

Vol 32
No 1



Feb
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2010



The Magpie & Crown, Brentford (see pages 12 and 50)

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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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Some New Year thoughts

There is, I am told, an old Chinese curse: 'may you live in interesting times'. 2010 looks as if it is going to be very interesting for the pub and brewery trade, judging from the confusing mix of messages being received.

The year has started badly for the pub trade with the VAT increase. It needs to be remembered that when the VAT rate went down, the Chancellor of the Exchequer increased excise duty by 8% so that there would be no reduction in alcohol prices. The return to full rate VAT therefore represents a substantial increase within 13 months. Furthermore, under the Duty Escalator, alcohol duties will increase again by 2% above the rate of inflation in April and for several years to come. When you hear publicans like Rebecca Newman of the Bricklayer's Arms in Putney – CAMRA's London Pub of the Year twice in three years – voicing doubts on BBC News 24 about being able to continue to trade, you have to wonder if the Government understand that there are limits to how far they can tax the average drinker. Ironically, given that they will no doubt use public health as an excuse for the rises, the last thing that the economy needs at present is for people to stop drinking.

Then there are our old friends, the pub owning companies. As can be seen from the news relating to the Magpie & Crown and Duke of Hamilton (see News round-up), some of them need to make their

minds up whether they want to run pubs or develop properties. I appreciate that PLCs have an obligation to provide a proper return on assets for their shareholders but some transparency would be fair to all involved.

According to the trade press, there is likely to be a flood of disposals from pubcos this year. It certainly reads as if Punch will need to continue selling and Enterprise have an ongoing programme of 'sale and leaseback' deals which presumably makes it easier to walk away from a pub if it isn't making money. For all this, Wetherspoons continue to open new outlets regularly and some individuals and small pubcos obviously still have confidence in the market – see the stories about the Southampton and the Orange. CAMRA's campaigning on tied houses needs to continue and if we and those who share our view are successful, it will go a long way to slowing down the number of pub closures. In the meantime, it remains an important issue.

Assuming that we can afford it and can find somewhere to drink it, the popularity of real ale is definitely growing. For example, Nicholsons (part of Mitchells & Butlers), having had great – and deserved – success with the revamped Falcon at Clapham Junction, have converted a former 'Edwards' outlet, the Swan on Hammersmith Broadway, along the same lines and it is doing well. During the surveying for our new

guide 'Along the Brighton Road' (to be launched at Battersea Beer Festival), South West London Branch have come across several pubs where cask ale has been reintroduced after many years.

On the brewing front, Brodies, Sambrook's and Twickenham Fine Ales go from strength to strength and are being joined by Redemption. There was an interesting editorial in the *Morning Advertiser* recently that discussed how small breweries were now buying pubs and some

small pub chains were starting to brew for their pubs. A return to vertical integration? Let us hope so. Also worth a mention is what Everards and now Batemans are doing in letting their pubs to small breweries and allowing them to sell their beers in them. There will however need to be a lot of new micros to replace Tetleys when Carlsberg close the Leeds brewery.

Finally, we must continue to be alert to the activities of the health lobby. There are, I am

sure, certain elements that want to go beyond the promotion of safer drinking to full prohibition, possibly on religious grounds. No sensible drinker condones so-called binge drinking but drinking in moderation is part of our culture and so we need to be ready to defend our rights.

So, what conclusion do I reach? None whatsoever but, all being well, I look forward to bringing you the news of it all during the year.

Tony Hedger



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Competition law now governs the beer tie

CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, has welcomed the Government's decision to revoke the Land Agreements Exclusion Order 2004. The consumer group has been campaigning for its revocation since last summer as part of its campaign to reform the beer tie to address a lack of competition in the pub sector in order to deliver a fair deal to the pub-goer. Large pub operating companies, principally those with 500 or more pubs, will now need to work to prove that their beer tie agreements are fully compliant with competition law.

Currently tied landlords are unable to buy beer from brewers

of their own choice and are forced to pay prices inflated by around 50 pence a pint. The Government consultation response states that revocation of the Order will promote fairer and more open markets and a better deal for consumers through improved prices, wider choice, greater investment and higher standards of customer service.

Mike Benner, chief executive, said: "This is very positive news for pub-goers, small brewers and struggling lessees. The Order is an anomaly which has for too long given legal cover to companies which are party to potentially anti-competitive agreements. The large

pub owning companies will now have to review their existing beer tie arrangements in the full knowledge that they will be liable to severe penalties if it is subsequently proven that they have breached competition law.

CAMRA remains supportive of the beer tie model provided that it offers a fair share of benefits to consumers through greater choice, price competition and quality. We now urge the large pub owning companies to publicly commit to delivering on the basic principle that tied tenants should be no worse off than they would be if free of tie."

13 January 2010

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Responsible drinkers - the Portman Group?

Readers of this magazine will know by now the attitude of CAMRA to responsible drinking: that it's mostly about going to pubs and drinking session beers slowly and socially. A lot of us think that if drinks were priced in proportion to their alcoholic content, then more people would prefer to drink beer in pubs and alcohol abuse would place less of a strain on NHS resources.

Yet another reported recommendation from medical professionals recently urged Government to impose some minimum price per alcohol unit that would accordingly perhaps reduce the temptation for some shoppers to overindulge. But the news report then quoted a

spokesman from the Portman Group saying that such a measure would have no effect. Drinks were cheaper abroad, with less resultant harm; what we needed here was education.

Fair point maybe, but just who are the Portman Group anyway? To quote directly from their website, *'The Portman Group's eight member companies represent every sector of drinks production and collectively account for more than half the UK alcohol market. They recognise that they have both a responsibility and a major business interest in reducing the harmful use of alcohol.'*

*Bacardi-Martini
Beverage Brands (UK)
Carlsberg UK*

*Diageo Great Britain
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InBev UK Ltd
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Well in my opinion the overriding business interest of all these companies is to maintain supermarket sales volumes of their spirits, wines and nasty lagers – at the expense of pub sales of other people's real ales. Wouldn't you agree?

Their major business interest in reducing the harmful use of alcohol cannot be disputed, however: dead customers are no longer profitable.

Geoff Strawbridge

Check the Beer Festivals Calendar and visit the Travel Pages at
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Here we go...

I have to start 2010 with an apology. Some offence was taken at my comments about the 'Beer for the Boys' campaign. It was not my intention to denigrate Fuller's generous donation and I apologise if it read that way. Fuller's provided a further 4,000 free pints for the 2nd Battalion the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers homecoming in Hounslow at the end of November



Latest on the tie

CAMRA is continuing its campaign against the tie and is issuing a legal challenge to the Office of Fair Trading's decision to reject the super-complaint submitted at the end of last year. An appeal to the Competition Appeals Tribunal is possible under the Enterprise Act 2002 and CAMRA has decided to take this action. To fund the appeal, CAMRA is setting up a separate fund and an appeal has gone out to all members from National Chairman, Paula Walters.

CAMRA's chief executive Mike Benner said: "CAMRA has taken the decision to appeal due to the inability by the OFT to deal with the problems affecting the UK pub sector. CAMRA's super-complaint to the OFT was based on securing a fair deal for the pub-goer, and building a sustainable future for Britain's pubs. However, we believe the OFT did not take

reasonable steps to understand the pub sector, and more generally why 52 pubs are closing per week across the UK."

Sadly, from reading the trade press, there appears to be little progress in the reforms that the major pub companies had agreed were needed. The newly-created Independent Pub Confederation has asked that the Parliamentary Business, Innovation and Skills Committee review progress in one year's time.

The GMB union, which represents some 25,000 tied tenants, is planning to ballot its members on taking industrial action to demand reforms to the tie. Paul Maloney of the union said that the aim of the action was to secure negotiation with pubcos to achieve very substantial cuts in wholesale prices and a resolution to a wide range of grievances. Quite whether this might lead to strike action is not clear, given that pub

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The Rake's sister company, lovebeer@borough, will also be running Meet the Brewer sessions with Breconshire and Otley at 1pm and 3.30pm on Sunday February 28 - see www.lovebeeratborough.ning.com for more info.

And as if all that wasn't enough, market stall Utobeer will also be running a Welsh beer feature for the whole week to celebrate St. David's Day!

For more information feel free to pop in, email or call:
The Rake, 14 Winchester Walk, Borough Market, SE1 9AG
therake@utobeer.co.uk or 020 7407 0557.

tenants are self-employed so who would they be striking against?

Sad news from Brentford and beyond

Steve Bolton has in effect been forced out of the Magpie & Crown. The landlords, Wellington Pub Company, offered a new lease at an increased rent which Steve did not think was affordable. He made a sensible counter-offer but Wellington refused it. Consequently, one of London's flagship cask ale pubs was due to have closed on 11 January, a few days after the 14th anniversary of Steve taking over, originally with then partner Charlie. In reply to an enquiry from a local councillor, Wellington said that they were intending to keep the pub open under some interim management arrangement. What happens in due course is anyone's guess – Fleurets are advertising the 'free of tie lease opportunity' – but if Steve could not make the pub viable at the rent demanded then could anyone else? On a personal note, Steve is a first class publican and I hope that this does not drive him out of the trade.

Sadly, the same may be happening to the equally well-known Duke of Hamilton – Woodies – in Hampstead, also owned by Wellington. The *Camden New Journal* reports that the lease expires in March and current tenants Michael and Mary Wooderson have yet to hear if there will be a renewal. Apparently Wellington are assessing their options for the pub, which dates back to 1721. Normally an existing lessee would get a renewal but redevelopment is one circumstance where this would not apply, although subject to planning permission. According to the other local paper, the *Ham & High*, the site is worth £800,000 as a pub and £12 million as a development. Understandably Wellington would not confirm those figures.

John Cryne, chair of CAMRA's North London Branch asked, "Does Hampstead really need more flats at the expense of amenities?" Unfortunately, the local citizens in the guise of the Heath and Hampstead Society were quoted as being more concerned about how deep down the developers would dig than the loss of an amenity. On the subject of local pub closures, their Chairman, Tony Hiller, said: "Well, that is just supply and demand".

Better news from Kentish Town

There is a ray of hope however elsewhere in North London. The Southampton Arms in Kentish Town has been relaunched as a traditional ale and cider house. Peter Holt and Jo Sherren acquired and refurbished the Georgian free-of-tie Enterprise house and are selling up to eight ales from small breweries and four ciders, plus some Meantime beers. There are no lagers, national keg brands or Guinness. The accent will be clearly on drinking although there will be food available. It is encouraging that people have faith in the concept and we wish them well. The address is 139 Highgate Road, NW5.

New brewery for London

By the time you read this, the first batch of beer from Redemption Brewery should be available. The brewery, located near Northumberland Park station, Tottenham, has been set up by Glasgow born Andy Moffat, a former city banker who became disillusioned with his existing career. He is looking to brew between 5,000 and 6,000 pints a week from mid-January. The beer will be a fairly pale and hoppy with a citrusy aroma and floral undertones. Andy commented, "It's very exciting and a bit nerve-wracking too. Some of my friends think I'm a bit crazy because they see pubs closing down everywhere, but actually small

breweries are doing very well at the moment." The beer will be brewed with local water, which Andy says has a stable composition because of the reservoirs nearby. And the name? Andy explained: "I chose the name Redemption Brewing Company as it is about renewal, regeneration and starting again – it's fitting to my situation!" We wish him well and look forward to trying the beer.

Short measures

This topic does not enjoy the prominence that it once did but it has not gone away. In a recent exercise in Birmingham as reported in the *Daily Telegraph*, of 88 pints bought by trading standards officers at 30 pubs, bars and restaurants, only nine were served to the full measure. One 'pint' was 11.8 per cent short, making for an effective overcharge of 40p. Critics say the practice costs customers £400 million a year.

Just to remind you of the background, the Weights and Measures Act 1985 stipulates that a pint of beer should be exactly that. The brewing and pub trade however has always argued that the law does not mean the pint should be 100 per cent full of liquid and this view was supported by a 1982 court ruling that stipulated that a head of froth was 'an integral part' of a pint, and it was fair to serve the drink as such provided the head was 'not excessive or unreasonable'.

Trading Standards officers have found that the average shortfall is three quarters of a fluid ounce (22ml) or 3.94 per cent. According to the British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA), a pint should be at least 95 per cent liquid after the head has collapsed and Brigid Simmonds, chief executive of the BBPA, was quoted as saying, "If the average shortfall is 3.94%, then that is above what we consider to be the minimum." She did

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however add: "Requests from customers [for a top up] should be received with good grace and never refused."

Richard Younger-Ross, the Liberal Democrat MP, put forward an Early Day Motion last year calling for legislation to define a pint as 100 per cent liquid. He said the survey demonstrated that the problem was not improving and that "If you pay for a pint, you deserve to be pulled a pint".

Law and order

They are at it again in Oldham. This time the Council is targeting supermarkets. Their proposals are that each store should have a designated alcohol zone with a clear 'gateway' to the zone, no alcohol promotions would be allowed outside that zone, no unaccompanied under-18s would be allowed inside the zone and a security officer would have to be stationed there during all trading hours. Whilst I agree that supermarket sales need to be controlled, surely it is the prices that they charge that do the damage. To me, this smacks of stigmatising all drinkers quite unfairly.

Not that all would agree with me. Giving evidence to the Parliamentary Health Committee before Christmas, representatives from Asda, Waitrose and Sainsburys all spoke against the minimum pricing of alcohol. Comments were made such as harmful drinking was culturally led and that better education was the solution, minimum pricing was a very blunt tool and minimum pricing was an untargted measure that would penalise people on quite low or fixed incomes.

The Punch saga continues

Just when it looked as if Punch were slowly pulling themselves out of their quagmire of debt (currently £3.5 billion), there was a shareholders revolt at the group Annual General Meeting in

December. Led by the Association of British Insurers, 55% of them voted down the company's remuneration plan which involved share awards and increased pension contributions for directors, large payoffs to departing board members and a special deal for the company's managed house director. The background to this, of course, is a loss of £400 million, a write-down in asset values of £600 million, a share price of 77 pence as against £13.20 two years ago and little prospect of any improvement. The company 'noted' the vote and agreed to conduct a full review. Some might think that the Punch board are acting like a bunch of bankers...

Enterprise sales programme

Enterprise Inns have started what chief executive Ted Tuppen describes as a 'step-by-step' approach to selling pub freeholds at public auctions on a 'sale and leaseback basis'. Five pubs were sold in November, raising more than £13 million and another seven London pubs went for £10 million in December. Enterprise are looking to raise up to £200 million while committing themselves to £14 million per annum of rent payments. Mr Tuppen said, "I don't think we're selling them — it's a fine distinction, but we're keeping 15 to 20% of the income stream."

New beer from Sambrook's

Sambrook's of Battersea launched their second beer during London Pubs Week. Junction is a 4.5% best bitter and should be available at regular stockists as well as making a growing number of guest appearances. Outlets are listed on the brewery's website: www.sambrooksbrewery.co.uk. The brewery shop is now up and running, open Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm and Saturday 10am to 1pm for the sale of glassware,

T-shirts and of course, beer in bottles or poly/mini-pins.

