Cap in Hand and North Star. - Sun 20 Train trip to Cider Farm at Firle. Travel via Lewes to Glynde/Berwick. Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk

#### NORTH LONDON

Social contact: Steve Ducker 07910 151494, steve.ducker@yahoo.co.uk; Branch contact: John Cryne 020-8452 6965, john.cryne@uk.pwc.com

April - Tue 3 NW5 Social: (8pm) Pineapple, 51 Leverton St; Junction Tavern, 101 Fortess Rd. - Tue 10 NW1 Primrose Hill social: (8pm) Princess Of Wales, 22 Chalcot Rd; Engineer, 65 Gloucester Ave; Lansdowne, 90 Gloucester Ave. - Tue 17 New Members social. (8pm) Euston Flyer, 83 Euston Rd NW1. -Tue 24 NW1 Euston social: (8pm) Bree Louise, 69 Cobourg St; Prince Arthur, 80-82 Eversholt St. Doric Arch, 1 Eversholt St. May - Tue 1 (8pm) Mtg. Maynard, 70 Park Rd N8. - Tue 8 (8pm) Mild Month social. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd N1. - Tue 15 WC1 Mild Month social: (7pm) Penderels Oak, 283-288 High Holborn; Cittie of Yorke, 22 High Holborn; Rugby Tavern, 19 Great James St; Calthorpe Arms, 252 Grays Inn Rd.. - Tue 22 N5 Social: (8pm) Bank of Friendship, 224 Blackstock Rd; Woodbine, 215 Blackstock Rd. - Tue 29 N1 Social: (8pm) Narrow Boat, 119 St Peters St; Island Queen, 87 Noel Rd; Charles Lamb, 19 Elia St. Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

#### **RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW**

Brian Kirton 020-8384 7284 (H), sk014j4253@blueyonder.co.uk April – Thu 5 Hounslow social crawl: (8pm) Shannon's, 32 High St; (9pm) Moon Under Water, 84 High St; (10.15) Cross Lances 236 Hanworth Rd. - Thu 12 (8pm) Mtg. Jolly Gardeners, 36 Lower Richmond Rd, Mortlake. - Fri 13 (8pm) Beer festival social. Prince of Wales, 136 Hampton Rd, Twickenham. - Thu 26 (7pm) New and young members' night. Twickenham Brewery, Ryecroft Works, Edwin Rd, Twickenham. Free beer and award presentation.

May – Sat 5 Social visit to Reading Beer Festival. Meet on 10 36am from Richmond. - Thu 10 (8pm) Branch AGM. Roebuck, 72 Hampton Rd, Hampton Hill. Buffet provided. - Tue 15 (8pm) Social. Winning Post, Chertsey Rd, Whitton. - Sat 19

Beer festival workers' outing to Arkell's brewery etc; details to follow. - Thu 24 (8.30) Future social events planning meeting. Roebuck, Richmond Hill.

Website: www.camra.org.uk/richmond

#### SOUTH EAST LONDON

Richard Martin 020-8464 1866,

richard.martin23@ntlworld.com

On the day of the event only, ring 07775 973760

April – Mon 2 (8pm) Cttee mtg/social. Dog & Bell, 116 Prince St, SE8. - Thu 5 (8pm) Pub of the Year presentation. Red Lion, 10 North Rd, Bromley BR1. - Tue 10 SE1 Borough crawl: (8pm) Old Kings Head, Kings Head Yard, 45-49 Borough High St; St Christopher's Inn, 121 Borough High St; Wheatsheaf, 6 Stoney St, Market Porter, 9 Stoney St; Rake, 14 Winchester Walk. - Tue 17 SE26 Sydenham crawl: (8pm) Dolphin, 121 Sydenham Rd; Golden Lion, 116 Sydenham Rd; Windmill, 125 Kirkdale; Bricklayer's Arms, 189 Dartmouth Rd. - Tue 24 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning mtg. Gowlett, 62 Gowlett Rd, SE15.

May – Tue 1 (8pm) Cttee mtg. Two Doves, 37 Oakley Rd, Bromley Common, BR2. - Sat 19 SE10 Greenwich crawl: (12 noon) Plume of Feathers, 19 Park Vista; Admiral Hardy, 7 College Approach; Richard I (Tolleys), 52 Royal Hill; Greenwich Union, 56 Royal Hill. - Mon 21 Lewisham Walking Festival Pubs & Parks crawl from Sydenham to Crofton Park. More details on website nearer the date. - Wed 23 (8pm) Catford Beer Festival planning mtg. Ashburnham Arms, 25 Ashburnham Gro. - Sun 27 (6pm) Lewisham Walking Festival Pub crawl from Catford to Forest Hill. More details on website nearer the date.

Website: www.selcamra.org.uk

#### SOUTH WEST ESSEX

Andrew Clifton 01708 765150 (H), swessex@clara.co.uk April - Thu 5 (7pm) Out of Area social. Royal Oak, 44 Tabard St, Borough SE1. - Wed 11 (8pm at Beer Festival) Social. Maldon Beer Festival, Town Hall, Market Hill, Maldon; contact Graham Platt 020-8220 0215 for transport from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster and Thurrock (for more details see www. dengiecamra. org.uk/Festival.htm). - Sat 14 (11.30 at Brewery) Trip to Dark Star, Moonhill Farm, Burgess Hill Rd, Ansty, Haywards Heath, East Sussex; contact Graham Platt for transport from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster and Thurrock. - Tue 17 (8.30) Social. JJ Moons, 48/52 High St (A124), Hornchurch. - Thu 26 (8pm) Out of Area social. Pembury Tavern, 90 Amhurst Rd, Hackney E8. May - Tue 1 (8.30) Social. Eva Hart, 1128 High Rd (A118: junction with Station Rd, A1112)), Chadwell Heath. - Wed 16 Brentwood social: (8.30) Victoria Arms, 50 Ongar Rd (A128); (10pm) Rising Sun, 144 Ongar Rd. - Tue 22 (8pm) Social. Colchester Beer Festival (for more details see www. colchestercamra .org.uk/colchester\_2007\_ festival .htm). - Sat 26 (12 noon at Brewery) Trip to Wolf Brewery, Rookery Farm, Silver St, Besthorpe, Attleborough, Norfolk; contact Graham Platt for transport from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster and Thurrock. - Thu 31 (8.30), Social. Theobald Arms, 141 Argent St/King's Walk, Grays. Website: www.swessex.clara.net

#### SOUTH WEST LONDON

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

April – Mon 2 (7.30) Mtg. Bread & Roses, 68 Clapham Manor St, SW4. - Mon 30 (from 7pm) Pub of the Year presentation. Bricklayer's Arms, 32 Waterman St, Putney SW15.
May – Wed 9 (7.30) Mtg then (8pm) Branch AGM, King's Arms, 96 Wandsworth High St, SW18. - Thu 24 (7pm) Mild Month social. Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8.

