

Vol 32
No 3

LONDON DRINKER

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

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Community pubs

Where I live in East Devon it is not uncommon to have to pay £3+ for a pint of ordinary bitter. So drinking in these establishments becomes the preserve of the rich and much of the community is disenfranchised and easily seduced into the maw of the supermarket or cheapskate high street pub putting on heavily subsidised Industrial Pale Ale as a headline attraction.

Whilst lip service is given to the value of the community pub by nearly all concerned parties, only sporadic help ever seems to occur. One of the biggest reasons is the extortionate duty rate on beer. Remember this is a prime cost that the brewer has to pay and that VAT goes on the final price paid. It is not paid by Tim Martin as he would have us believe! The beer, pub and related industries have failed to act in concert to get their message across despite many efforts from many parties.

Compared to the wine and spirits lobby, the brewing industry has abjectly failed. The cider lobby has also had a recent success in getting a modest increase at the last budget overturned, the headline moan being a large percentage rise. In actual fact this was less than the beer duty rise because beer is so much more highly taxed. A strong beer of 7.4% attracts a rate of £212 as opposed to that of cider at £54 per barrel.

Is it any wonder then that strong cider which can be purchased at £1 a litre in your supermarket causes so much

damage in the community? By the way, cider has no food value apart from the calories that come from the alcohol. As it is sulphited (very bad for the liver), as is wine, even the vitamin C from the apples is destroyed.

The health lobby recommendation is a minimum unit price for alcohol. This has many merits but would only go some way to repairing the community pub problem. If there was a standardisation of duty rates across the board, i.e. that of beer going down, which could be afforded as much extra revenue is regained in the form of VAT from the supermarkets, then more beer would be sold in pubs and further income would go to the Treasury. Also the highly distortive and expensive (cost to Treasury around £35 million) Progressive (nothing of the sort) Beer Duty relief, which is increasingly being eaten up to shore up pub companies, could be modified to help small breweries more directly.

More local jobs would be created etc. and a virtuous circle established in the community rather than the depressingly dire state of affair we have at the moment. By the way, with increasing duty rates the Exchequer has had falling returns but the Treasury obdurately sticks to its predicted model of expected income, like the monkey with its fist in the jar.

Is there any chance that this change can happen? A complete review of the duty system and the

effects of certain alcoholic consumptive practices is required. With a change of government there is a window of opportunity as the Liberals have indicated this could be on the agenda. One of the biggest enemies is the spirits lobby. Diageo has had an inordinate number of lobbyists and had an influence on the Brown rump government even though they kicked him in the teeth with the Johnny Walker episode – on tax and on jobs, in Scotland no less. They are adamantly against the

minimum pricing scheme even though, of course, there would be more margin in the supermarket price which could compensate for lost volumes, saying rather pathetically that they couldn't negotiate any price increase with them. Whaaa, poor little Diageo! Precious volumes seem to be the only thing that counts with these mega industries. In my opinion putting Drinkaware notices all over the place means diddly squat. Are we going to be serious about drink problems or not?

It is time for interested parties

to come together to fight for the community as a whole and support our national, wholesome drink, ordinary beer and, with it, the valued public house.

CAMRA does have a strong influence. Can we help to get everyone together? Perhaps a debate can be started in *What's Brewing* now that we have been assured there is editorial freedom and that it will no longer appear to be the Wetherspoon Trumpeter!

John Gilbert



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A taste of CAMRA politics

In response to the challenge of Steve Lerpiniere's letter on page 37 and for readers' general interest and amusement, here are some of the resolutions carried at CAMRA's annual members' conference held in April in Douglas, Isle of Man, despite the volcanic inconvenience to would-have-been air travellers.

Motion 5 (Amended)

This Conference agrees that with growing membership and status, CAMRA needs an objective, 'fit for purpose review' of its role within a changing UK beer world.

This Conference instructs the National Executive to commission such a review, which as well as involving HQ and members, should consult outside parties such as BBPA, SIBA and others with an interest in what CAMRA does and should do.

The resulting report is to be produced in time for debate at next year's Conference. It should measure CAMRA's performance against its five main aims (*see below*) as set out on the National Website, as well as its success in campaigning, activation and lobbying and its prospects for the future.

- ◆ Campaigning to promote and improve the

image, quality, availability and variety of real ale.

- ◆ Promoting pub-going and the status of the pub in communities, celebrating pub heritage and culture and protecting pubs from unnecessary closure.
- ◆ Campaigning to protect the rights of beer and pub consumers to get a fair deal and be free to enjoy alcohol responsibly
- ◆ Ensuring that we have the structure and organisation to enable us to be flexible and effective
- ◆ Ensuring we have effective and flexible plans in place to provide the funds our activities require.

Motion 9

This Conference condemns the widespread use by media outlets of hand-pump, real ale and pub images as illustrations for stories around alcohol abuse and disorder. This Conference believes that the persistent use of such images in this way damages the reputation of real ale and real pubs and therefore calls upon all sections of the campaign to express opposition to the misleading use of images by registering complaints with the relevant media outlets.

Motion 12A

This Conference welcomes the Government's 12 point action plan to support pubs and the emerging cross party consensus that Government must do more to support pubs. This Conference therefore calls on the next Government to retain the position of Pubs Minister and to deliver fully on promises to support pubs. To ensure that this happens Conference calls on all members to use CAMRA's Beer Drinkers and Pub Goers Charter to lobby their would be MPs.

Motion 16

This Conference notes the deterioration in both the volume and quality of news coverage in *What's Brewing* and also the decision not to publish correspondence which is critical of CAMRA policy or which attempts to seriously debate the many issues facing the pub/brewing industry. This Conference agrees that these developments be reversed and that *What's Brewing* should once again become a serious and informative publication, which encourages open debate among CAMRA members.



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Meet the new boss...

So, as I finish writing this column, the politicians have finally made their mind up and formed a government. It will be interesting to see if the post of 'Minister for Pubs' is reinstated but, whatever happens, I doubt if we can expect any change on the big issue – beer duty. As policies emerge, I will keep you updated.

In the run-up to the election, CAMRA members lobbied candidates to sign up in support of CAMRA's Beer Drinkers and Pub Goers Charter. In the event, 670 of them did so, of whom 149 were elected, spread across the political parties with 44 Conservatives, 59 Labour, 42 Liberal Democrats, an SNP, a Plaid Cymru and the Green Party's first-ever MP, Caroline Lucas, who said: "*Community pubs make a vitally important contribution to local sustainability and social cohesion. I fully support*

CAMRA's commitments to protect these institutions." Let's hope that all of the many new MPs feel the same.

One casualty of the General Election was Martin Linton, formerly MP for Battersea. Mr Linton is a CAMRA member and a great supporter of Battersea Beer Festival. We wish him the best of luck.

New CAMRA chairman

In contrast, with the minimum of fuss, CAMRA recently also made a change at the top. Paula Waters has stood down after six years and has been replaced by Colin Valentine. Colin, from Edinburgh, is the first Scot to hold the post and he managed his first CAMRA AGM with great skill and humour. Attendance at the AGM was very good, considering that it coincided with the first appearance of the dreaded volcanic dust. The Isle of

Man ferries made a killing that weekend.

Cider duty increase

At least the General Election temporarily ended one of the last budget's most ill-conceived measures. The 13% (10% above inflation) increase on the duty on cider will lapse on 30 June, having been one of the items dropped in the pre-election horse-trading. Part of the pressure against it came from an Official Petition on the Downing Street website:

<http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/Realciderbeeral/>. Keep this in mind as the idea may well not be dead yet.

London brewery news

I think that there are now enough breweries in London to warrant their having their own section in this column. So as to keep up to date with their news

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and to help them as best we can, CAMRA has a nominated liaison officer for each brewery and most of what I report here is thanks to them. If a brewery is not mentioned, no snub is intended; I just don't have anything to report.

Andy Moffat's Redemption Brewery has got off to a good start with both the Pale Ale (3.8%) and the Urban Dusk (4.6%) being well received at London Drinker Beer Festival. Andy is presently brewing once a week, alternating each beer.

Brodie's Brainwave (see last issue) was such a hit at London Drinker Beer Festival that it may well be added permanently to the range.

Fuller's did well in the London & South East heats of CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain 2010 competition with Vintage Ale winning the *Real Ale* in a *Bottle* category.

The former Gales Brewery site in Horndean, Hampshire is to be sold for £20 million and redeveloped into 100 new homes. The brewery tower and other historic buildings will be retained in the design. The proceeds of the sale will meet the cost of the new distribution depot that Fuller's have built nearby.

Fuller's have also reported that they have a number of so-called 'toxic' leases. Chairman Michael Fuller wrote to the Parliamentary Business, Innovation and Skills Committee referring to: *"a number of toxic leases that we entered into in better times with our eyes open, but now times have changed these landlords (all of which are unconnected with our industry) are deaf to our pleas to reduce the rent. The result is that we have several sites in which we are losing money and we would like to cease trading in but we cannot."* Mr Turner made the point that none of the leases are tied, so that the problem is a 'landlord v tenant' one rather than anything to do with the tie.

Sambrook's beers are now

available in some 150 outlets across London and brewing capacity was recently increased to 80 barrels per week. Very noticeably, the beers are appearing in Young's tied houses.

Twickenham Fine Ales report continued strong sales and are expanding their premises and adding an additional fermenting vessel which will enable them to brew two or three times a week.

National Cask Ale Week

Reports in the trade press indicate that this year's Cask Ale Week went off very well with some 10,000 pubs and breweries joining in. Highlights were a special supplement issued by the *Independent* newspaper, a FemALE day which featured a beer and chocolate tasting at the Somerstown Coffee House and a lot of activity on Facebook plus a Twitter beer-tasting, hosted by CAMRA and Roger Protz.

A definite highlight was Mayor of London, Boris Johnson's encounter with a giant pint of London Pride.

Pub news

Some communities do not need government help to save their pub. Faced with it becoming an Indian restaurant, regulars at the Hope in Carshalton, Surrey, banded together and their new company, '48 West Limited' – the pub's address – agreed a 20 year free of all tie lease with Punch Taverns as from 8 February. The pub remained under the existing management. Several dozen people have invested and the company has a limit of 24% on the shareholding of any one individual. The Hope is Croydon & Sutton CAMRA Branch's Pub of the Year. It is not in the 2010 Good Beer Guide but I understand that this was only because of the uncertainty as to its future.

Football club Tottenham Hotspur has purchased the nearest pub to their White Hart Lane ground, the Bar Latina, for

£850,000. This was apparently £225,000 over the asking price but, according to their agents, the selling price reflected the true value. The double-fronted site gained some fame in the 1980s when it was owned by model and singer Samantha Fox.

In their internal Pub of the Year awards, Shepherd Neame named the Royal Albion in Broadstairs as the overall winner. The Betsy Trotwood in Clerkenwell was the Tenanted Pub of the Year whilst the Adelaide in Teddington won the 'Perfect Pint' award.



Shepherd Neame half-year results to 26 December were impressive, with turnover up 8.2%, beer volumes up 7.9% and operating profit up 24.2% to £6.4 million. They still remain cautious because of the possible impact of VAT and excise duty increases and plan to dispose of some 35 tenanted pubs in the next two or three years.

It is reported that Humphrey Smith, Chairman of Samuel Smiths and renowned for his robust views on the trade, has taken over as area manager for a number of the company's pubs in London.

Law and order

In a decision that could have repercussions for the campaign for the unit pricing of alcohol, the European Court of Justice has ruled that the minimum pricing of tobacco in Austria, France and Ireland is contrary to an EU

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competition directive and undermines free competition. The Scottish Government have however told the Scotch Whisky Association that they do not agree with the interpretation and will go ahead with their minimum pricing legislation. The ruling in any event would not affect the prevention of below-cost selling.

Following on from this, John Ellis, the licensee of the Crown Inn, Oakengates, Shropshire, raised an interesting point in the *Morning Advertiser* recently. Is the taxpayer subsidising supermarkets who sell beer at below-cost price? His argument is that if, for example, a supermarket buys in beer for £10 but sells it for £8, they will reclaim the difference in the VAT which is 35p. If however they are covering the cost by incorporating it in their general food prices then they will get back the £2 in full because there

is no VAT on food, as well as the 35p. It makes you think.

Essex Police are planning to delegate 'low-level' powers such as handing out fixed-penalty notices for such offences as being drunk and disorderly and drinking in an alcohol-free area to door supervisors, so long as they are SIA-qualified and are employed by an approved firm. This is possible under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme subject to those staff involved having to be specially vetted and trained. A spokesman for the first firm involved, Regency Security Service, said: *"We see it as a very proactive scheme. Our door staff are on the front line able to deal with lower-end police powers without the need to call the police"*. The local branch of the Police Federation were however not quite so convinced, calling it a gimmick, and the local Licensed Victuallers Association also expressed doubts

to the MP for Chelmsford, Simon Burns (still there), who was reported to have said that the scheme was: *"thwart with danger"*.

Two prototypes of safer pint glasses have been released and will be available in a year or so, with JD Wetherspoon being involved in their trial. The glasses will cost about the same as existing ones so there will be no government help with the cost of the changeover which presumably is expected to happen as part of normal turnover. That will leave both types of glass in use alongside each other for some period which I would have thought misses the point.

Some technical stuff

I am always a bit wary of clever inventions that are going to change the world but this could be something. Marstons, courtesy of their Brewing Director Richard Westwood, have developed a

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system called Fast Cask. It involves removing the yeast from cask beer at the end of primary fermentation and replacing it with a fresh yeast that solidifies into 'beads' that still react with the sugars in the beer to create the secondary fermentation vital to real ale but at the same time allowing the beer to drop bright quickly. The secret is in the creation of the 'beads' which is subject to a patent application. Traditional finings will no longer be needed, thus making the beer suitable for vegans. The process has been on trial at 70 pubs since November last year in batches of Pedigree and Wychwood Hobgoblin and there has apparently been '*no adverse consumer reaction*'. It is hoped that this concept will enable cask conditioned beer to be supplied to the 46% of pubs and bars that do not have suitable cellars. It is not intended that Fast Cask will replace traditionally brewed beer.

Adnams have announced that

they are to install a small distillery at the Sole Bay Brewery so that they can produce their own hand-crafted vodka, gin and whisky. Although at least one cider producer also distils, Adnams will be the only UK brewery to do both. The first products should be in their Cellar and Kitchen Store outlets by November although there will be a three year wait for Southwold Whisky while it matures in oak casks.

News from the Pubcos

The chief executive of Punch Taverns, Giles Thorley, has decided to move on after nine years. This is apparently entirely of his own volition and he is not getting any sort of pay-off. His replacement was expected to come from within Punch's ranks but instead it will be Ian Dyson, currently the finance director of Marks and Spencer, who is reportedly taking a pay cut to move to the job. Punch saw their

pre-tax profit for the half-year ended 6 March fall to £66 million compared with £82 million the year before. This was ascribed chiefly to the cost of bailing out struggling tenants.

