

Fun at Ealing Beer Festival (see page 30)

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

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The price of beer

Chairing a recent meeting of a national CAMRA committee in a London pub, a CAMRA member from out of town was surprised to be charged £3.40 for a pint of ordinary bitter. His off the cuff response, 'I'm not buying the pub!' did not go down well with the licensee, who would have found CAMRA itself charging a 'tourist price' of £4 for some, admittedly stronger, cask beers at the Great British Beer Festival.

But can regular drinkers afford such prices? I suggest not. Across the country, Wetherspoon's pubs are popular and increasing in while number many pubs belonging to other people are struggling and closing. In my part of London, for example, more than a third of the pubs in SW20, Morden and Mitcham have closed over the last four years. Morden, where Wetherspoon's sold their premises to a supermarket, is left with only three pubs that serve any Up in Roehampton, cask ale. SW15, only one pub remains open but at least it sells Young's.

A year ago, busy beer writer and marketing man Pete Brown was telling publicans in his annual 'Cask Report' that real ale drinkers tended to be more affluent than others. CAMRA's London Regional Director, Kim Martin observed that they might just spend more of their income on beer. There are certainly a lot of us who can afford to drink socially only in Wetherspoon's pubs. other pubs, nowadays, I often buy a half whereas I'd have bought a pint at an acceptable price. In the last six years, the volume of beer sales in pubs has dropped by 31%, according to statistics recently published in the *Guardian*. For pubs and cask ale to thrive, I'd like to see session beers priced nearer to £2 than £3 a pint. They could be, if taxes were lower and pub companies less greedy.

So I was perplexed to read recently in the trade press that a 'strategy director' at a large brewery was reportedly arguing that pubs should raise the prices of their cask ales to match those of their 'premium' lagers. What is his strategy? Charge more for real ale in your pub, then fewer people will drink it and those who do will drink less. You'll lose customers to Wetherspoon's while your unsold beer goes stale and attracts even fewer drinkers. So you stop selling it. The customers decide to buy their lagers at the supermarket to drink at home at a quarter of the pub price, and so you close the pub. Where do you then sell your cask ales? Why bother to brew them?

The alternative strategy of making real ale in pubs more affordable might also go some way to combat the popularity of less social and often antisocial drinking, I suggest, although banning the mass media advertising of alcohol would go a great deal further towards achieving that national policy objective. By contrast, making supermarket alcohol more expensive cannot do anything at all to help pubs survive if on-trade beer prices remain, per

Editorial

unit, more expensive still. And for that matter Wetherspoon's won't tempt many new customers to try locally brewed beers by promoting Carling at the same time at only £1.25 a pint!

Drinkers can argue that cutting the tax on beer might make it cheaper to drink in pubs, but tenant licensees will hardly campaign for tax reductions if they know that their pub companies will take all the savings and charge them as much as before. The Government has at least pledged a review of alcohol taxation and pricing to ensure it tackles binge drinking

without unfairly penalising responsible drinkers, pubs and important local industries.

CAMRA encourages drinkers to petition their constituency MPs via http://bit.ly/edm210 to support an Early Day Motion, EDM 210, worded as follows:

'That this House recognises the social, economic and cultural importance of well run community pubs, which provide a safe and sociable environment for the consumption of alcohol among friends and are an essential community meeting place; notes the ideas put forward in the Campaign for Real Ale's

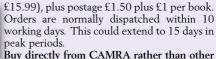
Beer Drinkers and Pub Goers Charter which received support from 670 candidates at the last election, 150 of whom were elected; welcomes the genuine cross party consensus on the need to support and protect well run community pubs; and so urges the Government to implement a package of policies which will help secure the future of viable and well run community pubs.'

More affordable cask ale needs to be a central part of that package.

Geoff Strawbridge

BUY YOUR 2011 GOOD BEER GUIDE FROM CAMRA NOW

The 2011 edition of the Good Beer Guide, describing some 4,500 pubs and more than 750 cask ale breweries in the UK, was published on 16 September. Until the end of November, copies are available from CAMRA Headquarters at only £10 for CAMRA members or £12.99 for non-members (RRP:



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Campaigning

The Duke - slowly does it!

The campaign to prevent the Duke of Hamilton, Hampstead being converted into residential accommodation gained strength during the summer with two significant developments.

Local residents and concerned pub goers were encouraged to write to Camden Council and object to the planning application. Well that was a great success and it is believed that over 300 objections were lodged – a tremendous achievement! The good news is that the Planning Department took notice of these objections and, before the date of the hearing, informed Wellington that their application was likely to fail. Accordingly, seemingly not wishing formally to lose an application, Wellington withdrew.

Subsequently news broke in the Hampstead and Highgate Express that Wellington had approached incumbent licensees Mary and Michael Wooderson and offered them a new lease for the pub. If this were to go forward, then the future of the pub would be on much firmer ground. Quoted in the newspaper, Michael said, "[it appears] they now have no plans to develop and have offered me a new lease."

A remarkable turn-around and a testament to the strength of feeling which this proposed development attracted.

At the time of going to press the negotiations between the Woodersons and the pub company were still on-going and so there are still a few steps to get over, but it is all looking a lot more promising than it did a few months ago.

The campaign to save the Duke brought together a formidable group of campaigners including local residents, CAMRA, people from outside of the area who knew and loved the Duke, local councillors, the local MP and local resident and committed pub regular, David Bedford, Race Director of the London Marathon. At the end even Ken Livingstone threw his hat in the supporters' ring.

The Ham & High suggests local campaigners will be popping the champagne corks if the pub's continuance should finally be confirmed. This campaigner will be raising a pint of London Pride, hopefully on the front terrace of the Duke! John Cryne

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CAMRA and the Big Society

n 19 July the Prime Minister gave a speech on the Big Society endorsing pubs as local assets and promising government support for communities wishing to save threatened pubs through community ownership. Recent research by CAMRA indicated that, even in these difficult times, 63% of regular pub goers would be willing to join efforts to save their favourite local pub if it was under threat.

CAMRA has welcomed this message, with Jonathan Mail, its head of policy and public affairs saying, "Pubs provide the vibrant heart of many communities and provide an invaluable meeting place and the centre for countless local activities. The loss of such pubs can be devastating to community spirit and identity and Government has a key role to play

in enabling communities to come together to save their local pubs."

Unfortunately, Mr Cameron's government will not be backing up his aspirations with anything tangible. In March the previous government set up Community-Owned Pubs Support Programme which was allocated £4 million to provide grants to help 50 communities take pubs into shared ownership. Matching funding was to have been provided by the social lender Cooperative and Community Finance. This programme would have also funded the Pub is the Hub scheme. The programme has now been cancelled. Local Government minister Bob Neill said, "Pubs don't want state handouts but they do want to be able to compete on a level playing field, without reams of red tape preventing them from making a living. The new government has axed the unfair cider tax, is stopping loss-leading sales of alcohol by supermarkets, will be making it easier to play live music and is to give local communities new powers to save pubs." Instead of money the government will be providing guidance leaflets. That's all right then.

Peter Couchman, chief executive of the Plunkett Foundation which was to have administered the fund, commented, "If communities are to take control of the problems they face, they need help and advice. Legislation for a community right to buy is very welcome but without proper support it will be a community right to fail."

Beer tie still under scrutiny

on 21 July the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills Vince Cable made his first appearance before his departmental Select Committee. Northampton South



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MP Brian Binley asked Mr Cable to confirm that the Government would revisit the codes of practice of the large pub companies if the pubcos were not found to be acting properly. Mr Cable commented from speaking to licensees in his own area. "They tell me that they're very withthefrustrated arrangements and they do want reform but as you know because of your committee's recommendations they're on probation at the moment. I think the commitment is to give them until June 2011 and if they haven't delivered а satisfactory arrangement then there will have to be legislative action." Fine, but how many pubs will be left in nine months time?

Parliamentary reshuffle

Adrian Bailey, MP for West Bromwich, has taken over from Peter Luff as chairman of the Parliamentary Business, Innovation and Skills Committee. Mr Bailey was a member of the committee when it produced its previous report on the pubcos which set the June 2011 deadline. Mr Luff is now a minister at the Ministry of Defence.

Alan Meale. MP for Mansfield, has succeeded John Grogan as chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group. Mr Meale has identified his priorities as (opposing) pub closures, promoting beer among vounger drinkers and creating a strong lobbying system, in which he sees CAMRA as a key player. Nigel Evans had intended standing but could not now do so. having been appointed a Deputy Speaker.

Meanwhile, Greg Mulholland MP, who has been re-elected as chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Save the Pub Group, has called on Prime

Minister Cameron to reinstate the post of minister for pubs. CAMRA's chief executive, Mike Benner, commented, "CAMRA wholehearted supports appointment of a dedicated pubs minister to look after pubs and interests consumers' We need a pubs government. minister to deal with issues such as beer tax, the beer tie and planning protection for pubs. Without this joined-up approach we risk more decisions like last week's to withdraw funding to support community-owned pubs - which should be the very essence of the Big Society".

John Healey, pubs minister in the last government, has endorsed Mr Mulholland's request and has proposed that the job go to Mr Mulholland himself.

In what may come to be a significant event, responsibility for the operation of the Licensing Act has been transferred from the

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Department for Culture, Media and Sport to the Home Office. The DCMS do however retain responsibility for regulated entertainment such as live music. The government's review of the Licensing Act 2003 will therefore be conducted by Home Secretary Theresa May. Much unhappiness about the conduct of the review is already being expressed in the trade press. I will expand on this in the next issue.

Return of smoking?

Alongside licensing reform, there is also a movement to restore smoking to pubs. The initiative is being led by Brian Binley (see above), who is also vice-chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Save the Pub Group. The proposal has attracted a certain amount of support in the trade press.

Misery in Merton

This is personally one of the most disappointing items that

I have ever had to write. Some vears ago CAMRA South West London Branch, co-ordinated by my good friend Stephen Blann, was successful in getting the London Borough of Merton to include protection for pubs in its Unitary Development Plan. Under this the Council would not permit the redevelopment or change of use of an established public house except where it could be shown that the pub was no longer economically viable, that attempts had been made to market the site as a pub and that there was alternative provision in the area.

Although we had some success with this policy originally, since 2006 ten of the 30 pubs in the Mitcham, Morden and SW20 (Raynes Park) area have closed or been converted to other uses. Most of these, inevitably, have been community pubs, including the Emma Hamilton and the Morden Tavern which were the only convenient pubs for large

neighbouring estates. There is no evidence that the policy has been formally abandoned but, in the case of the Morden Tavern, one version has it that the Council itself sold the freehold to the developers. It just goes to show that we need to remain vigilant and not take anything for granted. South West London Branch will be stepping up its activity in this area accordingly.

Cameras for CAMRA

make it clear that it is still very much worth the effort to campaign against pub closures. The story of the Duke of Hamilton as reported later in this issue is testament to that. It is also possible that an historic pub in Roehampton will reopen as a pub after plans for its redevelopment were objected to; more on this shortly.

One thing that readers might like to think about is helping record valuable pub architecture







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and features - both exterior and Jane Jephcote, who interior. chairs CAMRA's London Pubs Group, gives the example of the Crown in Richmond Road, Twickenham. A year or so ago some stained glass was replaced by plain glass without Listed Building consent but Richmond and Hounslow Branch of CAMRA was able to help Richmond Council's enforcement team by producing external photos of the window panes in question. The owners appealed against the enforcement order but the Council won the appeal because they had the photos of the original windows, which were then restored as a result. Something similar may happen with the Greenwood in Northolt which was granted Grade II listing last July but is now boarded up. Some of the interior has been destroyed but a far sighted CAMRA member took some photographs prior to this and Ealing Council is now

investigating.