Website: www.sulcamra.org.uk



#### WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104 (H) 07854 988152 (M) April – Tue 17 Bushey social: (8.30) Royal Oak, Sparrows Herne; (9.30) King Stag, Bournehall Rd; (10pm) Swan, Park Rd. - Tue 24, Watford High St social: (8.30) Moon Under Water; (9.15) One Bell; (10pm) One Crown. - Mon 30 (8.15) Mtg. Estcourt Arms, St. Johns Rd, Watford.

May – Wed 9: (8.30) Nascot Arms, Stamford Rd; (9.30) Southern Cross, Langley Rd. - Tue 22: (8.30) Black Horse, Dog Kennel La, Chorleywood; (9.45) Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty, Long La, Heronsgate. - Mon 21 (8.15) Mtg. Estcourt Arms, St. Johns Rd, Watford.

Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

#### WEST LONDON

Alasdair Boyd (Social secretary) 020-7930 9871 ext 143 (2.30-3.15/6pm-9.30 Mon-Fri), banqueting@nlc.org.uk Fax 020-7839 4768. Branch contact Kim Martin 07717 795284, kimberlymartin@yahoo.com

westlondoncamrabranch@hotmail.co.uk

April – Fri 6 (from 12 noon) Out of Branch social. 2nd Planet Thanet Beer Festival, Winter Gardens, Fort Cres, Margate. - Wed 11 (7.30, upstairs) Mtg. Carpenters Arms, 12 Seymour Pl. W1. Thu 12 (7.30 at Glasses stand) Social. Bexley Beer Festival, Sidcup Sports Club, see page 20. - Tue 17 (from 7pm) Beer festival social. Speaker, 46 Great Peter St, SW1. - Tue 24 (8pm) Social. Ship, 12 Gate St. - Thu 26 (7pm) Social. Paragon, 80/82 Chiswick High Rd, W4

May – Wed 16-Sat 19 Working socials on tombola at Ealing Beer Festival, see page 21. - Tue 22 (7.30, upstairs) Branch AGM (Membership cards required). Harp, 47 Chandos Pl, WC2.

Website: www.westlondon-camra.org.uk

#### WEST MIDDLESEX

David Bender 07734 509111, contact@westmiddx-camra.org.uk April – Fri 6 (7.30) Fox, Green La, Hanwell, W7. - Wed 11 (8.30) Mtg. Southall Conservative Club, Fairlawn, High St Southall, UB1.

May – Wed 16-Sat 19 Beer Festival, Barclays Sports Ground, see page 21. - Fri 1 June *London Drinker* pick up: (8.30) Magpie & Crown, High St, Brentford; (9.30) Fox, Green La, Hanwell.

Website: www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the June/July edition: 16th May 2007. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

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 welcome more M&B O'Neills pubs reverting to real ale across London and one other (ex-Firkin) converted to a real ale gastropub in SW11 Battersea. A rare new outlet for real ale has opened at Heathrow Airport Terminal 3. Two more 'gold brick' and historic Spirit Group pubs have closed and been sold in W1 Marylebone and W2 Paddington, with their future uncertain. A much loved Good Beer Guide community pub in W14 West Kensington has closed following expiry of lease and to aid potential development prospects. Campaigns continue to save pubs under threat in SE18 Woolwich and Harrow and a pub in E2 Bethnal Green has been refused planning permission by Tower Hamlets Council for demolition and replacement by flats, following lobbying by locals.

A new pub guide, Across the Commons', covering SW13, one pub in SW14, SW15, SW19 (part) and SW20 (including Barnes, Roehampton, Putney, Wimbledon

Village and Raynes Park), was published by CAMRA South West London Branch in February 2007. The guide updates the coverage of those districts in the comprehensive 1997 South West London Guide and Capital Pubcheck now includes cross references to it. Another new guide covering real ale pubs in NW1 and NW5 (Camden and Euston) has just been published by North London Branch in early March. Cross references to that one will commence from the next Update.

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: BM - Balham to Morden Pub Guide; BRP - Barnes to Raynes Park Pub Guide; 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, 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

EC3, SLUG & LETTUCE, 100 Fenchurch St. No real ale. Originally PARISA and part of a small chain opened c.'99/2000 but not previously reported. Believed acquired by SFI and renamed c. 2002, and acquired by Laurel in 2005.

W1(F), O'NEILLS, 4 Conway St. Fuller: London Pride. A welcome reinstatement of real ale in one of M&B's pseudo-Irish pubs. (W47)

W1(May), O'NEILLS, 7 Shepherd St. Fuller: London Pride. (W61)

W1(S), FRIENDLY SOCIETY, 79 Wardour St. No real ale. Free House/basement bar entered from side alley. WC2, O'NEILLS, 40 Great Queen St. Fuller: London Pride. (W36)

WC2, O'NEILLS, 14 New Row. Fuller: London Pride. (W36)

#### **EAST**

E2, DREAM BAGS JAGUAR SHOES, 34/36 Kingsland Rd. No real ale. Free House/bar opened by August 2006 in two former shop units. The name comes from the two shop names, thus saving on signage costs!

E2, HERBAL, 10-14 Kingsland Rd. No real ale. Free House/bar opened by August 2006 in former commercial premises.

E2, OLD SHOREDITCH STATION, 1 Kingsland Rd. No real ale. Free House/bar in former commercial premises, originally part of former station building on corner of Old St. Former station staircase still there en route to toilets. E2, SO BAR, 460 Hackney Rd. Reopened and renamed RAIZES. No real ale. Now a Free House/Brazilian bar

and restaurant. Formerly PICKLES, originally NORFOLK ARMS. (E83, U74, U156, U192)

E5, THREE SISTERS, 35 Queensdown Rd. Fuller: London Pride. (E101, U192)

E9, GENEVAS, 331 Wick Rd. Reopened and renamed SILVAR LINK on banner over old Genevas signage still present. No real ale. (E122, U136, U167, U187)

**E14, CHILIS BAR & GRILL**, Unit 2, Cabot Place East. No real ale. Free House/bar and restaurant not previously reported.