News from Young's

Young & Co's latest half-year results showed a like-for-like sales increase of 1.5% to £67.2 million, giving an increase in profits of 22% to £11.4 million. Consequently, the interim dividend has been raised by 2% for the thirteenth consecutive year. Young's are apparently now the only UK pub company still paying a dividend to shareholders. An independent stockbroker quoted in the Evening Standard commented: "London is trading well and Young & Co has the right pubs selling the right things to the right people".

It is interesting to note that £1.8 million of Young's profit came from income from their share of the Wells & Young's Brewing Company. This, according to Chief Executive Stephen Goodyear, is a lot more than they made from brewing their own beer.

Happily, as we go to press, the controversy over the Half Moon in Putney has been resolved. It had been reported that because the well-known music venue has been struggling recently with a reported 20% fall in takings, Young's wanted to remove the tenant, James Harris, and remodel the pub as a gastropub. The report in the *Morning Advertiser* said that Young's had spent £20,000 on a new kitchen which is not currently in use. Support for the Half Moon's continuation as a music venue came, rather surprisingly, from the leader of Wandsworth Council, Edward Lister, who was quoted in the Evening Standard as saying, "We're proud to have the Half Moon in our borough. It's like the Boat Race: it puts Putney on the map. It would be devastating if it became the latest victim of the recession". Young's had always disputed the interpretation put on their intentions but whatever these were, a compromise has

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been reached and the music will continue but food will be now be served.

Meanwhile, Young's brewing partner, Charles Wells, has acquired a new pub in Montpelier, bringing its outlets in France to seven.

News from Fuller's

The company's financial results for the half year to 26 September were very promising although cautiously they warn that the second half of the year is expected to be significantly tougher. Revenue was up 10% and adjusted profit before tax was up by 18%. In the managed pubs area, like-for-like sales were up 2.8% and profits up 20%, with real ale sales up by a surprising 19%. Fuller's own beer volumes were up 3% with beer company profits up by 15%. The company now operates 365 pubs and hotels.

Although they are disposing

of the old Gales brewery, Fuller's are retaining their links with Hampshire by building a new distribution centre near the site of the former brewery and the company's whole telesales operation has been relocated to Horndean.

Fullers have made another significant acquisition, the Holly Bush in Hampstead. The Grade II listed pub, dating from 1807, was acquired from a private owner. It is hoped there will be no changes except for the beer range as a Fullers spokesman said, *"The Holly Bush is one of the best pubs in London with a fabulous reputation and we love it the way it is"*. Given their track record with the Olde Mitre in Ely Place, this is encouraging.

Punch Bowl resolution

There was a reasonable ending to the Punch Bowl story last issue. City of Westminster Council ruled that outside

drinking be cut back from 9pm to 8pm and that a designated smoking area should be set up outside the pub. The pub also agreed to stop serving at 11pm even though they are licensed to midnight. Co-owner Piers Adam commented, *"Westminster showed complete objectivity. Now we can move on"*.

Wetherspoons reach 30

Congratulations to Tim Martin on Wetherspoons reaching their 30th birthday in December. From one outlet in Muswell Hill – where Martin admits to getting horizontally drunk on the opening night – the company has grown to one of the leading players in the licensed trade with some 750 outlets. The 3 December 2009 issue of the *Morning Advertiser* contained several articles on the company which are worth reading. Not everyone, I appreciate, is a fan of Wetherspoons but you have to

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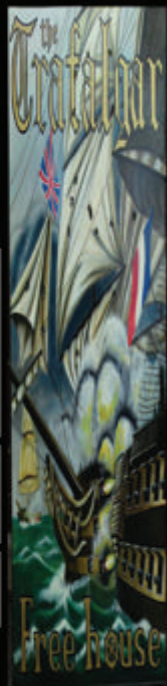
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*"If you know us, drop in
and say HELLO"*

*"Watch this space for
more details in the
next London Drinker"*

Pat

admire the achievement. Tim Martin is an intuitive operator, blessed with a sound intuition.

The project continues. Over the next five years, Wetherspoons plan to spend £250 million on 250 new pubs all around the country, creating 10,000 jobs. The new pubs will be a combination of empty commercial premises and discarded pubs. To start, five pubs purchased from Punch were due to open in January, following a £4 million refurbishment.

Anyone who accuses Wetherspoons of being down-market should have been in the Wibbas Down Inn in Wimbledon before Christmas. Pamela Anderson was playing the genie in the pantomime Aladdin at the theatre next door and she called into the pub several times with other cast members and, on one occasion, fashion designer Vivienne Westwood. She particularly liked the chips

apparently.

Around the trade

Sadly, another chain has gone into administration. The Pubs 'n' Bars company with 87 pubs mostly in the South East will continue to operate for the time being. The administrators, Grant Thornton, attributed the company's failure to the smoking ban, a drop in earnings from cigarette and gaming machines and the recession generally.

In stark contrast, the former Orange Brewery pub in Pimlico (although they say it's Belgravia) has been reopened by the Cubitt House company following a £1 million refurbishment. The pub, now just called the Orange, operates over four floors with four hotel bedrooms on the second floor and a basement – intended for private parties – with a glass atrium and an indoor garden. The owners see it as a community local.

There have been some curious goings-on in the boardroom at pubco Mitchell & Butlers which I will cover next issue.

C & C Group, the makers of Magners cider, appeared to be struggling last year with competition and falling sales but they have bounced back to acquire Gaymers, makers of the Blackthorn and Old English brands.

Brewing Museum saved

The former Bass Museum in Burton on Trent, closed by Molson Coors in June 2008 as part of a cost-cutting exercise, has been saved. It will reopen as the National Brewery Centre some time in 2010, possibly as early as Easter. Molson Coors have granted a 25 year lease at a peppercorn rent to a company called Planning Solutions – well respected in the leisure industry – to operate the centre and is making an initial £200,000



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Easter Beer Festival

**Friday 2nd -
Monday 5th April**

With over 20 ales
from across the
country, fabulous
Hog Roast Saturday
evening and live
music Sunday
evening.
Everyone welcome.

investment plus annual funding of £100,000. The Bass dray horses will return to the site and cask beer will be brewed in a 30-barrel plant. There will be conference facilities available and several beer-related organisations are now thinking of holding events there. Just like a local pub, it could be a case of 'use it or lose it'.

Congratulations for successfully campaigning for the museum's reopening must go to the local MP, Janet Dean, the *Burton Mail* newspaper, staunch campaigner Roger Protz and of course, CAMRA, which organised a march and a petition.

There is a new beer to look out for as well. Molson Coors have launched Red Shield, a 4.2% cask ale described as a 'sister variant' to Worthington White Shield. Brewed with Bramling Cross and Cascade hops, it is described as a blond, zesty and refreshing ale. It has been on trial in certain areas only but should be available nationwide come the summer as part of an increased investment in the Worthington brand.

Global issues

The big boys just keep getting bigger. Heineken have acquired the brewing operations of the Mexican company Femsa. This includes the Sol and Dos Equis brands. The deal is worth £3.4 billion and gives Femsa a 20% stake in Heineken. The thinking behind it is to reduce Heineken's reliance on the European market, Mexico apparently being the fourth most profitable beer market in the world.

It's an ill wind...

I mentioned the Tan Hill Inn, England's highest pub up in the North Yorkshire dales, a few months ago in connection with a row about their not getting planning permission for their TV-advertised double-glazing. I hope that the local council let them keep it because some 30 people, including a party from the Leeds University Cross Country Club, got snowed in there for 60 hours over New Year. With drifts up to seven feet deep at times, numbers were swelled by refugees from the nearby A66. They kept themselves amused with pub quizzes and sing-songs. One of the students described it as the ultimate lock-in. The pub's two pet sheep – Sheesh and Donner, would you believe – were brought indoors for safety.

Alcoholic apps

For those of you who are into this sort of thing, CAMRA's Good Beer Guide can now be accessed as an 'app' for Apple iPhone and iPod Touch. The simple to use *Good Beer Guide Mobile* provides detailed information for all 4,500-plus current GBG pubs and initially costs just £1.19 for 30 days. You can then subscribe to the service for a whole year from within the application for £8.99.

Details are on the main CAMRA website.

To go with it, you might like to take advantage of an offer from the Department of Health. This is an official alcohol tracker application for mobile phones which is available from iTunes and www.nhs.uk. The application is intended to help you work out how many alcoholic units there are in a glass of wine or pint of beer for example, see how much alcohol you have consumed over a set period, such as a week or month, get personalised feedback on your drinking habits and find local NHS clinics and advice centres. For those that do not have a smartphone, they can text the word 'UNIT' to '64746' to receive information on NHS Choices' alcohol units calculator.

And finally...

XFactor runner-up Olly Murs says that it was only when he was offered a gig at his local by landlord that he discovered what he wanted to do with the rest of his life. He thanked the publican for inspiring him to follow his singing dreams. I'm sure that we all agree...

Tony Hedger

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

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Another record-breaking Pig's Ear beer festival

More people coming, more choice of beers and ciders, and more sold. The Pig's Ear Beer and Cider Festival, organised by the CAMRA East London and City (ELAC) Branch, has achieved these records in three of the last four years. Between 1 and 5 December 2009, 4,000 attended in total and hundreds came from well beyond London, including many overseas visitors sampling British real ale for the first time.



ELAC Chairman, John Pardoe, said, *"This year the Festival concentrated on providing beers from small and micro-breweries. The record sales show how superb these British products are. We noticed that they*

were especially favoured by the 2,000 under-thirties who attended. A new generation appreciates products that are natural, authentic and environmentally acceptable."

The Festival was officially opened by the Deputy Speaker of Hackney, Cllr. Clayeon McKenzie and the Mayor of Hackney, Jules Pipe. Both welcomed the festival as a now treasured event in the Hackney calendar.



The Branch would like to thank everyone who came to the festival and especially those who volunteered to work there. We hope to see you all again next time.

Another 1066 conquest

Goachers Old 1066 Ale, named after its original gravity, was voted the best beer in CAMRA's South East Old Ale and Barley Wine competition, held at the Pig's Ear festival where it was ranked against others in a blind tasting by a panel. Based in Maidstone, Kent, Goachers Brewery has been producing this beer since it began brewing in 1983. Its owners, Phil and Debbie Goacher have brought back brewing to a town that had lost its last brewery in 1972.



The tasting panel consisted of publicans, CAMRA members and beer enthusiasts chaired by

Christine Cryne, formerly Great British Beer Festival organiser. Among the judges were Annie Smith, Landlady of the Dispensary in Aldgate, the 2009 CAMRA Pub of the Year and Keren Harrison representing Leyton Orient Supporters Club, the Greater London 2009 Club of the Year. Joining them were Frankie Colclough of the Eleanor Arms in Bow, Sam Brooks of the Royal Inn on the Park in South Hackney and Steve Williams, formerly CAMRA's Greater London Regional Director.

Christine Cryne said, *"This dark beer was a nice balance of malt and fruit with just a little dryness to stop it being sweet. There were some roast notes in the aroma that entices you to have a sup. But be warned: at 6.7% ABV, it has a kick!"*

The Champion Beer of Britain competition is run annually by CAMRA and involves hundreds of beers being tasted and the best of each type being put forward for regional panel tastings. Ultimately the Champion Beer of Britain from all beer types is selected at the August Great British Beer Festival in Earl's Court.

Bill Green

CAMRA (SOUTH WEST LONDON) PRESENTS



Design: Shiree Allen

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See www.swlcamra.org.uk for latest festival news



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"Only locals can save the local"



That was the observation of social expert, Dr Rick Muir, when he addressed a meeting held as part of the Pig's Ear festival on 4 December. Dr Muir is author of the recent Institute of Public Policy Research report, *Pubs and places: The social value of community pubs*.

The report highlighted the problem of mounting pub closures and the social and economic damage that results. Dr Muir said that some locals could be rescued by effective local action but this meant hard work and often financial commitment by

individuals. Although there's no easy way, there are pubs that have been saved. It also helped, he added, if the local authority was supportive and not willing to see a pub lost to the community.

Commenting on Dr Muir's presentation, John Pardoe, Chairman of the East London and City Branch of the Campaign For Real Ale said, "*The great value of this work is that it supports the case for pub preservation with detailed research and clear evidence. We can assert the value of community pubs now with intellectual authority, and have ideas on how to save them.*"

Beer delights at the Walthamstow Forest Social Club Real Ale Festival

The Waltham Forest Corporation Sports & Social Club (WFCS&SC) held another successful and enjoyable Beer Festival in November celebrating the real ales of East Anglia, East London and Essex



under the banner of the Great Eastern Real Ale Festival. Over 20 ales plus three ciders and a perry were available during the festival, which ran from Thursday to Sunday with good attendances at every session.

Drinkers voted for the very local Brodies Superior London Porter as beer of the festival with Harwich Town Bathside Battery Bitter and Mauldons Broomstick getting the runner-up slots.

CAMRA members turned up in great numbers to this festival and helped down the pints (and halves) alongside thirsty club members and visitors. Music helped the beer go down courtesy of the powerful Hard Road Blues band on the Friday and excellent bluegrass from the Coal Porters on the Saturday.

The club has been selling cask ales to Town Hall workers for more than forty years and now welcomes card carrying CAMRA members as guests at all times, although there may be a small door charge when there is live entertainment.

Located in the grounds of Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, the club is open from midday to closing time Sunday through to Friday.

The club is already planning its next festival, to be held from Thursday 15 through to Sunday 18 April.

Steve Woodhouse, Festival Organiser



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2010
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£2.00 for CAMRA members. Last admission 10 pm

For more details see www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

SELECTION OF IMPORTED BEERS • FOOD ALL SESSIONS

Organisers reserve the right to refuse admission

Kingston & Leatherhead presentations

On Saturday 24 October, Kingston & Leatherhead Branch chairman Dave Oram presented landlord Dwayne Kent at the Royal Oak, 16 High Street, Great Bookham with his certificate for Joint Branch Pub of the Year 2009.



Dave presented Rick Robinson, landlord of the Willoughby Arms, Kingston with his joint 2009 award on Wednesday 28 October, at the start of Rick's Halloween Beer Festival. The Willoughby



last won in 2001. Since then Rick has become a firm supporter of the LocAle initiative.

Rick warmly thanked the Branch for his award, and the large gathering who gave him a rousing reception, and then went off to 'sample' the great selection of ales, including many dark beers such as Ascot Anastasia's Exile Stout, Downton Chocolate Orange Delight and Hammerpot Bottle Wreck Porter.

On Thursday 20 November, Branch members made a presentation to the Surbiton Club, 34 St.



James Road for winning the local Club of the Year award for the second successive year. Don Ricketts, Perry Johnson (Bar Manager) and Ian Taylor of the Surbiton Club are pictured above on the night.

Steve Allen

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8th – 10th April 2010

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60+ Beers & Ciders

**Souvenir glasses, snacks,
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Admission: (Provisional)

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|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday 8 April | 5pm-11pm | £2, CAMRA members £1 |
| Friday 9 April | 11am-5pm | £2, CAMRA members Free |
| | 5pm-11pm | £2, CAMRA members £1 |
| Saturday 10 April | 11am-11pm | £2, CAMRA members £1 |

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SECOND SPBW WIN FOR PEMBURY TAVERN

The Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood (SPBW) has voted the Pembury Tavern in Hackney as its London Pub of the Year. This is the Pembury's second success; it previously won the award in 2007. The presentation of the award will be on Wednesday 13 January at 19.30.