The latest example is the grade II listed Royal George in Euston. This pub featured 1930s wooden marquetry – rather jazzy stuff showing cocktail glasses, radios, etc – which has disappeared. Jane has reported the circumstances to the enforcement team at Camden Council and they have asked for photos. If by any chance you have some, please contact Jane.

Please however be careful. You should not attempt to take interior pictures without the prior permission of the pub management.

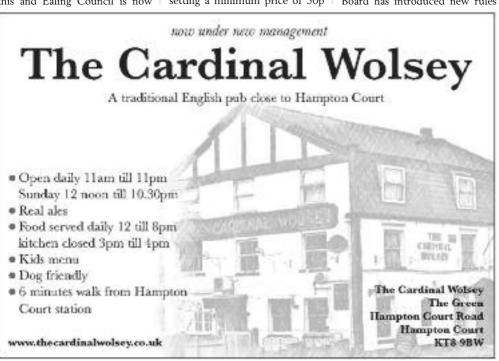
Law and order

Oldham Borough Council has been at the forefront of a number of binge-drinking control measures and their enthusiasm looks to have spread to all of Greater Manchester. Ten local authorities in the region are planning to introduce a by-law setting a minimum price of 50p

per unit for alcoholic drinks. Whilst confirming that no national minimum price controls were being considered, the Prime Minister has welcomed the initiative, saying that it will be looked at 'very sympathetically'. the same time, Government is planning to remove the requirement for local authority by-laws to be approved by Parliament so there may be no central control of such measures. A doubt has been raised in terms of competition laws, however, because it would make one area expensive than more neighbours.

In a slightly different approach, Middlesbrough Council is threatening to impose the 50p per unit requirement through its licensing powers, reviewing the license of any premises that does not comply. There are also serious doubts as to the legality of this tactic.

The Edinburgh Licensing Board has introduced new rules



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more positive thinking from

regarding the provision of toilets in pubs and clubs. Under their new policy, pubs must have toilets in a ratio of one to every 30 customers and there must be equal provision for males and females. Capacity would be limited to match the available One pub had its facilities. capacity reduced from 412 to 200 as a result. Predictably, it is going before the courts.

London brewery news

he London Brewers Alliance held an Open Brewing Day at the Redemption Brewery on 24 August to produce London's first collaborative beer - London Alliance Porter Brewers Described as a 'traditional beer with a modern twist' the beer was due to be launched at their first event on 17 September, reported on page 63.

The LBA also has links to Lager of the British Isles (LoBI) which has been set up to promote

hand-crafted. unpasteurised lager produced within the British Isles by independent breweries using honest ingredients (no rice or maize) with decent maturation periods.

Fuller's are still a family company. Anthony Fuller retired as a non-executive director at the AGM after 47 years service but he will remain President of the company. Tim Turner has also retired as a Director but Richard Fuller has joined the Board. They also promote from within. Simon currently Emeny, managing director of Fuller's Inns, will become Group Managing Director as from 1 November. He will report directly to chairman Michael Turner.

Meantime's Old Brewery in Greenwich won a bronze award for their Coffee Porter at the 2010 Australian International Beer Awards. The Old Brewery is also now offering take-away food sandwiches, soups and salads – for anyone who wants to picnic in the park or take a river boat trip.

Sambrook's made their debut at the Great British Beer Festival with both Wandle and Junction on sale.

Pub news

ame, it seems, it not enough. The Woolpack pub, made famous in the TV soap opera 'Emmerdale', has closed. The pub was used in the series until 11 years ago when it was replaced by a purpose-built set. Licensee Nichola McGrath said: "In summer, it's very busy here but in winter it's deadly quiet and the two just don't make up for each other. We've had enough of working 90 hours a week and want to spend more time with the children." The pub is owned by Enterprise Inns who confirmed that it had closed but that 'discussions' continued with the tenants.

According to an article in the



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Publican, Young's are going to reopen the Brewery Tap in Wandsworth, which has been closed since the brewery shut down four years ago. Under the terms of the sale, Young's have a veto over licensed premises on the site until 2016. Property and Tenancy Director, David Turner, said, "Whether it is part of a microbrewery or visitor centre or pub depends on what happens on the site and we will work with Minerva. We value it as an important piece of property". The development itself has floundered following rejection of plans for the residential part of the site.

On the other side of the bridge over the Wandle, the former King's Arms has been added to the Grand Union Group chain, their 10th outlet. Further west, Young's have bought from Punch the Lass O'Richmond Hill, formerly a Chef & Brewer outlet, for a reported £2 million.

Penta Capital, the private equity company that part-owns the successful Geronimo Inns chain has asked accountants PricewaterhouseCoopers to conduct a review into the business, including raising further cash to acquire more pubs.

A third pub has been added to Charlie McVeigh's Draft House chain. The latest is near Tower Bridge and will feature a 'tasting room' where customers will be able to try a five course menu with matched beers. The site is the former River Bar Corner. Mr McVeigh is aiming for ten outlets in total in due course.

I have included the following to counter accusations of a feline bias. The Kennel Club runs an award called 'Open for Dogs' to celebrate dog-friendly businesses. This includes a 'Somewhere to Drink' category for dog friendly pubs. The winners of the competition will be announced in September and will receive a

winner's certificate and engraved plaque. All nominated venues will receive an Open for Dogs certificate and sticker. This was brought to my attention by Gill Gibson – and Duchess – of the Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty who certainly should be in with a shout. Unfortunately, voting will have closed by the time that you read this but keep your fingers and paws crossed for them.

Some Brakspears pubs may also be in the running following the company's decision to experiment with a 'Dog's Dinner' menu so that canine companions can join in the pub food experience along with their owners.

It used to be quite common for retired footballers to take pubs but two current stars are reported to have invested in the trade with Frank Lampard buying the Pig's Ear in Chelsea and Joe Cole the Britannia in Bow.

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getting out and about, the Kent regional Pub of the Year is the Flower Pot in Sandling Road, Maidstone. They are holding a Dark Ales event on 25-27 November.

News from the pubcos

Young's Retail Manager of the Year award, announced at their AGM, went to the Ship in Wandsworth, followed by the Boathouse, Putney and with the Nightingale, Balham, third. Young's will be holding a twoweek beer festival throughout their estate in late October/early November.

Mitchells and Butlers have sold another 333 pubs in their programme of moving into the 'informal eating-out market'. The sale, inevitably of mostly 'wet-led' community pubs, raised £373 million which will be spent on more Harvester and Toby Carvery outlets. The pubs have been sold to a new company called the Stonegate Pub

Company, run by Ian Payne, a former Bass manager who currently chairs the Town & City pubco. Stonegate is backed by TDR Capital who are well respected in the leisure industry. The feeling that I get from the trade press is, thankfully, that this is a serious attempt to run pubs and not just another cynical assetstripping operation.

Wetherspoons are returning to Bury St Edmunds, home of Greene King, having obtained planning permission to convert the historic Corn Exchange into a pub. JDW opened a total of 12 new pubs in July, representing an investment of £12.5 million and creating 550 jobs. None of the new pubs were in London however.

Enterprise Inns are continuing with their 'sale and leaseback' programme. They recently sold another 12 central London pubs, including the Manor Arms, Clapham and the Junction Tavern, Kentish Town. This

brings the total to date to some £107 million. I should make it clear that this is a financing arrangement and will not affect the day-to-day running of the pubs.

The chains CC Taverns and Jack Beards, subsidiaries of the CCT Group, have gone into administration. There were some 32 pubs involved, around a third of which have been returned to their landlords, Enterprise Inns or Wellington Pub Co. The rest are up for sale.

Other trade news

The official opening of the National Brewery Centre in Burton upon Trent (21st September) will be performed by the Princess Royal. As previously reported, the Centre includes the former Bass Museum which the Princess Royal originally opened back in 1977. You can get more details from the Centre's website: www.nationalbrewerycentre.co.uk.

I have to note that the only

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

SPBW London Pub of the Year 2010



pub that I know called the Princess Royal (in SW19) was one of the Merton pubs recently closed for redevelopment.

The Highgate & Davenports Brewery in Walsall has gone into compulsory liquidation, with 20 staff made redundant. This is a sad end to what was once a promising story. The brewery, dating back to 1898, was the smallest in the old Bass group until it became independent under a management buyout in 1995. It has had several owners since and was rescued from administration last September when it was sold to some property developers. They gave it the new name Highgate & Davenports. It had recently been brewing Davenports-branded beers for the Mitchell & Butlers chain and also doing contractbrewing for Smiles.

Sadly, I must report the death at the age of 87 of Peter Arkell, former chairman of Arkell's Brewery, Swindon. He died peacefully at his home near Cirencester. After active service in France and Burma with the Royal Air Force, he joined Arkell's in 1954 and worked there until he was well over 80. He was awarded the OBE in 1997. Happily, the family continue to run the brewery and the associated Donnington Brewery.

AB In-Bev have postponed the closure of the Budweiser Brewery at Mortlake until at least December 2011. This follows an increase in sales. A spokesman said however that were 'issues with the site' and so it will still close in due course.

Having lost the contract to brew Cobra, the beer aimed at curry houses, Wells & Young's are launching their own rival, Mongoose.

After contracting the brewing of cask Tetley's Bitter out to Marstons, Carlsberg have now struck a deal with Camerons of Hartlepool for them to brew Tetley's Imperial and keg mild. The Tetley Brewery in Leeds is due to close in the middle of next year.

Adnams, ever at the forefront of green practice, are planning to set up a 'biogas' plant to convert their hop, grain, yeast and food waste into gas that they can sell to the national grid.

Guy Ritchie, film director and part owner of the Punch Bowl in Mayfair, has applied for planning permission to convert some derelict farm buildings on his 1,100 country estate into a microbrewery.

The supermarket chain Waitrose has confirmed that they are seeking to expand their 'C-Store' convenience stores by acquiring pubs. They are looking for sites ranging from 3,000 to 7,000 square feet with adequate storage space. Planning permission is, of course, not required to turn a pub into a supermarket. Tescos have recently done this to the former

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Red Lion in Twickenham.

The alcohol awareness charity Drinkaware has been proposed for two prestigious charity awards; the 'Charity of the Year' Award presented by Charity Times and the Third Sector Excellence Award for the best 'Communications Team'. According to the Charity Times, in the last year Drinkaware has achieved a record breaking numbers of visitors to its website and its 'media hits' have increased month by month to some 1,600. Drinkaware is funded by a range of 50 firms in the drinks and licensed retail trade who are listed on their website. Have a look yourself and see what you think.

Hail the old hoppers!

don't know how I missed this story at the time but it is one of the nicest that I have come across for a while. It started when, as a pastime for elderly residents, hops were planted in the courtyard garden of Thirza House in Shadwell by Tower Hamlets Community Housing (THCH). Their chief executive Mike Tyrell explained that it recalled 'hopping', the annual trip for many East End families each September to Kent to pick hops. "We decided to remember this bygone age by planting the hops and later holding an annual hop festival and photographic exhibition." Although intended just to be decorative, there was a bumper crop and, courtesy of Brodie's Brewery, they were used to brew a beer called Old Hopper Brew. The bottled beer was well received, especially by sisters Joyce and Lola Smith who are pictured on the label. Lola said, "This is such a lovely surprise, adding yet another lovely memory to the wonderful times I had picking hops in Kent." James Brodie hopes to brew the beer again.