In a move that, at face value, is good news for real ale drinkers, Punch are to introduce new leases that will offer licensees 'free-of-tie' prices and a 'free-of-tie' option on cask ale produced by smaller brewers who qualify for Progressive Beer Duty. These will be incentives to take longer than usual leases of at least ten years. This could reduce the buy-in price of beer by £120 per barrel with further incentives if they exceed sales targets. Trials of the new arrangements will be held in one particular unnamed region from September to January then, we hope, will be extended to all Punch licensees. Some, of course, may see this as tinkering with the tie so as to avoid any proper reform.

In the meantime, Punch are



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The pub will also be bringing over brews from Odell's, Brooklyn, Blue Moon, Sierra Nevada, Stone, Victory and Lagunitas.

The White Horse is hoping to repeat the success of last year's similarly themed event. Timed to celebrate Independence Day, the fest kicks off on Friday July 2nd and will carry on throughout the weekend. As Dan Fox, general manager at The White Horse, says: "We hope to engage customers with some craft beers from America to extinguish the myth that all American beer is tasteless.

"A a result we're really proud to be offering a tremendous choice of the finest American beers, which will include a very special beer from Goose Island, their Bourbon County Stout in cask, that will only be served in thirds and halves, alongside

some extremely special cask beers from the ever anarchic, and always tasty, Flying Dog, including the brewery's latest offering Raging Bitch – an IPA brewed with Belgian yeast.

"There will also be a wide array of keg beers on offer from highly-respected breweries like Sierra Nevada, and also little-known in the UK but nonetheless multi award-winning microbreweries like Blue Corn in Santa Fe.

"And, because the White Horse is always all about demonstrating the diversity of British beers as well, we will have beer on handpull from a whole host of English beers that boast an American influence in hop form from breweries like Crouch Vale, Thornbridge and Dark Star."

Weather permitting the BBQ will be fired up and offering a whole host of American classics, as well as the ever-popular hog roast and, as you would expect from The White Horse, the beer quaffing will be accompanied by appropriate live music from The Steelers and Fallen Heroes, and there will be live barn dancing with Cut a Shine.

The nearest tube to the White Horse is Parson's Green on the District Line and the 14 bus stops a few minutes walk away on the other side of Parson's Green.

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Email: info@whitehorsesw6.com

spending some £20 million on a programme of adding what they call 'sparkle' to 450 of their pubs to help licensees boost trading over the summer. The emphasis will be on upgrading food offers and offering a better range of cask beers, as well as fixtures & fittings and signage.

The Mitchells & Butlers company has completed the review of business promised at its AGM and the rather predictable result is that they will be concentrating on food-led outlets such as Harvester and Toby Carvery. It is summed up by the new chairman, John Lovering, preferring the term 'licensed catering outlet' to 'pub'. Most of those new developments will be 'out of town'. M&B will also be running trials of a new 'high street' concept, the Samuel Cooper Free House, which one observer described as being a lot like Wetherspoons. These developments will be funded by selling some 200 to 300 'wet-led'

pubs for £350 to £400 million. Mr Lovering made it clear that there would be no return to the notion of creating a separate property company.

Meanwhile, Nicholson's Inns, which are part of M&B, are having a promotion featuring Thornbridge Brewery's highly successful Jaipur IPA. An early appearance was at the Coal Hole in the Strand..

Enterprise Inns have re-financed £625 million of their loans which shows, according to chief executive Ted Tuppen, that the company's total debt of £3.3 billion is now under control. He said, *"While we're not there yet, these are strong signs that stability is approaching"*. Despite a 17% fall in pre-tax profits in the six months ended 31 March, Enterprise shares rose 11% to 135p.

JD Wetherspoon have acquired three hotels in Dereham, Norfolk, Great Malvern and Leighton Buzzard.

Chairman Tim Martin said that they had plenty of cash and substantial banking facilities, so were still in the market for pubs. Ten new pubs will open by the end of June – including a second one in Putney – with the aim of taking this to fifty new sites by the end of the year.

The Faucet Inn company (it is the singular, like a *Carry On* film joke) are looking to invest in London and have started by buying the Good Beer Guide-listed Dartmouth Arms (NW5) from a private owner for an undisclosed sum. A spokesman for Faucet said that they were looking for 'community-style' pubs, near either residential or office areas. They currently have 19 pubs, both freehold and leasehold, and are looking to expand to around 100.

Accountancy corner

The pub and brewery sector has recently seen a number of so-called 'pre-package' administra-

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CAMRA Award Winner 2009

tions where, in effect, the company starts trading again under more or less the same ownership but with most if not all of its debts written off. While this is good insofar as it 'saves' the company, it is not always fair on creditors who are just as likely to be other small traders as HM Revenue & Customs.

The Insolvency Service are now questioning this, particularly the operation of Statement of Insolvency Practice No. 16 (SIP16) by those acting as administrators. Suggestions are that those who acted as advisors prior to a 'pre-pack' cannot then become the administrators, the actions of directors and administrators be subject to automatic scrutiny by the Official Receiver and court approval be required for any 'pre-pack' that involves connected parties.

National Brewery Centre opens

I make no apologies for mentioning this again because it is such good news. Formerly the Bass Museum, the National Brewery Centre at Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire reopened on Saturday 1 May. The centre will celebrate the far-reaching influence that the town's pioneering brewing methods have had throughout the world and should become a world-class visitor attraction.

The exhibition is introduced by 'Pepper's Ghost', a holographic presenter who leads visitors through the evolution of brewing, from its ancient origins right through to the present day. After this, visitors can explore the hundreds of displays and exhibits located around the site, including a vast scale model of Burton in 1921. There will also be six performers in authentic Victorian period costume, recreating characters from the town's history, and transport is well represented, from steam engines and the famous White Shield Daimler to shire horses, Major

and Trooper, who will be in the Centre's stables during weekends, school and Bank Holidays.

Adults will be able to sample four different ales in a beer tasting master class and the Centre has a café and the Brewery Tap bar and restaurant. This will have six real ales on offer, many of which will have been brewed specially for the Centre by the on-site White Shield micro-brewery. Tickets are £8.95 with offers for families and a discount for CAMRA members. Further details can be found at the website www.nationalbrewerycentre.co.uk or 01283 532880.

Bitter beer

Subject to verification by the – somewhat inappropriate here – *Guinness Book of Records*, Peter Fowler of the Pitstop Brewery in Stove, near Wantage, Oxon., has made the world's most bitter beer. Brewed following a challenge from a friend and having taken two years to perfect, Mr Fowler's brew, 'The Hop' scored 323 International Bittering Units (IBUs), which beat the previous record of 200 held by American beer Devil Dance Triple IPA. Mr Fowler commented that *"it is always nice to beat the Americans and put a British flag on the bitterest pint. To be honest, I can only drink it in halves. To finish an evening, it is fine, but the taste lasts with me for four hours at a time."* For the technically inclined, the beer contains Simcoe, Centennial and Chinook hops plus the hop extract Isolone.

Marathon efforts

Congratulations to Gill Begnor of Hook Norton who completed the Virgin London Marathon dressed as a bottle of Old Hooky. She set a new record, taking five minutes off the previous best time for a woman dressed as a bottle of beer. More importantly, she raised over £2,300 for Leukaemia Research.

JD Wetherspoon's managing director, John Hutson, also competed and finished despite incurring a serious knee injury which subsequently required surgery. JDW as a company raised nearly £500,000 for the CLIC Sargent cancer charity with Mr Hutson's own contribution being around £2,500. Well played, John Hutson.

As usual, Fuller's made their contribution to the event with London Pride the official beer of the race. The brand had a strong presence at the Marathon Exhibition which was held at the Excel Centre from 21 to 24 April and Fuller's distributed a record 16,000 samples of London Pride



along with cheer sticks and clapper boards which certainly made a big impact on race day!

In addition, on St George's Day, a number of participating Fuller's pubs donated 25p from every Pride pint sold to the charity Help for Heroes, raising a total of almost £5,000.

Over the water

Following my comments last time about France, I heard on the radio recently (*You and Yours*, 5 April) that the situation in Spain is just as bad. There has been a 50% reduction in takings in bars over the last year, and many small wine producers are going under. Of Spain's wine producers, 85% are family firms with fewer than 10 employees. Sales in supermarkets, needless to say, are holding up.

As previously mentioned, the FIFA Football World Cup is fast approaching. Carlsberg are spending £18 million – 60% of

their 2010 marketing budget – on promotions for the event whilst Tesco's expect to sell 800,000 England flags plus 300,000 televisions. Some African breweries are also looking to cash in, primarily with Tusker from Kenya and Windhoek from Namibia. Both are bottled lager-type beers and are genuinely imported rather than being brewed in the UK under licence, but both brands are owned by Diageo.

A touch of culture

Artist Ed Gray, one of London's rising stars, did some paintings at the last Pig's Ear beer festival just before Christmas. Called 'Night on Mare Street', these will be on display in his exhibition at the GX gallery, 43 Denmark Hill, SE5 8RS from 12 June to 8 July. Perhaps not to everyone's taste but I think that they are great fun.



Some have made comparisons to the late Beryl Cooke but it isn't as simple as that. The gallery's website is gxgallery.com and Ed's own website is edgrayart.com.

Health & safety

When I first started work, it was not unusual to have a beer or two several lunchtimes each week. Lunchtime drinking



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News round-up

has however very much gone out of vogue over the last ten years or so. Perhaps it is for the best as times change but I think that this is one of the under-recognised factors contributing to the financial ills of the pub trade. Certainly one well known pub near me does not open until 3pm now, because there is no trade. Even the teachers from the local school who only had soft drinks anyway have been pressurised into not going to the pub.

Consequently I was taken slightly aback when I came across the story of the Carlsberg beer allowance dispute. Hundreds of workers at the plants at Fredericia in mainland Denmark and Høje Taastrup near Copenhagen walked out when their 163-year old right to enjoy a free beer at any time of the day was curtailed. Instead, the management would now only permit drinking in the canteen at lunchtime. Lorry drivers also joined the walk-out in sympathy even though their own allowance of three bottles a day

was not touched.

A spokesman for Carlsberg explained: *"We think times have changed and we need an alcohol policy that is accepted by society"*. A union representative replied that it was not just about beer: *"We have stopped working because Carlsberg's management violated the bargaining agreement by making a policy change without our input. There was no dialogue over the issue at all, and that is just not good enough."* In case you are wondering, the drivers have to pass a breathalyser test linked to the ignition of their lorries to make sure that they are not over the limit.

And finally

A worried licensee wrote to the *Morning Advertiser* because he had been told that if his cleaner was humming copyrighted songs whilst working in the bar, the pub could be billed by the Performing Rights Society. The reply was to ask if the cleaner was in fact singing along to the

radio because, if so, then the radio was being used for the entertainment of staff and was therefore subject to PRS charges.

At least the radio might prevent eavesdropping. HM Revenue & Customs were recently consulting on updating the rules relating to the giving of financial advice. It was proposed that any individual providing advice that leads to a 'tax loss through wrongdoing' could be fined up to £50,000. This included anyone giving any sort of tax advice which some interpreted to include informal advice given to friends in a pub or similar. You have been warned!

One of the beers featured in Wetherspoon's recent beer festival was Hawaiian Coconut Porter. I wonder if it was brewed until licence in Alloa.

Apologies but e-mail address: ldnews@bopenworldt.com is no longer in use. A replacement will be made available shortly.

Tony Hedger



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Third beer festival at Le Gothique

The Wandsworth Common beer festival, hosted by Good Beer Guide newcomer Le Gothique between Thursday 25 and Saturday 27 March in the grounds of the wonderful Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, attracted 2000 visitors in only its second year and has really put itself firmly on the map. Seventy five beers of widely differing styles and strengths were imaginatively placed in order of ABV ranging in 0.1% increments from a 3% Batemans Mild right up to a block buster 10% Thomas Sykes from Burton Bridge.

Sadly, the advertised Sunday lunch opening did not materialise owing to lack of beer but they did at least manage to scrape through to 10.30pm on the Saturday, albeit "sans" Cider. Outstanding beers included the ever popular Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild with festival organiser Mark Justin managing to secure no fewer than four firkins to keep this

often 'mythical' beer flowing. Prominence was given to Downton of Wiltshire who supplied seven different ales, including festival favourite Chocolate Orange. Glass sponsor Twickenham Fine Ales also weighed in with five beers covering their range.

This is a strange and beguiling festival that appears to transcend the perceived image of such events being all middle aged male occasions. Saturday night in particular attracted a lively crowd of both the young and female discerning drinker. Live music from steel dobro bluesman John Crampton certainly added to the atmosphere, despite the inclement weather.

An Old, Dark and Winter Ale festival is planned for the Halloween weekend of October 28th-30th.

See www.legothique.co.uk or contact marklegothique@aol.com.

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Promotion and protection

Recent inventory and listing status changes for London's real heritage pubs

Since the CAMRA book *London Heritage Pubs: an Inside Story. Historic Pub Interiors in the Capital* by Geoff Brandwood and myself was published in July 2008, some of the 156 pubs described in it have either been promoted from Regional to National Inventory status or been given protection by being statutorily listed. The changes are as follows:

Recent promotions from Regional to National Inventory (NI) status:

Viaduct Tavern, 126 Newgate Street, Smithfield, EC1A 7AA – now NI Part Two. Already grade II listed.

Boleyn, 1 Barking Road, Upton Park, E6 1PW – now NI Part Two. Already grade II listed.

Lord Nelson, 386 Old Kent Road, Bermondsey, SE1 5AA – now NI Part Two. Already grade II listed.

Corrib Bar, 181 Camberwell Road, Camberwell, SE5 0HB – now NI Part One. Not listed.

Recently statutorily listed:

Dolphin, 165 Mare Street, Hackney, E8 3RH – now listed grade II.

Eastbrook, Dagenham Road, Dagenham, RM10 7UP – now listed grade II*.

Beehive, Stoneleigh Road, Tottenham, N17 9BQ – now listed grade II.

Windsor Castle, 114 Campden Hill Road, Kensington, W8 7AR – now listed grade II.



The Windsor Castle, Kensington

***London Heritage Pubs** can be purchased from CAMRA books (see www.camra.org.uk) price £14.99 (£12.99 CAMRA members).*

Jane Jephcote

Chair of CAMRA's London Pubs Group

FULLER'S RECEIVE EALING BEER AWARD

The presentation of the winning beer at the 20th Ealing Beer Festival held in July 2009 finally took place at the Griffin Brewery on 10 May. The cask version of Fuller's Vintage Ale 2008 was the clear winner despite selling out within hours of going on sale. Fuller's director of brewing John Keeling (pictured with deputy



festival organiser Alex Kovacevic) said, "It's a great thing to win at any beer festival but to win it with Vintage Ale which we don't make very much of and is a very special beer for us - it dates back to 1997, and is very rarely available on cask - just goes to show how discerning Ealing drinkers really are."