The Pembury is a large, imposing pub overlooking a busy road junction. It has a somewhat chequered history, having been owned by the likes of Truman and Banks & Taylor before it was closed following a fire. It was reopened early in 2006 as part of the small Individual Pub

Co chain owned the by Milton Brewery near Cambridge. The long bar counter boasts 16 handpumps and at least half of these are in operation at all times; as well as a selection of Milton beers (ranging from the 3.3% Minotaur mild to the mighty Marcus Aurelius at 7.5%) there are a few guest ales from small independent brewers. The pub stages three beer festivals each year which adds several beers on stillage to the hand pumped offerings. A draught cider is always available plus a 'real' draught lager and a selection of bottled German and Belgian beers. Whisky lovers can choose from a good range of single

malts. The food served in the Pembury is of a high standard as well. There are no television, games machines or music to distract you, but to while away your drinking time you can play pool or bar billiards or choose from several board games; there is also a knitting club on Monday evenings!

The Pembury Tavern, 90 Amhurst Road, London E8 1JH; 020 8986 8597; www.individualpubs.co.uk/pembury/

Roger Jacobson



THE GRAPEVINE BAR

The Grapevine Bar of the Questors Theatre in Ealing was presented with its seventh certificate as West Middlesex Club of the Year on Thursday 15 October.

The Grapevine was set up in 1959 both as a means of raising much needed money to keep the theatre going and to act as a social centre for performers and theatregoers. It was recently announced that the bar had raised over £1 million over the past 50 years for the largest independent community theatre in Europe.

It had become a beacon for real ale in Ealing long before the branch knew of its existence and in some ways it is still the town's best kept secret. It holds twice yearly CAMRA themed beer festivals. The bar has built up a good relationship with Fuller's, many of the volunteer staff having been trained in cellarman ship by the brewery including the current head cellarman Nigel Bamford. London Pride is usually always available, together with a rotating session beer from a local brewery (Twickenham and Sambrook's have featured recently as well as Fuller's) and a guest ale.

The ceremony took place on the opening night of their 14th Annual Beer festival with ten champion beer of Britain ales available. CAMRA

Members from all over London were rewarded with sandwiches from Questors' new 'Qafe' as well as a selection of nibbles. Branch Chair David Bender said, "*The Grapevine Bar thoroughly deserves to be our Club of the Year again*".



West Middlesex Branch Chair David Bender presenting the certificate to Grapevine Club Chair Jon Webster

THE INAUGURAL



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The Rose revived

The fall and rise of the Rose & Crown

One upon a time, there was a public house belonging to the tied estate of Truman Hanbury & Buxton, situate in Hoe Street, Walthamstow: a substantial high-Victorian three storey building, serving beer and, unusually for that time and place, food. There was a restaurant along the side and back, where plain but substantial fare could be bought at lunchtime and in the evenings.



Your author has very fond memories of this alehouse, as he was born in 1946, and had his first legal drink of beer there, in 1960. For those of you who don't realise it, this is still the legal situation, under certain circumstances of which however Liam Donaldson does not approve. Enough of this Puritanism! May coming generations start with beers as good, and as startling (to me, at that time) as the half-pint of Ben Truman I had on that occasion. In the remaining four years before I left school to go to university, I had several more drinks there. The beer was good, and the surroundings were pure Victorian over-the-top decoration: fully etched and decorated windows, stained glass, snob screens, encaustic tiling, and separate drinking areas, with a good carpet in the dining areas and saloon bar.

By the time I returned to Walthamstow in the late '60s the rot had set in, and Trumans were heading towards the GrandMet takeover, and merger with the dreaded Watneys ... Slowly and steadily, with one attempt at revival in the late 1980's, when the then landlord and his wife tried to look after their beer and get outside supplies, and



entertain the customers with the antics of their pedigree Birman cats (who used to parade the bar-top, and sneer at the clientele, as only Birmans can), the spirit went out of the place. The etched windows and the snob screens and the separate bars, and most of the decorations went, and all sorts of attempts were made to follow the latest fads, usually at least 6 months too late.

However, unlike another superb pub in Walthamstow (the Windmill, ruined by Whitbread,



and now private housing), this story has, at present, a happy ending. New licensees took over about two years ago, and the tie has been broken. The beers that are available at the 'R&C' now appear to be bought on the Rotterdam spot-market, and one cannot predict what might be 'on', but you can be sure it will be well kept. On my most recent visit, there were beers from Barnegates (Cumbria), Vale (Bucks) and Cottage (Somerset). A few of the decorations have survived, in the form of some of the tiling and one stained-glass screen.

The pub also hosts many social events, and acts as one of the venues for the annual E17 Art Trail, and it is to be hoped that, although food is not presently available, the resuscitation of this magnificent building, with its excellent beers, continues for at least another 50 years!

Greg Tingey

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ESB. THE CHAMPION ALE.

BEXLEY FESTIVAL AWARDS

Bexley CAMRA were recently the first visitors for a brewery tour at Thornbridge Brewery's new high-tech plant in Bakewell where they were hosted by Kelly Ryan, the Production Brewer. The occasion was to present Thornbridge with the Beer of the Festival award from the 2009 Bexley Beer Festival for their 'Jaipur'. Vic Beale, Bar Director at Bexley Beer Festival, made the

presentation to Kelly on behalf of the Branch – the first presentation to take place at Bakewell, adding to the brewery's comprehensive range of awards.

Later in the day, Vic also presented the Cider of the Festival award to Chris Cooter of Magic Bus Cider for their 'Kreekee Bus' which has an excellent Belgian-style cherry flavour.



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2010 Good Beer Guide**



VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.thestargodalming.co.uk

Dear Editor

Excellent guest editorial by Simon Clarke in the last *London Drinker*. Simon and his partner Dave Law at the Eagle Ale House in Clapham have been instrumental in their support of the Fair Pint campaign whilst endeavouring to serve their customers with a wide range of microbrews at a reasonable price within the constraints of the beer tie. The fact that they manage to achieve this is due in no small measure to their passion for preservation of the traditional pub and a sacrifice of a large part of their own income as tenants.

Contrast the above selfless example of two respected tenants striving to give their customers choice and value with the shameless admission by the well remunerated chief executive of the pubco Young's in their 2009 Interim Financial Report: "*We welcome the decision by the Office of Fair Trading to take no further action on the tie*". Time was when Young's Bitter was one of the best and cheapest real ales in London – now it is one of the most expensive and a less palatable brew from Bedford.

Whilst at some stage in its past the beer tie may have been a mutually beneficial contractual arrangement, it is unrecognisable as that model today. Over recent years it has been progressively distorted by most of the pubcos, regional and national brewers to such an extent that it is currently an extortionate, restrictive and anti-competitive practice. Furthermore the Office of Fair Trading are apparently still stuck in the past, having miserably failed to grasp this destructive change (detrimental to consumers and tenants alike) by merely repeating their ruling of years ago.

Tony Bell
London SW6

Dear Editor

Tim Llewellyn's letter in the Dec/Jan issue needs a little amplification. The book published by Cassell's in 1939 was entitled *The Local*. It was written by Maurice Gorham, illustrated with colour lithographs by Edward Ardizzone, and was printed at the Curwen Press, one of the leading art printers of the day. The majority of the stock of books, along with the lithographic plates, was destroyed during the Blitz, with the result that copies of *The Local* are now pretty expensive – prices in excess of £300 are typically asked for on websites such as abebooks.

After the war, the loss of the original stock plus the changes caused by the war, both in terms of the loss of pubs featured in the original book and in the way in which people used pubs, prompted Gorham and Ardizzone to update the original book. Gorham added a new introduction and amended some of the core text. In the post-war era of austerity colour lithography was not an option, so Ardizzone recreated a number of the original

illustrations as line drawings, and added a number of others. The revised book, entitled *Back to the Local* to distinguish it from the original edition, was published by Percival Marshall in 1949. It is relatively common, and copies in good condition can be found for £20-£30.

Issue 12 of *Illustration* magazine (Summer 2007) has an article by Robert Bruce on 'Ardizzone's Pubs', charting the artist's lifelong interest in, and enthusiasm for, the pub. The article includes a couple of pub trails, centred on Ardizzone's home at 130 Elgin Avenue, Notting Hill, taking in some of the surviving pubs which were illustrated in the books (some of which, needless to say, are very much changed), and others which the artist visited on his daily walks around the area. Copies should still be available from the magazine's website, www.illustration-mag.com.

Andrew Davison
Sowerby Bridge

Dear Editor

For me *Back to the Local* is the most delightful and evocative book ever published about the English pub. It also is highly informative about how pubs used to be and, although it came out half a century ago in 1949, it tells of a world that older drinkers (like me!) will recall with affection. Lovely drawings by artist Edward Ardizzone help bring this bygone world to life on the pages.

Readers may care to know that is now readily available again, having been recently reprinted by Faber & Faber at a modest £12. Like old pubs and like a good read? This is your book!

Geoff Brandwood
Richmond-on-Thames

Dear Editor

Curiosity Corner

Some things don't change. Taxation was also thorny issue in the 1690s. Then it wasn't beer duty that upset publicans but window tax. Any property (not just pubs) with more than ten, later seven, had to pay a hefty levy, so many windows were simply bricked up by canny landlords. A local of mine, close to the northern perimeter of Heathrow Airport, has a visible reminder of this. The White Horse, Longford has been a place of refreshment for hundreds of years – don't let the jets taking off persuade you otherwise. Three out of seven window openings at the front are bricked in and a study of other old buildings in the village reveal they have suffered the same fate. Clearly no-one bothered to open them up after the tax was repealed in 1851.

With its oak-beams and low ceilings, the pub used to sit on the main coaching road between London and Bath. (Now Longford is a backwater as



the A4 bypasses to the north.) There are four handpumps serving London Pride, Ringwood Best and two guest beers (from Brakspears and Batemans when I visited). It boasts another unusual feature. A brick fireplace sits in the middle, its 'see-through' fire visible to drinkers on both sides. It helps make up for the lack of daylight!



Perhaps CAMRA could persuade the Chancellor to repeal beer duty and reintroduce window tax instead. Then again, perhaps not.

Bob Barton
Hayes, Middx.

Dear Editor

In the December 2009 London Drinker you published my letter about two pub closures in Barking. Unfortunately I now have another pub closure to report. In early November the Captain Cook closed and it has already been partially demolished. The Captain Cook was built in the fifties, during the redevelopment of Barking Town Centre, to replace the George a previous pub on the site. It was an Ind Coope pub and was named after the famous explorer, Captain Cook, who was married in St Margaret's Church opposite. In its heyday in the eighties and early nineties it sold up to five real ales and the then landlord was in the Burton Guild of Master Cellarmen. After that it declined and ceased selling any real ale about five to six years ago.

Two other pubs in Barking are closed and boarded up. The Westbury Arms has been closed for several years. The Barking Tap (formerly Brewery Tap) has been closed since the summer of 2009 following a review of the licence.

Colin Price
Barking

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

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Branch Diaries

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

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

LONDON REGIONAL EVENT

March - Wed 31 (8pm) London AGM and Liaison Committee (Regional co-ordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1. *Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk*

LONDON PUBS GROUP

Jane Jephcote *jane.jephcote@googlemail.com* 020 7720 6327 or 07813 739856

February - Sat 27 Daytime crawl of Tooting, Earlsfield and Wandsworth: (12 noon) Gorrington Park, 29 London Rd, Tooting; (12.45) Antelope, 76 Mitcham Rd, Tooting; (2.15) Little House, 13 Tooting Grove; (3.15) Hare & Hounds, 99 Summerstown; (4pm) Prince of Wales, 646 Garratt Lane; (4.45) Jack Beard's in the Fog, 2 Groton Rd, Earlsfield, SW18; (5.45) Spread Eagle, 71 Wandsworth High St, SW18.

March - Wed 24 (7.15 for 7.30) Mtg. Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs). All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

Website: www.londonpubsgroup.co.uk

YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

London co-ordinator **Matthew Black**: 07786 262798, *youngmembers@selcamra.org.uk*

February - Thu 11 Old Street crawl: meet (8pm) Old Fountain, 3 Baldwin St, EC1V.

March - Mon 1 Soho crawl: (8pm) Adam & Eve, 77A Wells St; (9pm) Old Coffee House, 49 Beak St; (10pm) Ship, 116 Wardour St. - **Sat 27** (3pm) Social at Brodie's Bunny Basher Festival, King William IV, 816 Leyton High Rd, E10.

Email group: http://groups.google.com/group/london-camra-ym

BEXLEY

Graham Austin: 07939 145429; *contacts@camrabexleybranch.org.uk*

February - Wed 10 (8.30) Mtg. New Cross Turnpike, Welling. - **Wed 24** (8.30) GBG selections. Robin Hood & Little John, Bexleyheath.

March - Wed 10 (8.30) Mtg. Prince of Wales, Upper Belvedere.

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON

Peter McGill: 07831 561296; *pete_mcgill@hotmail.com*

February - Thu 4 (8.30) Winter Pub of the Season presentation and start of pub's beer weekend. Cricketers, 47 Shirley Rd Addiscombe.

- **Wed 17** Carshalton two-pub social: (8.30) Woodman, 6 High St; (9.45) Sun, 4 North St. - **Tue 23** (8.30) Mtg. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

March - Wed 3 East Croydon crawl: (8.30) Glamorgan, Cherry Orchard Rd; (9.20) Builders Arms, Leslie Park Rd; (10.15) Oval Tavern, Oval Rd. - **Thu 18** Joint Cheam social with Kingston & Leatherhead Branch. See K&L entry for details. - **Thu 25** (8.30) Mtg. Windsor Castle (Cottage Room), 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton.

Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY

John Pardoe: 07757 772564; *elacbranch@yahoo.co.uk*

February - Thu 4 (8pm) GBG selection mtg. Hoop & Grapes, 80 Farringdon St EC4. - **Fri 19** Vincent Stops' Clerkenwell EC1 crawl: (8pm) Jerusalem Tavern, 55 Britton St; (8.30) Betsy Trotwood, 56 Farringdon Rd; (9pm) Three Kings, 7 Clerkenwell Grm; (9.30) Horseshoe, 24 Clerkenwell Grm; (10pm) Ye Olde Mitre, 1 Ely Place. - **Sat 20** Kingston & Leatherhead Branch Walthamstow crawl. See K&L entry for details. - **Thu 25/Fri 26** (5pm-7pm) 'Piglet' beer festival. Leyton Orient Supporters' Club, Oliver Rd E10.

March - Thu 4 (8pm) Mtg (nominations for Branch club and pub of the year) Palm Tree, Haverfield Rd, E3. - **Fri 29/Sat 30** Brodie's weekend, informal socials, come when you wish. William IV, 816 High Rd, Leyton E10.

Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET

Brian Willis: 020 8441 1892 (H), *branch mobile 07757 710008 at event*

February - Wed 3 (8.30) Club social (CAMRA cards only). Ponders End Working Men's Club, 46 South St, Ponders End, EN3. - **Thu 11** East Finchley crawl: start (8.30) Bald Faced Stag, 69 High Rd N2 - **Tue 16** 125 bus crawl: start (8.30) Cavalier, 67 Russell Lane, N20. - **Wed 24** (8 for 8.30) (CAMRA cards only) Final GBG 2011 selections. Enfield Town Club, Old Park Avenue, Enfield, EN2.

March - Tue 2 Arkley to Mitre EN5 crawl: start (8.30) Arkley, Barnet Rd, EN5 - **Wed 17** Enfield Town survey: start (8.30) Jolly Butchers, 168 Baker St, EN1 - **Tue 23**, New Barnet survey: start (8.30) Lord Kitchener, 49 East Barnet Rd, EN4 - **Thu 1 April** (8.30) 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; *ctaylor2007@freeuk.com*

February - Wed 3 (8pm) KBF mtg. Kingston Workmens Club. - **Fri 5** Dittons area crawl: meet (8pm) Dittons, Ditton Hill Rd, then New Inn, Angel and pubs towards Surbiton. - **Wed 10** Evening social gathering at Battersea Beer Festival. - **Sat 20** Visit to Walthamstow: travel by Victoria line to Walthamstow Central and meet (1pm) Goose outside station; then on Drum, King William IV (home of Brodies Brewery), Nags Head and Rose & Crown. - **Tue 23** (8pm) GBG selection mtg. Druids Head (upstairs room), Market Place, Kingston. - **Thu 25** (8pm) **Branch AGM**. Willoughby Arms (upstairs room), Willoughby Rd, Kingston. - **Sat 27** Coach trip to Hogs Back Brewery and pubs in the area. Fare £15. Pick up Surbiton 11am. To book, contact Adrian Palmer on 07774 859871 or *akpalmer@talktalk.net*.

March - Tue 9 (8.15) Mtg. Berrylands (function room), Chiltern Drive, Berrylands. - **Thu 18** Evening visit to Cheam (joint social with Croydon & Sutton Branch). 213 bus from Kingston. Meet (8pm) Prince of Wales, Malden Rd, then Red Lion, Claret Wine Bar, Harrow and Railway. - **Wed 24** Molesey crawl: meet (8pm) Royal Oak, then Europa, Bell and Poyntz.

Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk

NORTH LONDON

Social contacts: Stephen Taylor, 07531 006296,

stephen.taylor2@selegalileo.com; **John Adams**, 07970 150707, *J.Adams@ucl.ac.uk*. **Branch chairman: John Cryne**, 07802 174861, *john.cryne2@googlemail.com*

February - Tue 2 (8pm) LDBF mtg. Duke of Wellington (rear room), 119 Balls Pond Rd N1. - **Tue 9** N4 Harringay social: (7.30) Oakdale, 283 Hermitage Rd; (8.30) Beaconsfield, 357-359 Green Lanes; (9pm) Old Ale Emporium, 405 Green Lanes; (10pm) Garden Ladder, 501 Green Lanes. - **Tue 16** N1 Kings Cross social: (7.30) Lincoln Lounge, 52 York Way; (8pm) Cross Kings, 126 York Way; (8.30) Driver, 2-4 Wharfedale Rd; (9pm) King Charles I, 55-57 Northdown St; (10pm) Millers, 19 Caledonian Rd. - **Tue 23** (8pm) Bottled beer tasting with Des de Moor. Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd N1. (See weekly email for details).

March - Tue 2 NW1 Camden Town social: (7.30) Hobbogoblin, 33 Kentish Town Rd; (8pm) Ice Wharf, Camden Lock; (8.45) Elephants Head, 224 Camden High St; (9.30) Oxford Arms, 265 Camden High St; (10pm) Bucks Head, 202 Camden High St. - **Tue 9** Pre-LDBF social: (7pm) Skinners, 114 Judd St, WC1; (8.30) Euston Flyer, 83 Euston Rd, NW1; (9.30) Betjeman Arms, St Pancras Station, NW1. - **Tue 16** N5/N4 social: (7.30) Highbury Barn, 26 Highbury Park; (8.15) Bank of Friendship, 224 Blackstock Rd; (9pm) Woodbine, 215 Blackstock Rd; (9.30) Kings Head, 26 Blackstock Rd; (10.15) Brownswood Tavern, 271 Green Lanes. - **Sat 20** (2pm onwards) Six Nations Rugby final day matches. Bree Louise, 69 Cobourg Street, NW1. - **Tue 23** (8pm) Mtg. Oxford Arms (upstairs room), 265 Kentish Town Rd, NW5. - **Tue 30** WC1 Kings Cross social: (7.30) Water Rats, 328 Grays Inn Rd; (8pm) Smithys, 15-17 Leeke St; (8.45) Swintons, 61 Swinton St; (9.15) Carpenters Arms, 105 Kings Cross Rd; (9.45) Queens Head, 66 Acton St; (10.15) Lucas Arms, 245a Grays Inn Rd.

Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk *Email list: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/camranorthlondon/*

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW

Brian Kirtou: 020 8384 7284 (H); briankirtou@blueyonder.co.uk
February – **Thu 4** Richmond crawl: (7.30) Roebuck, 130 Richmond Hill; then (8.30) Marlborough, 46 Friars Stile Rd; (9.30) Dukes Head, 42 The Vineyard; (10.15) Red Cow, 59 Sheen Rd. - **Thu 18** (8.30) Mtg. Admiral Nelson, 123 Nelson Rd, Whitton TW2. - **Fri 26** (8.30) Social. Adelaide, 57 Park Rd, Teddington.
March – **Thu 4** Hampton crawl: (7.30) Railway Bell, Station Rd; then (8.30) Worlds End, 88 Station Rd; (9.30) Bell Inn, 8 Thames St; (10.15) Jolly Coopers, 16 High St. - **Thu 18** (8.30) Mtg. White Cross, Water Lane, Richmond. - **Thu 25** (8.30) Social. William Webb Ellis, 24 London Rd, Twickenham
Advance Notice: Thu 22 April (8pm), **Branch AGM: venue tba.**

SOUTH EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew: 07751 898310 (M) *evening or weekends only*, branch.contact@selcamra.org.uk
February – **Tue 2** (8pm) **Branch AGM** and social. Old Nuns Head 15 Nunhead Green SE15. - **Wed 10** (8pm) Social. Pilot, 68 River Way, SE10. - **Tue 16** BR5 Petts Wood social: (8pm) Daylight Inn, Station Sq; (8.45) Sovereign of the Seas 109-111 Queensway. - **Tue 23** SE17 social: (8pm) Hampton 35 Hampton St; (9pm) Beehive 60-62 Carter St.
March – **Wed 3** (8pm) Cttee mtg and social. Oakhill Tavern, 9 Chancery Lane, Beckenham BR3. - **Wed 10** SE26 social: (8pm) Bricklayers Arms, 189 Dartmouth Rd; (8.45) Windmill, 125 Kirkdale; (9.30) Woodman, 110 Kirkdale. - **Tue 16** SE22 social: (7.30) Clockhouse, 196a Peckham Rye; (8pm) East Dulwich Tavern, 1 Lordship Lane; (8.45) Bishop, 27 Lordship Lane; (9.30) Vale Bar 31-33 Grove Vale. - **Wed 24** SE18 social: (8pm) Earl of Chatham, 15 Thomas St; (8.45) Great Harry, 7-9 Wellington St.
Website: www.selcamra.org.uk

SOUTH-WEST ESSEX

Alan Barker: swessex@essex-camra.org.uk
February – **Tue 2** Triple header social: (8pm) Phoenix, Broadway, Rainham RM13; (9pm) Three Travellers, Wood Lane, Becontree Heath, Dagenham, RM10; (10pm) Golden Lion, 2 High St/North St, Romford RM1. - **Thu 4** (8pm) Out-of-area social. 11th Chelmsford Winter Beer Fest, Triangle Club, Duke St (Nr Chelmsford Rail Station). - **Tue 9** (8.30) Social. Rising Sun, Church Hill, Stanford-Le-Hope SS17. - **Thu 11** (8.30) Winter Beer Fest, White Hart, Kings Walk/Argent St, Grays RM17. - **Wed 17** (8.30) GBG and PotY (London area) selection mtg. Eva Hart, 1128 High Rd/Station Rd, Chadwell Heath, RM6 (*Venue and date to be confirmed*). - **Tue 23** (8.30) GBG & PotY (Essex area) selection mtg. Rising Sun, 144 Ongar Rd, Brentwood CM15. - **Thu 25** (8pm) Out-of-area social. 10th Piglet Beer Fest, Leyton Orient Supporters Club, Oliver Rd, Leyton E10. - **Sat 27** (11.30am) Out-of-area social, 1st Chappel Winter Beer Fest, East Anglian Rly Museum, Chappel & Wakes Colne CO6. Admission by pre-paid ticket only: book via [website: www.essex-camra.org.uk/cub](http://www.essex-camra.org.uk/cub)
March – **Wed 3** (8.30) Social. Stag, Brentwood Rd, Marden Ash CM5 9DH. - **Wed 10** (7.30) Out-of-area social. 26th London Drinker Beer Fest, Camden Centre, Bidborough St, WC1H. - **Wed 17** (8.30) **Branch AGM**. White Hart, Kings Walk/Argent St, Grays. - **Thu 25** (8.30) Social. White Horse, 173 Coxtie Green Rd/Mores Lane, Coxtie Green CM14 5PX.
Website: essex-camra.org.uk/swessex

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H), 020-7147 3826 (W), markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk
February – **Tue 2** Battersea Beer Festival publicity crawl: meet (7pm) Sun, Old Town, Clapham SW4. - **Wed 17** (7.30) Open cttee mtg. Woodman, 222 Durnsford Rd, Wimbledon SW19. - **Sun 28** (12.15), GBG2011 selection mtg. Priory Arms (upstairs), 83 Lansdowne Way, S Lambeth SW8.
March – **Thu 18** SW17 Tooting crawl: (6.45) King's Head, 84 Upper Tooting Rd; (7.30) Castle, 38 Tooting High St; (8.15) JJ Moons, 56A Tooting High St; (9pm) Tooting Tram & Social, 48A Mitcham Rd; (9.45) Antelope, 76 Mitcham Rd; (10.30) Goringale Park, 29 London Rd.
Website: www.swlcamra.org.uk

WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104 (H) 07854 988152 (M)
February – **Thu 11** Social at Battersea Beer Festival, Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, London SW11. Meet in corridor near foreign beer bar, on the hour every hour. - **Thu 18** WD4 Hunkton Bridge social: (8.30) Waterside Tavern (ex King's Head), 32 Bridge Rd; (9pm) King's Lodge, 28 Bridge Rd; (9.30) Dog & Partridge, Old Mill Rd. - **Mon 22** (8pm) Mtg. Escourt Arms, St. Johns Rd, Watford WD17.
March – **Thu 4** Auction of Breweriana. Function Room, West Herts Sports Club, Park Avenue, Watford WD18. Viewing from 7pm for an 8pm start. - **Wed 10** London Drinker Beer Festival. Meet near Products Stand at 6pm and every hour thereafter. - **Thu 18** Bushey and Oxhey social: (8.15) Bushey Conservative Club, 5 High St, Bushey WD23; (9.15) Oxhey Conservative Club, Lower Paddock Rd, Watford WD19; (10pm) Villiers Arms, 108 Villiers Rd, Watford WD19. Please bring your CAMRA membership card for entry into the clubs. - **Mon 29** **Branch AGM**, venue tbc. Check branch website for details: www.watfordcamra.org.uk/diary.htm
Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

WEST LONDON

Kimberly Martin: 07717 795284, kimberlymartin@yahoo.com; Social secretary Alasdair Bayo: 020 7930 9871 x 143 (2.30-3.30 and 6-9.30pm Mon-Fri), banqueting@nlc.org.uk, fax 020 7839 4768
February – **Tue 2** (7.30) GBG 2011 selection mtg. Star Tavern (upstairs room), 6 Belgrave Mews West, SW1. - **Wed 10/Thu 11** (7.30) Working socials, Battersea Beer Festival (Cider bar). - **Thu 18** (7.30) GBG 2011 final selection and PotY shortlisting mtg. Albion (upstairs room), £2.50/pint CAMRA card), 121 Hammersmith Rd, W14. - **Tue 23** W1 Mayfair crawl: (7.30) Punch Bowl, 41 Farm St; (8.15) Coach & Horses, 5 Hill St; (9pm) Guinea, 30 Bruton Pl; (9.45) Coach & Horses, 5 Bruton St.
March – **Tue 2** (7.30) Mtg. White Horse (small upstairs room), 1/3 Parson's Green SW6. - **Wed 10/Thu 11** (7.30) Working Socials, London Drinker Beer Festival (Cider bar). - **Wed 17** SW1 St Patrick's Day crawl: (7.30) Morpeth Arms, 58 Millbank; (8.15) Royal Oak, 2 Regency St; (9pm) White Horse & Bower, 86 Horseferry Rd; (9.45) Speaker, 46 Great Peter St. - **Thu 25** Hammersmith joint social with SPBW Campden Hill Branch: (7.30) Grove, 83 Hammersmith Gro, W6; (8.15) Dartmouth Castle, 26 Glenholme Rd, W6; (9pm) Swan, 46 Hammersmith Broadway, W6; (10pm) Albion, 121 Hammersmith Rd, W14. - **Tue 30** Cask Ale Week W2 crawl: (7pm) Mad Bishop & Bear, Paddington Station (upper level); (7.45) Victoria, 10a Strathearn Pl; (8.30) Mitre, 24 Craven Terr; (9.15) Leinster Arms, 17 Leinster Terr; (10pm) Cleveland Arms, 28 Chilworth St.
Website: www.west.london-camra.org.uk

WEST MIDDLESEX

Social secretary Bob O'Brien 01895 673266; Branch contact John Bush 07739 105336, info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk
February – **Tue 2** Ruislip three pub social: (8pm) Duck House, High St; (9pm) Plough, Bury St; (9.45) Woodman, Breakspare Rd. - **Thu 11** Social. Battersea Beer Festival. Meet Membership Stand at 7pm, 8pm and 9pm. - **Tue 16** Harefield three pub social: (7.30) Spotted Dog, Breakspare Rd North; (8.30) Kings Arms, 6 Park Lane; (9.30) Harefield, 41 High St. - **Mon 22** Northwood two pub social: (8.30) Misty Moon, 27 Green Lane; (9.45) Gate, Rickmansworth Rd. - **Wed 24** (8.30) GBG selection mtg. Southall Conservative Club, Fairlawns, High St, Southall.
March – **Tue 2** Wembley High St two pub social: (8.30) Bear; (9.30) JJ Moons. - **Wed 10** Social. London Drinker Beer Festival. Meet Products Stand at 7pm, 8pm and 9pm. - **Thu 18** (8.30) Social. Ealing Park Tavern, 222 South Ealing Rd, South Ealing. - **Wed 24** (8.30) Branch and PotY/CotY selection mtg. Load of Hay, 33 Villiers St, Uxbridge.
Website: www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the April/May edition: Wednesday 17 March. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

A tail of a feline ale

The Nag's Head 'Feline Beer Festival', 11-14 November 2009

Well, if you have two good pub cats, the Beer Festival has just got to have a feline theme, and the Nag's Head certainly ran a 'five mouse' festival. Twenty beers from around the country with the LocAle provided by three beers from Brentwood, and two from Nethergate – including Old Growler. There was a good range of beer strengths: 3.4% to 5.5%, and nothing in the fall over the cat and break something stakes, so lovers of Old Tom were disappointed (but not your correspondent).