Over the water

Peer with food is catching on. The El Bulli restaurant in Montjol, Spain, rated as amongst the best in the world, has introduced its own beer in conjunction with brewers Estrella Damm. The 4.8% Inedit comes in black minimalist-design 750ml bottles priced at the equivalent of £16. It is similar to a Belgian wheat beer with aniseed notes and is intended to go with foods such as artichokes and oily fish which are said to 'fight' with wine.

And finally...

This year's Ealing Beer Festival, successful as ever, ended with an almost Biblical event when part of the hedge burst into

flames

Here's a treat for the citizens of Lewes this autumn. The Lewes Little Theatre is staging the review 'Noel and Gertie' and the role of Noel Coward – including dancing – will be taken by none other than Miles Jenner, joint managing director of Harveys Brewery. Is there no end to this man's talents?

Whatever next? The Hurlingham Club, governing authority of the sport of polo, has had to introduce random alcohol testing for players. Failing a breathalyser test – the level is set at half that for motorists – will lead to a player being 'stood down' for that match rather than being banned.

Congratulations to the Prime Minister and his wife on the birth of their daughter. They wanted to give the child a Cornish name to mark her birthplace but my suggestion was ignored. Shame because I thought that there was a certain ring to Betty Stoggs Cameron.

Tony Hedger

Apologies, but email address: *ldnews@btopenworld.com* is no longer in use.

A replacement will be made available shortly.

CHEERS! THE DISPENSARY LAUNCHES OWN BEER

The Dispensary, the CAMRA award winning pub close to Aldgate East tube station, recently launched its own beer, brewed by Nethergate Brewery.

'Florence NightingAle' was the name suggested by regular customer Steve Clarke who participated in the competition

to name the Dispensary brew. The panel of judges that included Nethergate's Roger Clark and Dispensary owners David Cambridge and Annie Smith chose it to reflect the history of the Dispensary, which was previously a hospital opened in 1858 to care for the poor.

Commenting on the creation, Annie Smith



said, "This really is a publican's dream. I am so pleased to have received Nethergate's and our customers' support and have thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience, including the design of the pump clip – a caricature of myself dressed as the famous nurse." At 3.9% ABV. Florence

NightingAle has an amber colour and a refreshing aftertaste, perfect for serving with food. This beer will join the regulars on the bar, Harvey's and Dark Star, and be complemented by a variety of changing guest ales.

Mick O'Rorke



Congratulations...

...to Jason and Karen Tinklin of the Star Tavern, Belgravia, on winning Fuller's Master Cellarman of the Year at the Great British Beer Festival, Earl's Court.





WHATEVER YOU DO, TAKE PRIDE.

CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN

The Champion Beer of Britain was once again judged on the opening day at the Great British Beer Festival. The results were a great reflection of the complexity and variety of British beer, with the top three places going to a regional family brewer, a medium sized brewery and a micro—and to three very different beers.

The winner was a 'golden ale', Harvest Pale (3.8% ABV), a pale yellow beer with lots of fruity lemon throughout, balanced by a dry bitterness, great for summer drinking. It is brewed by Castle Rock of Nottingham, whose chairman, Chris Holmes, is an ex-chairman of CAMRA. The



Chris Holmes, Castle Rock Chairman (L) and Adrian Redgrove, Head Brewer (R) $\,$

brewery was set up in 1977 and is now a medium sized outfit, having over 20 pubs.

The silver medallist was Timothy Taylor's Landlord (4.3% ABV) from Keighley, Yorkshire. Taylors have been brewing since 1858 and are still a family business. Pale amber in colour, this best bitter has won CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain four times and has been runner up five times as well as winning its category numerous times: it has won more awards than any other beer. Too often the Landlord that you get in pubs is too fresh, i.e. served before it has the chance to mature. It should have a nose of hops and malt, which are in the taste with a smooth mouthfeel and a building bitterness in the aftertaste, producing a well balanced, satisfying drink.

The bronze medallist was Hammer Mild (3.8% ABV) from the Surrey Hills micro-brewery at Shere, near Guildford, whose Ranmore Ale won the Bitter category in 2009. Hammer Mild is a dark mild with roasted malt notes and a touch of fruity hops.

The other category winners were: RCH PG Steam (Bitter), Thornbridge Jaipur IPA (Strong Bitter) and Amber Chocolate Orange Stout (Speciality). The bottled beer competition was won by St Austell's Admiral's Ale.

Christine Cryne

HOGS BACK RECEIVES PIG'S EAR AWARD

Since its birth in 1992 Surrey brewery Hogs Back has won more than 50 medals and awards. A recent one was earned at the Pig's Ear beer festival held in December 2009 by the

CAMRA East London and City (ELAC) Branch, when Hogs Back's 'A Over T' barley wine was selected as the supreme bottled beer.

Pig's Ear festival organiser, Derek Jones, says,

"Hogs Back is revered by real ale enthusiasts. CAMRA has nominated it twice for national festival gold awards. This is a remarkable achievement for a small brewery. Much, we believe, is due to the exceptional abilities of its superstar brewster, Mo Zieher. She is living proof that women can outmatch men in the world of brewing."

ELAC Chairman, John Pardoe adds, "ELAC Branch members were delighted to visit Hogs Back on 31 July. The success of Hogs Back shows how people are increasingly choosing quality and authenticity in food and drink."

Bill Green



Mo Zieher (centre) between John Pardoe (left) and Derek Jones (right) among ELAC members.

Brewery awards

Supping up at Saltaire

t's rare for two beer festivals to choose the same brewery for accolades but Saltaire Brewery in Shipley, Yorkshire, scooped awards from both the 2010 Battersea and London Drinker Beer Festivals. So, on a beautiful day in August, beer festival workers made the trip north to hand Saltaire two certificates: Battersea's Brewery of the Festival and Drinker's Beer of the Festival for their 4.8% ABV Triple Chocoholic.



Head Brewer Tony Gartland (L) receives his awards from Christine Cryne and Chris Cobbold

Just off the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, the Saltaire Brewery presents an interesting picture, sited in a former power station that burnt domestic waste to supply the local tramway (long extinct). Once inside, you are struck by the high ceilings and large windows, which give the brewery an amazing light, airy feel. They have used the large space creatively with a mezzanine floor that hosts a proper bar, seating and a display of their beer awards. The number of these is impressive, considering this 20 barrel brewery only started brewing five years ago.

Saltaire brew four times a week using a German kit that is very effective in extracting alpha acids, which leads to their beers having a distinctive bitter character. One third of their beer goes to local pubs that they supply themselves, one third to pub groups and one third to wholesalers. They also run a monthly beer club for people to come and enjoy their bar, and the odd beer festival. Their growth area is with bottled beers and several were on sale at the bar, with passers by popping in to stock up for home drinking.

Four beers were on handpump during the visit. Saltaire love to play around with adding fruit to beer and their latest experimental brew was Cheeky Kriek (4% ABV), using cherry concentrate. More mainstream were their Blonde at 4% ABV with lager malt, Caramalt, wheat and Goldings hop producing a smooth, drinkable gold coloured beer, the sweet malt being balanced by the dry bitterness; their regular Cascade Ale (4.8% ABV) with Cascade and Centennial hops, Maris Otter and pale crystal malts and wheat creating a beer with lots of citrus (including some grapefruit) and, of course, the Triple Chocoholic (4.8% ABV). Saltaire are not stingy with the chocolate in this brew. They use chocolate malt, add cocoa to the boil and finish it off with some chocolate essence. The addition of Fuggles hop gives some fruitiness that balances the sweet chocolate and roasted coffee notes. Very moreish1

Some good beers, a friendly brewery in a lovely building and visits to some excellent nearby pubs in Shipley and Saltaire made it a day to remember. Try it sometime yourself. Visit www.saltaire.co.uk for further details.

Christine Cryne



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'Delightful old free house' GBG 2011

Celebrating our pubs

BRITISH PUB WEEK

arly in September I attended the national launch for British Pub Week to be held over the period 30 October to 6 November. It was held in the impressive surroundings of Fleet

Street's Punch Tavern, washed down with Sharp's Doom Bar and Hop Back Summer Lightning. The Week is being organised by a group comprising Justice for Licensees campaigner and British Pub Week chair Inez Ward, the British Institute of Innkeeping, Punch Taverns, Marston's, the Morning Advertiser, Greg Mulholland MP and the Unite Union.

Inez Ward said its purpose

was to raise awareness of the importance of the British pub. "Pubs are worth fighting for and worth saving," she said, "they are first and best for social networking; the British pub is unique." The plan is that pubs will sign up as participators and that thousands of events will be held in pubs across the country supported by the trade, including brewers

and pubcos.

Dave Pocock of the Punch Tavern (which offers CAMRA members a regular 10% discount on real ale) has already planned his week with

Halloween parties, food focusing on local produce (British sausages), quiz nights, a poker night and a tie in with a local charity. Overall it is expected around 2,000 pubs nationally will take part and it is hoped that it will end on 6 November with each participating pub holding a cask beer festival.

I welcomed this and suggested that, building on local food, they should

encourage pubs to stock locally brewed beers for their festivals. If it's successful, the plan is to make it an annual event. For more information, details on participating pubs or if you're a publican who wants to register, go to www.britishpubweek.co.uk

John Cryne



LONDON PUBS WEEK: SATURDAY 6 - SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER

This year we are celebrating London Pubs Week with six different ale trails: East, North, South, South East, South West and West London, with 12 pubs or clubs for you to visit in each to try a half pint, pint, a bottle or a take home container of a LocAle (a real ale brewed within a 30 mile radius of the pub/club).

A points system will be in operation: 1 point for visiting the pub/club, 2 if you have a LocAle, and 4 points for completing a trail of all of the 12 pubs/clubs.

You can cross over trails if you wish and, in addition, Sambrook's Brewery in Battersea are adding an incentive of special T-Shirts and other prizes if you visit at least 12 of the pubs that offer their ales (The Wandle Trail).

The other prizes on offer range from single bottles to a day with the brewer, .kindly donated from many of the LocAle breweries in and around

London and from some of the pubs/clubs you will visit. For instance, Redemption Brewery are sponsoring the North London trail. Certificates and prizes will also be awarded to those who have tried a variety of LocAles - GLASS or Genuine London Ale Suppers Society.

The launch will be at the Leyton Orient Supporters Club at their 11th Piglet Beer Festival on Friday 29 October 2010 (festival open from 6pm and launch at 8pm). This is on the East London trail and, as it has limited opening times, the launch will count on as a visit on that trail.

Details of the six ale trails will be available shortly from the CAMRA website link and can be downloaded. Look out for other pub crawls and beer festivals that will also be organised for London Pubs Week.

Jean Hills, Organiser, CAMRA London Pubs Week

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see our website for further details: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

WALLINGTON 2010

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Noon - 4pm

FREE

4pm - 10:30pm

Friday 15th

Noon - 4pm

4pm

- 10:30pm

£4

Saturday 16th

11am - 6pm

£3 (members)

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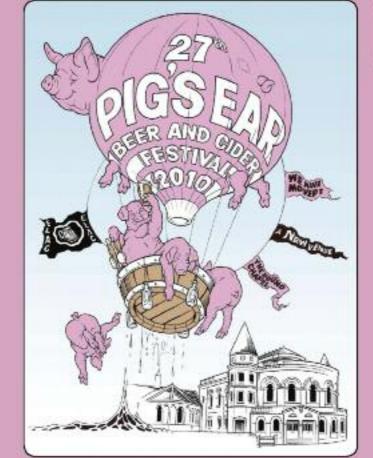
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Friday: 12 - 3pm, 5 - 9pm;

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DIRECTIONS

Rail: Hackney Central (London Overground) Hackney Downs (From Liverpool Street) Buses: 38, 48, 55, 106, 253, 254, 425, 488

For further information: www.pigsear.org.uk



COUNTDOWN TO WOKING

The 17th Woking Beer Festival will take place on Friday 12and Saturday 13 November at Woking Leisure Centre, organised by Surrey/Hants Border CAMRA, Woking Leisure Centre and Woking Borough Council, with strong support from CAMRA members from all over the South (and beyond!). More than 70 real ales are planned to be available, plus ciders and perries and imported bottled beers, all subject to availability.