The 21st Ealing Beer Festival takes place between 7th and 10th July and will be opened by John Keeling. Fuller's are the chief sponsor, along with Greene King and J D Wetherspoon. To celebrate the 21st festival it is hoped that Red Squirrel will be brewing four special beers, each available for one day of the festival.

Once again the festival will take place in Walpole Park, close to the former venue of the Town Hall and within 10 minutes walk of Ealing Broadway station. Staffing forms and more information are available online at www.ealingbeerfestival.org.uk or from festival organiser Graham Harrison on 07535 878996.

Roy Tunstall

CAMRA GREATER LONDON 2010 PUB OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

This year's competition for the award of CAMRA's Greater London Pub of the Year includes the 2008 winner, the **Trafalgar** in South Wimbledon, and seven other previous entrants: the **Olde Mitre**, Hatton Garden; the (other!) **Olde Mitre**, High Barnet; **Woodies**, New Malden; the **Red Lion**, Isleworth; the **Traveller's Friend**, Woodford Green; the **Harp**, Charing Cross and the **Fox**, Hanwell.

The other four local CAMRA Pub of the Year winners are new to the competition: the **Crayford Arms**, Crayford; the **Hope**, Carshalton; the

Pineapple, Kentish Town; and the **Five Bells**, Chelsfield.

The current, 2009 Pub of the Year, the **Bricklayer's Arms** in Putney, is ineligible to defend its title as SW London Branch rules do not allow the same pub to win Pub of the Year two years running.

Contact your local CAMRA Branch (see pages 40 and 41) if you would like to join its travelling judges' panel to help decide the 2010 winner.

YE OLDE MITRE SHOWCASES MILD ALES AND CELEBRATES CAMRA AWARD

Ye Olde Mitre in Ely Court, off Hatton Garden, now owned by Fuller's, is the CAMRA East London and City Branch Pub of the Year.

The award was presented to licensees Eamon and Kathy Scott on Tuesday 18 May, right in the middle of CAMRA's 'Mild Month', which aims to promote and celebrate mild ales. To mark this



year's Mild Month, Ye Olde Mitre has been serving an impressive selection of 14 milds during May, including Fuller's Hock and Gales Festival Mild.

Commenting on their range of milds for the month, Eamon said, "*Mild is a beer style that has fallen from favour in recent years as customers' tastes have changed, but it has so much to offer the ale drinkers. CAMRA's 'Mild Month' is a terrific way for people to perhaps be introduced to milds or to get to know other milds that they don't normally drink. From the Fuller's seasonal ales through to Caledonian Mayhem and Magpie Midnight Mild, we've got something available for everyone.*"

We are also very pleased to be accepting the Pub of the Year award once again from our local CAMRA branch. After winning the title in 2006 and 2008, it is a fantastic achievement to have won it a third time and we'd like to thank everyone involved at the pub for helping us take the title again."

PRE-ELECTION CELEBRATIONS AT THE TRAFALGAR

The Trafalgar in South Wimbledon was filled with local regulars and CAMRA members on Monday 4 May when South West London Branch chairman Martin Butler presented licensees David



Norman and Karen Wood with their Pub of the Year award for 2009. They had won the competition previously in 2007.

Joining the celebrations were the Mayor of Merton, Cllr Nick Draper, the Mayoress and the local, (temporarily ex-) MP, Stephen Hammond, enjoying a brief, welcome break from campaigning over a couple of pints of local beer in very much a local community pub.

Presenting the award, Martin commended the Traf's participation in the London CAMRA LocAle scheme, supporting local brewers and reducing 'beer miles', as well as its programme of live music evenings and regular Sunday jazz afternoons.

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CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

LOCAL ALE NI CHAMPION WINS PUB OF THE SEASON

The Duke of Wellington, near Dalston Junction at 119 Balls Pond Road, N1, has won CAMRA North London's Spring Pub of the Season award, beating off hundreds of other pubs in the area.

John Cryne, North London Branch Chairman said, "The pub is a member of the CAMRA's LocAle scheme, which means it stocks at least one London beer, in this case Sambrook's from South London. But it also has three other handpumped beer, tending to concentrate on smaller brewers, and it has started to stock real cider, still not widely available in London. Overall, the Duke of Wellington is a great example of a classic Victorian London pub reinventing itself to cater for its local customers. As well as being an attraction for beer lovers, it combines sport with a cinema club, board games and free WiFi, reflecting a wish to satisfy everyone, what ever their background and likes".

The pub was refurbished sympathetically not long ago and still has vestiges of the old separate saloon bar and public bar entrances, with a central bar. It retains some original features such as the front fireplace and side-entrance floor tiling and some etched glass.

The love of good tasting flavours is reflected in their food and they like to pride themselves on using fresh, seasonal produce. The meat, poultry

and eggs are free range and traditionally reared, and the fish is from sustainable sources around the British coast. The beef, lamb and pork are all from Scotland.



Receiving the award on 6 April, licensee Ed Mason, pictured here with branch chairman John Cryne and Peter Walker, pub general manager, said, "The CAMRA award recognises the effort we have put in to establish a venue as a pub that is well known for real ale. We are absolutely delighted. It feels very positive that we have been able turn the pub around and put it back on the map when other pubs are struggling."

John Cryne

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<http://www.individualpubs.co.uk/pembury/>

SPBW London Pub of the Year 2010



The Pembury Tavern in the 1890s



CAMPAIGN
FOR
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Open Wednesday - Friday 12pm-10.30pm; Saturday 12pm-6pm

170+ real ales

Ciders & Perries

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Wide range of hot and cold foods

Admission £3, Concessions & CAMRA members £2
(FREE for members before 4pm)

Volunteer CAMRA staff required

More details from Graham Harrison on 07535 878996 or

www.ealingbeerfestival.org.uk

BRODIES AND A HELPING HAND

Brodies, the small East London microbrewery likes to give a helping hand. In the Spring, they brewed a golden beer called Brainwave. At 3.1% ABV, the beer flew out of the door but this wasn't any ordinary beer: all the profits went to the children's charity called Brainwave.



At the Cross Keys, Endell Street W1, brother and sister Jamie and Liz Brodie handed over a cheque for an amazing £1,100 to Brainwave's chief executive, Christine Cryne. Christine said *"Could there be a better way to raise money for charity than by drinking beer? We are very grateful to everyone who helped us out by buying a pint!"*

Now Brodies are looking for a helping hand themselves. Their pubs are doing well and beer sales are booming, so they are now looking for some help in the brewery. If you fancy volunteering on a regular basis, contact Jamie on 07828 498733. The downside is the early mornings but one suspects the beer may make up for that!

However, their international connections have not been going that smoothly. Their website was down for a while as the Armenian company (yes really) that was hosting the site went broke. All is fixed now, so have a look at www.brodiesbeers.co.uk.

HACKNEY CHARITIES BENEFIT FROM PIG'S EAR FESTIVAL

On 23 March, the East London and City Branch (ELAC) of the Campaign For Real Ale made its fourth presentation to Hackney charities from the Pig's Ear Beer Festival, organised each December. The cheque for £365 means that over £1,300 has been given to the chosen charities of the Speaker of Hackney in the four years that the festival has been held at Hackney's Ocean venue.

Festival organiser, Derek Jones, said, *"The festival has grown in size and success since we first came to Hackney. Last year we had over 4,000 attendees – a record number! We're delighted to show our thanks to our Hackney hosts by raising cash for its Speaker's causes."* The Speaker's charities this year were St Joseph's Hospice and two charities helping young people – Catch 22 and Reach Out.



Councillor Muttalip Unluer, Speaker of Hackney, receiving a cheque for £365 from officials of the Pig's Ear Beer Festival: left to right, Derek Jones, John Pardoe (chairman) and Bill Green.

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(viewlondon review)

*A traditional Shepherd Neame pub
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*Serving award-winning real ales:
Kent's Best, Canterbury Jack,
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You can find us in the
CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2010

460 Old Ford Road, Bow
London E3 5JP
Tel: 020 8980 6992
www.eleanorarms.co.uk

Great British Beer Festival

More than just beer

August once again sees the biggest beer festival in Britain return to Earl's Court. The Great British Beer Festival promises to delight the palate with hundreds of real ales from around Britain, a fantastic array of real ciders and perries and some of the best of America's and Europe's beers. And if you want to find out more about beer, why not attend one of the tutored beer tastings.

But the Festival is more than just beer. There are traditional pub games, everything from Table Skittles and Shut the Box to Roll the Barrel and Table Football; tombolas, where the lucky can win bottles of beer, tee shirts, books and much more; food and craft stands and a great range of music to suit all tastes. There is also a breweriana auction each session, except Thursday night, where you can bid for all sorts of brewery related memorabilia and a place on the trip on Saturday 25th September to two award-winning south Wiltshire breweries: John Gilbert's Hop Back Brewery and the newer Downton Brewery nearby. These trips are always great fun; the host breweries can be guaranteed to make their visitors very welcome.

On Wednesday evening you can bid to be the Brewer for the Day at Harvey's in Lewes, Sussex, one of few remaining family brewers. It promises to be an event to remember with overnight accommodation at the Dorset Arms, a day's brewing and a polypin of beer to take home! If you can't make the Festival but would like to bid, send your postal bid to baustin@supanet.com or phone: 01923 211654 (answerphone).

And don't forget to wear your hat on Thursday, Festival Hat Day. Judges will be wandering around the Festival handing out free beer vouchers for the best hats as well as determining an overall winner who will get a CAMRA goodie bag.

The Festival runs from 5pm on Tuesday 3 August, then daily from noon to 10.30pm from the Wednesday to the Friday and from 11am to 7pm on Saturday 7 August.

To get a discount on admission (and beat the queues), and for tutored beer tastings, phone 0844 412 4640 or see <http://gbbf.camra.org.uk/tickets>. Daily admission prices on the door are £10 (£8 for CAMRA members). Advance booking: £8 (£6) day ticket, £7 per person day ticket for group (10+) bookings and £23 (£20) season ticket including Tuesday afternoon trade session. Advanced bookings carry an extra £1 online transaction fee per order.



Entertainment at the Great British Beer Festival

Tuesday evening

Chaminade String Quartet
(classical and well known piece)
Tutored tasting: 300 Beers to try before you die – Roger Protz

Wednesday lunch

Band of Two (fiddle and guitar)
Tutored tasting: Champion Beers of Britain – Roger Protz

Wednesday evening

Hank Wangford & the Lost Cowboys (country)
Tutored tasting: Champion Beers of Britain – Roger Protz

Thursday lunch

Fret n' Fiddle (Gipsy Jazz)
Real Ale in a Bottle – the New Wave – Jeff Evans

Thursday evening

Blockheads
A British Beer Voyage – Christine Cryne

Friday lunch

Gerry Fletcher Band (Blues)
Meet the Brewers – hosted by SIBA

Friday evening

Hamsters
The American Revolution – Melissa Cole

Saturday lunch

Brass Band
Pub Quiz

THE P.O.W BEER FESTIVAL

Amanda and Paul would like to welcome you to the *newly refurbished* Prince of Wales in Merton for our first annual beer festival... that's right - the pub's back to its original name as we celebrate our first year of many in charge!

The festival starts at 6pm on **Friday 2nd July** and will run through until the beer's all gone **Sunday 4th**. In addition to the standard well-kept Young's beers on tap inside the pub, there will be an additional range of **10 beers** available in the specially erected marquee outside.

Beer tokens will be available from the bar in advance at a specially discounted price. Our **main menu, tapas menu and a BBQ** will be running for the duration of the festival, along with plenty of entertainment. **½ pint glasses** will be available for sampling.

Directions and information at www.powmerton.co.uk
98 Morden Road, Merton, London, SW19 3BP

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Dear Editor

I have enjoyed real ale for longer than I care to remember and really look forward to the bi-monthly publication of *London Drinker*. Recently I was chatting to someone who had only recently started drinking real ale. He thought that the magazine mainly catered for the initiated and did not feel greatly enlightened as to where the campaign stood on various issues such as the price of a pint. A mission statement (what we stand for in BOLD bullet points perhaps) on page three similar to that found in a company report and a few entertaining articles aimed at WHY we need to recruit (most non-members see handpumps everywhere and assume 'job done' and possibly some aimed at the development of newer members would be most beneficial.

Steve Lerpiniere

Dear Editor

Reggie Musgrave's broadside against canned music in pubs raises an issue which deserves greater prominence. Muzak spoils a great many pubs and, for me and I suspect many others, it overrides all other considerations and drives me out of otherwise excellent establishments.

In my experience, asking staff to turn the music off will be returned, especially from younger people, with an uncomprehending, almost fearful look, as though you have asked them to do something deeply immoral. I ask for it to be turned off, because a request to turn it down results in a decrease in the volume of a grudgingly small degree that can hardly be registered.

The only explanation I've ever received is that it creates 'atmosphere'. But atmosphere in pubs is created by sociability nurtured in comfortable surroundings, not canned music; and there's an interesting book to be written about at what point in the last century landlords decided that a loop of pop hits thumping into one's head was an improvement on chatting with friends, the clink of glasses or a crackling fire.

The music in many cases is not even under the control of the people working in the pub. It is often centrally delivered, programmed by firms who create playlists designed to create different moods during the day, as if customers are not able to do that themselves, as well as evoking a creepy idea of centrally planned emotion-control.

Others who wish to do something about this ever-increasing blight on our public spaces can join me in Pipedown, the campaign for freedom against piped music (www.pipedown.info). I also wonder if *London Drinker* might adopt the 'quiet pub' symbol used in the Good Beer Guide in its own pub listings.

Cliff Laine, Lancaster

Dear Editor

Thank you for your excellent article on heritage pubs in Vol 32 No 2. April/May issue. Unfortunately your group was about a week too early to appreciate at last (after a very long campaign) a pint of MILD in the Fog. It is Theakston's Traditional Mild @ 3.5%. As a further note to the name I believe it was originally, in the 1870s, called The Country House In The Mist, from the mist off the river Wandle at the bottom of the road so that patrons were caught in the Fog. I also note that in the Saturday 1 May *Telegraph* there is a report on Duncan Wood's campaign to promote Mild. More power to his elbow.

Chris Pavey

Dear Editor

I had an excellent lunch at the Little Driver, Bow Road E3 before Christmas and was sorry to learn that it had closed just before the end of 2009.

It has recently reopened. Two of us lunched there on 16 April. Meals are about £5 and puddings £3.50. The real ales on offer were Adnams Broadside, which ran out during the session, and London Pride, in excellent condition.

No sign of a cat! Outside is a garden and generous and extensive facilities for sunbathers and smokers.

There is a notice on the bar asking for real ale suggestions.