As they say on the internet, 'DH' and I just happened to be passing by on the Tuesday evening and got roped in to help tap the barrels and write some notes on QC for the staff. At that point 15



beers were already on top form and the others were coming along nicely and would be on form later in the week. At the end all 20 purred to purrfection. Notable tastes were Millstone Tiger Rut, the three from Brentwood – Stout Cat, Cat in the Box and Pussy Galore – and Elgood's Black Dog. The Nag's does not usually provide food, but for the duration of the festival the lovely sausages made by the East London Sausage Company from just around the corner, in Orford Road, were on the barbecue.

The Nag's now has a house beer (cask and bottled) from Nethergate: Itinerant at 3.9% and named in honour of the second pub cat, Tetley, who also graces the Vestry House Museum and other local venues with his lordly black and white presence. No1 boss pub cat is of course Wilhelmina, 'Miss Billy', a gracious lady tabby.

Flossie and the girls went full fluff on the décor, with cat T-shirts and ears for the girls, cat-graphs of customers' felines, cats in tinsel, cat masks, and a



Tetley

large 'homes wanted' display from the Mayhew Animal Home.

Many thanks to Flossie, Roger and the Girls for a purrfect festival, and watch out for the next one, hopefully rumoured for May 2010.

Your spy in the cat flap – 'Madam Paws'

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Oxford Circus Tube Station (0.4 km)

A real pub in the heart of the West End

Capital Pubcheck - update 210

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 a brand new Geronimo pub at the new Westfield Shopping Centre, Shepherds Bush W12 and a 'free of tie' Enterprise pub now specialising in microbrewery beers in NW5 Gospel Oak. M&B are increasing the number of pubs and the range of beers in their 'Nicholson' estate and the Bay Restaurant Group are installing real ale in their 'Slug & Lettuce outlets. Fuller's have acquired a former Punch pub in NW3 Hampstead. The former Orange gastropub has reopened as an upmarket gastropub.

On the down side pubcos and breweries alike are targeting pubs for closure and redevelopment on expiry of leases across London. These include pubs operated by the Wellington Pub Co, Young's and even Shepherd Neame which are highlighted below. Enterprise have auctioned off another 14 London pubs in central locations to raise finance but, like the six auctioned in October, will continue to operate them under a 35 year leaseback arrangement, sadly retaining the tie. The three auctions

have raised £30 million.

Former Spirit managed pubs now owned by Punch Taverns are operated separately from the original Punch leased estate and will be referred to as 'Punch Pub Co' in the Updates. Pubs described simply as 'Punch' will indicate leased pubs in the 'Punch Partnership' estate.

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; CE - Camden & Euston Real Ale Guide; CSL - Clapham & South Lambeth Pub Guide; E - East London & City Beer Guide, 3rd edition; H - Hertfordshire Guide to Real Ale, 2000 edition; HB - Holborn & Bloomsbury Pub Guide; HH - Hampstead & Highgate Real Ale 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; RHP - Richmond to Ham & Petersham Pub Guide; SE - South East London Pub Guide, 4th edition; 3SE - South East London Pub Guide, 3rd edition; SW - South West London Pub Guide, 2nd edition; W - West London Pub Guide, 2nd edition; WB - Wandsworth & Battersea Pub Guide; 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 email: capitalpubcheck@hotmail.com.

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC3, SLUG & LETTUCE, 100 Fenchurch St. Fuller: London Pride; Wells: Bombardier. Real ale recently introduced. Bay Restaurant Group, ex-SFI via Laurel. Formerly PARISA, opened by small Parisa chain c.1999, acquired and renamed by SFI c. 2002, but not previously reported.

WC1, NUMBER TWELVE, 12 Upper Woburn Pl. No real ale. Independent bar/restaurant attached to Ambassador Hotel next door.

W1(May), SLUG & LETTUCE, 19/20 Hanover St. Wells: Bombardier; Young: Bitter. Now Bay Restaurant Group, ex- Laurel. (W62, U197)

W1(S), SLUG & LETTUCE, 80/82 Wardour St. Fuller: London Pride; Wells: Bombardier. (W69, U197, U207)

EAST

E4, ROYSTON ARMS, 83 Chingford Mount Rd. Black Sheep: Bitter; Young: Bitter. Reinstatement of real ale. (E97, U161, U205)

E7, FOREST GATE HOTEL, 105 Godwin Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Wells: Bombardier. Reinstatement of real ale. (E107, U202)

E8, AMP, 255 Mare St. Reopened and renamed ANATOLIA BAR, no real ale. Formerly MADDIGANS (OF MARE STREET), HOBSON'S CHOICE and originally HORSE & GROOM. (E113, U65, U132, U184, U187, U192, U198)

E15, PRINCESS OF WALES, 25 West Ham Lane. Caledonian: Deuchars IPA. Real ale reinstated. Now Punch, ex-Taylor Walker. (E154, U161)

NORTH

N1, WILLIAM IV, 7 Shepherdess Walk. Fuller: London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar. Reopened December 2009. (N62, U184, U188, U209)

NORTH WEST

NW5, SOUTHAMPTON ARMS, 139 Highgate Rd. A changing range of eight microbrewery beers and four real ciders and perries. The 'free of tie' lease on this small Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique pub has been acquired by Jo and Pete and a traditional 'alehouse' recreated. The three storey Georgian building has undergone a renovation with open fire and original bar retained and a courtyard garden at the rear. Sustaining pub food is served such as scotch eggs, pork pies, sausage rolls, crusty rolls and cheeses. Piano and pub games available. A welcome addition to the London real ale scene. Open 12-12 every day. (N200, U153)

NW7, KERRIGANS, 3 Thornfield Parade, Holders Hill Rd. Renamed RED FILLI in late 2009. No real ale. Typical independent Irish bar in former shop premises, believed opened in late '90s but not previously reported.

HARROW (HA1), BLUE ZENZER, Playgolf Northwick Park, 80 Watford Rd. No real ale. New independent bar/restaurant opened in golf centre facility.

KENTON (HA3), LANCER (BAR CLUB & RESTAURANT), 177-179 Kenton Rd. Reopened and renamed PEACHES, a bar and restaurant. Still no real ale. Formerly KENTON ARMS. (W216, U199).

RUISLIP (HA4), DUCK HOUSE, 2A-2B High St. Fuller; London Pride, weekly guest beer (suggested by customers) @ £3/pint. New Independent 'village bar & grill' in former Bluebeckers restaurant premises.

RUISLIP (HA4), RUISLIP GOLF CENTRE AND MILL HOUSE, Ickenham Rd. Renamed **FAIRWAY** by June 2008. Fuller: London Pride (may vary) installed in January 2010. Former free house now operated by Punch Pub Co, ex-Spirit and given a 'Two for One' branding. (W182)

SOUTH EAST

SE13, FREEMASONS ARMS, 38 Ladywell Rd. No real ale. Reopened about 10 years ago as a small bistro type pub but not previously reported. Now independent, ex-Courage. Only draught beer is keg Erdinger Weissbier. Bottled Belgian and British beers available. (SE120, U141)

SE18, ELEPHANT & CASTLE, 18 Greens End. Courage: Best Bitter @ £2.40/pint; changing guest beer up to 4.5% ABV (e.g. Nelson Brewery) @ £2.50/pint (50p off during happy hour which varies during week), Open 8am-9pm every day.. (SE168, U171, U196, U207)

WELLING (DA16), FORESTERS ARMS, Upper Wickham Rd. No real ale. Reopened after fire. (3SE286, K146, U190)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(B), ORANGE BREWERY, 37 Pimlico Rd. Reopened in November 2009 and renamed **ORANGE (PUBLIC HOUSE & HOTEL)**. Adnams: Bitter; Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; Harvey: Sussex Best Bitter. Former Spirit pub acquired by Cubitt House (operator of Pantechnicon and Thomas Cubitt nearby) and refurbished in upmarket light and airy style with polished wooden floor, cream décor and real fire. Heavy emphasis on expensive food with separate eating room to the right and most of the ground and first floor 'bar' areas laid out for meals. Four bedroom luxury hotel accommodation upstairs. The possibility of contracting a revived 'SW1' house beer from a small brewer is being investigated. Pub open 8am-11.30 Mon-Thu, 8am-midnight Fri/Sat, 9am-10.30 Sun. (SW38, U162, U167, U202)

SW2, EFFRA HALL, 38A Kellett Rd. Fuller: London Pride. Real ale reinstated in November 2009. Now independent, ex-Phoenix Inns. Note correct name. Formerly **EFFRA HALL TAVERN**. (SW52, U142, U144)

SW2, IROKO, 226-228 Brixton Hill. No real ale. Independent West African bar/restaurant and night club in former shop premises.

SW9, ANGEL, 354 Coldharbour Lane, Enterprise, no real ale. Reopened. (SW81, U207)

SW11, GREYHOUND, 136 Battersea High St. Reopened and renamed **BELLEVUE**. Black Sheep: Bitter on new handpumps. Punch, ex-Marr Taverns. Was **BUZZE BAR** for a while. (SW89, WB33, U208)

SW11, PITCHER & PIANO, 94 Northcote Rd. Renamed **DRAFT HOUSE** after closure and refurbishment, Sambrook: Wandle, Junction. Now independent, ex-Marston and in same ownership as the Westbridge. (U139, WB36)

SW11, RAVEN ONE FORTY, 140 Westbridge Rd. Reopened and renamed **MELANZATA**. No real ale, an independent 'bar-trattoria-deli' with keg Peroni only. Formerly **RAVEN**. (SW90, WB36, U204)

SW11, SLUG & LETTUCE, 4 St Johns Hill. Fuller: London Pride; Wells: Bombardier. Reinstatement of real ale. Now Bay Restaurant Group, ex-Laurel. (U126,

U199, WB37)

SW15, WEST PUTNEY TAVERN, 408 Upper Richmond Rd. Renamed **NORTHUMBERLAND (THE)**, Draught Bass; Flowers: IPA. Reinstatement of real ale. Formerly **JIM THOMPSON'S**, originally **NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS**. (SW102, BRP20, U208)

SW16, ARISTO, 540 Streatham High Rd. No real ale. Independent café bar not previously reported, in former café premises.

SW16, BAR STAR ONE, 10 Streatham High Rd. No real ale. Independent bar not previously reported, in former restaurant premises.

SW16, TAYLORS, 78a Streatham High Rd. Enterprise (not free). Young: Bitter. Reinstatement of real ale. Formerly **O'NEILLS**. (SW108, U167)

SW19, GROVE TAVERN, 2 Morden Rd. Fuller: London Pride, initially on gravity awaiting handpumps. Is Punch, (not free). Was **DOYLE'S** for a while. (SW117, BM27)

SW20, JUNCTION TAVERN, 641 Kingston Rd. Reopened, still no real ale, H unused. Now Admiral, ex-Punch. (SW125, BRP37, U207)

WEST

W4, SHACKOLOGY, 374 Chiswick High Rd. Reverted to **CROWN & ANCHOR** by mid 2008. Purity: Pure Gold, UBU. Reinstatement of real ale. (W87, U185, U195, U197)

W5, BAR DE LUCE, 8 Hanger Green, Western Avenue. No real ale. Newly reported independent bar in former Attic Wine Bar premises.

W6, EDWARDS, 46 Hammersmith Broadway. Reverted to **SWAN**. Fuller: London Pride; Taylor: Landlord and eight varying guest beers from regionals and larger micros (e.g. Hydes, Thwaites, Sharps, Marstons, Shepherd Neame, Nethergate). Transferred to M&B's Nicholson estate after refurbishment back to a traditional style. Plenty of seating, several interlocking bars and areas. Non-intrusive taped music (at least at lunchtime). Upstairs bar has three handpumps and table service for food. A welcome recognition by M&B of the resurgence of interest in real ale, particularly amongst the younger age groups. (W102)

W7, KINGS ARMS, 110 Uxbridge Rd. Courage: Best Bitter (previously erroneously reported as H unused). (W108, U202)

W12, BULL, Unit 1033, Southern Terrace, Westfield Shopping Centre. Adnams: Broadside; Flowers: IPA; Sambrook: Wandle, Junction; Sharp: Doom Bar. Meantime bottled beers. New Geronimo Inns pub in modern style opened in large new shopping centre. Food available 12-10 daily. Outside area, large screen, pool tables, children welcome. Located in Southern Terrace restaurant area at Shepherds Bush Central Line Station end. Open 11-11 Mon-Thu, 11-12 Fri/Sat, 11-10,30 Sun.

HOUNSLOW (TW3), CROSS LANCES, 236 Hanworth Rd. Fuller: Gales Seafarers Ale, London Pride, ESB. Reopened with new tenant. (W167, U209)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), LARKINS CELLAR BAR, 113 High St. Reopened and renamed **ROSE (THE)**. Fuller: London Pride. Formerly **LARKIN INN**. (W170, U195, U198)

UXBRIDGE (UB8), SLUG & LETTUCE, 219-221 High St. Wells: Bombardier. Reinstatement of real ale. Now Bay Restaurant Group, ex-Laurel. Formerly **HOGS**

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HEAD, originally HOGSHEAD. (W210, U202)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC3, RED LION, 8 Lombard Ct, M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass, closed by August 2009, future uncertain. (E42, U151)

EC4, EVANGELIST, Innventive (Thomas & Carter), closed and boarded up by September 2009. (U164)

WC2, ALL BAR ONE, 48 Leicester Sq, M&B, H removed. (W27)

W1(F), SLUG & LETTUCE, Bay Restaurant Group, ex-Laurel, now converted to restaurant since summer 2009. Formerly HA! HA! (BAR & CANTEEN). (W45, U199, U204)

W1(Mar), MASONS ARMS, Hall & Woodhouse, closed September 2009 on expiry of lease. Rumoured that it might become an upmarket fish restaurant. There seems to be a pattern of Hall & Woodhouse's gradually disposing of their London pubs. (W53)

W1(S), PITCHER & PIANO, 69/70 Dean St, Marston, now converted to 'Dean Street Townhouse' restaurant in November 2009, serving also the hotel of the same name next door. Delete from pub database. (W68, U199)

EAST

E2, FLYING SCUD, ex-Truman, now demolished after being closed about 15 years. (E80, U110, U162, U189)

E3, OLD DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, 20 Reeves Rd, ex-

Ascot Taverns, no real ale. (E91, U72, U80, U99, U117, U159, U185, U191)

E4, PRINCE ALBERT (BAR PA), Enterprise, ex-Whitbread, closed and boarded up in spring 2009. Was simply BAR PA for a while. (E96, U159, U176, U191)

E5, CRICKETERS, Enterprise, ex-Inn Business, closed following police raid. Was SHAMPS for a while. (E101, U70, U99, U159, U162)

E6, OVERDRAFT TAVERN, Free, H removed. (U133, U159)

E7, FOX & HOUNDS, Enterprise, ex-Watney via Unique, no real ale. (E108)

E7, TRAVELLERS, Free, closed for some years and now converted to flats. Formerly TRAVELLERS REST. (E109, U70)

E12, RUSKIN ARMS, ex-Bass, closed and fenced off with side and rear demolished. (E133, U76, U79)

E17, RINGWOOD CASTLE, Greene King, now being converted to residential use. (E168, U98, U117, U168, U209)

ILFORD (IG3), GENERAL HAVELOCK, ex-Courage, H unused (X72, U185)

NORTH

N10, MINSTREL BOY, Greene King, H removed. Formerly RAT & CARROT (THE MINSTREL) for a while. (N104, U109, U117, U154)

N13, POLSKI BAR SPORTOWA, Free, converted to 'Foodland' budget supermarket in December 2009.