E15, WHEELERS, 156 Leyton Rd. Reopened after some building work. H remains unused. (E155, U168, U190)

E16, BEVERLEYS, Ground Floor, departure terminal (landside), City Airport, Royal Docks. No real ale. A Free House/bar.

E17, COACH & HORSES, 63 St James St. Reopened under new management. No real ale. (E166, U106, U168, U188)

E18, JETS, 77/79 George La. No real ale. Free House/bar in former wine bar and shop premises opened by 2005. Now renamed SWITCH and extended, full address now 77-81 George La.

#### **NORTH**

N5, WOODBINE, 215 Blackstock Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Taylor: Landlord. Real ale installed after refurbishment. (N79, U184, U188)

N16, BASE BAR, 186 Stoke Newington High St. No real ale. Free House/bar in former shop premises.

N16, MERCADO, 26-30 Stoke Newington Church St. No real ale. Free House/'bar and cantina' in former restaurant premises.

#### NORTH WEST

NW1, BRAZEN HEAD, 69 Lisson St. Greene King: IPA,

Old Speckled Hen. Now Punch, ex-Bass. Refurbished. (N162)

NW1, NO 1 BAR, 1 Edis St. Renamed QUEENS BAR. Courage: Best Bitter. Formerly QUEENS TAVERN. (N173)

NW1, QUEENS HEAD & ARTICHOKE, 30/32 Albany St. Adnams: Bitter; Marston: Pedigree. Now Punch, ex-Courage. (N173, U109, U184)

NW2, SHISH, 2-6 Station Parade. No real ale. Free House/bar in former restaurant premises.

NW10, MASONS ARMS, 665 Harrow Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Hook Norton: Old Hookey. Reinstatement of real ale. (N223, U152)

WEALDSTONE (HA3), HARE, Brookshill, Harrow Weald. Renamed BLUEBECKERS. No real ale. A bar and restaurant. Erroneously reported in W pub guide as converted to restaurant. Reinstate on pub database. (W237)

#### SOUTH EAST

**SE1, HIDE (THE)**, 39-45 Bermondsey St. No real ale. New Free House/bar on ground floor of offices. Sells Meantime Brewery keg and bottled beers.

SE3, O'NEILLS, 52 Tranquil Vale. Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; Taylor: Landlord. A welcome reinstatement of real ale. Formerly THREE TUNS. (SE49, U109, U142)

#### SOUTH WEST

SW4, ALEXANDRA, 14 Clapham Common South Side. Adnams: Bitter. Reinstatement of real ale. (SW59, U145, U176)

Name(s)

SW9, PLAN B, 418 Brixton Rd. No real ale. Free House/bar in former Wimpy restaurant.

SW11, O'NEILLS, 66A-66C Battersea Rise. Renamed GOAT. Draught Bass; Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; 2 changing guest beers (e.g. Brakspear, Highgate). Major refurbishment with upstairs no smoking at mezzanine level. Organic cider in summer. Address is now simply 66A. The former brewing area at 66B has been leased off as a shop unit with flat 66C above. Formerly FARADAY & FIRKIN. Sister pub to the Temperance in SW6 (ex-Pharaoh & Firkin) and again it's a shame that M&B did not take the opportunity to recreate a brewpub, given the paucity of these in London compared with the Continent and North America. (U126, U151, U155)

RICHMOND, O'NEILLS, 28/29 The Quadrant. Fuller: London Pride; Taylor: Landlord. (SW156)

#### WEST

HEATHROW AIRPORT (TW6), GARFUNKELS, Terminal 3 (Arrivals). No real ale. A Free House/bar and restaurant.

HEATHROW AIRPORT (TW6), THREE BELLS. Terminal 3 (Departures). Adnams: Bitter; Hall & Woodhouse: Flowers IPA. New Free House/bar selling real ale!

#### PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC3, WINE LODGE, Young, due to close on 22 March. Formerly CHAPMAN'S WINE LODGE. (E39, U73)

#### **APPLICATION TO JOIN CAMRA**

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

Address				CINA)
		Pos	stcode	— CAITIAIGH
Signature		Da	te	FOR REAL ALE
I/We enclose the remitts	ance for individual/jo	int membership.		
	Individual Annual	Joint Annual	Individual Life	Joint Life
UK and EEC	DD Non-DD £20 £22	DD Non-DD £25 £27	£360	£450
Rest of the World	£25 £27	£30 £32	£450	£540
Under age 26/Student	£11 £13	£14 £16	-	-
Unemployed/Disabled	£11 £13		-	-
Over 60	£11  £13	£14 £16	£198 🗌	£252
		45		

Send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to:

Membership Secretary, CAMRA Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

W1(Mar), BARLEY MOW, closed by Spirit Group and sold for £1.72 million to a private purchaser, future uncertain. Dates from 1791, grade II listed and on CAMRA's National Inventory. Part of a so-called 'gold brick' portfolio of pubs in the West End flogged off by Spirit to realise property value. Given the fate of other recent disposals by Punch (Spirit), this does not bode well for one of the oldest surviving pubs in Marylebone. (W50)

#### **EAST**

E2, BRITANNIA, ex-Watney, demolished. Was JUKE BOX for a while. (E79, U124)

E2, RAILWAY TAVERN, Free, H now removed. (E84, U75, U79)

E3, ANCIENT BRITON, ex-Bass, now demolished. (E87, U184)

**E3, BEEHIVE**, Enterprise, H removed. (E87, U157, U187, U191)

E3, MAR-I-TERRA, Free, no real ale. Formerly CROWN HOTEL. (E89, U155, U188)

E3, WENTWORTH ARMS, Wells, H unused despite recent facelift. (E93, U112)

E4, MOLLY K. Reverted to BULL & CROWN, ex-Taylor Walker, H unused. Previously SLUG & LETTUCE for a while. (E97, U73, U79, U80, U92, U166)

E5, KINGS HEAD, ex-Watney, now demolished. (E100, U161)

E8, EARL OF ZETLAND, ex-Whitbread, already reported as converted to B&B hotel, now closed and boarded up.