J W Grayson

Dear Editor

I hope I am not the only one to sound a small note of caution on Marston's Fast Cask system, as reported to CAMRA members in the April issue of *What's Brewing* and, no doubt, in the trade press. While getting an off pint is a peril, we can probably all recognise the vinegary flavour. But just as big a problem, to me, is the serving of beer that is too fresh or green. It has not had enough time to develop the full depth of flavour that good cask beer needs; it needed more time in the cellar.

Modern beers have a propensity to drop bright quickly, never mind Fast Cask, and this has tended to result in them being served too soon. Sure, they are clear, but often lacking a full flavour profile. What we need are landlords who can look after the beers they are selling by taking the appropriate time for cellar conditioning. In particular, I would have thought that stronger beers like Pedigree and Hobgoblin would benefit from a good time in the cellar rather than being Fast Casked.

I am not sure that I am that bothered about drinking real ale on trains or boats: give me a good pub any time. I would rather cask beer was served in establishments looked after by skilled cellarmen who can present a beer in its best possible

condition. I have seen real ale pushed into venues that could not handle it and its subsequent widescale retrenchment. Let's not go there again. There's a slow food movement; there's nothing wrong with slow beer.

John Cryne

Dear Editor

The photograph featured on the front cover of the April/May London Drinker (Vol 32 No 2) may just hold a clue to the demise of the Royal George, Greenwich.

In the photograph there are four handpulls on view, of which one has no pumpclip at all (not in use), two have pumpclips turned around (selection not available – might just as well be not in use) and one is in use for Master Brew (not particularly inspiring).

Maybe a CHOICE of more Shepherd Neame beers would have been nice, or even a guest (shock/horror!) to pull in more punters, or maybe the appeal of those flat conversions was just too tempting (fast buck)!

John Amos

Dear Editor

It seems a shame that you had to choose a front cover for your April/May edition that illustrates a particular bugbear of mine and in a small way undermines the efforts to bring cask ale to the fore

at a time of pub closures and increasing lager sales. I refer, of course, to the ubiquitous 'turned pumpclip'.

Out of four pumps in the picture only one has a basic session beer on offer and the feeling, familiar I'm sure to many readers, is that nothing else is going to be changed too soon. I'd love to be stood corrected by the Royal George but my point certainly applies as far as a number of pubs nationwide in my experience is concerned. I don't ever recall standing at the bar and seeing either a Carlsberg or Guinness tap with a 'gone' label attached to it though I realise neither of these need to 'settle'.

Wetherspoons might tease with their 'Coming Soon' tags but at least you know where you are. If the beer runs out, remove the clip. If there's another barrel, then put it on.

Rob Carthy, Bromley

(Readers will have appreciated from the article on page 4 of the April/May issue that the Royal George closed shortly after the cover photograph was taken. If Shepherd Neame had decided to keep it open, they wouldn't have run it down – shame.

The turned pumpclip is at least honest; unless a 'Coming Soon' tag is prominent, there's nothing more annoying in a pub than finding a pumpclip misleadingly facing outwards when that beer is not available for whatever reason. – Ed.)

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WHAT'LL IT BE THEN?

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

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



ESB. THE CHAMPION ALE.

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 June and July are listed below.

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

LONDON REGIONAL EVENT

July – Wed 21 (8pm) London Liaison Committee (Regional co-ordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1. *Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk*

LONDON PUBS GROUP

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

June – Sat 19 Daytime tour of Highgate, Archway and Kentish Town: (12 noon) Flask, 77 Highgate West Hill, Highgate N6; (12.45) Wrestlers, 98 North Rd, Highgate N6; (2.15m) Winchester Hotel, 206 Archway Rd, Highgate, N6; (3.15) Whittington & Cat, 89 Highgate Hill, Archway N19; (4.15) Bull & Gate, 389 Kentish Town Rd, Kentish Town NW5; (5pm) Assembly House, 292-4 Kentish Town Rd, Kentish Town NW5; (5.45) Pineapple, 51 Levertown St, Kentish Town NW5.

July – Wed 14 (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

June – Mon 7 Charing Cross crawl: (7pm) Lord Moon of the Mall, 16-18 Whitehall, SW1; (8pm) Albannach, 66 Trafalgar Square, WC2; (8.40) Ship & Shovell, 1-3 Craven Passage; (9.20) Harp, 47 Chandos Pl; (10.40) Lamb & Flag, 33 Rose St. **Thu 17** E17 Walthamstow crawl: (7.30) Rose & Crown, 55 Hoe St; (8.05) Goose, 24 Hoe St; (8.40) Queens Arms, 42 Orford Rd; (9.15) Village, 31 Orford Rd; (9.50) Nags Head, 9 Orford Rd; (10.25) Plough, 173 Wood St.

July – Thu 8 Social at Ealing Beer Festival: meet (7.30) at membership stand. **Thu 15** Angel crawl: meet (7.30) Narrow Boat, 119 St Peter St, N1.

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

BEXLEY

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

June – Wed 9 Mtg. Charcoal Burner, Sidcup. **Wed 30** Branch AGM. Crayford Arms, Crayford.

July – Sat 3 Kent Regional Mtg. Crayford Arms, Crayford. **Wed 14 (8.30)** Mtg and Branch PotY runner up presentation. Black Horse, Old Bexley.

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON

Peter McGill: 07831 561296; pete_mcgill@hotmail.com

June – Wed 21 (8.30) Social. Sun, 4 North St, Carshalton. A CAMRA members' discount applies and an interesting range promised. **Wed 16 (8.30)** Summer Pub of the Season presentation and social. George, 17-21 George St, Croydon. **Tue 22 (8.30)** Mtg. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey St, Croydon.

July – Wed 7 Croydon two-pub social: (8.30) George, 17-21 George St; (9.45) Royal Standard, Sheldon St. **Mon 19** Beddington two-pub social: (8.30) Plough, The Broadway, Croydon Rd; (9.45) Harvest Home, 27 Beddington Lane. **Thu 29 (8.30)** Mtg and *London Drinker* pick-up. Windsor Castle (Cottage Rm), 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton.

Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY

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

June – Tue 8 (9.45) PotY finalist presentation Pride of Spitalfields, 3 Heneage St, E1; **Thu 10 (8.30)** Lord Nelson, 1 Manchester Rd, E14; (9.30) Old Brewery Bar, Pepys Bdg, Old Royal Naval College, Greenwich SE10. **Tue 15** PotY finalist presentations: (8pm) Anchor & Hope, 15 High Hill Ferry, E5; (9.45) Eleanor Arms, 460 Old Ford Rd, E3. **Thu 17** Young members Walthamstow crawl (all welcome). For details, see Young Members Group entry above. **Fri 18** 97 Bus crawl: 7pm Station House, 134 Station Rd, E4; (7.45) Kings Ford, 250-252 Chingford Mount Rd, E4; (8.30) Rose & Crown, 53 Hoe St, E17; (9.15) Drum, 557-559 Lea Bridge Rd, E10; (9.45) William IV, 816 High Rd, E10; (10.30) Birkebeck Tavern, 45 Langthorne Rd, E11. **Sat 26** N10 London Branch tour of Redemption Brewery, N17. Meet (1pm) Gilpin's Bell, 50/54 Fore

St, N18.

July – Sat 3 Roberts Ramble: details tba. **Tue 13 (8pm)** Mtg. Black Lion, 59-61 High St, Plaistow E13. **Thu 15** Young members crawl (all welcome). (7.30) Narrow Boat, 119 St Peter St, N1; it will move on from there! **Fri 30 (7.30-8.30)** Setting of GBBF publicity crawls and issue of material. Little Driver, 125 Bow Rd, E3.

Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET

Brian Willis: 020 8440 4542 (H), branch mobile 07757 710008 at event

June – Sat 5 Beer and buses: (10am) Waltham Cross bus stn by for a 310 to Ware. Further details from Owen on 020 8529 4454. **Wed 9** Branch AGM (CAMRA cards only). East Finchley

Constitutional Club, The Chestnuts, part of The Walks, N2. **Tue 15 (12.30)** Daytime social, opt. Meal. Beehive, 24 Little Bury St, Edmonton, N9. **Thu 24 (8.30)** Social. Sebright Arms, 9 Alston Rd, Barnet, EN5. **Sat 26** Redemption Brewery trip: see N London entry. **Wed 30 (8pm)** Garden social. Southgate Cricket Club, Walker Grd, Waterfall Rd, N14.

July – Sat 3 Roberts Memorial Ramble: details from Ron Andrews 020 8524 4239. **Thu 8 (8.30)** Garden social. Rising Sun, 137 Marsh Lane, Mill Hill NW7. **Wed 14 (8.30)** Social. George, 5 The Town, Enfield Town EN2. **Tue 20 (8pm)** Club social. (CAMRA cards only). Ponders End Allotments Assoc, 82A Church Rd (jct with Orchard Rd), Ponders End EN3. **Thu 29 (8.30)** Social and *London Drinker* pick up. Griffin, 1262 High Rd, Whetstone N20.

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

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor: 020 8949.2099; ctaylor2007@freeuk.com

June – Thu 3 (8.15) Mtg. Jolly Coopers, Wheelers LA, Epsom. Landlord will collect from rail sta. **Sun 6** Kingston BF publicity crawl in Surbiton: meet (12.30) Coronation Hall. **Sat 12 (12pm)** Visit to Welton's Brewery and Horsham pubs. Travel by train, Wimbledon 10.40, Raynes Park 10.43, change at Epsom into 11.09 to arrive Horsham 11.45. Names please if interested. **Thu 17 (8pm)** Kingston BF mtg. Workmen's Club. **Fri 25-Sat 26** Kingston Beer Festival. See page 27.

July – Thu 1 (8pm) Social. Boaters, Canbury Gdns, Kingston. **Wed 7 (8.15)** Mtg. Running Horse, Bridge St, Leatherhead. **Sun 18** Day out on train to Watercress Line at Alton to incorporate bus running day and pub visits. Travel on 10.30 from Surbiton. **Sun 25** Weybridge lunchtime/afternoon crawl: meet (12.30) Hand & Spear, outside rail sta; then British Volunteer, Queen's Head and other pubs through the town and towards the river and back to the station.

Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk

NORTH LONDON

Social contacts: Stephen Taylor: 07531 006296,

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

June – Tue 1 PotY presentation. (8pm) Pineapple, 51 Levertown St, NW5. **Tue 8** WC1 and WC2 Guide mtg. (8pm) Kings Arms (upstairs), 11a Northington St, WC1. **Tue 15** NW3 Hampstead social: (8pm) Flask, 14 Flask Walk; (8.45) Holly Bush, 22 Holly Mount; (9.30) Duke of Hamilton, 23 New End. **Sat 19** Joint social with London Pubs Group in Highgate, Archway and Kentish Town (see LPG entry for details). **Tue 22** LDBF debrief mtg. (8pm) Wenlock Arms (upstairs), 26 Wenlock Rd, N1. **Sat 26** Visit to Redemption Brewery with E & B and ELAC branches: (1pm) Gilpin's Bell, 50-54 Fore St, Edmonton, N18 then to brewery in groups, then evening pubs in Tottenham. **Tue 29** N16 Stoke Newington social: (8pm) Birdcage, 58 Stamford Hill; (8.45) Jan's, 18 Northwold Rd; (9.30pm) Jolly Butchers, 204 High St; (10.30) Rochester Castle, 143 High St.

July – Tue 6 WC1 hotels social: (7.30) Cafe London, Bedford Hotel, 83-95 Southampton Row; (8.15) Night and Day Bar, Imperial Hotel, 61-66 Russell Sq; (9pm) London Pub, Royal National Hotel, Woburn Pl; (9.45) Tavistock Bar, Tavistock Hotel, Tavistock Sq; (10.15) County Bar, County Hotel, Upper Woburn Pl. **Sat 10** Day trip to Brighton: (11am) Wetherspoons, Victoria Station, SW1 for breakfast and to sort tickets; (1pm) Evening Star, 55-56 Surrey St, Brighton; then other pubs on the South Downs Ale Trail: contact us via mobiles. **Tue 13** Bus 201 social: (7.30) Old Bull & Bush, North End Way, NW3; (8.15) Spaniards, Spaniards Rd, NW3; (9pm) Gatehouse, 1 North Rd, N6; (9.45) Flask, 77 Highgate West Hill, N6; (10.30) Charlotte Despard, 17-19 Archway Rd,

N19. - **Tue 20** (8pm) **Branch AGM**. Calthorpe Arms (upstairs), 252 Grays Inn Rd, WC1. - **Sun 25** Cross border social: (12.30) Alfred Herring, 316-322 Green Lanes, N13; (2pm) Occasional Half, 67-77 Green Lanes, N13; (2.30) Wood Green Social Club, 3 Stuart Cresc, N22; (4pm) Spouters Corner, 180 High Rd, N22. - **Tue 27** Canonbury and Newington Green social: (7.30) Lord Clyde, 340-342 Essex Rd, N1; (8.15) George Orwell, 382 Essex Rd, N1; (9pm) Alma, 59 Newington Green Rd, N1; (9.30) Snooty Fox, 75 Grosvenor Ave, N5; (10pm) Nobody Inn, 92 Mildmay Park, N1. **Website:** www.camranorlondon.org.uk Email: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/camranorlondon/

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW

Brian Kirton: 020 8384 7284 (H); briankirton@blueyonder.co.uk
June - Thu 10 Richmond crawl: (7.30) Triple Crown, 15 Kew Foot Rd; (8.20) Sun Inn, 17 Parkshot; (9pm) Duke, 2 Duke St; (9.40) Britannia, 5 Brewers La; (10.15) Princes Head, 28 The Green. - **Sat 19** East/South-East London brewpub tour: meet 10.45am Richmond Station, Platform 4 (travelcard needed for zones 2-4) to include Brodies (Leyton), Meantime (Greenwich), Zerodreages (Blackheath), Florence (Herne Hill); back about 9.30pm. Full itinerary on website under Branch Diary; all welcome to join us for all or part of the tour. **Thu 24** (8.30) Mtg. Worlds End, 88 Station Rd, Hampton.
July - Tue 13 East Sheen crawl: (7.30) Victoria, 10 West Temple Sheen; (8.15) Plough, 42 Christchurch Rd; (9.15) Pig & Whistle, 86 Sheen La; (10pm) Hare & Hounds, 216 Upper Richmond Rd West. - **Thu 22** (8.30) Mtg. Turks Head, 28 Winchester Rd, St. Margarets. - **Thu 29** (8pm) Social. Masons Arms, 41 Walpole Rd, Teddington. **Website:** www.rhcama.org.uk