There are three sessions: Friday and Saturday evening from 6pm to 11pm, and Saturday lunch time from 11am to 3.30pm. Entrance is strictly by ticket only, price £8.00. Tickets are available in advance after 23 August from Woking Leisure Centre, Woking Park, Kingfield Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 9BA. Cheques, payable to 'Woking Borough Council', + SAE please, or phone the credit card hotline (£1 booking fee) 01483-771122 (9am - 7pm) seven days a week.

The admission price includes a pint lined glass with a commemorative logo and also a festival programme. CAMRA members get a free pint (up

to 5% ABV) on presenting their current membership card at the membership stand. There is a live band each session but please note that, regrettably, THE WURLITZER ORGAN WILL NOT BE PLAYING and so the small hall now becomes a quiet area. Soft drinks and food are available at all times. A range of brewery and CAMRA products will be on sale as well, with a tombola to relieve you of your loose change!

Woking Leisure Centre is less than 15 minutes walk from Woking Railway Station, which has rail links to just about everywhere, and there's even a map of the area on the back of the ticket to show you how to get there.

Volunteer staff should e-mail wbfstaffing@yahoo.com, complete the on line staffing form at www.thelinehans.me.uk/wbfstaffing or write to WBF Staffing, 30 Hedgerley Court, Woking, Surrey. GU21 3LY.

Read the festival web page at www.woking.gov.uk/leisuretourism/leisurecentrepool/events/beerfestival, or www.camrasurrey.org.uk.

SELL OUT FOR 21ST EALING BEER FESTIVAL

Despite the economic gloom and doom, drinkers showed their willingness to visit the 21st Ealing Beer Festival in their droves. More than 6,500 people, up 30% from 2009 and double the attendance of the final year in Ealing Town Hall, came during the four days in July when the Festival was open.



The 2010 Festival had its largest range of beers ever with over 180 different real ales available. The equivalent of a 2,000 pint reorder from Rebellion and Twickenham helped keep beer

available to the end of the festival. It finished with less than a firkin left. Over 25,000 pints were sold with the foreign bar selling out on the Friday night for the first time, along with cider which had almost doubled the initial order from the previous year.

The Festival was opened by John Keeling,

director of brewing at Fuller's and winner of the 2009 Beer of the Festival for his Vintage Ale.

Reintroduction of music proved a great success, and this is likely to be taken forward next year as part of plans to increase the size of the festival at the Walpole Park site by at least 25% to keep pace with demand. This means even more beer, but this will depend on more volunteers being available to staff the festival.

West Middlesex CAMRA will now be involved in selecting the beers and running the bar at the Heathrow Beer Festival which takes place at the Concorde Club in Cranford on Friday 26 and Saturday

27 November. More details are available at www.heathrowbeerfestival.co.uk.

Roy Tunstall

Dear Editor

I have been following with some interest the many articles concerning community pubs and the various proposed 'tax solutions'.

Let me add some perspective: a pint of beer in a local bar in France costs £4 – give or take a few pence for the exchange rate. In Paris it costs £5.40 and upwards. The French live in a 'Nanny State', the most hideous creation in a free society. This allows French wine producers to have a very unwholesome relationship with other people's money and they demand it as their 'right'! They have never learned that neither politics nor politicians can solve every problem.

French café society died with the introduction of television. There are still daytime cafes in large towns doing a roaring trade, but not in small towns. At night the towns look as if aliens have abducted the entire population. It did not happen in Britain because the British pub is a major part of the community structure. In France it's the church. The relationship between the sale of alcohol and communities is very complex but at the end of the day what counts is the gut feeling of people who either want that type of community or not.

Things evolve, as they should, and if pubs are to evolve, as one hopes they will, bleating about the cost of cheap alcohol in supermarkets is not the way to go. We live in a society that gives us certain, but few, freedoms. We should fight to safeguard the freedoms we have, such as freedom of choice, and pubs should learn to evolve quicker. As a community prop they work but maybe the model, which has been changing to very good effect over the years, still has some development ahead of it. I am sure there are a number of sufficiently good publicans to ensure the evolution continues without restricting anyone's freedom of choice.

John Gardner

Dear Editor

Tony Hedger's article in the July/August issue raises several points, none of which make for pleasant thoughts if you like beer, and are of a rational disposition.

Firstly, technically 'one unit' of alcohol is 10ml of pure ethanol. So that, knowing that a pint is 568ml, a multiplication by the ABV percentage will give you the number of units consumed.

Secondly, the price differentials he mentions are truly unsettling, in the way the market appears to be deliberately skewed towards irresponsible drinking. Given the prices he quotes, perhaps it should be a surprise that we get so little (relatively speaking) public incapable drunkenness, rather than the reverse.

Thirdly, and really scary, if you are aware of the true facts, are the figures repeatedly quoted by

NICE and any government or 'health' department you care to think of, concerning so-called 'safe' levels of responsible alcohol consumption. They quote four units per day as a maximum for males, as an authoritative *ex cathedra* factual statement. Leaving aside the relative body-masses of men and women, which can automatically make a complete hash of such 'guidance', there is another much more fundamental point at issue here.

Where did those authoritative 'safe' levels of consumption come from? From what properly conducted wider-ranging scientific study where these figures derived?

They were not, at all. We have no idea at all what 'safe' levels of alcohol consumption are, over an extended period. The figures quoted by NICE were picked out of thin air, upon the whim of persons unknown, presumably with a nannying, puritan bent. The whole edifice of 'safe' weekly beer and wine consumption levels is a sham strawedifice, with no basis whatsoever in fact or observation.

But no-one appears to have the bottle (pun intended) to challenge this ongoing collection of government lies.

G. N. G. Tingey

Dear Editor

While I agree that irresponsible drinking in this country is fuelled much more nowadays by the off-trade, I can think of some pub policies that could be considered irresponsible in this regard.

First, we find overcharging for half measures. In a pub recently charging £3.50 for a pint of Sambrook's Wandle, a half cost me £1.85.

Second, there is often little difference in price between weaker and stronger beers and sometimes there is a 'guest beer' price, irrespective of strength. One Fuller's pub was recently charging 25p more for their mild (Hock) than for London Pride on the grounds that it was a guest beer. At the time of writing Young's are about to hold a beer festival at a number of their pubs, for which they are to be congratulated, but I understand that all the guest beers must be priced at 20p a pint more than their Young's equivalent.

On a related issue, price lists are often hidden or difficult to read, so that the customer cannot make a choice based on price, which might be to go elsewhere.

I am sure that many drinkers prefer pubs where they feel they can get good value drinking in moderation at known and fair prices.

Martin Butler

Dear Editor

I read a guest editorial a couple of issues ago by John Gilbert of Hop Back Brewery which was unflattering to Wetherspoons. I have no problem with that. I just seek a good pint at a price that is fair. On holiday last week I visited the Dolphin Hotel in Weymouth, which is a Hop Back tied house. The barman said that there had been no delivery from the Brewery and it would be a week until the next one. (Sadly this is not unusual according to *Beer in the Evening* pub reviewers.) All handpump clips were turned around and it was a pub with no beer.

I have NEVER experienced this in a Wetherspoons pub. Perhaps Mr. Gilbert should get out a bit more and deliver some beer to his pubs and then in a new spirit of enlightenment visit the George in Croydon (CAMRA Pub of the Season this summer), a Wetherspoons outlet where the ales are always tip top with eleven handpumps with regular ales Jaipur (Thornbridge) JHB (Oakham) and Brewster's Hophead at £1.90 a pint.

I like Hop Back's ales...... when I can get them! Steve Lerpiniere

John Gilbert replies: I agree that it is shame that the Dolphin in Weymouth did not have any Hop Back nor, I note, any other real ale on when Steve visited. I am grateful for his comments. The Dolphin is a tenanted pub and is only tied to a small barrelage of our cask beers. I have also been there when there

Waltham Forest Corporation Sports & Social Club long the Trent A celebration of Alex & Ciders from along the River Trent 25+ Real Ales, Cidees & Ferries, Food available, Live Music Friday & Saturday evenings. November 11th - 14th Taursday 11th Spen - 11per Friday 12s 12 noon - midnight Saturday 13th 12 noon - midnight Sunday 14th 12 noon - 5pm AT THE WALTHAM FOREST TOWN HALL SOCIAL CLUB, TOWN HALL GROUNDS, FOREST ROAD, WALTHAMSTOW E17 4JF 020 8537 3944 Admission for non-Club members: Before 8am - £1, after 8pm Friday & Saturday 62 Free admission for CAMRA members on production of

current membership card or GBG.

have been no cask beers on and have sought to have a meeting with said tenant. I will pass on Steve's comments to the tenant which will help. For the record we have never had a failed delivery to this establishment when terms and conditions have been adhered to and an order has been made!

I think that the Wetherspoons managed pub model does a good job for real ale drinkers. Self evidently they are a very successful company and I would be the first to admit that Tim Martin is a much better businessman than me. My discomfort is that in my opinion CAMRA has a conflict of interest with its overt promotion of Wetherspoons (allowing voucher access to every member with CAMRA's logo on each one and in addition a headed covering letter of approbation) and the fact that CAMRA is an independent, not-for-profit campaigning organisation. Perhaps I could be forgiven for thinking that the (paid?) decision makers have dropped their trousers for lucre. I am also concerned about Mr. Martin's dissembling of the facts about duty and his stance on unit pricing.

The point of the article was to stimulate debate: most especially about supermarkets charging basement cost prices and thereby not paying £100s of millions of VAT to the exchequer, which they would if making a normal mark up (and therefore not using alcohol as a loss leader)! Unit pricing would go some way to addressing this problem and perhaps the duty on beer could therefore be funded to equalise it to that on cider. This would help the community pub which is a social focal point and provider of local jobs and provides more money to the exchequer via tax and duty, let alone rates, than a supermarket on equivalent turnover.

The off trade now takes more than 70% of the drinks trade. Do you think their pricing policy and the demise of the community pub could in some way be related? Has Mr. Martin realised that by this they are achieving his goal of getting rid of the opposition for him. And is this why then he has taken the curious stance against unit pricing even though it would in no way affect his prices? In other words, does he perceive his company to be more of a supermarket than being a group of community pubs (which again, in my opinion, they are not). All the individual community publicans I have spoken to, along with the BMA and the police and CAMRA, I understand, are in favour of unit pricing. Am I alone in thinking that the final outcome, if the present regime continues, will be a choice of drinking at home with the only pub-like alternative being a world of Wetherspoons or their

Well, I have had my say. Come on everyone, have yours!

P S. In case you think I am a cynic and iconoclast, guess whose visage is on the back of

What's Brewing yet again in August? Thanks, John

Dear Editor Curiosity Corner

Am I the only one to think that Shakespeare's line, "All the world's a stage and all the men and women mere-by players" could have been written with pubs and their patrons in mind? In the case of the Red Lion in Ealing it applied in the literal sense, too. Situated opposite iconic Ealing Studios, it was the watering hole of choice for a whole generation of actors, earning the nick-name Stage Six. Alongside a wide range of Fuller's ales (including the excellent Chiswick) is a gallery of almost a hundred black-and-white photos of actors and



sets. Among those watching me drink were Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers, Herbert Lom, Frankie Howerd, Ian Carmichael, John Hurt, Hugh Lloyd and Alastair Sim. 'The Ladykillers' has its own corner; even the 'Titfield Thunderbolt' is in steam. Celeb spotting days in the pub are not totally in

the past. According to the bar lady, Dawn French called in recently while filming, while Madonna sent round for a crayfish salad 'to go'.