(E112, U83, U96)

E9, ALMA, ex-Whitbread, closed and believed being converted to residential use. (E119, U85)

E9, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, Enterprise, ex-Ascot, closed, derelict and fire damaged. (E120, U99)

E11, CROPPY ACRE, Free, now converted to cash & carry shop. Formerly HALFWAY HOUSE. (E128, U108, U109, U125, U130, U140, U157, U189)

E14, BUILDERS ARMS, ex-Courage, now demolished c. November 2006. (E143, U187)

E15, SPREAD EAGLE, ex-Bass, closed and boarded up. (E155)

E17, CENTRAL STATION, ex-Watney. Renamed EAST (THE), closed after fire. Formerly ARTFUL. (E165, U125)

E17, NEW ANGEL, Free, ex-Bass, closed and empty. Formerly FAT SIDS, FEAR, WILD ROVER and TAP, originally ESSEX BREWERY TAP. (E167, U105, U125, U153, U160)

E17, RISING SUN, ex-Bass, closed and building work ongoing. (E168)

E17, TRYST, ex-Taylor Walker, H removed. Formerly ROYAL STANDARD. (E168, U101, U157)

ILFORD, PLOUGH, ex-Bass, now converted to 'Redeemed Christian Church of God'. (X73, U181)

#### **NORTH**

N7, GLOBE, ex-Bass, now demolished. (N87, U178) N7, STUDY. Renamed HERBERT CHAPMAN, Faucet



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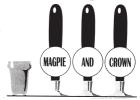


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Inns, H unused. Formerly HOBGOBLIN, originally PRINCE OF WALES. (N89, U120)

N9, ROSIES, Greene King. Now ROSIES (OF EDMONTON), H now removed. Formerly RAT & CARROT. (N100, U117, U158, U181)

N15, CONNAUGHT TAVERN, ex-Taylor Walker, now demolished. (N123, U186)

N15, ROSE & CROWN, Free, now demolished. (N125, U185)

N16, WOODMAN, ex-Whitbread, closed and being converted to residential use. (N131)

BARNET (EN5), BAR SQUARE, Enterprise, ex-Bass via Unique, closed. Formerly KING GEORGE. (N251, H19, 11177)

ENFIELD EAST (EN3), TURKEY, Punch, ex-Bass, no real ale. (N242, U186)

#### NORTH WEST

NW1, BLACK HORSE, ex-Watney, converted to flats. (N162)

NW1, CAMDEN ROCK CAFE, ex-Bass, converted to clothes shop. Formerly CAERNARVON CASTLE and FUSILIER & FIRKIN. (N166, U151, U164, U184, U192) NW1, HARMOOD ARMS, ex-Whitbread, confirmed now

converted to residential use. (N167, U168) NW1, VICTORY, 152 Albany St, Enterprise, converted to a restaurant. (N176, U184)

NW3, JACK STRAWS CASTLE, ex-Bass. Ground floor unit now converted to 'Jack and Lulu's', a 'fantastic, family friendly restaurant, play, party and activity' venue. Hardly the replacement 'pub' that was promised when planning permission was granted for the conversion of the remainder of the pub for residential use. Such is the weakness of the planning system. (W186, U167, U188)

NW5, ADMIRAL NAPIER, ex-Courage, now converted to flats. (N197, U119)

NW5, DREGHORN CASTLE, now converted to a shop with flats above. (N198, U154)

NW5, HIGHGATE. Renamed VINUM and now in more modern style. Free, no real ale. (U174)

NW5, MITRE, ex-Bass, converted to flats. (N199)

NW5, TALLY HO, Greene King, large prominent pub now demolished after permission granted for replacement by shops and flats. (N200, U117, U155, U174, U192)

NW7, RAILWAY ENGINEER, Spirit, ex-Taylor Walker, no real ale. (N209)

NW9, GLEN, ex-Truman. Left hand side converted to 'Waterfalls' Indian restaurant and right hand side continues as 'Ash Bar' night club with 'Shisha Lounge' annex. Delete from pub database. (N217, U153)

NW9, NEW CHANDOS, S&N Pub Enterprises, ex-Taylor Walker, no real ale. (N218)

HARROW (HA2), RAYNERS, Spirit, now closed. A campaign continues to try to save this classic 1930s pub on CAMRA's Regional Inventory. Originally RAYNERS HOTEL. (W155)

PINNER (HA5), HAND IN HAND, Laurel, converted to 'Prezzo' Italian restaurant. (W180)

WEMBLEY (HA9), OLD POST OFFICE, Barracuda, all six handpumps unused. (W221)

#### SOUTH EAST

SE7, ANTIGALLICAN, Free, H removed. Sold by former owner John McDonnell. Formerly McDONNELLS for a while. (SE72, U150)

SE9, OLD POST OFFICE, Wolves & Dudley (now Marston), no real ale. (U104, U159, U168, U178, U185) SE13, MARLOWES BAR, Wolves & Dudley (now Marston), closed. Formerly BROADWAY, originally

QUAGGY DUCK. (U160, U168, U178, U181)

SE18, DIRECTOR GENERAL, now Free, ex- Enterprise via Admiral Taverns, H unused. Locally listed pub acquired by Greenwich Council following planning permission granted to itself for a new civic offices and Tesco complex, which would require its demolition with a replacement 'pub' (but see NW3 Jack Straws Castle above) included in the development. A campaign is being led by SE London CAMRA to try to save the pub, which is currently still trading on a temporary basis. The application has been referred to the Government Office for London which, because of the scale of the development, must decide whether to call it in for government decision. (SE167, U193)

SE19, PUZZLE, Free (Puzzle Pub Co), closed, future uncertain. (U165)

#### SOUTH WEST

SW1(P), LORD BURLEIGH, Enterprise, ex-Inntrepreneur, closed, lease for sale. (SW41)

SW3, BLENHEIM, ex-Hall & Woodhouse, closed since 2003 and now converted by December 2006 to 'Tom's Kitchen', an upmarket restaurant. (SW55, U174)

SW10, FINBOROUGH ARMS, Enterprise, ex-Whitbread via Laurel, closed, future uncertain. (SW84, U172)

#### WEST

W2, FETTLER, another 'gold brick property' sold by Spirit to a private purchaser, this time for £1.9 million. Closed, future uncertain. Dates from 1841 with an arched carriage entrance to a mews at the side. Formerly FETTLER & FIRKIN and originally QUEENS RAILWAY TAVERN. (W72)

W14, RADNOR ARMS, Free, closed on 8 March after expiry of lease from owner Prudential, also owner of the former government offices behind. It is understood it wants eventually to redevelop the whole site for much needed luxury flats, subject to planning approval from Kensington & Chelsea Council, when the lease on the offices expires in five years' time. The sad loss of yet another genuine community local which was once Everards Brewery's only pub in London and has been a regular Good Beer Guide entry; indeed it is listed in the 2007 Guide. (W129)