SOUTH EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew: 07751 898310 (M) evenings or weekends only, branch.contact@selcamra.org.uk
June - Tue 1 (8pm) Cttee mtg and social. Catford Ram, 9 Winslade Way, SE6. - **Wed 9** New Cross crawl: (8pm) Royal Albert, 460 New Cross Rd, SE14; (8.30) Royal George, 85 Tanners Hill, SE8; (8.45) Talbot, 2 Tyrwhitt Rd, SE4; (9.30) Rising Sun, 120 Loampit Vale, SE13. - **Thu 17** BR7 Chiselhurst crawl: (8pm) Ramblers Rest, Mill Pl; (8.45) Tigers Head, Watts La; (9.15) Crown, School Rd; (9.45) Bulls Head Hotel, Royal Parade. - **Thu 24** SE5 Camberwell crawl: (8pm) Bear, 296a Camberwell New Rd; (8.45) Tiger 18 Camberwell Green; (9.15) Hermits Cave, 28 Church St. - **Tue 29** (8pm) Beer festival planning mtg and social. Old Brewery, Pepys Bdg, Greenwich Royal Naval College, SE10.
July - Wed 7 BR2 Bromley crawl: (7.30) Beacon, 18 Farleigh Ave; (8pm) George, 29 Hayes St; (8.25) a 25 minute walk across the Common via George Lane for (8.50) Two Doves, 37 Oakley Rd. - **Thu 15** Telegraph Hill crawl: (8pm) Montague Arms, 289 Queens Rd, SE15; (8.45) Telegraph at Earl of Derby, 87 Dennett's Rd, SE14; (9.45) Skehans, 1 Kitto Rd, SE14. - **Mon 19** SE8 Deptford short crawl: (8pm) Duke, 125 Creek Rd; (8.45) Dog & Bell, 116 Prince St. - **Tue 27** BR3 Beckenham crawl: (8pm) Oakhill Tavern, 90 Bromley Rd; (8.30) Jolly Woodman, 9 Chancery La; (9.15) George, 111 High St, (10pm) Goose, 205 High St. **Website:** www.selcamra.org.uk

SOUTH-WEST ESSEX

Alan Barker: swessex@essex-camra.org.uk, 07711 971957 (M) evenings or weekends only. Bookings for minibus trips (+ all brewery trips) to Graham Platt: 020 8220 0215 (H)
June - Wed 2 (8pm) Out-of-area social. 25th Colchester Summer BF, Colchester Arts Centre, Church St, Colchester. - **Tue 8** (8pm) Social. Thurrock BF, Thurrock Civic Hall, Blackshots Lane, Grays. - **Thu 17** (8pm) Out-of-area social. 6th Baintree BF, Baintree Institute, Bocking End, Baintree. - **Sat 19** (12 noon) Out-of-area social. 3rd Gibberd Garden BF, Marsh Lane, Old Harlow. - **Thu 24** (8.30) London Area PotY presentation and social. Travellers Friend, 496-498 High Rd, Woodford Green. - **Tue 29** (8.30) Social (Ha'penny Brewery beers expected). County (ex Horns Tavern), 134 Horns Rd, Barking-side.
July - Thu 8 (8.30) Social. Stag, Brentwood Rd, Marden Ash CM5. - **Thu 15** (8pm) Out-of-area social. 32nd Chelmsford Summer BF, Admiral's Park, Rainsford Rd, Chelmsford. - **Thu 22** (8.30) Out-of-area social. White Hart Summer BF, Swan Lane, Margaretting Tye, CM4. - **Sat 31** (1pm) Out-of-area social. 2nd Bishops Stortford BF, Royal British Legion Club, 28 Windhill, Bishops Stortford. **Website:** essex-camra.org.uk/swessex

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H), 020-7147 3826 (W), markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk Cricket contact: Tom Brain 07796 265972, tbrain@haysmacityre.com

June - Wed 9 (7.30) Cttee mtg. Armoury (formerly the Crane), 14 Armoury Way, Wandsworth SW18. - **Thu 24** SW9 North Brixton crawl: (7pm) Beehive, 407 Brixton Rd; (7.30) Rest is Noise, 442 Brixton Rd; (8pm) Duke of Edinburgh, 204 Ferndale Rd; (8.45) Marquis of Lorne, 49A Dalryell Rd; (9.30) Grosvenor, 17 Sidney Rd; (10.15) Queen's Head, 144 Stockwell Rd.
July - Mon 12 (7.30) Cttee mtg, Nightingale, 97 Nightingale La, Balham SW12 - **Sat 17** GBBF publicity crawl: meet (12 noon) Hand & Racquet, 25 Wimbledon Hill Rd SW19. Late joining point (1.45) Rose & Crown, 55 High St, Wimbledon Village. **Website:** www.swlcamra.org.uk

WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104 (H) 07854 988152 (M)
June - Fri 4 (8pm) PotY presentation. Sportsman, 2 Scots Hill, Croxley Green WD3. - **Thu 17** (8.30) Apsley social. Paper Mill, Stationers Pl, HP3. - **Thu 24** Chorleywood social: (8.30) White Horse, Rickmansworth Rd; (9.30) Black Horse, Dog Kennel La; (10.15) Rose & Crown, Chorleywood Common. - **Mon 28** (8pm) Mtg. West Herts Sports Club, Park Avenue, Watford.
July - Wed 7 Ealing Beer Festival social. Meet from 7pm at membership stand every hour on the hour. - **Wed 14** (8pm) Petanque at the Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty, Long La, Heronsgate, WD3. - **Sat 17** WD3 Saratt stumble: (12.45) Plough, Belsize; (1.30) Boot, The Green, Saratt; (2.30) Cock, Church La, Saratt; (3.15) Cricketers, The Green, Saratt. Catch the 352 bus, departing Watford Town Centre 12.15. - **Mon 26** (8pm) Mtg. West Herts Sports Club, Park Avenue, Watford. **Website:** www.watfordcamra.org.uk

WEST LONDON

Kimberly Martin: 07717 795284, kimberlymartin@yahoo.com; *Social secretary Alasdair Boyd:* 020 7930 9871 x 143 (2.30-3.30 and 6-9.30pm Mon-Fri), banqueting@nlc.org.uk, fax 020 7839 4768
June - Tue 1 (7pm) Campaigning social: Shakespeare's Head, Kingsway WC2. - **Mon 7** (7pm) **Branch AGM** incl motion to adopt new **Branch constitution: bring CAMRA membership cards**. Old Coffee House (upstairs) 49 Beak St WC2. - **Tue 8** (8pm) WC1/WC2 Pub Guide mtg: King's Arms (upstairs), Northington St, WC1. - **Sun 13** WC2 Covent Garden tour: (2pm) Coach & Horses, 42 Wellington St; (2.45) Marquis of Anglesea, 39 Bow St; (3.30) Globe, 37 Bow St; (4.15) Seven Dial Club, 42 Earham St; (6pm) Cross Keys, 31 Endell St. - **Sun 20** Two pub social: (1pm) Uxbridge Arms, 13 Uxbridge St W8; (3pm) Cork & Bottle, 17 Needham Rd W11. - **Tue 29** (7.30) 1st GBBF 2010 publicity crawls: Star Tavern (upstairs), Belgrave Mews West SW1. Food provided.
July - Thu 13 post-Young's AGM SW18 Wandsworth crawl: (7.30) Spread Eagle, 71 Wandsworth High St; (8.15) Grapes, 39 Fairfield St; (9pm) Armoury (formerly Crane), 14 Armoury Way; (9.45) Cat's Back, 86 Point Pleasant. - **Thu 15** (7.30) 2nd GBBF 2010 publicity crawls: Harp, 47 Chandos Pl, WC2. Food provided. - **Tue 20** (7.30) Mtg. Carpenters Arms (upstairs) 12 Seymour Pl, W1. - **Fri 23** post-Fuller's AGM W4 Chiswick crawl: (7.30) Old Pack Horse, 434 Chiswick High Rd; (8.30) Tabard, 2 Bath Rd; (9.30) Duke of Sussex, 75 South Parade. - **Sat 24** (12pm) All day GBBF publicity crawls: Albion, 121 Hammersmith Rd, W4. Food provided. **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
June - Wed 2 PotY presentation. (8pm) Fox, Green La, Hanwell W7. - **Thu 10** Ealing BF publicity crawl: (8pm) Moon on the Hill, 373-375 Station Rd, Harrow HA1. - **Tue 15** (8.30) Northwood Hills social. William Jolle, 53 Joel St, Northwood Hills HA6. - **Tue 22** Ealing BF publicity crawl: (8pm) Queens Head, 54 Windsor St, Uxbridge; ending (10.30) Good Yarn, 132 High St, Uxbridge.
July - Thu 1 Ealing BF publicity crawl: (8pm) Questors Grapevine Bar, 12 Mattock La, Ealing. - **Wed 7**-**Sat 10** Ealing Beer Festival, Mattock Lane, Ealing, W5 5BG. - **Wed 14** Mtg: (8.30) Crown, Cowley High Rd, Uxbridge UB8. - **Thu 22** (8pm) Ealing Beer Festival washup. Kings Arms, 55 The Grove, Ealing. - **Tue 27** GBBF publicity crawl: (8pm) Questors Grapevine Bar, 12 Mattock La, Ealing. - **Sat 31** Trip to Lewes. Contact Bob O'Brien for more details or see branch website. **Website:** www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the August/September edition: Wednesday 7 July. Please send entries to geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk.

Capital Pubcheck - update 212

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 the opening of a brand new Wetherspoon bar and restaurant in a former cocktail bar/restaurant on the riverside at Putney SW15 and the reopening as an independent free house of a pub specialising in microbrewery beers and real cider and perry in N16 Stoke Newington. Meantime Brewery has opened a continental style brewpub and restaurant at the historic Old Royal Naval College in SE10 Greenwich. We catch up on a Marston bank conversion in EC2 City and on pubs acquired by the Grand Union pub group. Interpub's Belushi's chain is the latest of its style to install real ale. A Bavarian bierkeller has opened in SE1 Borough.

More closures are reported across London as pubcos and brewers alike seek to exploit 'development opportunities' rather than face competition from

independent operators if they sold off pubs free of tie.

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; BSM - Brixton, Streatham & Mitcham 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

EC2, BLUO, 4 Moorgate. Marston: seasonal beer (e.g. Dragon's T'ale (4.5%)), Wychwood: Brakspear Oxford Gold. Beers vary every three weeks from within the Marston range. A 'bar and brasserie' opened June 2008 by Marstons in former bank premises, not previously reported. Retains grand facade with large open plan interior with grey decor in modern style, metallic bar top, wooden flooring, exposed ventilation, mix of furniture etc. Balcony area overlooks street. Open-to-view kitchen with traditional British menu sourced from local and regional suppliers. The cask beers with cooling jackets are displayed behind a screen in the basement. Open 7.30am-11pm Mon-Wed, 7.30am-midnight Thu/Fri, closed weekends.

EC4, EL VINO, 30 New Bridge St. No real ale. Famous independently owned wine bar now with draught lagers etc.

WC2, BELUSHI'S, 9 Russell St. Wells: Bombardier. Real ale is being installed in Interpub's Belushi's chain following the example of the All Bar One, Pitcher & Piano and Slug & Lettuce chains aimed at a similar market. (W29)

EAST

ILFORD (IG1), QUE PASA, 109-127 Cranbrook St. No real ale. Marston bar not previously reported and recently sold on to an independent operator.

NORTH

N1, CELLAR N1, 2 Varnishers Yard, Regent Quarter, Pentonville Rd. No real ale. An independent cocktail bar with keg beer.

N1, KING OF DENMARK, 7/9 Clouesley Rd. Taylor: Landlord, two guest beers (e.g. Caledonian Deuchars IPA,

Theakston Best Bitter). Now independent, ex-Charles Wells and run by operator of the Woodbine N5. (N49, U120, U184)

N1, SIMMONS, 32 Caledonian Rd. No real ale. Independent bar in former shop of same name.

N16, BAR STOKIES, 204 Stoke Newington High St. Reopened and reverted to **JOLLY BUTCHERS**. Nine handpumps dispense varying guest ales from micros (e.g. Brodies, Dark Star, Redemption, Thornbridge) plus real cider and perry. Also Belgian and German keg beers on tap. Now independent free house, ex-FT Pubs & Bars and run by Martin Harley from the Rose & Crown N16 and Wrestlers N6. Was **FATHER TED'S** for a while. A welcome addition to the London real ale scene. (N128, U188, U209)

N16, MONARCH, 68 Green Lanes. Fuller: London Pride (20p off during daytime). Reinstatement of real ale. (N129, U109, U195)

N19, SHAFTESBURY, 534 Hornsey Rd. Fuller: London Pride, ESB or seasonal beer; two guest beers from regionals (e.g. Hydes) or micros. Live music Sunday evenings. Reopened after refurbishment. Now Remarkable Restaurants, ex-Taylor Walker. (N145, U156, U167, U202)

NORTH WEST

NW1, BELUSHI'S, 48/50 Camden High Rd. Wells: Bombardier (on new style pump). Now leased from Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur via Unique. Formerly **WHEATSHEAF**. (N177, U164)

NW1, CUBAN, Stables Market, Chalk Farm Rd. No real ale. Independent bar/restaurant.

NW1, 3 LIONS, 69 Camden Rd. Fuller: London Pride. Formerly **FATHER TED'S**. (U165, U201)

NW5, BULL & GATE, 389 Kentish Town Rd. Draught Bass. (N197, U174, U202)

NW7, JEREMIAH BULLFROGS, 655 Watford Way,

Northways Circus. Reopened and renamed **INN CROWD**. No real ale. (N209, U208)
NW9, FUNKY BROWNS, 63 The Hyde. No real ale. Late night bar open to general public with no admission charge. Formerly **GLEN** and originally **GLEN FIRESIDE ROOMS** and reported as converted to an Indian restaurant and night club in Update 194. Reinstated on pub database. (N217, U153, U194)
NW10, LIQUID, 87/89 High Rd, Willesden. No real ale. Independent bar in former shop premises opened by March 2009.

SOUTH EAST

SE1, BELUSHI'S, 161-165 Borough High St. Wells: Bombardier. Now leased by Interpub from Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur. (U156)

SE1, KATZENJAMMERS (BIERKELLER & RESTAURANT), Hop Exchange, 24 Southwark St. No real ale. Bavarian bar and restaurant opened October 2009 in basement of Hop Exchange building. Nine keg Bavarian beers and 25 bottled Belgian and German beers. Next door to Wheatsheaf.

SE1, RUSE, 280 Borough High St. Greene King: IPA. Formerly **RED LION** and was **BUNTERS** for a while. (SE12, U102, U123, U124, U156)

SE5, SILVER BUCKLE, 19 Camberwell Green. Reopened and reverted in February 2010 to original name **TIGER** revealed when green tiling was exposed on frontage during refurb. Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; Sharp: Doom Bar; Wadworth: 6X; Young: Bitter. Now operated by the Antic pub chain and fitted out in homely basic style with quirky old furniture, bare floorboards and two alcove rooms at the side, one with TV for sport. Food in evenings and Sunday lunch. Opens 4-midnight Mon-Thu, 4-1am Fri, 12-1am Sat, 12-11pm Sun. (SE61, U102, U209)

SE10, FRANKIE & BENNY'S, Unit 17, Entertainment Ave, The O2, Peninsula Sq. No real ale. New branch of the bar/restaurant chain opened by January 2010.