The movie theme continues in the nearby Wetherspoons off the Broadway, named the Sir Michael Balcon in honour of the producer who put the studios on the map from the late '30s. It resembles an Ealing film-set (though I'm not sure that was the intention) complete with casting couch, garish gilt-framed mirrors and an eerie assortment of glowing Victorian lamps. I enjoyed an RCH Old Slug Porter while viewing scenes of Jack Hawkins in the 'The Cruel Sea' and Alec G in 'Kind Hearts and Coronets'. It beats a Kia-Ora in the stalls at the ABC any day!

Bob Barton Hayes, Middx

Dear Editor Inflation on the rise?

I was amused at the Old Monk advert on page 5 of the Aug/Sep 2010 *London Drinker* which mentions that two main meals are available for £8.50.

The picture above shows a sign offering two main meals for £8.00. That's 6.25% inflation.

Enjoyed the magazine.

Paul Clayden





CAMEA NATIONAL CLUB OF 2008 JOINT WINNERS

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wetherspoon

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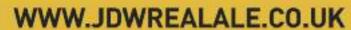














wetherspoon



Beer festival/exhibition

CELEBRATE BEER AT THE CHAPEL OF THE BLESSED BARLEY AND HOLY HOP

The Pig's Ear Beer and Cider Festival will in 2010, for the first time, be held at the magnificent Round Chapel in Powerscourt Road, Hackney.

Festival organiser, Derek Jones, says, "We're delighted to hold one of East London's famous events in one of East London's proudest buildings. This is an English Heritage restored Victorian masterpiece with an awe-inspiring three-sided gallery. Now it will become a Chapel of the Blessed Barley and Holy Hop for almost 150 notable Real Ales."

The festival will feature London Beers in a dedicated London Bar. Among these will be exciting new brews from recently founded London breweries including Brodie's of Leyton, Ha'penny of Ilford, Redemption of Tottenham and Sambrook's of Battersea, as well as Meantime of Greenwich. In addition there will be an exceptional selection of bottled and foreign beers and a cider and perry bar featuring artisan producers.

The Festival will run from Tuesday 30 November 30 to Saturday 4 December. Opening times are Tue-Thu: 11-11; Fri: 11am-

midnight; Sat: 11am-6pm.

CAMRA East London and City (ELAC) Branch chairman, John Pardoe, adds, "We're grateful to the Hackney Historic Buildings Trust for making the Round Chapel available to us. This will be our fifth successive year in Hackney and the festival has seen numbers attending grow to record levels. ELAC is convinced that the Round Chapel, which is easily reached by bus and train, will be thronged by worshippers of Barley and Hop!"

Bill Green



BEHIND THE BAR: THE LICENSED TRADE IN WALTHAM FOREST

Vestry House Museum, 9 October-23 December

Take a closer look at the history of pubs in the
Borough. Discover tales of brewers and temperance campaigners, landlords and customers, pub
outings and public disorders. This exhibition combines historic photographs with oral histories
and asks visitors: what does 'the pub' mean to you?
with photographs by David Elms whose exhibition,
'A Day in the Life of a Pub' continues in the Rose
& Crown pub, Hoe Street, Walthamstow.

Vestry House Museum is in Vestry Road, Walthamstow E17 9NH, opening times are Wednesday to Sunday, 10am-5pm and entry is free.,



The Bell, Leytonstone, in 1866. Copyright Vestry House Museum.

THE ELEANOR ARMS



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

(viewlondon review)

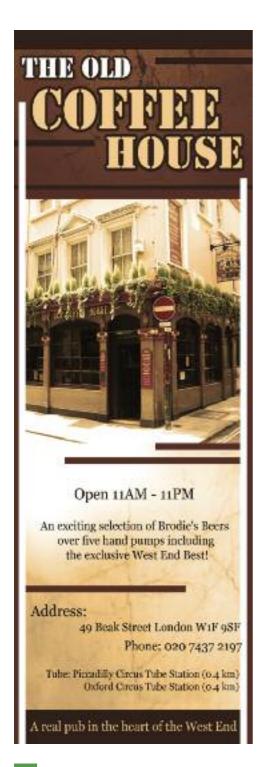
A traditional Shepherd Neame pub est. 1879.

Serving award-winning real ales: Kent's Best, Canterbury Jack, Master Brew and seasonals.

You can find us in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2011

460 Old Ford Road, Bow, London E3 5JP Tel: 020 8980 6992

CAMRA East London & City
Pub of the Year finalist



HEATHROW BEER FESTIVAL 2010

OVER THIRTY FIVE SEASONAL REAL ALES AND CIDERS TO CAPTURE THE FESTIVE MOOD BA CLUBS/NUS/CAMRA £1 **PUBLIC ENTRY £3**

Held at:

The Concorde Club. Crane Lodge Road, Cranford, TW5 9PQ Info/Tickets:

020 8513 2000

SATURDAY 6PM ONWARDS LIVE MUSIC WITH THE MODS: MUSIC OF AN FRA 1964-1970





The Harp is our Pub of the Year

aving scored a hat-trick of awards from the local CAMRA branch in 2006, 2008 and 2010, the Harp in Covent Garden has taken the regional prize for Greater London Pub of the Year. Les Maggs, chairman of the West London branch and Kimberly Martin, CAMRA Regional Director for Greater London, presented licensee Bridget ('Binnie') Walsh with both certificates on behalf of her ace team of servers and cellar-keepers. Considering Binnie was keeping real ale in excellent condition for many years before it became trendy, indeed, before CAMRA, many would say this accolade is long overdue.

In 1966, at the young age of 20, Binnie was employed as a manager by Courage. Her first pub was the Albert in Norwood, where she captured several 'Pub of the Month' awards from the local Crovdon and Sutton Branch of CAMRA. In 1989. she left Courage to run the Rose and Crown in Clapham, first as a tenant and buying the freehold six months later. She took over the Harp in 1993 when it was owned by Punch Taverns. In early 2009, Binnie bought the pub outright, making it one of London's rare true free houses. immediately extended the bank of hand pumps from four to eight, fully embracing CAMRA's LocAle initiative in the process. Both Sambrook's ales are permanently on offer, along with Harvey's Sussex Best and there are always three Dark Star brews and two guests. What keeps the beers fresh is the rate at which they fly out of the pumps. An 18-gallon cask of Crouch Vale Brewers Gold, for instance, can sell out in two hours. The Harp has also won awards for its wide range of ciders and perries.

Key to the pub's success is its devoted and energetic staff. Despite the fact that the bar is often



packed and there is little room to manoeuvre behind the bar, there is never a long wait to be served and always a friendly hello.

The pub boasts an impressive collection of portraits, among them Elizabeth Taylor, James Mason and the great grandfather of Jack Locker-Lampson, the stocktaker who advised Binnie in 1974 to get in real ale and who performs that function to this day. At the current rate of progress, it won't be long before Binnie will need to approach the nearby National Portrait Gallery for space on which to display her numerous awards.

The sharp observer will have recently spotted shots of the leaded glass harps as well as the pub's interior on the BBC's 'The Birth of British Music'. Feminists will also be delighted to see that a woman has won the London Pub of the Year award for a second year running!

Kimberly Martin

ENFIELD & BARNET BRANCH CLUB OF THE YEAR 2010

For the second year running the Ponders End Working Men's Social Club has been presented with the branch Club of the Year award. The photograph shows Diane Drane, the bar steward, receiving the certificate from branch chairman Ron Andrews.

On the evening of the presentation the beers available were Greene King IPA and Hook Norton Hooky Gold but when the latter ran out, no doubt helped by our efforts, Diane was down to the cellar to put on some excellent Timothy Taylors Landlord.

The club allows card-carrying CAMRA members to visit – details were in the last edition of *London Drinker*.



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 October and November are listed below.

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

LONDON REGIONAL EVENT

November – Wed 24 (8pm) London Liaison Committee (Regional coordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1. Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk

LONDON PUBS GROUP

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

October – Sat 16 Daytime crawl of Kingston, Malden Manor and New Malden: (12 noon) Druid's Head, 2-3 Market Place, Kingston; (2-45) Duke of Buckingham, 104 Villiers Rd, Kingston; (4.15) Manor, Manor Drive North, Malden Manor; (5.15) Fountain, 120 Malden Rd, New Malden; (6pm) Royal Oak, 90 Coombe Rd, New Malden. Public transport will be required at times.

November – Wed 17 (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.org.uk

YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

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

October – Fri 1 (7pm) Social. Ale, Rattle & Roll Snooty Fox, 75 Grosvenor Ave, N5.

November - Sat 6 (1pm) National CAMRA Young Members AGM, Eldon Arms, Eldon Terrace, Reading. - Fri 19 (7pm) Working social. Watford Beer Festival, West Herts Sports Club, Park Avenue, Watford (contact Mark Fried membership@watfordcamra.org.uk). Email group: http://groups.google.com/group/london-camra-ym

LONDON CIDER GROUP

For activities run by London Cider Co-ordinator, Ian White, see SE London events.

BEXLEY Graham Austin: 07939 145429;

contacts@camrabexleybranch.org.uk

October – Wed 13 (8.30) Mtg. Tailor's Chalk, Sidcup. November – Wed 10 (8.30) Mtg. Furze Wren, Bexleyheath

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON

Peter McGill: 07831 561296; pete_mcgill@hotmail.com
October - Wed 6 (8.30) Festival publicity social. Cock & Bull, 26
High St, Sutton. - Thu 14-Sat 16 17th Real Ale & Cider Festival.
Wallington Hall, Stafford Rd, Wallington (see page 27). - Thu 21
(8.30) Social. Royal Standard, 1 Sheldon St, Croydon. - Tue 26 (8.30)
Mtg. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey St. Croydon.

November – Wed 3: Addiscombe social: (8.30) Joiners Arms, Woodside Green; (9.45) Claret. - Thu 11 Sutton social: (8.30) Little Windsor, 13 Greyhound Rd; (9.45) New Town. - Tue 16 Pawsons Road social: (8.30) Lion; (9.45) Pawsons Arms. - Thu 25 (8.30) Mtg. Windsor Castle (Cottage Room), 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton. Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY

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

October – Thu 7 EC3 crawl: (8pm) Ship Tavern, 27 Lime St; (8.30) Bunch of Grapes, 14 Lime St; (9pm) Lamb Tavern, 10-12 Leadenhall Market; (9.30) New Moon, 88 Gracechurch St; (10pm) Swan, Ship Tavern Passage; (10.30) Crosse Keys, 9 Gracechurch St; - Thu 21 Other pubs selling Brodies: (8.15) King Charles I, 55-57 Northdown St, N1; (9.15) Old Coffee House, 49 Beak St, W1; (10.15) Cross Keys, 31 Endell St, WC2; - Thu 28/Fri 29 'Piglet' real ale festival. Leyton Orient Supporters' Club, Oliver Rd, E10 (opens 6pm each night). November – Tue 9 (8pm) Mtg. Birkbeck Tavern 45 Langthorne Rd, F11

Website: www.pigsear.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET

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

October – Tue 5 (8.30) Social. Beehive, 24 Little Bury St, Edmonton N9. - Wed 13 (8.30) Social. Elephant Inn, 283 Ballards La, North Finchley N12. - Thu 21 (8.30) Social. Dog & Duck, 74 Hoppers Rd, Winchmore Hill N21. - Tue 26 (8.30) Social. Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, Enfield EN2. - Sat 30 Visit to Hospice Charity Beer Festival, Stoke Mandeville. Web or Brch contact for details.