GREENFORD (UB6), MYLLET ARMS, Perivale, Spirit, H removed. (W142)

### OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES CENTRAL

WC2, GEORGE, 213 Strand, +Twickenham beers. (W32, U191, U193)

#### **EAST**

E2, SEBRIGHT ARMS, Free, planning application for

# Capital Pubcheck - update 194

demolition and replacement by yet more apartments refused by Tower Hamlets Council following a petition from 173 objectors. The planning report read: 'The proposed demolition and loss of the public house is an unacceptable loss of an important community and social function for local residents.' Tower Hamlets are to be congratulated for taking such an enlightened, common sense view in the face of government pressures to maximise housing at the expense of community facilities. (E84, U131)

HAROLD WOOD, PALMS PIANO BAR, Hilton National Hotel, now simply PIANO BAR, Palms Hotel. (X65)

ROMFORD, BAR MANGO. Renamed CUSTOM HOUSE. Formerly CONNEX CAFÉ BAR. (X100, U167)

ROMFORD, BAR ME. Renamed PLACE (THE). Formerly HOGSHEAD. (X101, U183)

ROMFORD, LIFE. Renamed 131 LOUNGE & BAR. Formerly JAKS. (X101, U167)

WOODFORD GREEN, WOODFORD MOAT HOUSE. Renamed COUNTY HOTEL. (X132)

### NORTH

N1, SUSSEX. Renamed SCOLT HEAD, -beers listed; +Adnams: Broadside; +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA. (N58, U184, IS20)

N21, HALF MOON. Acquired by Wishing Well group from Barracuda. (N151, U145, U163)

### NORTH WEST

NW1, J D YOUNG SPORTSBAR. Renamed ESCAPE. Formerly RUSSELL ARMS. (N174, U141)

NW4, MIDLAND ARMS. Now MIDLAND HOTEL. Formerly HUNGRY HORSE and PICKLED NEWT (THE MIDLAND) for a while. Still sells Greene King IPA. (N195, U109, U117, U160, U163)

NW9, BLACKBIRDS. Renamed BLARNEY STONE. (N217)

### SOUTH EAST

SE1, GLOBE, 8 Bedale St. Now Peermans Pub Co, ex-Wessex Taverns. (SE18, U102, U108)

SE1, HOLE IN THE WALL, 5 Mepham St, +Twickenham beers. (SE21)

SE10, VANBURGH TAVERN. Now simply VANBURGH (SE103)

### SOUTH WEST

SW1(W), BARLEY MOW, +Twickenham beers. (SW47, U149, U169)

SW4, JOLLY GARDENERS. Free House now run by Conway Taverns. (SW60, U184)

SW11, PUZZLE. Renamed TAYBRIDGE. (U141)

### WEST

SOUTHALL (UB1), RED LION. Real ale not always available. (W188)

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FROM TUESDAY 29th MAY.

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FOOD ALL DAY EVERY DAY
BBQ FROM THURSDAY



### Capital Pubcheck - update 194

SOUTHALL (UB1), THREE HORSESHOES. Now run by Pubs 'N' Bars pub chain. (W188)

### **CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 193**

**NEW & REOPENED PUBS ETC** 

EC2. RIVINGTON GRILL. Is a Free House.

W1(S), BAR RUMBA. Delete entry, already in U191. E9, FOLLIES (now EMPRESS OF INDIA). Now Free, ex-Taylor Walker.

N16, BAR LORCA (BAGABON). Should read:

Reopened and reverted ....

SE18, SHIP. Is Free, ex-Inntrepreneur.

### PUBS CLOSED ETC

EC1. ONE OF 2. Should read EC2.

### OTHER CHANGES ETC

SW10, HOLLYWOOD ARMS. Formerly HOLLYWOOD for a while.

Letters and articles for publication in London Drinker may now be submitted online at www.londondrinker.org.uk

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# London for free: more pounds to spend on beer

### **Along the River**

n August 2001, Guardian Unlimited Travel published 'Suburban Hymn,' a delightful nine mile walk from Richmond to Twickenham, which is the basis of this article (see http://travel.guardian.co.uk/activities/walkingstory/0,,538478,00.html). Since the venues will be in Twickenham, ending in Richmond along the Thames, however you can arrive will be up to you, although the walk provides exercise as well as beauty and serenity along the river.

Twickenham is an adventure in and of itself. The famous Eel Pie Island looms mysteriously in the Thames, with a footbridge being the sole access to the visitor, unless you arrive by boat. Try to visit Twickenham on a day that the Twickenham Museum is open (25 The Embankment; open Tuesdays and Saturday, 11-3; Sundays, 2-4; 020-8408 0070) This free museum has historical information about Twickenham, Teddington and the Hamptons, as well as information about the famous residents of the area including poet Alexander Pope, artist J.M.W. Turner and the tea family, the Twinings. In addition, it has displays about ancient history in the area, preceding the Roman and Saxon residents, as well as more modern artefacts. One of the unique displays is of "Professor Cockles," an eccentric Thames diver, shown in photos; some of his unusual diving equipment is on display. A local pub, The Crown, is identified as the site of King George II's trysts with his mistress, Henrietta Howard. All in all, a small but informative museum.

Time for a beer, and a pub around the corner from the Twickenham Museum is awaiting you. As Twickenham is famed as an international rugby centre, the Eel Pie pub (9-11 Church St., Twickenham; 020-8891 1717) is full of rugby memorabilia, including framed rugby shirts of famous players. Originally, the site was a Chapel of Rest and mortuary for the nearby Church of St. Mary the Virgin, the church of Church Street; it became a greengrocer, then a wine bar, but has been reincarnated into a pub for the past 15 years. During international matches, as many as 6,000 pints of beer are served at this pub alone. A recent visit found a full array of Badger Brewery beers on draught such as King and Barnes Sussex Bitter and Tanglefoot. A good place to drink, in my opinion.

Before you walk to the next free museum, you might want to drop by the Church of St. Mary the Virgin. Among other items of interest, Alexander Pope is buried here, not far from his beloved home and famous grotto. Twining family members, too, are buried here, as this was their parish church for five generations.

On the way to Orleans House Gallery, stop and see "the naked ladies," marble statues in a walled

garden belonging to York House and put there by its last resident, Sir Ratan Tata. The water nymphs with their horses are worth a look; a beautiful garden is their setting.