SE10, OLD BREWERY, Old Royal Naval College, nr Cutty Sark Gate. Dark Star: Hophead (£3.30/pint); Harvey: Best Bitter (£3.40), Meantime: London Pale Ale [4.3%] (£3.30). New continental style brewpub, bar and restaurant opened late March by Meantime Brewery. The building was originally used for brewing in 1717 when the Naval College housed naval pensioners and later it became an officers' mess and latterly a squash court and store room. The small bar area has a flagstone floor, bare brick walls and bottle lined shelves. The three level Italian equipped brewery is located in the adjacent spacious restaurant area where brewer Rod Jones brews Kellerbier [4.6%] (£3.60/pint) served through a bar tap direct from cellar tanks by compressed air pressure. Hospital Porter [8%] (£6.50) is also brewed, kegged and served under CO₂ pressure. Meantime and foreign keg beers also on tap. Bar food and upmarket restaurant meals. Bar open 11-11 daily.

SE18, LORD CLYDE, 1 Brookhill Rd. Courage; Best Bitter. Real ale reinstated in this pub that thankfully continues to trade despite planning permission for demolition and redevelopment for flats granted on appeal two years ago. (SE169, U198, U204)

BEXLEYHEATH (DA6), GOLDEN LION, 258 Broadway. Wells Bombardier. (3SE212, U43, K34, U157)

CROYDON (CR0), CHILLI ROOM, 24/26 South End. No real ale. Indian bar and restaurant in former restaurant, previously **ELEPHANT BAR** and originally **LARRY'S DINER**. Reinstated on pub database. (U108, U156, U185)

CROYDON (CR0), HALF & HALF, 282 High St. Dark Star: Hophead. Reinstatement of real ale. Formerly **BEER CIRCUS**, **OASIS**, **GRAIN & GRAPES**, **DUCK**, **KEMBERS** and originally **WEST SIDE**. (3SE251, U52, U94, U99, U101, U179, U200)

CROYDON (CR0), LA TASCA, 38/40 High St. No real ale. Previously unreported branch of this bar/restaurant chain.

CROYDON (CR0), SAHARA, 42 South End. No real ale. Independent bar.

SOUTH WEST

SW2, SULTAN, 37 Elm Park Rd. Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; Wells: Bombardier. Reinstatement of real ale by new Enterprise tenant. (SW53, BSM24)

SW15, ROCKET, 16 Brewhouse Lane. Greene King Ruddles Best, Abbot; two guest beers; Weston Marcle Hill cider. Previously a cocktail bar/restaurant of the same name, closed for nine months, gutted and reopened as a Wetherspoon bar and restaurant on 30 April 2010. Located on ground floor of riverside apartment block built c. 2004 opposite Young's Boathouse pub. A large restaurant area with table service, open from 8am (9am Sun) for breakfast, overlooks the river through full length windows while the attractive mock-traditional small back bar and alcoves create a quiet, relaxing and intimate atmosphere for drinkers. The local history panels, dusty books and fancy carpet are reminiscent of early Wetherspoon pubs but the emphasis on the restaurant is a new venture. Local sensitivities mean outdoor seating is restricted to diners only. Open 11-11, 12-10.30 Sun.

SW19, PRINCE OF WALES, 336 Western Rd, Colliers Wood. Reopened and renamed **PEP'S (BAR & RESTAURANT)** in early May after many years boarded up and derelict since closure in 2004 by owners, Wellington Pub Co, whose demolition application for alternative site use was then rejected under Merton's Pub Protection Policy. No real ale. Now independent. Guyanese cuisine. (SW119, BM29)

SW20, APOSTLES SW20, 17 Approach Rd. No real ale. Independent, reopened as a bar under previous management after unsuccessful stint as Italian restaurant; reinstated on pub database. Formerly **APOSTLES BAR**, originally **WINNERS WINE BAR**. (SW125, BRP36, U208)

KEW (TW9), GREYHOUND, 82 Kew Green. Fuller: London Pride; Wells: Bombardier; Young: Bitter. Reopened. (SW138, U181, U204, U210)

KINGSTON (KT1), COCOANUT, 16 Mill St. Fuller: London Pride. Reinstatement of real ale in this Fuller's pub. (SW141, KT21, U199)

KINGSTON (KT1), SLUG & LETTUCE, Unit 6, Charter Quay, 22-28 High St. Wells Bombardier (£2.30/pint). Formerly **CASA**. Note correct address. (U165, KT18, U198, U199)

RICHMOND (TW9), ALL BAR ONE, 9/11 Hill St. Fuller: London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar. (SW154, U189, U198, RHP18)

SURBITON (KT6), GORDON BENNETT, 75 Maple Rd. Hogs Back: TEA. Reinstatement of real ale.

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Formerly ROYAL CHARTER. (SW162, U145, U153, KT41)

WEST

SOUTHALL (UB2), WOLF, 170 Norwood Rd, Norwood Green. No real ale. Reopened. (W188, U199, U210)

UXBRIDGE (UB8), ST JAMES AT COWLEY, High St, Cowley. Caledonian; Deuchars IPA, Courage: Best Bitter. Formerly GRAND UNION. (W210, U197)

WEST DRAYTON (UB7), SIX BELLS, 125 Station Rd. Greene King: IPA; Wychwood: Hobgoblin. Reinstatement of real ale in this S&N PE pub. (W225)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC1, BOWLER, SFI, closed by September 2009.

Formerly LITTLE LITTEN, HARLEM YACHT CLUB, CHARLOTTE and originally SURPRISE. (E25, U79, U92, U108, U113, U114, U159, U164, U190)

EC1, PARKER McMILLAN, Free, now a nightclub and venue for hire. Delete from pub database. Formerly BOUDOIR, originally VAULTS. (E26, U75, U184, U193)

EC1, QUEEN BOADICEA, Free, closed. Formerly BULL, originally NEW RED LION. (E21, U147, U192)

EC4, BONAPARTES, Free, demolished to facilitate rebuilding of station. Formerly CAFE BAR, originally CANNON STREET BUFFET BAR. (E47, U105, U174)

EC4, TEMPLE TAVERN, ex-Whitbread, closed and boarded up by October 2009 pending development of the whole Walbrook area. Formerly BENTLEYS (FORUM BAR). (E46, U69, U70, U76, U120)

WC1, CARPENTERS ARMS, Punch, H unused. (N19, HB6, W17)

WC1, QUEENS HEAD, 66 Acton St, Punch, closed. (N29, HB12, W24)

W1(May), ALL BAR ONE, 3/4 Hanover St, M&B, closed in 2004 and converted to Halifax bank, omitted in error from the 'lost locals' on p234 of W guide.

W1(May), CHEERS, Free (Soho Bars). Closed January 2009 for redevelopment of whole block as hotel. (W58)

W1(S), BOULEVARD (BAR & DINING ROOM), Free, now no draught beer; delete from pub database. Formerly DOME. (W65, U193)

W1(S), DANIELS BAR. Already reported as converted to cocktail bar, now closed since January 2009 for redevelopment of whole block as an hotel. (W234)

EAST

E1, DOCKS & CO. Renamed FUSION LOUNGE by April 2005, closed and converted to office use. (U108, U174)

E1, OLD GLOBE, Free, closed, future uncertain. (E70, U79, U118, U204)

E3, BRITANNIA, ex-Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique, closed, future uncertain. (E89)

E4, PRINCE OF WALES, M&B, now demolished. Pub was established in 1862. (E96, U169, U202, U208)

E8, L.A., Free, reported demolished but frontage, at least, remains intact behind a hoarding. (E113, U158)

E9, SILVAR LINK, ex-Truman, closed and boarded up. Formerly GENEVAS, originally WHITE LION. (E122, U110, U167, U187)

BARKING (IG11), HARROW, ex-Punch ex-Bass, closed and boarded up. (X11)

COLLIER ROW (RM5), BELL & GATE, Enterprise leased to JK Taverns, no real ale. (X42)

ILFORD (IG1), CRANBROOK. Renamed DESI POTION, a Punjabi bar and restaurant, no real ale. (X72, U159, U205)

MARKS GATE (CHADWELL HEATH) (RM6), CROOKED BILLET, Punch, ex-Ind Coope, no real ale. (X87, U168)

NORTH

N1, DECO, 295 Hoxton St. Now converted to 'Aso Rock' Nigerian restaurant. Formerly KINGS ARMS. (N49, U164, U179)

N1, EDINBURGH CELLARS, Enterprise, closed early 2010, future uncertain. Formerly EDINBURGH. (N42, U159, U188, U190, U197)

N1, WALKABOUT INN, ex-Regent Inns, closed and boarded up. Formerly OUTBACK INN, previously HARVEY FLOORBANGERS BAR. (N47, U120, U121)

N7, HERCULES, Enterprise, ex-S&N, closed. Formerly HERCULES TAVERN. (N87, U109, U178)

N9, COCK, ex-Punch ex-Bass, no real ale. Formerly PITCHER & PINT, originally COCK TAVERN. (N99, U178, U192, U200)

ENFIELD EAST (EN3), WHITE HART, S&N PE, ex-Taylor Walker, closed and freehold for sale. (N242, U165)

NORTH WEST

NW4, LITTLE HOUSE, ex-S&N, closed 2009, future uncertain. (N194)

NW5, MAMELON TOWER, ex-Whitbread, closed. Was MAN OF ARAN for a while. (N199, U156, U202)

EDGWARE (HA8), McGOWANS, McGowans, H unused. Formerly OSCAR WILDE, CEILI BAR and SMUGGLERS COVE. (N257, U109, U156, U207)

HARROW (HA1), KINGS HEAD, Free, now in residential use. (W236)

PINNER (HA5), VICTORY, Punch, ex-Spirit, closed and to be leased as a 'Zizzi' restaurant to Ask restaurant group. (W181)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, SAMSONS, Free, closed April 2002 and now converted to office use. (SE32)

SE6, TIGERS HEAD, ex-Wetherspoon, now demolished. The sad end for a once popular pub in what is now a desert area for pubs. (SE69, U102, U191)

SE7, HORSE & GROOM, ex-Enterprise. A retrospective planning application has now been submitted to Greenwich Council with a view to legalising its use by the occupants for religious purposes. (SE72, U201, U211)

SE8, DEPTFORD ARMS, ex-Whitbread, closed 16 May 2010 and application granted for conversion to a betting office. (SE79)

SE12, BARING HALL, Punch Pub Co, ex-Taylor Walker via Spirit, closed since a fire. (SE113, U203)

SE13, PITCHERS, ex-Whitbread, now demolished. Formerly PLOUGH. (SE121, U116, U199)

SE15, GOLDEN LION, Enterprise, now demolished

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following a fire. (SE135, U210)

SE26, DUKE, Enterprise, now demolished to make way for flats. Formerly **DUKE OF EDINBURGH**. (SE222, U149, U197, U198, U199, U207)

SE26, WOODMAN, ex-Enterprise ex-Whitbread, H unused. (SE224)

CROYDON (CR0), **NEWTON ARMS**, Punch, ex-Bass, closed, future uncertain. On CAMRA's Regional Inventory of pub interiors. (3SE245, U56)

PURLEY (CR8), **ROYAL OAK**, ex-Whitbread, closed for some years. Was TUT 'N' SHIVE for a while. (3SE268, U82, U106)

SOUTH CROYDON (CR2), **FOLLY**, ex-Porter Black, H unused. Formerly **SPOOFERS BAR**, originally LE REFUGE. (3SE278, U46, U52, U120, U130, U168)

SOUTH CROYDON (CR2), **SWAN & SUGARLOAF**, Pubs 'n' Bars, closed. On CAMRA's Regional Inventory of pub interiors. (3SE279, U98, U189)

THORNTON HEATH (CR7), **GRANGE**, ex-Whitbread, closed in May 2009. (3SE282, U56, U195)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(B), **GROUSE & CLARET**, ex-Hall & Woodhouse. Now a planning application for demolition and redevelopment for a single dwelling is due to be considered by Westminster Council in May 2010. (SW37, U199)

SW1(P), **SURPRISE (AT PIMLICO)**, Punch, ex-Bass, H unused. (SW44)

SW11, **HABERDASHERS ARMS**. Punch, closed. (SW89, WB33)

SW19, **PRINCESS ROYAL**, ex-Enterprise, closed 25 April. (SW119, BM29, U211)

KINGSTON (KT2), **LJ'S**, ex-Intreprenuer, already reported demolished, new houses now built on site. (SW143, U143, U155)

RICHMOND (TW9), **BISHOPS FINGER**, Free, now converted to residential use but currently empty and for sale. Formerly **PATRICK CASEYS**, originally **BELVEDERE**. (SW154, U126, U155, U189, RHP19)

RICHMOND (TW9), **BLACK HORSE**, Jordan Inns, ex-Intreprenuer, already reported converted to residential but ground floor remains empty and for sale for A1/A2/A3 uses (SW154, U157, U189, U191, U198, RHP41)

WORCESTER PARK (KT4), **PLOUGH (HARVESTER)**, M&B, ex-Bass, H removed. (SW169, KT46)

WEST

BRENTFORD (TW8), **ROYAL HORSE GUARDSMAN**, Fuller, already reported closed, now advertised for sale as a 'development opportunity'. (W134, U200)

HAMPTON WICK (KT1), **RAILWAY**, Enterprise, closed in late March and sold to a private individual who has submitted a planning application for conversion to residential use. A campaign to save it as a pub is under way. (W146, U204, U209)

HOUNSLOW (TW4), **BEAVER**, Greene King, closed, boarded up and for sale. (W167)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), **BLUE GINGER BAR**, Enterprise, closed and boarded up. Formerly **SOUTH WESTERN**. Note correct title. (W170, U199, U202)

HOUNSLOW (TW4), **HONEYCOMBE**, Greene King, H

removed. (W167)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), **JOLLY FARMER**, Enterprise, H unused. (W167)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), **NORTH STAR**, Free, H removed. (W170)

HOUNSLOW (TW4), **WARREN**, S&N PE, ex-Spirit, H now removed. (W170)

TEDDINGTON (TW11), **KINGS HEAD**, Enterprise, closed following demise of Massive and due to be taken over by Raymond Blanc restaurant chain. (W196, U191)

UXBRIDGE (UB8), **PRINCE ALBERT**, Free, H removed. (W214)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

EC1, MEET. Renamed **RADUNO**. Formerly **LIGHTHOUSE**. (U184)

EC2, HAMILTON HALL, -beers listed except Greene King; Abbot and Marston: Pedigree; +Greene King: Ruddles Best Bitter; +five guest beers. (U68, U128)

EC2, PRINCESS is subtitled (**OF SHOREDITCH**). (E35, U169, U185)