November – Thu 4 (8.30) Social. Builders Arms, 3 Albert Rd, New Barnet EN4. - Wed 10 (8.30) Social. Lord Nelson, 14 West End La, Barnet EN5. - Sat 13 Wetherspoons Festival crawl: 10am (for opt. breakfast). Gilpins Bell, 50-54 Fore St, Upper Edmonton N18; use branch mobile to join later. - Tue 16 (8.30) Social. Orange Tree, Highfield Rd, Winchmore Hill N21. - Thu 25 (8.30) Mtg and London Drinker pick up. Old Mitre, 58 High Street, Barnet EN5. Website: www.camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor: 020 8949.2099; ctaylor2007@freeuk.com
October – Fri 1 (7pm) Beer festival social. Sultan, South Wimbledon.
- Tue 5 (8.15) Mtg. New Prince, Ewell Rd, Surbiton. - Tue 12 (8.30)
PotY presentation. Woodies, New Malden. - Thu 14 (7.30) Wallington
beer festival social. - Sat 16 Kingston to New Malden heritage pub
crawl. See London Pubs Group diary for details. - Thu 21 (7.30) Beer
festival social. Hope, Carlshalton. - Sat 23 Minibus trip to Dark Star
Brewery. Seats to book £20. Pick up 10am, Surbiton, nr. rail station.
Bookings by 9 Oct to Brch contact. - Thu 28 (7pm) Beer festival
social. Le Gothique, Wandsworth, 15 min walk from Clapham Jct or
77 bus

November – Wed 3 (8.15) Mtg. Worcester Park, opp. Worcester Park rail station. - Sat 6 (1pm) PotY presentation. Royal Oak, Great Bookham, followed by pub crawl into Leatherhead. - Thu 18 Surbiton evening: (8pm) Surbiton Flyer, then Victoria and Lamb. - Sat 20 Visit to Windsor & Eton Brewery at Windsor. Travel by 10.52 ex Twickenham train or meet at the brewery at 12 noon. Names please to Brch contact if interested.

Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk

NORTH LONDON

Social contacts: Stephen Taylor, 07531 006296, stephen.taylor/@selexgalileo.com; John Adams, 07970 150707, J.Adams@ucl.ac.uk. Branch chairman: John Cryne, 07802 174861, john.cryne2@googlemail.com

October - Tue 5 (8pm) PotS presentation. Charlotte Despard, 17 Archway Rd, N19. - Tue 12 (8pm) LDBF mtg. Pineapple (upstairs room), 51 Leverton St, NW5. - Tue 19 Cider month NW5 social: (7.30) Bull & Gate, 389 Kentish Town Rd; (8.15) Vine, 86 Highgate Rd; (9pm) Southampton Arms, 139 Highgate Rd. - Tue 26 Cider month Euston social: (7.30) Jeremy Bentham, 31 University St, WC1; (8.15) Crown & Anchor, 137 Drummond St, NW1; (9pm) Bree Louise, 69 Cobourg St, NW1.

November – Tue 2 (8pm) Darts social. Admiral Mann, 9 Hargrave Pl, N7. - Tue 9 Islington N1 social: (7.30) Lexington, 96 Pentonville Rd; (8.15) Compass, 58 Penton St; (9pm) King of Denmark, 7 Cloudesley Rd; (9.45) Angelic, 57 Liverpool Rd; (10.30) Glass Works, N1 Centre, Liverpool Rd. - Tue 16 (8pm) LDBF mtg. Plough (upstairs room), 27 Museum St, WC1. - Tue 23 (8pm) Mtg. Lord Palmerston (upstairs room), 33 Dartmouth Park Hill, NW5. - Tue 30 (8pm) Pig's Ear beer festival social. Round Chapel, Lower Clapton Rd, E5. Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk Email list:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/camranorthlondon/

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW

Brian Kirton: 020 8384 7284 (H); briankirton@blueyonder.co.uk October – Thu 7 Brentford TW8 crawl: (7.30) Kings Arms, 19 Boston Manor Rd; (8.15) Brewery Tap, 47 Catherine Wheel Rd; (9pm) Magpie & Crown, 128 High St; (9.45) Six Bells, 148 High St; (10.15) O'Briens, 11 London Rd. - Thu 21 (8pm) Branch Business Mtg. Kings Arms, 40 Albion Rd, Twickenham.

November – Mon 1 (8pm) Twickenham 2011 Beer Festival planning mtg (new CAMRA-member volunteer helpers welcome). Red Lion, 92 Linkfield Rd, Isleworth. - Wed 10 (8pm) Social. Red Cow, 59 Sheen Rd, Richmond. - Thu 18 Teddington TW11 crawl: (7.30) Tide End Cottage, 8 Ferry Rd; (8.15) Anglers, 3 Broom Rd; (9pm) Sammy's, 172 High St; (9.30) Builders Arms, 38 Field La; (10pm) Clock House, 69 High St; (10.30) Teddington Arms, 38 High St. - Thu 25 (8pm) Branch Business mtg incl. Branch PotY final decision. Barmy Arms, The Embankment, Twickenham.

SOUTH EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew: 07751 898310 (M) evenings or weekends only, branch.contact@selcamra.org.uk

October - Mon 4 (8pm) Cttee mtg and social. Hoopers, 28 Ivanhoe Rd, SE5. - Thu 7 (7pm) Quiz night. Bromley Labour Club, Masons Hill BR2 (CAMRA membership card required). - Sat 9 (7.30) New Star Award presentation. Grape & Grain, 2 Anerley Hill, SE19. - Wed 13 Southwark SE1 Riverside crawl: (7.30) Hornimans at Hays, Hays Galleria, Counter St; (8.15) Mudlark, Montague Clo; (9pm) Old Thamesside Inn, Pickford Wharf, Clink St. - Sat 16 Cider festival social. National Collection of Cider & Perry, Middle Farm: (10.45) East Croydon for 11.03 train to Lewes, then by bus. Fares, admission to festival (£5 last year), etc to be paid by individual. Return at leisure. Please notify organiser if you intend to come: email london_cider@btinternet.com or call/text 07775 973760 10-5 M-F. -Mon 18 Bromley South BR2 crawl: (8pm) Tiger's Head, 14 Masons Hill; (8.45) Bricklayer's Arms, 141-143 Masons Hill. - Tue 19 Cider pub bus crawl: (7pm) Southampton Arms, 139 Highgate Rd, NW5; (8.30) Bree Louise, Cobourg St, NW1; (9.45) Harp, Chandos Pl, WC2. - Sat 23 (1pm) Apple pressing/cider making. One Tree Hill Allotments, Honor Oak Park, SE23. - Wed 27 Catford crawl: (7.30) Goose on the Green, 167 Rushey Green, SE6; (8.30) Catford Ram, 9 Winslade Way, SE6; (9.30) Blythe Hill Tavern, 319 Stanstead Rd SE23

November - Tue 2 (8pm) Cttee mtg and social. Talbot, Tyrwhitt Rd, SE4. - Wed 10 Bromley BR1 crawl: (7.30) Lord Holmesdale, 184 Homesdale Rd; (8.30) Widmore, 3 Bickley Rd; (9.30) Oak, 206 Widmore Rd. - Mon 15 Peckham SE15 crawl: (8pm) Gowlett, 62 Gowlett Rd; (9pm) Montpelier, 43 Choumert Rd; (10pm) Victoria, 79 Choumert Rd. - Tue 23 Southwark SE1 crawl: (8pm) Mug House, 1-3 Tooley St; (9pm) Globe, 8 Beadle St,; (9.30) Market Porter, 9 Stoney

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)

October - Fri 1-Mon 4 Branch Weekend. Manchester (by train), including a brewery visit and the TransPennine Real Ale Trail. - Wed 13 (8.30) Social. Rising Sun, 144 Ongar Rd, Brentwood. - Thu 28 (8pm) Social. 11th Piglet Beer Festival, Leyton Orient Supporters Club, Oliver Road, Leyton, E10. - Sat 30 (12.30) Social. 4th HEBFest Beer Festival, Memorial Hall, Forebury/Knight St, Sawbridgeworth, November - Wed 3 (8.30) Social. JJ Moons, Unit 3, 46-62 High St, Hornchurch. - Tue 9 (8.30) Social. New Fairlop Oak, Fencepiece Rd, Fulwell Cross, Barkingside. - Wed 17 (8.30) Social. Eastbrook, Dagenham Rd, Dagenham. - Thu 25 (8pm) Social. 31st Rochford Beer Festival, Freight House, Rochford. Website: essex-camra.org.uk/swessex

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mark Bravery 020-8540 9183 (H), 020-7147 3826 (W), markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk

October - Wed 13 Cider month crawl: (7.15) Queens Head, 144 Stockwell Rd, Brixton SW9; (9pm) Crown & Sceptre, 2A Streatham Hill SW2. - Wed 20 (7.30) Mtg. Windmill on the Common, Clapham Common South Side, SW4

November - Fri 19 (7pm) Battersea 2011 staff recruitment social. Priory Arms (upstairs room), 83 Lansdowne Way, Stockwell SW8. -Mon 22 (7.30) Mtg (GBG long-listing, PotY shortlist). Antelope (back room), 76 Micham La, Tooting SW17.

Website: www.swlcamra.org.uk

WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan 01923 230104 (H) 07854 988152 (M) October - Thu 14 (9pm) Quiz night. Southern Cross, 41-43 Langley Rd, Watford. - Sat 23 (12 noon) Rose and Crown, Woodcock Hill, Harefield Rd, Rickmansworth. - Mon 25 (8pm) Mtg, Estcourt Arms, St Johns Rd, Watford.

November - Thu 4 Rickmansworth crawl: (8.30) Druids, 205 High St; (9.15) Fox & Hounds, 183 High St; (10pm) Pennsylvanian, 115-117 High St, - Thu 11 Beer Festival promotion crawls: meet 8pm at the Estcourt Arms, St Johns Rd, Watford. - Thu 18-Sat 20: Watford Beer Festival. West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford (see page 28). -Wed 24 (8.30) Post- festival mtg. West Herts Sports Club. - Mon 29

(8pm) Mtg. West Herts Sports Club. Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

WEST LONDON

Paul Charlton 07835 927357, paul@paulcw4.plus.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 October - Tue 5 Belgravia SW1 social: (7.30) Antelope, 22 Eaton