Orleans House Gallery (Riverside, Twickenham; open April to September: Tues-Sat, 1-5.30; Sundays 2-5:30; 020-8831 6000) has 18th century interior design and special exhibitions, including some in the 19th century stable at the back of the grounds. Pick up a pamphlet, 'A Twinings Walk,' for information on the Twining family in the Twickenham area. It takes you to eight places associated with the famous tea magnates, who have spent time in this area from 1720 to the present. According to this pamphlet, the Gallery was 'the former home of James Johnson, Secretary of State for Scotland ... and of Louis Philippe, Duc d'Orleans...after whom it is named'. It's a nice diversion from your walk along the Thames Path.

To wrap up your day, it's time for another beer at a famous Young's pub in Richmond, across the river. The White Cross (Riverside, Richmond; 020-8940 6844) is even pictured in 'Young's Directory: A Guide to Young's Pubs', as it has often flooded. Check it out when it's above water, however. The pub has excellent views of the river both inside and out, with a front beer garden that is popular in good weather. The usual array of Young's beers is available. It's a comfortable pub, an excellent choice to end your day along the River Thames. So, weary with much walking and saturated with culture and information, head home from another day of 'London for Free'.

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### Lesbian and Gay Real Ale Drinkers' Events

A group of lesbian and gay members of the Campaign for Real Ale organising to extend the Campaign to the lesbian and gay community. All welcome to all events. Or visit our website at <a href="http://www.lagrad.org.uk">http://www.lagrad.org.uk</a>. The group convenor can be contacted on info@lagrad.org.uk

The GREATER LONDON GROUP meets at 7pm on the second Monday of every month alternating between a 'branch' meeting in the basement of the Half Way, 7 Duncannon Street, WC2 020 7930 8312 (even numbered months – Feb, April...) and a new members' social upstairs at Compton's, Old Compton Street (odd numbered months – Jan, Mar...) with London Pride and Greene King IPA at £1.50 a pint (on sale downstairs) – happy hour all evening. There are also other events elsewhere in Greater London between these meetings – see website for others' suggestions, or make your own!



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### **Community Pubs Week**

### **Community Pubs Week the Enfield & Barnet way**

n the first day of the 8 day week, Saturday 17 February, we embarked on a pub crawl entitled "to boldly go – to those we rarely ever get to!" The explanation is that the Enfield & Barnet branch covers 'as it says on the tin' the London Boroughs of Enfield and Barnet. The Barnet part has a natural divide between North Finchley, Whetstone and High Barnet on the east and Hendon, Mill Hill and Edgware on the west. The eastern part adjoins LB Enfield so that pubs in these areas are reasonably frequently visited. The western part is a different matter with only three bus routes linking through – the 221 at the southern part, the 251 the middle, and the 107 the north.



Members met at noon at the Adam & Eve in Mill Hill, some coming from the north on a 251 and a walk whilst others came from the south on a 221 and a walk. This pub's licensee has recently moved from the 2007 GBG-listed Rising Sun and was keen for us to visit her new undertaking. We were welcomed with Courage Best Bitter, Fuller's London Pride and Greene King Abbot. We then caught a 240 to Hendon where we quickly walked past the Irish themed pub, Claddagh Ring to the Chequers where, to much amusement of the regulars, we ordered halves of what turned out to be uninspiring Courage Best. Our taste buds were more impressed at our next pub, the Greyhound, for many years a GBG entry. In this Young's house we were able to sample Young's Bedford brewed Bitter ('Ordinary'). Special, Winter Warmer and Bombardier.

Then on to the White Bear where the only real ale available from three handpumps was Timothy Taylor's Landlord which had a mixed response from the group. Sadly we learned that real ale will soon be withdrawn from this pub. Further west to the Midland, a pub perched above the M1 in a cutting, where all four handpumps had Greene King IPA clips! Again the beer was uninspired. The group then moved on to the Edgware Road and visited a selection of pubs on the eastern side only, for the LB Barnet boundary is the middle of the road for much of its length.

On Thursday 22 the branch had a darts match versus a pub team from the **Orange Tree** in N21. This is very much a locals' pub although visitors are made very welcome. It has been the branch pub of the year on many occasions and a GBG entry for a number of years. Located very near the New River, it seems to be very much a back street local but is in fact only 150 yards from the busy Green Lanes and a large Sainsbury supermarket. It is best reached by the frequent 329 bus from Turnpike Lane to Enfield Town. And the darts match? We lost, but is was a close thing, honest! – a return match is called for, if only to sample more of their well kept ales which on that night were GK IPA and Ruddles County, and Elgood's Cambridge Bitter.

The branch finished the week on Saturday 24 with the Hertford Road (desert) Crawl – the sequel! Last October we had done a Saturday crawl along the Hertford Road from the southern boundary of the branch in N18, then north through N9 to EN3 at Ponders End, to find only three pubs with real ale: Wetherspoon's Gilpins Bell at the start (although ironically it was closed for a glycol 'extra cold' installation), their Picture Palace at the end and an ex 'spoons pub, the Lamb just off the route in Church Street. We visited over a dozen others to find them with no real ale ('NRA'), closed or even demolished. So we were not expecting much different this time on the northern part.



Starting in the Moon & Cross – yes, you've guessed it,-a Wetherspoon's, – at Waltham Cross which is in fact just outside our branch area (Herts

# WHAT'LL IT BE THEN?

A PINT OF THE USUAL, OR A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE?

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



### **Community Pubs Week**

& Essex branch), with a range of some eight cask ales available, we drank White Horse Dragon Hill. The next pub was reached by crossing the M25 over the roof of the currently being repaired tunnel. into our branch area at the Gun & Magpie. NRA here and so it was to be at the next eight pubs on or near the Hertford Road, three of which were closed. The



desert was certainly living up to its name, but an oasis came in sight in the form of the **Red Lion** where GK IPA and Old Speckled Hen and Adnams



Broadside were available. But duty called and we set off south again; of the next four, three NRA and one being decorated out as a furniture store! A diversion here down Green Street had another NRA in the Golden Hive but we scored at the White Horse with GK IPA and Ringwood Bitter. The licensee here was keen to promote the real thing.

A short bus ride took us to Ponders End where two NRAs and one boarded up were recorded. Our last port of call was the stalwart **Picture Palace** again, our final one of part 1.

Ron Andrews



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### A taste of Scotland

When you follow the path, how far are you allowed to stray from orthodoxy? When it comes to drinking draught beer in the UK, it's normally very plain – cask is best. But when you turn your attention to bottled beer, the path can be a bit more blurred. Undoubtedly, real ale in a bottle, as we are now getting used to call it, does, at its best, present a depth that non-bottled conditioned beers struggle to match.