EC3, HOOP & GRAPES, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor: Landlord; +two guest beers (e.g. Adnams, Ryedale). Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. (E40, U134)

EC3, BAR 38. Renamed **ABBEY BAR**. (U169)

EC3, PITCHER & PIANO, 28-31 Cornhill, +Marston: seasonal beer; +Wychwood: Brakspear Oxford Gold. Now Marston, ex-W&D. Formerly **BAR EXCELLENCE**. (U124, U139, U147, U155)

WC2, BIERODROME. Renamed **BELGO**. (W29)

W1(S), **BLUE POSTS**, 18 Kingly St, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, seasonal beer or Abbot. (W64)

W1(S), **CLACHAN**, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; +Sharp: Doom Bar; +Taylor: Landlord; +guest beers (e.g. Batemans, Brewster, Springhead). Now M&B Nicholson branded. (W64)

W1(S), **OLD COFFEE HOUSE**, -beers listed except Brodies: IPA; +Brodies: Special, English Pale Ale, seasonal beers. Now concentrating almost exclusively on Brodies beers. (W68, U204)

W1(S), **PILLARS OF HERCULES**, -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter, Broadside; +Thwaites: Wainwright, Lancaster Bomber; +two guests from Westerham Brewery. Now Faucet Inns, ex-Spirit. (W68)

EAST

E1, L'OASIS. Renamed **R BAR**. Formerly **THREE CROWNS**. (E74, U71, U136, U156, U160, U198)

E3, PALM TREE, 24/26 Haverfield Rd, -beers listed; +two varying guest beers. (E91, U108, U169, U199)

E8, DOVE (FREE HOUSE & KITCHEN), -beers listed except Flowers: IPA; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: Abbot; +Taylor: Landlord; +two guest beers (e.g. Crouch Vale), plus Belgian keg beers and a menu of 100 bottled Belgian beers. (E112, U144)

BARKING (IG11), **ORIGINAL SPOTTED DOG**. Reverted to **SPOTTED DOG**. (X12, U177, U197)

UPMINSTER (RM14), **CRUMPLED HORN**, -beers listed; +Banks: Original; +Marston: Pedigree; +guest beer from Marston range (e.g. Ringwood). Now Marston, ex-

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Wizard Inns. (U157)

NORTH

N1, GRAND UNION. Confirmed Enterprise leased to Grand Union group. Formerly JORENE CELESTE, originally ROYAL MAIL. (N57, U164, IS11, U201)
N1, KINGS HEAD, 115 Upper St. Famous theatre pub acquired from Punch by Stephanie Sinclair with help of Joanna Lumley and now independent. (N50, U159, IS11)
N1, SILVER SPOON. Renamed **GRANDE**. Formerly **NORTH ONE (CAFE BAR)**. (N53, U184, U205)
N3, COCONUT TREE. Renamed **SUN & SEA** and renamed again in February **LA GOGU**. Formerly **CENTRAL, FERRET & TROUSERLEG** and originally **MINSTREL**. (N69, U106, U109, U166, U200, U203)
N7, ASHBURTON ARMS. Renamed **HORATIA**. Formerly **LORD NELSON**. (N88, U209)
N9, BAR 271. Reverted to **GOLDEN FLEECE**. Now Punch, ex-Bass. (N99, U152, U158)

NORTH WEST

NW1, ABBEY. Reverted to **ABBAY TAVERN**. (N161, U175, U180, U183, U195, U206)
NW1, BREE LOUISE, -beers listed; +Harvey: Best Bitter; +Taylor: Landlord; +guests including Sambrook's and Redemption on handpumps and direct from the cask. Formerly **JOLLY GARDENERS**. (N168, U178)
NW3, DUKE OF HAMILTON. It is rumoured that Wellington Pub Co would like to convert the pub into two flats but no planning application has yet been submitted. (N184, U209, U210)
NW3, WHITE BEAR (YE OLDE), +Greene King: Abbot. Real ale retained in refurbished pub. (N191, U159, U195, U209)
NW5, DARTMOUTH ARMS. Recently acquired from Punch, now sold on to Faucet Inns. (N198, U207)
NW5, VINUM. Renamed **GRAND UNION** by April 2009. Now Grand Union pubs, ex-Kushti. Formerly **HIGHGATE**. (U174, U194)
NW10, CHARLIES WINE BAR, 238/240 Neasden Lane. Now renamed **CHARLIES PLACE**. Note correct address. (U156)
NW10, DICEYS, 289-293 Neasden Lane. Renamed **GALWAY HOOKER** by December 2005. Note full address. Delete erroneous duplicate entry for Galway Hooker in U187. The name Diceys has been retained for an associated nightclub with entrance at 295-299 Neasden Lane. (U156, U187)
NW10, HARBOUR ALE HOUSE. Renamed **MOLONEYS** by May 2009. (U109)
NW10 KITCH INN. Renamed **FLYNNS** by May 2009. (U137)
NW10, McGOWANS, 60 High St, Willesden. Correct name is **McGOVERNS**. (N224)
EDGWARE (HA8), CONWAYS 2, 34 South Parade, Mollinson Way. Renamed **JAMESONS** by February 2010. (U156)
EDGWARE (HA8), MUMBAI MIX. Renamed **SAPPHIRE LOUNGE**, still no real ale, an Indian bar and restaurant. Formerly **FLYING EAGLE**. (N256, U106, U199, U204)
HARROW WEALD, BLUEBECKERS, sold by Punch to Top Taverns, extension being built and due to reopen

under original name **HARE**. (W237, U194, U210)
STANMORE (HA7), ALFIES. Already reported as converted to a sushi restaurant, now a Lebanese restaurant called 'Sahara Lounge'. (W191, U202)
WEMBLEY (HA9), WINDERMERE, +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire. (W222)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, REEF. Renamed **SLOE** by April 2009. Formerly **BALCONY BAR**. (SE10, U160)
SE1, WHEATSHEAF. Previously **HOP CELLARS**, this pub was originally **BECKYS DIVE BAR**, famous as an outlet for Ruddles in the early days of CAMRA in the '70s. (SE21, U105, U162, U211)
SE5, GROVE. Renamed **GRAND UNION** by January 2010. Now leased by Young's to Grand Union group. Formerly **BRB THE GROVE** and originally **GROVE HOUSE TAVERN**. (SE58, U166, U193, U195)
SE5, REDSTAR. Renamed **NOLLYWOOD (DE)**, by Feb 2010. Now a bar and restaurant upstairs with nightclub on ground floor. Formerly **FATHER REDCAP**. (SE57, U162)
SE9, PORCUPINE Now subtitled **(ELM TREE CARVERY RESTAURANT)** on a banner across the frontage but retaining original name on the side and on swinging sign. +Black Sheep: Bitter; +Courage: Directors; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire. Carvery now to right with bar retained to left. (SE87, U107, U197)
SE10, HA! HA! (BAR & GRILL). Full address is Units 31/32 Entertainment Ave. (U198)
SE10, PRINCE ALBERT. Renamed **PRINCE (OF GREENWICH)** following change of lessee, -beers listed; +Adnams: Broadside (£3.40/pint); +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA (£3.10); +Taylor: Landlord (£3.40). Now Enterprise, ex-Courage. Refurbished in light and airy style. Function room upstairs. New sign depicting Prince Consort being painted. Food all day until 10pm. Open 12-11 Mon-Sat, 12-10.30 Sun. (SE100)
SE10, RAAAN. Renamed **UNION SQUARE**. (U202).
SE11, TANKARD. Renamed **GRAND UNION**. Was **BAR ROOM BAR** for a while. (SE111, U152, U195, U202, U208)
SE11, WHITE HART. Renamed **TOMMYFIELD**. Was **FINCA** for a while. Now a gastropub run by Renaissance Pubs. (SE111, U102, U188, U189)
SE12, OLD TIGERS HEAD. Lease for sale at this Punch, ex-Taylor Walker pub. (SE114)
SE15, WISHING WELL. Due to revert to original name **VICTORIA** following acquisition and refurbishment by Capital Pub Co. (SE140)
BECKENHAM (BR3), BOX BAR. Reverted to **BECKENHAM (THE)**, still no real ale. Formerly **BOX (THE)**. Was **FLAT FOOT SAMS** for a while. (3SE204, U90, U157, U171, U179)
BECKENHAM (DA3), SLUG & LETTUCE, -beers listed; +Wells: Bombardier. Now Bay Restaurant Group, ex-Whitbread via Laurel. Formerly **HOG'S HEAD** and originally **HOGSHEAD**. (U144, U179, U199)
BEXLEYHEATH (DA6), ROBIN HOOD & LITTLE JOHN, -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter, Broadside; +Brain: Reverend James; +Fuller: London Pride; +Harvey: Best Bitter; +Wychwood: Brakspear Bitter; +two guest beers (e.g. Sharps, Shepherd Neame) (3SE213, K34)

BROMLEY (BR1), ABBAYE, 242 The Glades. Renamed **BELGO**. Note correct address. (U99)

CROYDON (CR0), BAR R. Renamed **BAR TXT**, still no real ale. Now Brakspear Pub Co, ex-JT Davies. Formerly **RENDEZVOUS BAR**, originally **JT'S BAR CAFE**. (U108, U185)

ORPINGTON (FARNBOROUGH) (BR6), WOODMAN, -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Bitter, Kent's Best, Spitfire, Bishops Finger or seasonal beer. Now Shepherd Neame, ex-Courage, probably acquired between 1993 and 1998 but not previously reported. (3SE267, 8K84)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(P), QUEENS ARMS, -beers listed; +Adnams: seasonal beers. Now Food & Fuel, ex-Enterprise. Formerly **PAGE** and **SLUG & LETTUCE**. (SW44, U163, U181, U201)

SW4, BIERODROME. Renamed **BELGO**. (U152, CSL10)

SW7, ABBAYE. Renamed **BUMPKIN** by April 2009. (U153)

SW7, PRINCE REGENT. Renamed **COCOMOMO** by Food & Fuel. Formerly **BLACK WIDOW**, **RAT & PARROT** and **HARRINGTON**. (SW72, U126, U171, U192)

SW10, LOTS ROAD (PUB & DINING ROOM). Confirmed now Food & Fuel, ex-Spirit in 2006. Formerly **FERRET & FIRKIN (IN THE BALLOON UP THE CREEK)**. (SW84, U156, U192)

SW10, SPORTING PAGE. Now Food & Fuel, ex-Intntrepreneur via Unique and Enterprise. (SW85)

SW11, PRINCE OF WALES. Believed now acquired from Enterprise by Food & Fuel. Formerly **SETTLE INN**, originally **RISEING SUN**. (SW90, WB36, U199)

SW11, TAYBRIDGE. Renamed **ELEPHANT ON THE HILL** in November 2009, - beer listed; +Sambrook: Wandle; +guest beer (Fuller: London Pride when visited). Independent, ex-Puzzle. Formerly **PUZZLE**. (U141, U194, WB38)

SW12, BALHAM TUP. Renamed **REGENT** in March 2010. Now leased by Punch to Supper Trading Ltd, ex-Massive, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Sharp: Doom Bar; +Taylor: Landlord). Beers may vary from within the Punch list. Formerly **CLOUSEAUS**. (SW91, BM4)

SW16, BAR STAR ONE. Renamed **HAMLET**, still no real ale. (U210, BSM28)

SW18, CRANE. Renamed **ARMOURY** since May 2010 refurbishment. (SW111, WB8, U211)

SW19, GROVE TAVERN. Renamed **GROVE SW19**. Was **DOYLES** for a while. (SW117, BM27, U210, U211)

CARSHALTON (SM5), RACE HORSE. Main sign shows **RACEHORSE** (one word), -beers listed except Courage: Best Bitter; +guests (e.g. Moorhouse, Young). Now Enterprise, ex-Intntrepreneur via Unique. (SW130)

KEW (TW9), BOTANIST ON THE GREEN, -Adnams: Bitter; +Greene King: IPA, +Marston: English Pale Ale; +guest (e.g. Twickenham). (U198)

KINGSTON (KT1), ALBION, -beers listed except Greene King: IPA. (SW139, KT18)

NEW MALDEN (KT3), DUKE OF WELLINGTON. Now simply **WELLINGTON**. Now Merlin Inns, ex-

Intntrepreneur. (SW151, U145, KT35)

RICHMOND (TW9), DUKE. Now Food & Fuel, ex-Enterprise (not Free). Formerly **RACING PAGE**. (SW156, RHP27, U202)

RICHMOND (TW9), SHAKESPEARE. Revised planning application for conversion of this Young's pub to flats now approved by Richmond Council. (SW158, RHP31, U208, U209, U211)

WEST

W2, McCAHILLS BAR. Reverted to **PRINCE OF WALES**. (W74)

W5, HAVEN, -beers listed; +guest beers from Westerham Brewery. (W96, U185, U199)

W6, OSP. Reverted to **OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH**. (W104, U193)

W12, SEVEN STARS. Renamed **GRAND UNION**, still no real ale, leased from Punch by Grand Union group (not Free). Formerly **JIM THOMPSON'S FLAMING WOK** and previously **TYPHOON TAVERN** for a while. (W123)

GREENFORD (UB6), EMERALDS. Renamed **GERRY MACS** following sale to new owners. (W139)

HAYES (UB3), HAMBRO ARMS. Sold or leased by Enterprise to Saz Investments Ltd and due to reopen after refurbishment as **HAMBRO (THE)**, a bar & grill. (W160, U209)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), BLACK HORSE, -Courage: Best Bitter; +Young: Bitter. (W167, U206)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), BULSTRODE, -beers listed;



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+Wells: Bombardier; +Young: Bitter; +guest beer (e.g. Adnams Bitter). Now Punch Pub Co, ex-Spirit. (W167)
HOUNSLOW (TW3), WHITE BEAR. Sold by Fuller's to an independent three-man partnership and refurbished. Retains Fuller: London Pride. (W170)

TEDDINGTON (TW11), MASONS ARMS, -beers listed; +Itchen Valley: Five Hops; +Sharp: Own Ale. Now independent, ex-Enterprise. (W196)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), TWICKENHAM TUP, -Courage: Best Bitter; +Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: IPA; +Twickenham: Sundancer, Naked Ladies. Lease reverted to Enterprise following demise of Massive and reassigned to lessees of Red Lion, Twickenham, now closed and acquired by Tesco's. A temporary signboard outside says 'New Red Lion' but eventual name will be determined after refurbishment due in August. (W205)
UXBRIDGE (UB8), BASE. Renamed RENDEZVOUS following a management change and licensing review. Formerly NAZDAROVYA and CONTINENTAL. (W206, U185, U207, U209)

WEST DRAYTON (UB7), BLUES BAR. A planning

application has been submitted for redevelopment for flats and retail. Formerly STATIONS. (W226, U202)

CORRECTION TO UPDATE 187

NEW PUBS ETC

NW10, GALWAY HOOKER Delete entry, already reported as DICEYS in U156.