Terr; (9.30) Duke of Wellington, 63 Eaton Terr; (10.30) Fox & Hounds, 29 Passmore St. - Tue 12 Mtg. (7 for 7.30) George (upstairs room), 213 Strand, WC2. - Fri 15 Croydon & Sutton festival social: (7.30) Cider & Perry Bar, Wallington Hall, Stafford Road, Sutton - Tue 19 (7 for 7.30) GBG 2012 first selection mtg. Antelope (upstairs), 22 Eaton Terr. - Sun 24 Social tour: (1pm) Crown & Sceptre, 57 Melina Rd ,W12; (4pm) Andover Arms, 57 Aldensley Rd, W6; (5.30) Dartmouth Castle, 26 Glenthorne Rd, W6; also others tbc. - Mon 25 Soho social: (7pm) Nellie Dean, 89 Dean St; (8pm) Crown & Two Chairmen, Dean St; (9pm) Dog & Duck, 18 Bateman St; (10pm) Carlisle Arms, 2 Bateman St; (10.30) Three Greyhounds, 25 Greek St. Sat 30 8 pm) Social. King William IV, 816 High Rd, Leyton E10. November - Wed 3 Whitehall to Victoria tour: (7pm) Clarence, 53 Whitehall; (7.45) Westminster Arms, 9 Storeys Gate; (8.30) Two Chairman, 33 Dartmouth St; (9.15) Old Star, 66 Broadway; (9.45) Adam & Eve, 81 Petty France; (10.15) Buckingham Arms, 62 Petty France. - Sun 7 Social tour: (1pm) Cleveland Arms, 28 Chilworth St, W2; (3.30) Mitre, 24 Craven Terr; (5 pm) Victoria, 10a Strathearn Terr. - Wed 10 (7 for 7.30) Mtg Cheshire Cheese (upstairs room), 5 Little Essex St, WC2. - Mon 15 W8 social: (7.30) Uxbridge Arms, 13 Uxbridge St; (9pm) Churchill Arms, 119 Kensington Church St. - Tue 16 (7pm for 7.30) GBG 2012 second selection mtg. Nellie Dean (upstairs room), 89 Dean St. W1. - Mon 22 Marylebone W1 tour: (7pm) Henry Holland, 39 Duke St; (8pm) Lamb & Flag, 24 James St. (9 pm) Cock & Lion, 62 Wigmore St; (9.30) Golden Eagle, 59 Marylebone La; (10pm) Barley Mow, 8 Dorset St; (10.30) Kings Head, 13 Westmoreland St. - Mon 29 SW1 social: (7 pm) Colonies, 25 Wilfred St; (7.45) Cask & Glass, 39 Palace St; (8.30) Horse & Groom, 7 Groom Pl; (9.15) Grenadier, 18 Wilton Row. 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

October - Wed 6 (8pm) PotY Runner Up presentation. JJ Moons, 12 Victoria Rd, Ruislip Manor. - Tue 12 Northwood HA6 crawl: (8pm) Misty Moon, 27 Green La; (9.15) Gate, Rickmansworth Rd. - Wed 20 Joint social with W London (see entry under W London). - Thu 28 (8pm) CotY presentation. Questors Grapevine Bar, 12 Mattock La, Ealing W5.

November - Mon 1 Harefield UB9 crawl: (7.30) Old Orchard, Park La; (8.30) King's Head, 6 Park La; (9.30) Harefield, 41 High St. - Wed 10 (8.30) Mtg, Black Horse, 425 Oldfield La, North Greenford UB6. Thu 19 Social. Watford Beer Festival. meet 7pm/8pm at CAMRA stand. - Sat 27 (5pm) Social. Heathrow Beer Festival, Concorde Club, Crane Lodge Rd, Cranford TW5. - Tue 30 Social. Pig's Ear Beer Festival, meet 7pm/8pm at CAMRA stand. Website: www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the October/November edition: Wednesday 10 November. Please send entries to geoff@coherenttech.co.uk.

BREWERIANA AT BURTON

AMRA's National Breweriana Auction will be held at the Town Hall, Burton on Trent, on Saturday 16th October. Amongst the items of local interest are framed posters depicting Benskins brewery and a Lovibonds advert.

Entry is by catalogue, £2.50 on the door, or £3.50 in advance from Bill Austin, 18 Malden Road, Watford, WD17 4EW (cheques made payable to CAMRA Fundraising). Further information is available from Bill baustin@supanet.com or 01923 (answerphone).

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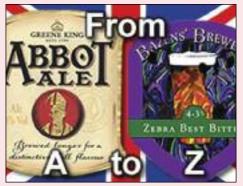
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an urge!

As you may have guessed by now, we also have an extensive selection of Belgian bottled beers including Duvel, Hoegaarden, Chimay, Leffe, Bellevue Kriek, Christoffel etc.

About the drinks

We offer an ever-changing selection of real ales from around the country - there's a choice of 6 to 8 available at any time.

We also present both Easter and Halloween Festivals as well as our traditional Christmas Selection. Last year we quaffed 37 different Christmas ales in 4 festive weeks!



Not only do we sell the ales but we also take our customers to the breweries. In the last 12 months we've visited Hogs Back, Surrey Hills, Triple fff, Itchen Valley, Ringwood, Dark Star and Harveys.

Prepare yourselves for our Halloween Beer Festival commencing Friday 29th of October.

German beer pubs

How to drink German in London

Not so long ago, draught Paulaner was a rarity in London. Hardly in the same class as hen's teeth, but an unusual sight for sure. Now though, sandwich boards bearing that red, gold and blue profile can be seen on more and more of the city's streets. And it's not just Paulaner; you can also find draught Erdinger and more, if you know where to look

Yes, the German pub or bar is here. Well, actually most of them are more specifically Bavarian-themed, which is not quite the same thing – it's a bit like going to a Scottish pub and thinking it's typical of the whole of the UK. But for anyone who has spent happy times in Munich, downing some of the best lagers in the world, it brings beerhall fun a lot closer to home.

And of course, as well as the beer there is the food. There will be sauerkraut and sausages of several kinds, perhaps with mash (creamed potatoes, in German), chips, or a kind of potato salad. There will be pretzels too, and schnitzel. There might be frikadelle (meatballs) and leberkäs (Bavarian meatloaf). You may also be offered the famous schweinshaxe or pork knuckle – basically half a roasted pork leg, usually served atop a mountain of potato dumplings and sauerkraut.

Stein's

One of the better-known places to eat and drink Bavarian-style is Stein's, outdoors by the towpath on the riverside in Richmond. Its owners, Bele and Reinhard, had the idea of opening their own beer garden when they wanted a taste of home but had difficulties finding places to go with their small son.

Opened in 2004, Stein's is pretty much self-service: you order at one window, collect at another. It has outdoor seating only, with those folding benches and tables that you may know from Munich's Oktoberfest, and is closed by 10pm, so don't leave it too late. It also closes in winter, and sometimes in bad weather too, but the rest of the time it is a gorgeous location, and the beer garden feel is about as authentic as you could wish for.

Many of the staff are German, and with a significant German community in the Richmond area – the German school is not far away, as are German bakeries and delis – your fellow diners are as likely to speak German as English while they quaff their draught Paulaner and Erdinger. And they will be diners, too, because Stein's operates as a restaurant so that you will want a meal to accompany your beer.

Bavarian Beerhouse

Opened just a year later by another German couple, Sabine and René, in what used to be a Davy's wine bar near Moorfield's eye hospital, the Bavarian Beerhouse is a kitsch yet authentic-feeling recreation of a beer-garden, but underground! As well as the main room with its festival-style folding benches and tables, the warren of cellars also contains a wood-panelled 'Alpine ski-hut' and a TV room, and it has been successful enough for the couple to open a second branch by Tower Hill.





The aim is very much entertainment, whether it be for groups of friends or for corporate events and parties, hence the locations near the City and its German financial houses. This could certainly be a fun place for a party.

The six draught beers include Erdinger, Löwenbräu and Krombacher, the latter being the only non-Bavarian offering, and of course, they and the food are all

the real thing, imported from Germany (as are most of the staff). In fact, the food is the big attraction for many of the regulars, and the menu is rather more substantial than the beer list.

Katzenjammers

Still on the Bavarian theme, but more like a Munich bar than a beer-festival, is Katzenjammers, another cellar bar around the corner from Borough Market and therefore not far from London Bridge. Here the furniture is solid wood and the beer list is extensive and varied, with bottles from right across Germany, such as Jever Pils and Schlenkerla Rauchbier, plus a few Belgians – Timmermans Gueuze among them.

As well as Paulaner Hell, Dunkel, Hefe-Weiss and Oktoberfest, the nine draught beers include Hacker-Pschorr, Keltenberg and St Thomas from



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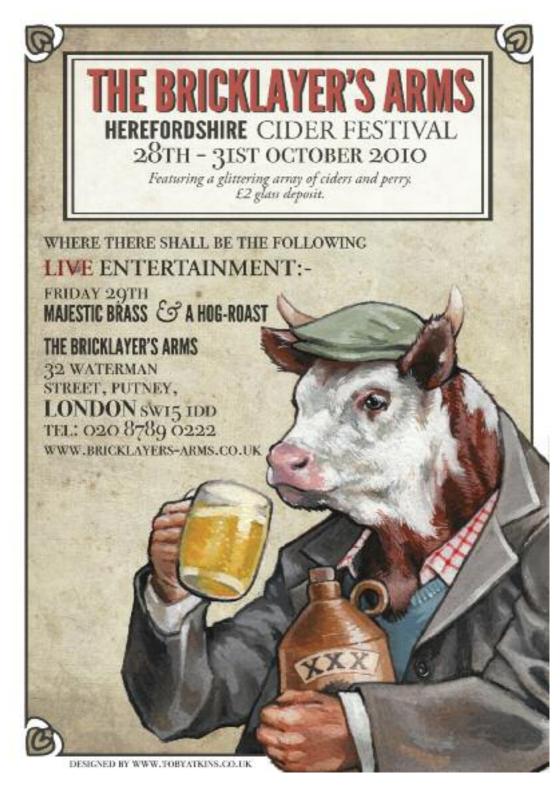
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German beer pubs

Bavaria, plus a Belgian fruit beer called Rosada, and a guest, which was Fruh Kölsch when I visited.



The whole thing makes an interesting blend of London bar and Bavarian bier-keller. The Anglo-German feel even gets into the name: Katzenjammer means hangover in German, but tagging S on it only really works in English; the staff are mostly Anglophone.

It is not owned by Germans, either, but is operated by the Red Car pubco which also has the nearby Wheatsheaf, plus the Bell, the Swan Tavern and the Castle in the City.

The Fest

Even more of a theme-pub is the Fest, on Fulham Road and not too far from Parsons Green. This is not merely Bavarian-themed, it is Oktoberfest-themed, hence its subtitle of the Octoberfest Pub (yes, spelt with a C rather than a K).

It is a little hard to spot at first, looking more like a shop than a pub, but once inside there are the folding tables and benches, and a creditably authentic Bavarian festival feel to the décor. There is also an excellent beer range, both bottled and draught, including Oktoberfest beers from most of the Munich breweries, plus others such as draught Rothaus and Bitburger Pils.

There are not so many Germans living or working around Fulham, though; the area is much better known for Sloane Rangers and, of course, for Antipodeans. If you have ever been to Oktoberfest, it won't be much of a surprise to realise that the Fest is aimed not at homesick Bavarians, but at anyone who can't wait for next October. Indeed, the traditionally dressed buxom blonde barmaid's accent is far more likely to be Melbourne than Munich.

Zeitgeist

This one really is a pub, and it is all thanks to Jürgen Männel who, in 2001, was ready for a change of job.

He was working in the City as a stockbroker, but found himself missing the food and drink of his native Cologne. "There was nowhere I knew of in London to have a German beer," he says. "I thought that if I was missing the food and drink, others might be too."

So he left the bank and took over the Jolly Gardeners, a traditional back-street local in Vauxhall, turning it into a distinctively German take on a London gastropub. It now offers an impressive range of beers from all over Germany: on draught there is Flensburger from the north, Kostritzer from the east, the inevitable Bavarians, and others from Cologne, Stuttgart and elsewhere, plus many more in bottles, and of course there is food.

He admits that it wasn't the most obvious location to choose. Vauxhall is a long way from both the City and Richmond, and its biggest overseas community is actually Portuguese. Yet it seems to have worked. Jürgen estimates that his customers are 80% non-German – at least, when there's no football on.

German pubs?

This is just a few of the places to drink German around London. There have been others, such as the now-closed Bunker Bar, a German-themed brewpub in Covent Garden, and there will be more.