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Formerly MANHATTANS and FALTERING FULLBACK, originally COCK TAVERN. (N115, U163, U200, U203)
N15, GOLDEN STOOL, ex-Bass, already reported closed, freehold now for sale. (N125, U140, U202)
N22, CHICAGO ROCK CAFÉ. Renamed **SHOUT**, Free, closed. (U109)

NORTH WEST

NW1, CHESTER ARMS, Free, closed August 2009, future uncertain. Formerly **CHESTERS** for a while. (N163, U130)

PINNER (HA5), MANOR, Eastcote, Greene King, H removed. (W180, U201)

WEALDSTONE (HA3), BLUEBECKERS, Harrow Weald, Punch, closed and boarded up. Formerly **HARE**. (W237, U194)

WEALDSTONE (HA3), CASE IS ALTERED, M&B, closed and derelict. Planning application submitted to Harrow Council to demolish and replace with 36 flats. (W216, U199)

WEALDSTONE (HA3), SAM MAGUIRE, Punch (not free), planning application now submitted to Harrow Council to demolish and replace with a 57 room hotel and café. (W217)

WEMBLEY, BARRRETTS, Free, closed and A3 lease for sale. (W218)

WEMBLEY, ALPINE HORN, 183 Ealing Rd, ex-Watney, already reported as converted to club, now demolished and replaced by flats. (W238)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, ANTIGALLICAN, Free, now converted to offices, retaining fascade. (SE9, U105, U139)

SE5, NAGS HEAD, ex-Truman, closed. (SE59)

SE6, PLOUGH & HARROW, Enterprise, converted to barbers' shop. (SE68, U188)

SE8, OSBORNE ARMS, Admiral, ex-Belhaven, closed and freehold for sale. (SE81)

SE10, ROYAL GEORGE, Shepherd Neame, popular community local first licensed in 1827, closed, boarded up and all signage removed in early January on expiry of the lease on the grounds of non-viability. A planning application for conversion to three flats was submitted to Greenwich Council in October 2009 but withdrawn before it was determined. Appeals by SE London CAMERA Branch and regulars to Shepherd Neame to put it on the market as a pub, to give someone else a chance of running it, have so far gone unheeded. This sort of action is normally associated with pubcos rather than family brewers, future uncertain. (SE101, U209)

SE13, CROWN & ANCHOR, ex-Bass, closed and boarded up. (SE118)

SE14, ROSEMARY BRANCH. Renamed simply **ROSEMARY**, Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique, no real ale. (SE130)

SE15, ASYLUM TAVERN, ex-Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique, no real ale. (SE134, U159)

SE15, GOLDEN LION, Enterprise, ex-Belhaven, closed and gutted by major fire which spread from adjacent development site in November 2009, future uncertain. (SE135)

SE27, TWO TOWERS, ex Taylor Walker, closed. (SE229,

U102)

BEXLEYHEATH (DA6), OHM, Zerodegrees, converted to 'Pure' nightclub. (U169)

CROYDON (CR0), CRESCENT ARMS, ex-Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique, closed and for sale. (3SE238, U56)

THORNTON HEATH (CR7), FOUNTAIN HEAD, Young, closed. (3SE282, U199)

THORNTON HEATH (CR7), VICTORY, 150 Gillett Rd, Enterprise, now converted to Islamic centre. Note correct address. (3SE285, U56, U188)

EAST

SW2, KING OF SARDINIA, ex-Bass, now confirmed converted to flats. (SW53, U191, U198)

SW2, TELEGRAPH, Enterprise, closed. (SW54, U184)

SW9, JAMM, Punch, now a late night music venue open only at weekends; delete from pub database. Formerly **BAR LORCA**, originally **OLD WHITE HORSE**. (SW82, U141, U153, U184)

SW9, LANDOR, Enterprise, ex-Unique (not Free), no real ale: the handpumped Fuller's London Pride, Greene King IPA and guest beer are all kept under blanket pressure. (SW82)

SW9, SAINT FRANCIS, 64/66 Atlantic Rd, independent, closed. Formerly **ATLANTIC 66**, note full address. (U207)

SW9, SWAN, Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur via Unique, now a late night music venue open only at weekends; delete from pub database. (SW83, U141)

SW10, FULHAM (THE). Renamed **FULHAM BAR & EATING HOUSE**, Innventive, ex-Massive, closed, future uncertain. Formerly **BRASSERIE DE L'AUBERGE** and **FULHAM TUP**. (SW85, U181, U191)

SW16, BEDFORD PARK, Young, closed following non-renewal of lease, planning application from freeholder for conversion to flats refused by Lambeth Council in 2009, future uncertain. (SW105)

SW16, ROSE & CROWN, Punch Pub Co, ex-S&N via Spirit, closed. (SW108, U153)

KEW (TW9), GREYHOUND, Enterprise, closed and boarded up in November 2009, future uncertain. (SW138, U181, U204)

WEST

W3, COYOTE, Free. Part (No 100) converted to 'Vanilla' coffee shop and deli and part (No 102) converted to 'Tiffin & Fresco' Indian and Italian restaurant, bottled beers only. Delete from pub database. (U188)

HEATHROW AIRPORT (TW6), WETHERSPOONS, Upper Concourse, Terminal 2 (Landside), Wetherspoon, closed along with rest of Terminal in November 2009. (W162)

HEATHROW AIRPORT (TW6), WETHERSPOONS, Terminal 2 (Airside), Wetherspoon, closed (as Landside). (U158)

SOUTHALL (UB1), HAMBROUGH TAVERN, Free, no real ale. Now subtitled (**MARYS FREE HOUSE**) after the local ward name. Note correct spelling of name. (W186)

SOUTHALL (UB1), NORTHCOTE ARMS, already reported converted to Northcote Hotel, now closed and boarded up. (W237)

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SOUTHALL (UB2), WOLF, Punch Pub Co, ex-Spirit, closed. (W188, U199)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), RED LION, Enterprise, closed. The management and musicians who played there have moved to another Enterprise pub, the Twickenham Tup, previously leased to Massive and then Innventive. Was **FILTHYS (AT THE RED LIOIN)** for a while. (W204, U192, U207)

UXBRIDGE (UB8), LORD HILL, Enterprise, H removed, freehold for sale. (W211)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC2, MAGPIE, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; +Taylor: Landlord; + real ales from a 'seasonal list' of 13 from breweries large and small on a total of 10 handpumps. There are four seasonal lists a year. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (E33, U82, U151)

EC2, WHITE HART, 121 Bishopsgate, -beers listed + a similar range to the Magpie on eight handpumps. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (E36, U64, U67, U195)

EC4, BELL, 29 Bush Lane. Enterprise sold the freehold at auction, together with another 13 pubs, in December 2009, but will continue to operate it under a 35 year leaseback agreement. (E46, U189)

EC4, COCKPIT. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (E47, U197)

EC4, RISING SUN, Enterprise, ex-Truman via Unique. Freehold sold and leased back in December 2009. Was **HEDGEHOG & HOGSHEAD** for a while. (E53, U99, U121)

WC1, OLD CROWN, -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Young: Bitter. Leased from punch by operators of Deux Beers, EC1 and Nordic, W1. (N26, HB10, W21)

WC2, COPACABANA. Renamed **STEVIE JOE'S**, still no real ale. Formerly **GEISHA**. (U205)

WC2, CROOKED SURGEON. Renamed **SLUG & LETTUCE**. Now Bay Restaurant Group, ex-Laurel, -Greene King: Abbot. Formerly **HOGS HEAD**, originally **HOGSHEAD**. (W33, U191)

WC2, CROWN, -Tetley: Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA; +Young: Bitter. Now Punch Pub Co, ex-Spirit. (W31)

WC2, CROWN & ANCHOR. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (W31)

WC2, EDGAR WALLACE. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009 at this GBG pub which sells a range of microbrewery beers supplied through the SIBA direct delivery scheme. (W32, U188)

W1(F), GREEN MAN, +guest beers (e.g. Adnams Kolsch, Purity UBU). (W45)

W1(F), NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS, 43 Goodge St. There are rumours that M&B may be looking to sell the pub for redevelopment. (W47)

W1(Mar), HENRY HOLLAND. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (W52)

W1(S), POP. Renamed **PUNK** in 2007! Operated by Breakfast Group, still no real ale. (W68)

EAST

E4, GIO'S. Renamed **LUSH**. (U191)

E17, COPPERMILL, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA; +guest beer (e.g. Mighty Oak beers). (E166)

BARKING, LUKE'S BAR & RESTAURANT. Renamed **CLUB AMBASSADOR**, a nightclub with wine bar attached. The wine bar sells keg beer and you can drink without paying an entry fee or eating. Retain on pub database. Formerly **LEGENDS**. (X11, U199)

BARKING, CAPTAIN COOK. Renamed **VICTORIA**, still no real ale. (X11, U174, U197)

NORTH

N8, SIPS. Renamed **CHANGA BAR**, still no real ale. Formerly **LION LOUNGE** and **NOBODY INN**, originally **LION**. (N94, U158, U174, U199, U209)

N8, WISHING WELL. Renamed **FUNKY BROWN 2**, a bar/restaurant. Formerly **FIDDLERS ELBOW**. (N93, U157, U167)

N12, AUTUMN HOUSE. Renamed **A'ZEEZ**, a bar and restaurant. Now independent, ex-Marston. Formerly **BELGRAVE**, **O'NEILLS** and **PAGES BAR**. (N111, U110, U160, U163, U168, U181, U184, U198)

N16, COACH & HORSES, -beers listed; +Black Sheep: Bitter; +St Austell: Tribute; +Wells: Bombardier. Now Punch, ex-Pubmaster. (N128)

NORTH WEST

NW1, PEMBROKE, Enterprise pub leased to Barracuda. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. Formerly **PEMBROKE CASTLE**. (N171, U156, U160, U169, CE21)

NW1, EXMOUTH ARMS, Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (N166, CE11)

NW3, DUKE OF HAMILTON. The owners of this much loved GBG pub, the Wellington Pub Co, are 'reviewing options' for conversion to luxury flats on expiry of the 'free of tie' lease to the current tenant in March. According to the 'Ham & High' newspaper, a feasibility study carried out for Wellington revealed the premises were worth an unconfirmed £800,000 as a pub and as much as £12 million as a site for development, provided Camden Council grant permission. The need for new legislation to protect community facilities including pubs is obvious in this context. (N184, HH11, U209)

NW3, HOLLY BUSH. Grade II listed and GBG Punch pub, believed acquired by lessee and sold to Fuller's in December 2009, -beers listed except Harvey: Sussex Best Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride, ESB. Beers may vary. (N186, U152, U157, HH14)

NW4, MIDLAND HOTEL. Under new tenancy. Retains Greene King: IPA (£2.45/pint). Fresh chef-cooked food available, covered garden at rear and two pool tables. Formerly **MIDLAND ARMS**, **HUNGRY HORSE** and **PICKLED NEWT (THE MIDLAND)** for a while. (N195, U109, U117, U160, U163, U194)

HARROW (HA1), CAPTAIN MORGANS, 205 Watford Rd. Renamed **PUCK FAIR BAR**, still no real ale. Formerly **O'FLAHERTY'S**. (W154, U199)

HARROW (HA1), SILVER TRUMPET. Renamed **PASSION (LOUNGE BAR)**, a bar and restaurant specialising in Indian and Oriental food, still no real ale. (W155)

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Capital Pubcheck - update 210

HARROW (HA2), LAST POST. Renamed **MAN OF ARRAN**. Formerly **WINNING POST**. (W155, U202)
WEMBLEY (HA0), BOOTSY BROGANS. Renamed **DESI DONS (BAR & RESTAURANT)**. Real ale not always available. (W219, U209)

SOUTH EAST

SE13, FOX & FIRKIN. Now Tattersall Castle Group, ex-Allied via Spirit in 2005. (SE118, U189, U202)

SE13, LADYWELL TAVERN, -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter; +Harvey: Best Bitter; +Wells: Bombardier (two available). Now Enterprise, ex-Bass. (SE121)

BEXLEY (DA5), BLACK HORSE, -beers listed except Courage: Best Bitter; + guest beers (e.g. O'Hanlon beers). Now Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique. (3SE208, K32)

BEXLEY (DA5), COACH & HORSES. Retains Adnams: Bitter and Young: Bitter. Now Punch, ex-Ind Coope. (3SE209, U43, K33)

BEXLEY (DA5), GEORGE, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, OSH, varying beer. Now Greene King, ex-Whitbread. (3SE209, U43, U82, K33, U150)

BEXLEY (DA5), KINGS HEAD. Is an independent Free House, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, Abbot, varying beer. (3SE209, U59, K33)

BEXLEY (DA5), MILLERS ARMS, -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire. Now Punch, ex-Inn Business. (3SE210, U103, U149, K33)

BEXLEY (DA5), BLACK PRINCE. Enlarged in 1981 by Crest Hotels, later Forte, ex-Bass, it is now principally a Holiday Inn hotel. The hotel bar open to the public, which retained its original name, has now been renamed **TRADERS**, still no real ale. (3SE208, U43, U149, K32, U150)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(P), PRINCE OF WALES. Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur via Unique. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. Was **GALLAGHER & SONS** for a while. (SW41, U173)

SW1(SJ), OLD SHADES, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor: Landlord; +varying guests from the Nicholson 'seasonal' list. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (SW46)

SW1(SJ), RED LION, 23 Crown Passage. Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur via Unique. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (SW46, U176)

SW1(SJ), SILVER CROSS, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA, OSH; +Wells: Bombardier; +Young: London Gold. Now Punch Pub Co, ex-S&N via Spirit. (SW46, U152, U162)

SW2, GEORGE FOUR. Renamed **SOUTHSIDE BAR**, still no real ale and now charging for admission after 6pm. Formerly **GEORGE IV**. (SW52, U157, U184)

SW2, MANGO LANDIN', 40 St Matthews Rd. Now independent, ex-S&N via Punch. Still no real ale but Hecks cider and perry served from boxes on the bar. Note correct name and address. Formerly **BABUSHKA**, originally **HOPE**. (SW53, U144, U202)

SW6, FULHAM TUP. Reverted to **ROSE** after fifteen years of silly names, -beers listed except Wells: Bombardier; +Fuller: London Pride; +guest beer from SIBA micros (e.g. Sambrook: Wandle). Refurbished as a homely gastropub with central zinc bar and secluded

garden. Enterprise lease taken on by individual owner, Emily Hodgson, following the demise of the Massive Pub Co and problems with its successor, Innventive. Formerly **LEGLESS TUP** and **LEGLESS LADDER**. (SW68, U166, U196)