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 209

NEW PUBS ETC

E1, BLACK HORSE. Should read: renamed ZEPPELIN SHELTER.

PUBS CLOSED ETC

E1, HAYFIELD. Add: Formerly HAYFIELD TAVERN. Refs should read (E67, U79, U132, U189)

CORRECTION TO UPDATE 211

PUBS CLOSED ETC

E10, BOOTLACES. Delete entry, still open and trading.

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A Grand Café in Covent Garden

According to Bill Barich, in his book *A Pint of Plain* (reviewed in a previous *London Drinker*), as a traditional pub in Ireland closes an Irish theme bar opens somewhere else in the world. Let's hope that contagion does not apply to Belgian bars and brasseries! Because, tucked away in Drury Lane, not far from Freemasons' Hall, the headquarters of the United Grand Lodge of England, can be found a far more mouth watering experience in the form of the Lowlander Grand Café.

I headed there after the London Drinker Festival to meet with Phil Harding to find out what it was all about. From the outside it a fairly unprepossessing sort of place but it's what's inside that matters. The first thing to grab you is the sight of the bar (custom made in Holland) and its array of beer fonts amidst which is set a vast array of sparkling glassware. The back gantry, lit up with more glasses, beer and cheeses adds to the visual splendour drawing you in. You also immediately notice the ground floor table and seating arrangement, bench style, my mind being briefly transported to Mort Subite in Brussels, which encourages conversation, and the general ambience.

Fifteen beers can be found on tap; these included St Feuillien Brune and Saison, Duchesse de Bourgogne, Kasteel Blond and Brugse Zot, which is brewed in Bruges' town centre. The people of Bruges are apparently known as 'Brugse Zotten' (Bruges Fools), also known as 'Brugse Jonckers'. In addition there was a German wheat beer (Rothaus) and some mainstainers (to beer enthusiasts that is) such as Amstel.



The bottled list is not as extensive as, say, some specialist beer cafés on the continent, but it is carefully put together and supported by a well presented beer menu to guide you around. This goes on to suggest specific beers to match with dishes for, as you would expect, food is a major part of the offering, with British staples sitting alongside low country specialities such as moules à la bière.

The idea, said Phil, was to create a Belgian café

in London and it certainly had that feel to it. Table service is the norm and staff go through weekly training so that they understand the beers that are on offer. This has led to high staff retention, which helps the customer inordinately. Phil says that if the customer thinks it is wrong, then it is wrong – a great customer service motif.

Draught beers can be purchased in third of a pint taster trays of either three or six beers. The idea is to try to educate newcomers or old hands about the beer styles on offer, to widen their horizons generally. This theme is developed with tutored tastings, under Phil's supervision, held on the mezzanine floor and usually matched with food.

The beers are supplied by Cave Direct (see their advert in the last *London Drinker*) and the hope is that further sites can be found to develop the concept; although a sister bar in the City had to close recently through economic circumstances. I finished the day with a bottle of Hopus from Brasserie Lefebvre, at 8.3% an excellent and hoppy end on which to say farewell to Phil and wander on home through Covent Garden.

John Cryne

Lowlander Grand Café, 36 Drury Lane, WC2,
www.lowlander.com

A colorful poster for the CRAWLEY BEER FESTIVAL. The title 'CRAWLEY BEER FESTIVAL' is prominently displayed at the top in large, bold, multi-colored letters. Below the title, the text reads 'The Hawth, Fri 25-Sun 27 June', 'Part of the Crawley Folk Festival', and 'From 4pm Fri & 11am Sat & Sun'. The poster features a photograph of a man playing an acoustic guitar. Other text on the poster includes 'over 20 beers & ciders from small breweries', 'FREE ENTRY! free music!', 'on-campsite food stalls', '10 min walk from train station', 'more info 01293 533636', and 'www.hawth.co.uk'. The background of the poster is a vibrant mix of yellow, orange, and red.

Amber Gold & Black

Martyn Cornell describes himself as a freelance writer on beer styles and their development and on the history of beer. He certainly hits all those buttons with his latest history of Britain's beers, *Amber Gold & Black*. First available in 2008 as an e-book, it is now available as a solid hardback, thanks to The History Press, with a cover price of £12.99.

With sixteen chapters, each devoted to a particular style of beer, this is a well researched and informative account of Britain's contribution to the world of brewing. From bitter through porter to wood-aged beers and lager, it covers every style you might have heard of and many you won't. What is especially fascinating is not only how styles have changed with time but also how the meaning of the words we use to describe styles has changed.

'Mild', for instance, had nothing whatsoever to do with a beer's strength which is what many suppose now. Originally all it meant was that the beer should be fresh, to be drunk soon after it arrived in the pub. Most likely it would not be expected to undergo any secondary fermentation in the cellar, it was often sent out from the brewery

'bright', that is without any yeast in the cask.

The book also traces the rise and fall of styles and how some beers, such as porter, completely disappeared. It was before I joined CAMRA but Cornell informs us that in 1973, when Guinness stopped brewing a porter for its Dublin market, it was the first time in more than 250 years that no-one in the UK or Ireland was brewing porter commercially.

Fortunately, the rise of CAMRA and the writings of authors such as the late Michael Jackson encouraged beer drinkers to look at the country's brewing heritage and, bit by bit, porter has clawed its way back into our consciousness and our pubs.

This is essential reading for anyone with an interest in beer as a drinker, a retailer or a brewer. It shows the routes each British beer

type took as they evolved into the beers we know today, and details some of the top examples in each style. It is a book to keep and return to, as much for reference as a book to read in one run. It is highly recommended.

John Cryne

ALE AT AMBERLEY

Visit this year's celebration of ale from Sussex and further afield at the Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre on Thursday evening 2 September (6 to 10-30; £3), Friday evening 3 September (6 to 11; £4), Saturday 4 September with music (6 to 11; £3) or drink up day Sunday 5 September (11 to 5-30).

The ales are also available during the 'Best of Sussex' show (food & crafts) on Saturday September 4 (11 to 5-30) and Sunday September 5 (12 to 5-30), admission £9.30 (over 60s £8.30), including Saturday evening session.

For more details visit www.aleatamberley.co.uk or www.amberleymuseum.co.uk

SW LONDON CAMRA WEBSITE

This year's Most Improved CAMRA Website was judged to be that of South West London branch, commended for its 'crisp appearance with a good use of pub photos and news'.

On behalf of webmaster Mike Flynn, Branch chairman, Martin Butler accepted the award from Brett Laniosh of CAMRA's National Executive at CAMRA's Members' Conference in April.



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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 3 Rivers in England are Called Avon
2. 100 C in Roman Numerals
3. 22 Legs in a Football Team
4. 1605 Year of the Gunpowder Plot
5. 1 Pound for a Ticket for the National Lottery
6. 30 Fences in the Grand National
7. 37 William Shakespeare's Plays
8. 19 Nervous Breakdowns (Rolling Stones)
9. 5 Days of a Cricket Test Match
10. 31,536,000 Seconds in a Year

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. The American duo who were the rest of Eric Clapton's Derek and the Dominoes were Delaney and Bonnie.
2. The advice that Polonius gve to his son Laertes was "Neither a borrower nor a lender be," and the play was Hamlet.
3. The largest (and heaviest) bell in Great Britain is in St. Paul's Cathedral and it is called Great Paul.
4. Dennis Nilsen admitted to committing fifteen murders between December 1978 and February 1983.
5. And seven murders are attributed to Jack the Ripper.
6. The Sealyham, the Cairn and the Dandie Dinmont are all breeds of terrier.
7. What e.e.cummings, Walt Disney, Ernest Hemingway and Somerset Maugham all did in the First World War was to drive ambulances.
8. The first woman to sail single-handed around the World was Dame Naomi James (but it was before she was made a dame).
9. In heraldry, a mullet is a five-pointed star.
10. On the Isle of Man, "Lady Isabella" is the largest water wheel in the British Isles, at Laxey.

Well, hello again – and how are you keeping? No, don't write and tell me; I'm depressed enough already. I was just looking for a quotation to open this month's little batch of time wasters and found this from Aristotle:

"Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work."

I'll leave you to work out for yourselves whether that has any relevance to what follows.

Meanwhile, let's have some number puzzles:

1. 92 is the AN of U
2. 1971 DCI in B
3. 8 L on a C (and 2 C)
4. 1789 S of the B
5. 224 G of WW a T
6. 24,900 M is the EC of the E
7. 4 O in a QP
8. 1980 JLM in NY
9. 122 H in a CB

10. 1 C in a SQ

For some reason I can't remember, while sitting with my oppo Ron watching the last match of the season (for our club) the subject of fictional characters' dogs came up and he said it would make a good subject for the column. So you can blame this little lot, which I am titling "Whose Hound," on him. Can you match the mutts with the masters (or mistresses)?

1. Crystal Tipps
2. (Just) William Brown
3. Dorothy (Wizard of Oz)
4. Tintin
5. Dora Spenlow (David Copperfield)
6. 3 Men in a Boat
7. The Banks Family (Mary Poppins)
8. Clark Kent
9. The Darling Family (Peter Pan)
10. Bill Sikes (Oliver Twist)

- A. Montmorency
- B. Jip
- C. Alistair
- D. Bull's Eye
- E. Andrew
- F. Krypto
- G. Toto
- H. Jumble
- I. Nana
- J. Snowy

And so we come inevitably (and gratefully) to the final phase, the terminal trivia:

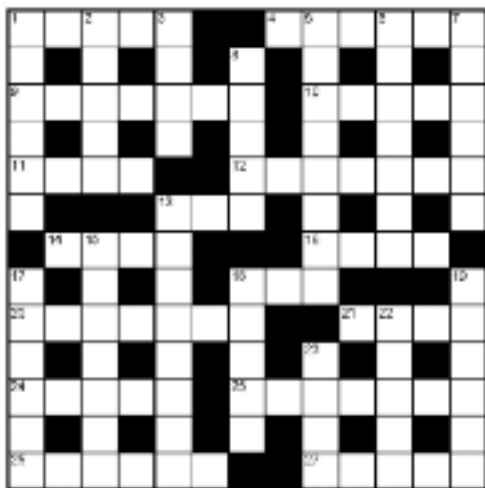
1. Who was the husband of Jenny von Westphalen?
2. And who was married to Corretta Scott?
3. Blackpool is the main town on the Fylde. Between which two river estuaries does it lie?
4. The Sandwich Islands were discovered by Captain Scott in 1778. By what name are they now known?
5. What is significant about Ardnamurchan Point in the North West Highlands?
6. How many operas are there in Wagner's Ring Cycle?
7. Specifically, what building has the postcode SW1A 0PW?
8. What English county town is to be found at 52°38' north, 1°18' east?
9. Who was the (in)famous son of Jocasta?
10. In what year was the Julian calendar superseded in England by the Gregorian calendar?

So there we are then. By the time my next load of drivel appears it'll be August and we'll be looking at the start of Autumn – Blimey (as the lovely Julia Bradbury might say), don't you age quickly when you only do a bimonthly column!

Bye for now.
Andy Pirson

Crossword

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



Name _____

Address _____

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

Prize winner will be announced in the October London Drinker. The solution will be given in the August 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.

APRIL'S SOLUTION



£20 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

1. Girl in the money. [5]
4. Good French material for hat. [6]
9. Colour on strip got thinner. [7]
10. Go in to see the queen on hospital department. [5]
11. She's up in the gallery. [4]
12. Drinker's belly button may be a hazard. [7]
13. Solid group. [3]
14. You can get it across. [4]
16. He'll be found before November. [4]
19. Rock found in the forest. [3]
20. Desmond is unable to enter and moves elsewhere. [7]
21. If you care you'll give it. [4]
24. Incline found on the Yorkshire hike. [5]
25. Woman, in time, becomes mean. [7]
26. Leading doctor studies phobias. [6]
27. Always, in bed, made a lot of noise. [5]

DOWN

1. Snooker player's cup manufacturer. [6]
2. Plane crashing into mountainous area. [5]
3. Story may be material. [4]
5. It's plain I am English. More work! [8]
6. What fisher folk do, among others. [7]
7. Object, say, put back into bitter. [6]
8. Girl training to get fit. [5]
13. Dope nan's concocted? It'll make you run! [5,3]
15. Produce milk, though had no crew, it's said. [7]
17. In deed it can be put right. [6]
18. Award for very big vehicle. [5]
19. Port doesn't inebriate. [6]
22. No change in egg supplier. [5]
23. The woman's first boy, Basil? [4]

Winner of the prize for the February Crossword:
Claire Jenkins, London NW9.

Other correct entries were received from:

Julie Ackroyd, Ted Alleyway, Tony Alpe, Pat Andrews, Mark Antony, Hilary Ayling, John Barker, Jack Bass, Mike Belsham, Steve Block, Deryn Brand, Jeremy Brinkworth, M. Broadhead, Oliver Burton, John Butler, Hannah Challenor, Jon Christie, Brian Collins, Chas Creasey, Kevin Crighton, Paul Curson, Peter Curson, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Tom Drane, C.J. Ellis, Merlin Evans, Brian Exford, Conor Fahy, Bob Ferrier, David Fleming, Arthur Fox-Ache, Sally Fullerton, G.J. Geary, Peter Giles, B. Gleeson, Marion Goodall, Paul Gray, J.E. Green, Alan Greer, Alan Groves, Stuart Guthrie Derpik Ovdipops & friends, Peter Haines, M. Hargrave, John Heath, F. Hegarty, Graham Hill, William Hill, David Hughes, C. James, Carol Jenkins, Les Jenkins, David Jiggins, Mike Joyce, Annmarie Kelly, P. Kerrigan, Stephen Kloppe, John Knight, Roger Knight, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, Tony Lean, Mike Lloyd, G. Lopatis, Donald MacAuley, D.J. McDonnell, S. Magin, Mill Mallett, Jermaine Mann, M.A.P. of Guildford, M.J. Moran, Stewart Moulton, Al Mountain, David Murphy, Paul Nicholls, Andrzej Niemiro, Gerald Nottley, Alan O'Brien, Nigel Parsons, Miss G. Patterson, Alan Pennington, Mark Pilkington, Ms G. Pote, Jeannette Powell, Mrs S. Prestwich, Rod Prince, Derek Pryce, John Redwood, Alph River, Richard Rogers, D. Shaftoe, Pete Simmonds, Steve Slater, Lesley Smith, Ruth Smith, M. Songhurst, Hugh Springall, T. Sullivan, Ken Taylor, Bill Thackray, Stephen Thornton, Paul Tiffany, Carol Tilbury, Chris Truin, Vic the Beard, Andy Wakefield, Margaret Wallen, Martin Weedon, Ms E.A. Whale, John Williamson, Dave Wilson, Sue Wilson, Peter Wright & the Missus, Ray Wright, Samantha Wood, Peter Yarleth. There were also two incorrect entries.

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