But the competition is closer, as specialist producers have looked to brew bottled beers that, while not bottle conditioned, offer the drinker some intriguing alternatives. An example of such a beer is Innis and Gunn's Original Oak Aged Beer from Edinburgh.

The beer is subject to a 77-day maturation process which includes 30 days in "lightly toasted" American white oak barrels. The barrels come from Kentucky, are used only once, and impart vanilla, citrus and toffee flavours. They are held in a 'dunage' warehouse which is a type more associated with whisky production. Traditionally they have stone walls, an earth floor, casks stacked no more

than three-high and a damp atmosphere which some believe gives a better 'climate'

for malt production. And that's the plan for the beer.

After the oak casks there is a further 47 day maturation period spent in 'marrying tuns' to marry

flavours from different casks and the final beer is naturally carbonated, giving it a light effervescence. After all that, the 6.6% bottled beer should probably best be served in its own style of glass. This has a long stem and a bowl and looks not too dissimilar to a bolleke used for de Koninck.

So for Burns night back in January, there came a chance to sample the beer alongside some other tra-

ditional Scottish produce. I am a great fan of smoked salmon; I am a great fan of the produce of Loch Fyne from the west coast of Scotland. So Loch Fyne Bradan Orach really hits the spot.

The fish has a full, rich flavour; it is cured with sea salt and then smoked for 24 hours. The beer is pale brown in colour with amber overtones, a woody/oaky mouth feel, slightly sour with citrus and honey on the palate; dry notes on the after taste and warming in the finish. It has strong enough flavour to complement the salmon, helped by the sparkling effervescence, a slight champagne-type feel. It does not drink to its 6.6% and is better when slightly warmed up from fridge temperatures when you really pick up the vanilla and toffee flavours.

Next up, albeit on another day, was to have cheese as a starter – Howgate Kintyre Brie from the Inverloch Cheese Company, Campbeltown together with some oat cakes with cracked black pepper, from Tesco's Finest range. Made from full-fat Guernsey cows' milk, the cheese has a creamy, buttery taste. The sweetness/maltiness of the beer goes well, the warm aftertaste lingered, and the fruity.

oaky flavours matched the cheese. If anything this triple combination of cheese, oat cake and beer was a bigger hit than the Bradan Orach.

It is unlikely that most restaurants will be able to take bulky cask beer, so those of us of a beery persuasion have to

look to them to stock high quality bottled beers to complement their food. It is a challenge we have a right to set and it is very pleasing that the good producers of Edinburgh, with Innis and Gunn, have accepted the challenge and come up with a beer that would be totally at home in a restaurant setting.

John Cryne



Letters and articles for publication in London Drinker may now be submitted online at <a href="https://www.londondrinker.org.uk">www.londondrinker.org.uk</a>

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Saturday 5th May - BBQ from 12-6pm. Live music 9pm - 11.30pm 'Inside Edge'

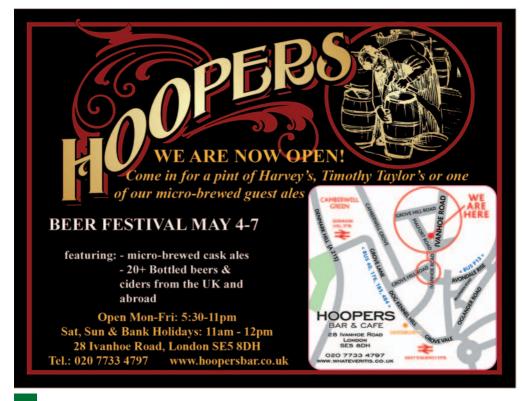
Sunday 6th May - BBQ and Carvery 12 - 4.30pm live music again

Monday 7th May - BBQ 12-4pm. 'Jam' Night 9 - 11pm

All musicians welcome. Charity raffle draw

Added bonus - Art Exhibition by local artist Vic Eve

A weekend to savour and enjoy!



### **Idle Moments**

### THE ANSWERS

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

### NUMBER PUZZLES:

- 1. 8 Bits in a Byte
- 2. 2 Daughters of Henry the Eighth
- 3. 5 Boroughs of New York
- 16 Pawns in a Game of Chess
- 5. 4 Funnels on the Mauritania
- 6. 15 White Pieces in a Game of Backgammon
- 7. 22 Yards Between the Wickets on a Cricket Pitch
  - . 12 Men have Walked on the Moon
- 9. 3 Number One Hits of the Big O (Roy Orbison)
- 10. 117 Miles of the M Twenty Five

### BREWERY ANAGRAMS:

- FAR SLACK RIB BLACKFRIARS
- 2. SHOUT OWEN TOWN HOUSE
- 3. SLOW ADD-ON WOODLANDS
- 4. FOLD PAPER APPLEFORD
- 5. BAG ASTERN BARNGATES
- SHREW MEAT WESTERHAM
- 7. FELL AN ANGLE FALLEN ANGEL
- 8. LOWER WASTE LOWESWATER
- 9. LONGER E.E.C. LEG COLLEGE GREEN
- 10. DRIVE SIRE RIVERSIDE

### 5BY4(1967 Number Ones):

- Puppet on a String Sandie Shaw
- 2. The Last Waltz Engelbert Humperdinck
- 3. Silence is Golden Tremeloes
- 4. I'm a Believer Monkees
- 5. Let the Heartaches Begin Long John Baldry
- 6. Baby, Now That I've Found You Foundations
- 7. A Whiter Shade of Pale Procol Harum
- 8. Hello Goodbye Beatles
- 9. This is my Song Petula Clark
- Massachusetts Bee Gees

### GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

- In England's successful Rugby Union World Cup campaign in 2003 their only player to be on the field for the every minute of every match was Lawrence Dallaglio.
- In 1956 the Grand National the winning horse which (coincidentally) had the same name as a well known real beer was called E.S.B.
- Syon House on the borders of Brentford and Isleworth is owned by the Duke of Northumberland.
- The title of Dennis Potter's TV drama serial of 1978 starring Bob Hoskins where the cast keep breaking into song and dance routines was Pennies From Heaven.
- The person described by Lady Caroline Lamb as "mad, bad and dangerous to know" was Lord Byron.
- Burlington House in London is often better known as the Royal Academy, the organisation which it houses.
- In motoring terms the abbreviation GTO (as in Ferrari etc) stands for Gran Turismo Omologato (or homologated for Grand Touring class racing).
- 8. The first Isle of Man motorcycle TT races were run in 1907 (Yup, it's centenary year).
- Graham Hill won his first Formula 1 World Championship in 1962 in a BRM.
- And finally, the first British F1 world champion was Mike Hawthorn. And if you are dead clever you will know that he did it in 1958, driving a Ferrari.