SW6, PELICAN. Enterprise, ex-Watney via Unique (not Free). Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. Formerly **PICKLED PELICAN**, originally **PRINCESS ROYAL**. (SW70, U157)

SW9, IVANS RETREAT. Renamed **REST IS NOISE (THE)**. Formerly **GOOSE**, originally **FLOURMILL & FIRKIN**. (U138, U151, U152, U157, U202, U207)

SW15, HALF MOON. A threat to close the pub, famed for its live music venue, for possible redevelopment by Young's, has been averted after a high profile campaign involving several celebrities. (SW101, BRP20)

SW16, FIVE BELLS, -beers listed except Greene King: IPA; +guest beers. Now Greene King, ex-Whitbread. Formerly **HOGSHEAD**. (U131, U146, U176, U182)

SW16, LEIGHAM ARMS, -Draught Bass; +Fuller: London Pride. Now Enterprise, ex-Bass. (SW105)

SW16, SAMUEL JOHNSON. Renamed **FURZEDOWN**, -beer listed; +Fuller: London Pride or guest beer (e.g. Sambrook: Wandle). Now Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur. Real ale reinstated after some years' unreported absence. Formerly **PARK TAVERN**. (SW108, U174)

SW17, GATEWAY. Renamed **COMMON (THE)**, still no real ale but some promised. (U198)

SW19, JENNY LIND. Renamed **DOWN SOUTH** in spring 2009, still no real ale. (SW117, BRP34)

WEST

W6, GROVE. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (W102, U197)

W8, UXBRIDGE ARMS. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (W114)

W11, COCK & BOTTLE. Freehold sold and leased back by Enterprise in December 2009. (W119)

W11, MITRE, -beers listed; +three varying guest beers (e.g. Sambrook's, Sharp's and Hook Norton). Refurbished by Realpubs as a 'neighbourhood pub brasserie'. (W120, U208)

BRENTFORD (TW8), MAGPIE & CROWN. The tenant, Steve Bolton finally left the pub on 11 January after 14 years, negotiations with the owner, Wellington Pub Co over a proposed rent increase having irretrievably broken down. After a campaign by CAMRA and local councillors to save the pub from closure, an interim manager has been installed, with assurances that the constantly changing real ales from microbreweries will continue. Changes immediately after takeover include the introduction of Courage Best Bitter, a 20p increase on some beers and the loss of real cider and perry. Bar billiards has been replaced by pool. A watching brief will be kept! (W132, U191, U209)

NORTHOLT (UB5), GREENWOOD, Enterprise, freehold for sale. (W176)

SOUTHALL (UB1), LAMB, Enterprise, freehold for sale. (W186)

SOUTHALL (UB1), LORD ALLENBY, Punch, freehold for sale. (W188, U203)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), CLUBHOUSE. Renamed **MULBERRY**, real ale retained. (W202, U191)

WEST DRAYTON (UB7), PLOUGH, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Wells: Bombardier. (W225)

CORRECTION TO UPDATE 205

PUBS CLOSED ETC

E4 WISHING WELL. Renamed ARTISAN.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 207

NEW & REOPENED PUBS ETC

EDGWARE (HA8), OSCAR WILDE was formerly CEILI BAR.

OTHER CHANGES ETC

SW9, SAVANNAH (now LAS PALMERAS) Delete reference to being sold on.

MITCHAM (CR4), WINDMILL. Add: Now Phoenix, ex-Allied via Punch.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 209

NEW & REOPENED PUBS ETC

EDGWARE (HA8), CEILI BAR. Delete entry, already in N guide under former SMUGGLERS COVE name.

WEMBLEY (HA9), BEAR. Juniper Inns is a Barracuda 'brand'; it hasn't changed hands.

PUBS CLOSED ETC

E15, LATIN ¼. Delete entry; it is still trading – the

building next door has been demolished.

NEW BARNET, BELL & DUCK should read BELL & BUCK.

NW1, STUDIO 208 should read STUDIO 88. Add: Formerly LOUNGE BAR.

W7, OLD BILL was demolished to make way for car park for neighbouring community centre.

OTHER CHANGES ETC

E2, WALL. Add: Formerly ONE OF 2.

WC1, LAMB. Refs should read (N23, U154, HB18, W19).

W1(S), BLUE POSTS was sold prior to auction.

E1, PUZZLE E1. Add: Formerly OLD MONK.

E1, WHITE HART. Address is 1/3 Mile End Rd.

N19, LANDSEER. Add: Formerly JJ MOONS.

N19, SETTLE INN. Add: Formerly DOG.

N20, RISING SUN (now SAFFIRE LOUNGE). Add: Now independent, ex-TFC (Harvester).

NW3, WHITE BEAR (YE OLDE). Should read: Punch, ex-Taylor Walker, lease sold to etc

NW8, DUKE OF YORK. Address is 2 St Ann's Terrace.

BEXLEYHEATH (DA6), OHM. Delete entry. 'Pure' is a club (see 'Pubs Closed etc' above).

W4, ROEBUCK. Add: Formerly BIRDCAGE.

W5, PARKVIEW. Should read: TCG are trying to sell the freehold.

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Beer Duty - the way forward?

The problem

The Government is concerned about the social and medical problems being caused by excessive alcohol consumption, especially among the young. Of the measures proposed to counteract this problem, increasing the price of alcohol is seen to be one of the most important. Among the measures suggested are minimum unit pricing, and a general raising of the tax levels on alcoholic drinks aimed at cutting consumption. However, the Government has set its face against minimum pricing as they say that it penalises responsible drinkers. As far as beer is concerned, the imposition of the Beer Duty Regulator, which ensures that duty on beer rises at a rate above inflation, has helped increase the price of beer in pubs (where people drink in a supervised environment and therefore tend to drink more responsibly). The result has been that drinkers have been deserting the pub, and pubs are closing at an alarming rate. So maybe something else is needed that will counteract the problem of cheap alcohol but at the same time give some relief to the pub.

A possible solution

At present, small brewers are given exemption from Beer Duty up to a certain annual barrelage. Thereafter, duty is levied at the full rate. Would it not make sense to extend this idea by introducing a sliding scale of duty, say four tranches for the sake of argument, as follows?

All breweries would receive exemption on the first tranche of production of x_1 hectolitres (or for algebraic neatness pay d_1 where $d_1 = 0$.) Then, a reduced rate of duty d_2 would be levied on a further tranche of production of x_2 hectolitres. A further tranche of x_3 hectolitres would attract a higher duty, d_3 , and finally, everything above $(x_1 + x_2 + x_3)$ would attract the highest rate, d_4 . This last rate would be significantly above today's rate.

I have not attempted to affix values to all those x 's and d 's. That is better left to the experts. The rates and size of tranches would be set so that the Treasury's aggregate take was as now or, if desired, higher or lower, the total take being determined from the total estimated production at each level by each individual brewer, based on their previously reported production figures.

The question of strength could be dealt with by expressing the x 's above in terms of standard hectolitres at a selected ABV. Suppose that is 4%; then standard hectolitres = actual hectolitres x (actual ABV %/4).

So what would this achieve?

Which brewers distribute the greatest proportion of their output to pubs? Why the micros of course! And which brewers are responsible for cheap

canned lager in supermarkets? Might the answer not be the Megabrewers? Breweries of sizes intermediate to the two extremes tend to send much of their output to pubs but may also supply the supermarkets to a limited extent, a proportion which probably grows the bigger they are. By imposing the heaviest rate of duty on the megabreweries, the tax burden is shifted onto the purveyors of cheap canned and bottled beers and they will have to recover it from somewhere. Will they have any alternative to putting much of the burden on to beer destined for supermarkets? So minimum pricing may no longer be necessary. And at the same time, pressure on pub prices will be reduced as there will a lot of low and medium duty beer available to them. (There is of course the danger that pubcos will try simply to pocket the difference, but that is a separate argument.)

How can this idea be promoted?

Well, any change in the system which shifts some of the burden from pubs to supermarkets can be promoted on the basis that it acts to promote responsible drinking; but there is another advantage – the environment.

Size of brewery is a pretty good proxy for 'beer miles'. A small micro will usually send its output to local pubs. A smaller commercial scale brewery will usually distribute over a wider area but will still operate mainly within a specific region. The larger commercial breweries may distribute some beer nationally but will still tend to sell a major proportion of their output within a relatively short distance. The majors of course often send stuff all over the country. So by and large, it is the megabrewers who have the bigger carbon footprint.

In addition, small local breweries usually distribute only in casks. Few of them bottle their beer and I doubt if any of them sell beer in cans. Again, as you go up the size scale, the proportion of product sent out in cans and non-returnable bottles increases.

You do not need to be an expert on the environment to see that the use of re-usable casks (and kegs) is the most energy efficient method of distribution. You take the container back to the brewery, give it a good wash, and it is ready to be used again. (You can do the same with bottles, but who uses returnable bottles any more?) Glass bottles and metal cans *can* be recycled but the energy required in melting down the containers, and in making them into new ones, is a lot greater than that required to wash out a cask or keg.

What about imported beers?

This is where there may be a problem. It would probably not be practical to use a size related sliding

scale for imported beers so the most obvious way might be to impose the highest rate of duty on all imported beers, on environmental grounds. A difficulty might arise with EU competition law however - I confess that I have not had time to look at the implications of this.

What about cider?

The same system could be applied to cider. It is just as desirable to promote the small producer selling mainly to pubs and to place more of the burden onto the large producers of canned cider for supermarkets. The size of tranches attracting the different rates of duty would not necessarily be the same as for beer.

What about other forms of alcohol?

Well the first thing should be something which is

long overdue: namely the harmonisation of duty as between different forms. The basic tax on every unit of alcohol should be the same (apart from the type of concession described above) whether it takes the form of beer, wine, alcopops or spirits. The simplest way might be to make everything subject to the top rate, although there may be a case for granting some relief to smaller producers of, for example, Scotch whisky or English wines.

Conclusion

I confess that the above idea has not been the subject of detailed study, and it may not be as simple as has been suggested. I simply wanted to put the idea into the mix and am happy to leave it to others to develop or destroy it as appropriate.

Philip Jenkins

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

BREWING FOR THE FUTURE

'At last we can celebrate keeping something open.' The something in question is the former Bass Brewery Museum in Burton-on-Trent, axed by Coors in 2008 but now due to re-open, possibly as early as Easter. When Coors — now Molson Coors — announced in January 2008 that it planned to close the museum in April that year due to falling visitor numbers and an annual loss of £1million, I attended a meeting in Burton convened by the local MP, Janet Dean. In the packed room were representatives of the local and county council, the Burton Civic Society and Chamber of Commerce, members of local CAMRA branches, the editor of the local newspaper, and Adrian Worthington, the former museum archivist. From the meeting, a steering group was set up to look at new ways of running the museum.

One route was to run the site as a trust and to apply for Heritage Lottery Funding. Janet Dean organised a meeting with Margaret Hodge, minister for culture and tourism, who agreed to write to every brewery in the country asking them to support a national brewery museum in Burton. The *Burton Mail*, the town's daily paper, headlined the campaign to save the museum on a regular basis and also organised an on-line petition to Margaret Hodge that gathered 20,000 signatures. Brewery workers, CAMRA members and supporters of the museum staged a march through the centre of Burton. Coors were shaken

by the size of the opposition to their plans. The company went into reverse and told the steering group in November that it had signed a 25-year lease with Leisure Solutions to run the museum.

Leisure Solutions, which emerged from the leisure division of the Rank Organisation, has wide experience of running visitor attractions, including Conkers in the National Forest and Vinopolis in London. John Lowther from Leisure Solutions told the steering group that a new National Brewing Museum would use modern technology to make the centre attractive to a broad audience. Static models will be replaced by working ones, dummies by live actors. The centrepiece of the site will be a 30-barrel brewery that will produce cask beer for commercial sales. Master brewer Steve Wellington, who has run the White Shield Brewery within the Coors complex with great success, will run it.

The museum will trace the history of brewing in Burton, including the rise of IPA and pale ale in the 19th century, but will also cover brewing in all parts of Britain, again giving it wider appeal. The site will have bars, restaurants, and facilities for families and educational purposes as well as rooms for meetings and conferences.

It has to succeed. If the museum fails again, there won't be a further opportunity to save it. This is a great victory for beer lovers, historians and writers. Let's make it succeed.

Roger Protz

A year in beer - the life of a ticker

In these puritanical times where binge-drinking is the new witchcraft, I probably shouldn't boast about the fact, but in 2009 I drank 521 new cask ales. There are many tickers who can beat that comfortably, I know, but it's a personal best for me, and many of those 521 beers have a story to tell.

A lot happened in between the Phoenix *Thirsty Moon* I supped in the Postal Order, Crystal Palace on January 1 and the Pilgrim *Saturn Alia* in the Traf that I polished off shortly before midnight on New Year's Eve, and when I look back on the beers I drank over the year, I can (usually) remember the evening, the location, the mood, people I met, and how I felt at the time.

I know some folks sneer at those who keep records but, in a sense, that is my personal diary of 2009 and very useful it is too. Knowing where and when you first sampled the chocolaty, vanilla joys of Titanic *Velvet Curtain*, for example, can be very important. (It was JJ Moons in Hornchurch on April 14, by the way – I know you were just aching to find out!).

Some 'tickers' rack up hundreds of beers a month, counting them even if they only take a tiny sip – it has been known for groups of three or four to enter a pub and order a single half of Old Frugal between them, much to the chagrin of the landlord. And, yes, some of them fill up little plastic pop bottles and take them away for consumption days later...

But I'm not one of them. Firstly, I don't consider myself to have properly sampled an ale unless I've consumed a full pint thereof from start to finish and appreciated the subtle nuances within (anyone else noticed how some beers completely change character from the top of the glass to the bottom?)

And secondly, for me it's not so much about the numbers but the experience – trying a diverse range of beers can open one's palette to new styles and flavours, and keeping a record of what you drank and where you drank it can be a powerful and emotive memory aid.

Looking at my year in beer right now, I see that my favourite beer was Red Fox *Wily Ol' Fox* at the Ipswich Winter Beer Festival – a night I remember well because it was one of my last big piss-ups and snuff-taking marathons in the town before I was made redundant and moved back to London.

The worst beer (scoring a mere 2 out of 10) was Bridge of Allan *Torpedo Blonde* in the Wibbas Down Inn, and just knowing that immediately reminds me that it was Good Friday, and I was parched after singing Hady'n's 'Seven last words from the cross' in Wimbledon, so I downed this particularly bland blonde in a couple of swigs and moved on to something tastier: Box Steam *Tunnel Vision* as it happens.

Naylor's Original was a magical and unexpected reunion with my girlfriend after months apart – the

kind of scene reserved for the final act of a Hollywood blockbuster. Hog's Back *Dark Mild* was a rare highlight of the very next day which by cruel twist of fate happened to be a prearranged and too-late-to-unarrange date with somebody else that I now wanted no part of because of the events of the previous night. That was a mad weekend and perversely alcohol, in this instance, helps one to remember rather than forget!