Come on down to the

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### **Idle Moments**

It is easier to love humanity as a whole than to love one's neighbour (Eric Hoffer 1902-1983).

Did you realise that by the time the next London Drinker comes out we shall have had four of this year's seven public holidays? No, I don't know why I just thought of that, either; let's get on with the number puzzles:

- 1. 1936 CPD by F
- 2. 5 D in a ZC
- 3. 600 F in a C
- 4. 275 ML in a HPB of B
- 5. 1 B of LS the RT
- 48 CS of the US
- 7. 1066 B of SB
- 8. 3 BM
- 9. 10 M in the SB for a YC
- 10. 1936 Y of the BO

And before we lose momentum (Too late? Oh well!) let's plough straight in to the brewery anagrams:

- GRIND BROTH
- 2. NO STOCK SPEAKER
- WILT REALM
- 4. BRA STARE
- 5. BUCK FOILS PEER
- DIE ON A TWIG
- 7. THAT SMEW
- 8. CHARTS DALE
- 9. HATTER'S VAN
- 10. MAD HAM GOON

Usually the hardest thing about 5BY4 is deciding the subject and this time was no exception. So I looked back over past 5BY4's (Did you realise I started it in March 1994?) and found that about 10 years ago I did one called "Beastly Beers" which all began with the letter B. This month the beers are "A bit beastly" – there's some birds in there as well. Do you know which of the brewers produces each beer?

- 1. Dog Daze
- 2. Fox
- 3. Gannet Mild
- 4. Ptarmigan
- 5. March Hare
- 6. Vixen's Vice7. Coyote Bitter
- 8. Iron Horse
- Slurping Stoat
   Azza Newt
- A. Exmoor
- B. Stumpy's
- C. Harviestoun
- D. Gribble E. Hepworth
- F. Earl Soham
- G. Burrington
- H. Digfield
- I. Alcazar
- J. Wolf

And so we come to the general knowledge bit. Shall I call it "Ten Trivial Tasks"? No I don't think I shall. Here are some questions – call them what you like?

- Built in 1936 and now known as the Beehive, this was the World's first circular airport terminal building. Which airport did it serve?
- 2. What is the particular characteristic of a painting that is called a tondo?
- 3. In Jerome K. Jerome's Three Men in a Boat what was the name of the dog?
- 4. And while we are on the subject of dogs, what is the name of Mr. Punch's?
- 5. You may know that Winston Churchill had a dog called Rufus - what breed was it (No, it was not a bulldog)?
- What event took place near Cheddington, Buckinghamshire on 8th August 1963?

- 7. Moving on to classical comedy radio, in the Goon Show a musical interlude was provided by Max Geldray - playing what instrument?
- 8. And still with the Goon Show, who was the announcer?
- And moving on to "I'm Sorry I haven't a Clue" the only original contestants still appearing are Graham Garden and Tim Brooke-Taylor. In the original programme (rebroadcast recently) who were the other two contestants?
- 10. And to finish off with, in Hancock's Half Hour (on the wireless) before Hattie Jacques, there were two other actors who played the female character in the stories. Who were they?

There, did you enjoy that lot? If not it's your own fault – you should have been out enjoying the spring weather. Answers and more annoyance next time (another sentence without a verb!).

Andy Pirson

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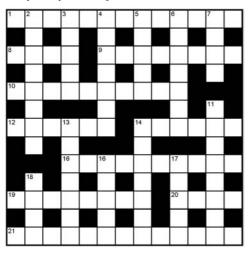
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- **◆** Fully guided walking

Contact Lynne or lan on 01278 732228

or email: drinker@realalewalks.co.uk www.realalewalks.co.uk

### Idle Moments

### Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



Name	
Address	

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

The solution will be given in the June edition.

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

### SOLUTION TO FEBRUARY'S CROSSWORD



### £20 PRIZE TO BE WON

### **ACROSS**

- The pill machine outside church [13]
- That woman? A goddess! [4]
- 9. It's wrong to turn scarlet in pain. [8]
- 10. Measure and test the girl's parent. [10]
- 12. Weeps about son's troubles. [6]
- 14. Send away old drink. [6]
- 15. River sample is polluted. [10]
- 19. Rats! He's always last. [4,4]
- 20. Once again without a profit. [4]
- 21. Groups of lawmen pursuing senior police officers to give information on theft. [13]

### **DOWN**

- Beginning to open flower. [8]
- March Frenchman into bunker. [5]
- "God's crowned with gold," put the writers.
- 5. Heart's aspiration to end of the world. [5]
- He represents pure rot. [4,3]
- 7. It's finished. Romeo lost his head. [4]
- 11. It's something new when Mali's capital's left burning. [8]
- 13. Saboteur finally brought in to incite hunt supporter. [7]
- 14. Spirit of German city extreme courage. [7]
- 16. They're beaten and drink in outer darkness. [5]
- 17. Badly dressed English cause massive upsets. [5]
- 18. Some orange tuile found in sewing box. [4]

Winner of the prize for the December Crossword: Mark Cook, St. Paul's Cray, Kent

Other correct entries were received from: The A Team, Julie Ackroyd, Tony Alpe, B.B. at the Pawsons, A.Bird, Chris Bird, Steve Block, Eddie Carr, Brendan Casey, John Cattemull, Chris Fran & a spotted dog, P.R.O.Colharum, Richard Conway, Charles Creasey, Kevin Creighton, Noel Cunnane, John Dodd, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Peter Dowt, Chris Ellis, Kathryn Everett, Arthur Foxache, B.Gleeson, Golly & Odman, Marion Goodall, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Alan Greer, John Heath, F.Hegarty, Kevin Henriques, Graham Hill, William Hill, Linda Jarvis, Claire Jenkins, Gan Jenkins, P.Kerrigan, Bill Linskey, David Lopatis, John McDonnell, Steve Maloney, K.I.May, M.J.Moran, Susan O'Sullivan, Nigel Parsons, Derek Pryce, John

Redwood, Richard Rogers, Jack Shonfield, Bryan Smith, Ken Taylor, Bill Thackray, Thamesmeado, Trevor Turner, Martin Weedon, Janet Wight, John Williamson, David

Woodward.



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