Vale of Glamorgan *Wheat's Occurin?* and Bulmastiff *Welsh Red* immediately take me back to South Wales in October where Cardiff beat us 2-0 and the fire alarm went off in the middle of the night at the Wetherlodge in Newport.

Joy; mirth; sadness; despair; the things we've done; the places we've been. And for every memory, a different beer...

Ben Nunn

ALONG THE BRIGHTON ROAD

The last of five pocket guides to all the pubs and bars selling draught beer within the South West London CAMRA branch area will be available on the Products Stand at the Battersea Beer Festival, priced £2.00.

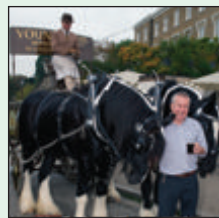
Along the Brighton Road features the pubs of Stockwell and Brixton (SW9 and SW2), Streatham and Norbury (SW16) and Mitcham (CR4). Surveying for the new guide since October 2009 has revealed many fewer pubs open now than were listed in the 1997 South West London Guide and, of those, a smaller proportion (roughly half of them) selling real ale. However, the average quality of the real ale now available is unquestionably much higher than it was then.

There are some really good pubs in this guide; we hope that its publication will encourage more drinkers to visit them.

A WELCOME WINTER WARMER!

Alex and Debbie hosted this year's Young's official launch of Winter Warmer by opening the White Cross, Richmond on 29th October at 9am. The beer was helped down by a full English breakfast and the Paul Bowen band. This ticket-only event was also attended by the Young's heavy horses Buster and Ozzie who took guests for a trip around Richmond Green.

George Gimber



Waterloo to Clapham Junction on foot

After seeing my wife off on the train at Euston on Tuesday 13 October, I headed back to Waterloo. For some while now I had kept meaning to walk along the Lambeth Walk to see what it was like since it was rebuilt a few years ago. So I went down to Westminster Bridge Road to start in the New Crown & Cushion, a rather dark, woody pub inside with lots of old pictures, brasses and road signs decorating the walls. On at the bar were just GK IPA and Abbot, so with my half of IPA I sat down to watch the horse racing that was on the TV.

Leaving here I went through the long tunnel under the railway and left to pass under the railway again to bring me into Hercules Road and the wedge-shaped corner pub, the Pineapple, with its ornamental pineapple perched high above the front corner. There are still two bars here, the larger public at the front in the wedge, while the lounge goes longways to the side. All quite traditional with a mixture of wood, carpet and tiled floor, and red upholstered benches around the wood panelled walls. Three ales were on at the bar, Young's Bitter, GK IPA and Fuller's London Pride at £3 and tasting all right.

Along Hercules Road, on the right corner at the end is what was the Union Flag, closed over forty years ago but still with Watneys signs on the side. Turning left and crossing over to the pub called the Lambeth Walk, I found several handpumps unfortunately unused and things looked rather tatty. Continuing on along Lambeth Walk, what was the French Horn was now residential, and the Lambeth Sportsman now a hostel. Further along used to be the George but that went when the shopping area was rebuilt and never replaced. Doing a right turn and going under the railway I found the strangely named Lambeth High Street, strange because there's nothing on it. Well there's a pub, the Windmill. Since I last came here it's been opened up inside: the two bars have gone to make way for one large area with a bar to one side. One beer was on: Adnams Bitter at £2.80 which wasn't bad either.

I made my way back to the Lambeth Walk to go through the rebuilt area, rather disappointing to put it mildly, but at the end is the Jolly Gardeners/Zeitgeist, ex-Jolly Cockney. Still much the same shape inside with two bars, all a bit dark with black walls and dark red ceilings, but now it has a German touch with sixteen draught German beers on at the bar. At £3.90 I had a Krombacher.

Going left back towards the railway is the Queens Head but it wasn't open, and so on to the Embankment, going left to find the Rose, (ex-Rivers/Crown) but no real ale. On to Vauxhall, I passed the site of the Old Father Thames – the whole block was redeveloped – then crossed over

the busy roads to get down by the river's edge and along to the new Young's pub, the Riverside, a rather large cavernous bar underneath the new developments, but with good views out on to the river. The usual Young's range was available with the bitter going for £3.14.

Making my way out through this modern complex to the Wandsworth Road I once again headed underneath the railway to do a left into Wyvil Rd, and on the next corner is the Vauxhall Griffin, (ex Wyvils & Builders Arms). I remember this pub being very basic and down to earth so I was very surprised to find that it is now rather cosy with carpeted floors, soft furnishings and long red curtains at the windows, and the one ale on, London Pride at £3 was quite good as well.

Doubling back to Wandsworth Road I carried on to the next side road and just around the corner is the Gladstone, a traditional style pub with a centre bar and three areas all around, mostly carpeted, wood wall panelling and upholstered benches, with a darts and pool area to the rear. Just one ale on at the bar: The Bitter Bombardier at £2.60 which was quite alright.

THE ELEANOR ARMS



The Eleanor Arms brings a nice taste of East End charm back to Bow.

(viewlondon review)

*A traditional Shepherd Neame pub
est. 1879.*

*Serving award-winning real ales:
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Pub crawl

Back to the main road and along it for another five minutes I came to a short dead end road called Southville, and just at the end is the Surprise, a little Young's pub with a small, three sided centre bar leading back to two other seating areas. It's quite a little gem with a good, lived in local feel about it, somewhat different from the other Young's pub. The bitter was on at £2.75 and it was good. Special was also available.

On the other side of Wandsworth Road was the New Portland Arms, a quite nice art deco looking pub but unfortunately no ale, and the same applies to Feeley's Free House aka the Prince of Wales just up Union Road, which was a Young's pub until 1993. Further along the main road I came to another Young's pub, the Plough, which stands next to the former Plough Brewery. This one has had a touch of the Young's treatment: rather basic in a smart sort of way with wood floor, gastro-green painted wall panels and mainly chairs and tables. The bitter was good at £2.90, with just the special also on.

From there I kept going, dropping down Lavender Hill until I came to the Crown, a pub that has come in useful if I didn't fancy queuing for the Battersea beer festival. Not the best range available with just Courage Best at £2.80; I had a half, it was so-so. This is another pub that has the remains of a traditional style with its island bar, but all around it

has been opened up into one large surrounding area with just one or two original features left.

It's all down hill from here and the Falcon is beckoning, and so within ten minutes I was there with a selection of about ten beers in front of me in this attractive, ornate pub with its large island bar and old style traditional drinking areas all around. I chose a beer called Warcop (I think) from South Wales which I had not heard of, it was good and there at the bar next to me the person turns around and it's one of my CAMRA colleagues from out of London who had actually never been in the Falcon before. He was that impressed he stayed for a couple or so, then I walk and, no surprise, we were both there until closing time. So a very good end to an interesting day which should have ended at Vauxhall, but didn't.

Clive Taylor

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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 26 Atomic Number of Iron
2. 5 Cents in a Nickel
3. 36 Pints in a Pin
4. 57 is the Second Highest Possible Score with One Dart
5. 3 Abbey Road is the Famous Recording Studio
6. 1024 Gigabytes in a Terabyte
7. 8 American Universities in the Ivy League
8. 26 December is Saint Stephen's Day
9. 4 Players and Ponies in a Polo Team
10. 31 Colleges in the University of Cambridge

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. It was Prohibition (in the USA) that started with the Eighteenth Amendment and ended with the Twenty First.
2. The title of the 1965 book by Ralph Nader which focussed on the dangerous design features of several American cars of the time and which became a rallying call for the early consumer movement was "Unsafe At Any Speed."
3. The race that starts at Cowes and finishes at Plymouth is the Fastnet Race - and it is run every two (odd numbered) years.
4. In the Mel Brooks film, Silent Movie, the only person to speak was Marcel Marceau - he spoke the single word, "Non."
5. We all know that Charlie Chaplin died on Christmas Day, and the year was 1977.
6. The composer of the "Nelson" Mass (in D minor) was Joseph Haydn.
7. The location of the trials held to choose the design of locomotive to be used on the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was Rainhill (and the winner, of course, was Stephenson's Rocket).
8. The more common name of "Ras Tafari" (1892-1975, whom Rastafarians believe to be divine) was Haile Selassie, the former Emperor of Ethiopia.
9. Scouse, after which the slang term for a Liverpudlian is derived, is a kind of meat stew.
10. The names of the brothers who were co-authors of the book "Diary of a Nobody" were George and Weedon Grossmith.

Hello again and may I wish you all a (belated as usual) happy new year. How about this for an aphorism from Nancy Reagan:

A woman is like a teabag - only in hot water do you realise how strong she is.

So, let's have some number puzzles, shall we? Yes we shall:

1. 7 S is FN
2. 1755 SJP his D
3. 5 is L of T on a DB
4. 3 M is the H of the CB on RGP
5. 1523 LL in the S of the T
6. 235 RI of U
7. 4 W on a B
8. 1 P for a DG in RL

9. 5 T at HA
10. 2 W on a HC

I was thinking that it was about time to do some 5BY4's - but then I ran out of time so I decided to dip into my bag of non-rhyming limericks again. The bag (a virtual one, admittedly) is mine but most of the NRL's are other people's, except this one which first appeared in August 1989:

*At the Spanish Open a Scot named McClean
Did a tee shot that was truly Herculean.
As it plunged in the hole
the crowd roared, "Ole!"
But the prize that they gave him was mean.*

Here's one from May 1988 by the estimable John Eastwood, the man who introduced me to the concept:

*After running all day, an apache,
A lad of considerable panache,
Sat eating his spinach
Whilst listening to Bach
And moaning, "My legs don't half ache!"*

... and let's finish with one from Eileen Graves which first appeared in November 1988:

*A little blackbird developed a cough
As he sat on a large oak tree's bough.
The poor little soul
Went as white as a ghoul,
for he really was feeling quite rough.*

I'm still happy to accept new contributions along these lines. If you would like to see your name in print, send your contributions to andy@pirson.demon.co.uk.

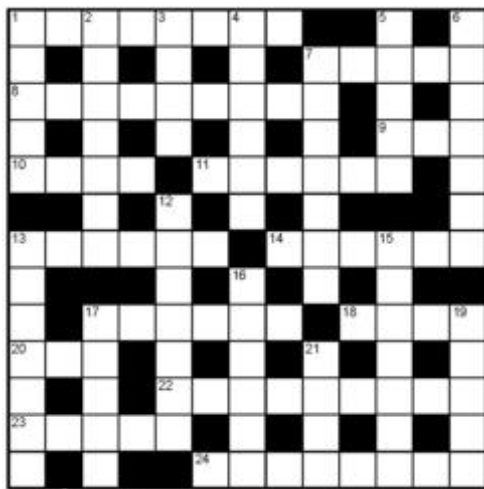
And so finally we come to the questions bit. Call them trivia, general knowledge or anything else you like; you just have to try to answer them (or if you prefer, ignore them and go to the next page).

1. What is the common name for insects of the order Siphonaptera?
2. In the field of entertainment for what were the siblings Jack, Harry, Albert and Samuel famous?
3. What was the name of the group formed around the singing talents of Sandy Denny after she left Fairport Convention (was it really 1969?)?
4. Who wrote the biography entitled simply "Billy"?
5. By what name was Maria Anna Sofia Cecilia Kalogeropoulos better known?
6. Kangaroo Island is off the coast of which state of Australia?
7. By what name is Mount Godwin-Austen better known?
8. The Red House in Bexleyheath, designed by Philip Webb was built in 1859. Who was his client?
9. Of the various breeds of deer found in Great Britain only two are native. Which are they?
10. Apart from being the leader of the skiffle group, The Vipers, he was also a children's TV presenter. Who was he?

Which brings us to the end of another Idle Moments. I would like to think that you have derived some amusement from it but if you haven't - tough. Have a good time until the next London Drinker appears.

Andy Pirson

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



Name _____

Address _____

All correct entries received by first post on 24th March will be entered into a draw for the prize.

Prize winner will be announced in the June London Drinker. The solution will be given in the April edition.

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

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

DECEMBER'S SOLUTION



£20 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

1. He exercises with a great deal of suffering to develop shape. [8]
7. A Greek. [5]
8. Sari destroyed in shock judgement. [9]
9. It pulls belly up. [3]
10. Judge implicated in trade embargo. [4]
11. It's hateful but, overdrawn, promises to pay. [6]
13. Mariner's first course may be lucky. [6]
14. Do over traitor stabbed with short sword. [6]
17. He may have many quarrels. [6]
18. Sick of uncomfortable church seats. [4]
20. Starts to enjoy alcoholic drink. [3]
22. Set out again behind the mountains. [9]
23. Gear I had is hard to shift. [5]
24. Support for boss taking break. [4,4]

DOWN

1. It's tough with nothing in store. [5]
2. Whelps hiding favourite toys. [7]
3. How unfortunate for a girl to be short. [4]
4. Edison's upset but cooperative. [2,4]
5. Entering top pupils in tests causes arguments. [5]
6. Volunteers name man on line. [7]
7. Everyone was in debt; it's permitted. [7]
12. Ahead battles lie during crossing. [7]
13. Mark speaks but not clearly. [7]
15. Cost of putting swans in river. [7]
16. Destroy old bible in anger. [6]
17. Bump into boat. [5]
19. What about energy food? [5]
21. He'll make some staff redundant. [4]

Winner of the prize for the October Crossword: Pat Andrews, London E4. Other correct entries were received from:

Ted Alleway, Tony Alpe, Mark Antony, Hilary Ayling, John Barker, Mike Belcham, Steve Block, Deryn Brand, Jeremy Brinkworth, Eddie Carr, John Cattermull, James Challenor, Jon Christie, Brian Collins, C.Creasey, Kevin Creighton, Liam Crotty, N.F.Cunnane, Paul Curson, Peter Curson, Joe & Carole Daly, Robert Day, John Dodd, Dikzonov Dokgrin, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, C.J.Ellis, Brian Exford, Mike Farrelly, Robert Ferrier, Arthur Fox-Ache, Sally Fullerton, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Alan Greer, Stuart Guthrie, Brian Hall, M.Hargreave, Alison Henley, Graham Hill, William Hill, David Hughes, Brian Hunt, Inky & Nipper, Roger Jacobson, Chris James, Carol Jenkins, Claire Jenkins, Les Jenkins, David Jiggins, Mike Joyce, Stephen Kloppe, Roger Knight, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, G.Lopatis, Steve Magin, Mill Mallett, Steve Maloney, John Mannel, Marcus of Guildford, M.J.Moran, Michael Morrison, Al Mountain, Joe Murat, Paul Nicholls, Alan O'Brien, Michael Oliver, Nigel Parsons, Miss G.Patterson, Mr & Mrs Pedantic, Mark Pilkington, Ms G.Pote, C.F.Pottins, Rod Prince, Derek Pryce, Stephen Rann, John Redwood, Alph River, Paul Rogers, R.Rogers, Eileen Sheehan, P.Simmonds, Kirstie Sluck, Lesley Smith, Martin Stevens, Ken Taylor, Stephen Thornton, Andy Wakefield, Martin Weedon, Martine Welsman, Ian Whiteman, Tony Whitford, J.Williamson, Ms E.A.Whale, Sue Wilson, D.Woodgate, Peter Yarlett.

There were also two incorrect and one incomplete entries.

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