One of the most interesting things about visiting them is just how varied they are. Sure, most of these places are similar sizes, able to seat between 200 and 300 people, but whether it is Germanowned or German-themed and whether it is Bavarian-focused or not, each has its own character and aims to attract a different crowd, such as diners, groups of friends, beer buffs or office parties.

Are they German pubs? That depends on whether there is such a thing as a German pub anyway. Germany has plenty of bars (kneipe, as they're known in parts of the north) and beergardens, but recognisable pubs are rare.

Jürgen from Zeitgeist argues that the pub culture is there, but says it is not as family-oriented as in England. "Germans are more likely to barbecue in the garden with their neighbours, rather than meet in the pub," he says.

"That's what I like so much here – when you've nothing to do of an evening you don't have to think 'Who shall we call? Who shall we visit?' You go to the pub and you'll see some of your friends there."

Bryan Betts

http://www.stein-s.com/ http://www.bavarian-beerhouse.com/ http://www.katzenjammers.co.uk/ http://www.octoberfestpub.com/ http://www.zeitgeist-london.com

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 reopening of a pub on CAMRA's National Inventory, closed for three years, in W1 Marylebone but sadly report the closure of another in Barkingside. Greene King and Young's have each acquired another pub from the Punch Pub Co in W1 Mayfair and Richmond respectively.

M&B have sold an 'All Bar One' in N8 Muswell Hill to Wetherspoons and rebranded one of its 'town pubs' to 'All Bar One' in EC2 Bishopsgate. The company has also announced the sale to the new Stonegate Pub Co of several of its 'drinks led' pubs which include its 'community', 'town' and high street 'bars and venues' brands. Details of which pubs are affected in Greater London would be welcome.

Enterprise and Punch in particular are continuing the selloff of pubs for conversion to other uses including for Tesco convenience stores, betting shops and residential. Often, applications for conversion to residential are submitted first for upper floors which, if approved, leaves the ground floor unviable as a pub, facilitating its conversion at a later stage. Several more other changes to pubs have had to be held over to the next Update owing to lack of space.

A new 'Kingston Pub Guide' (2nd edition) was published by Kingston & Leatherhead branch in June. Details not already reported in previous Updates are included in the listings below, together with a few changes that have taken place since its publication.

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 (2KT - second edition); 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

EC1, BOWLER, 32 Bowling Green Lane. Up to three varying beers from the Marston's portfolio. Reopened after refurbishment. Formerly SURPRISE, was CHARLOTTES, HARLEM YACHT CLUB, LITTEN TREE and LITTLE LITTEN for a while. (E25, U79, U92, U108, U113, U114, U159, U164, U190, U212)

EC1, BRB @ THE ARC, 415 City Rd. Greene King: IPA from new style eye level pump. Formerly BLUE ANGEL. (U81, U159, U171)

EC1, LITTEN TREE, 174-180 Old St. Renamed WILLIAM BLAKE. Taylor: Landlord and up to five beers mainly from Wells & Young's. Now Town & City, ex-SFI. (U131, U191) EC1, QUEEN BOADICEA, 292/294 St John St. Reopened and renamed BOADICEA, Caledonian: Deuchars IPA, Theakston: Best Bitter (£3.80/pint). (E21, U147, U192, U212)

EC2, BALLS BROTHERS, 5/6 Carey Lane. No real ale. Chain wine bar now with keg beer.

EC2, CORNEY & BARROW, 19 Broadgate. No real ale. Chain wine bar now with keg beer.

EC2, WOOD STREET, Andrewes House, 185 Fore St. Greene King: IPA, Abbot. Formerly CROWDERS WELL. (E30, U70, U87, U131, U173, U190, U192)

EC3,CORNEY & BARROW, 25 Fenchurch Ave. Hook Norton: Best Bitter (£3.70/pint). Chain wine bar now with draught beer.

WC1, TEMPUS BAR, Hotel Russell, 1-8 Russell Sq. No real ale. Independent hotel bar open to general public.

WC2, WOLFE'S, 30 Great Queen St. No real ale. Independent 'bar & grill' in former restaurant premises.

W1(F), BOURNE & HOLLINGSWORTH, 28 Rathbone Pl. No real ale. Independent basement bar, previously unreported.

W1(F), COURT, 108A Tottenham Ct Rd. Marston: EPA, Wychwood: Brakspear Bitter. (W44).

W1(Mar), ALL BAR ONE, 289-293 Regent St. Fuller:

London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar. (W50, U197)

W1(Mar), BARLEY MOW, 8 Dorset St. Butcombe: Bitter; Fuller: London Pride, Gales Seafarers Ale; Sharp: Cornish Coaster, Doom Bar. Reopened in late June after three years closure. Retains wood panelling and the two partitioned private booths fronting the counter. Grade II listed and on CAMRA's National Inventory of historic pub interiors. Flats have been developed above and now the pub is independently owned and leased out, ex-Spirit. Open 12-11 Mon-Fri, 3-11 Sat and closed Sunday. A very welcome reopening. (W50, U194)

W1(Mar), CONDUIT OF TYBOURNE, 80 Marylebone Lane. Reopened and reverted to its original name COACH MAKERS in January. Marston: seasonal beer, Ringwood: Best Bitter; Theakston: Best Bitter, Black Bull Bitter. Beers may vary. Formerly O'CONNOR DON. (W56, U199, U204) W1(Mar), SHERLOCK HOLMES HOTEL BAR, 108 Baker St. No real ale. Hotel bar open to general public and with outdoor terrace, run by Park Plaza hotel group.

W1(May), SAMUEL PEPYS, 29 Clarges St. Reopened and renamed FIELD. Adnams: Bitter; Sharp: Doom Bar; Shepherd Neame: Bitter or Spitfire. Now operated by Shannon Pubs, ex-M&B. (W62, U204)

EAST

E4, BULL & CROWN, The Green. Reopened and renamed BULL ON THE GREEN. No real ale. Was MOLLY K and SLUG & LETTUCE for a while. (E97, U73, U79, U80, U92, U166, U194)

E4, PRINCE ALBERT (BAR PA), 1 Old Church Rd. BAR PA, the basement bar reopened and renamed BIRDCAGE BAR. Ground and upper floors converted to shop and office uses. (E96, U159, U176, U191, U210)

E11, EAGLE, 76 Holly Bush Hill. Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; Fuller: London Pride. Was TONY CARVERY (SNARESBROOK) for a while. Originally EAGLE HOTEL. (E128, U143, U196)

E11, LOADED DOG, 483/485 High Rd. Reopened. No real ale. Believed now independent, ex-Punch. Formerly EROSION and FAZE II, originally COWLEY ARMS. (E128,

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U124, U134, U155, U168, U187, U209)

E14, SLUG & LETTUCE, 51-55 Mackenzie Walk, 30 South Colonnade. Wells: Bombardier. Now Bay Restaurant Group, ex-Laurel. (U138, U190)

DAGENHAM (RM10), THREE TRAVELLERS, Wood Lane. Greene King: IPA. (X45, U178)

ILFORD (IG1), CAULIFLOWER, 553 High Rd. Courage: Best Bitter. (X72, U185)

NORTH

N1, BACCHUS, 177 Hoxton St. Fuller: London Pride. (U164, U196)

N1, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, 71 Nile St. Marston: Pedigree (£2.10/pint). (N41, U109, U149, IS15, U204)

N1, EDINBURGH CELLARS, 125 Newington Green. Now reopened and simply CELLARS. Black Sheep: Bitter; St Austell: Tribute; Taylor: Landlord. Jazz venue in basement. Formerly EDINBURGH. (N42, U159, U188, U190, U197, U1212)

N1, LIVING ROOM, Suncourt House, 18-26 Essex Rd. Renamed WENLOCK & ESSEX, Courage: Directors, Wells: Bombardier plus keg Camden Brewery beers. (U167)

N1, NORTH STAR, 188/190 New North Rd. Fuller: London Pride, not always available. Formerly BABUSHKA and MULLIGANS, originally NORTH POLE. (N52, U121, U132, U168, U184)

N1, WHITE HORSE, 153 Hoxton St. No real ale. Reopened after three years. (N62, U112, U152, U196)

N3, INNISFREE, 85 Ballards Lane. No real ale. Reopened in June after four years' closure. Formerly LEGENDS. (N69, U152, U188)

N7, HOLLOWAY, 341/343 Holloway Rd. No real ale.



Reopened. Formerly LITTEN TREE. (U104, U165, U205) BARNET (EN5), TOBY CARVERY, 31 High St. Caledonian; Deuchars IPA; Fuller: London Pride. Formerly DANDELION, AVENUE, FELIX & FIRKIN and DANDY LION, originally RED LION. (N250, U120, U151, U155, U160, U167, U193, U198, U204)

NORTH WEST

NW1, CONSTITUTION, 42 St Pancras Way. Adnams: Broadside; Caledonian; Deuchars IPA. (N163, U180, U191) NW1, GLOBE, 47 Lisson Grove. Greene King: Abbot. (N166, U109, U191)

NW1, O'NEILLS, 73-77 Euston Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Sambrook: Wandle. Formerly DRUMMONDS. (N164, U123)

ALPERTON (HA0), CHEQUERS BAR & GRILL, 242A Ealing Rd. Renamed SANATAN, still no real ale. A bar/restaurant named after the temple next door. (U205)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, RIVERFRONT BAR & KITCHEN, BFI, Belvedere Rd, South Bank. Sharp: Cornish Coaster, Doom Bar. Independent bar/restaurant open to general public and part of BFI complex. Open 9am-11pm Mon-Sat, 10am-11pm Sun and Bank Hols.

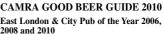
SE1, SWAN (AT THE GLOBE), 21 New Globe Walk. No real ale. An independent bar/restaurant attached to the Globe Theatre, open to general public.

SE9, OLD POST OFFICE, 4 Passey Pl. Greene King: Ruddles Best Bitter; Wychwood: Hobgoblin. (U104, U159, U168, U178, U185, U194)

SE11, ROYAL VAUXHALL TAVERN, 372 Kennington Lane. Everard: Beacon. Famous gay pub. Beer may vary. (SE110, U205)

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SIDCUP (DA15), GEORGE STAPLES, 273 Blackfen Rd. Adnams: Broadside; Wells: Bombardier; guest beer (e.g. Brentwood Blondie). Now TCG, ex-Spirit. Formerly WOODMAN. (3SE274, U107, K36, U196, U202)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(B), CHELSEA BRASSERIE, 7-12 Sloane Sq. No real ale. Independent bar/restaurant operated by adjoining Sloane Square Hotel.

SW4, RAILWAY, 18 Clapham High St. Up to three changing real ales (e.g. Fuller: London Pride; Sambrook: Wandle; Sharp: Doom Bar). H installed May 2010. Formerly RAILWAY TAVERN. (SW60, CSL17)

SW10, BEACH BAR, 351 Fulham Rd. No real ale. Independent bar in former restaurant premises, named because this stretch of bars and restaurants is known as the Fulham Reach

SW10, FINBOROUGH ARMS, 118 Finborough Rd. Reopened and now simply FINBOROUGH (THE). No real ale. Theatre upstairs and food orientated. (SW84, U172, U194.)

SW10, MARVEL, 196/198 Fulham Rd. No real ale. Independent bar in former restaurant/wine bar premises.

SW15, PUTNEY STATION, 94 Upper Richmond Rd. Sambrook: Wandle. One of the Brinkley's Restaurant chain of wine bar/restaurants, now with real ale and not previously included in pub database. Opposite East Putney tube station, with 'romantic garden' at rear, Apr-Sep. Open 12-12 Mon-Fri, 11-12 Sat and 11-11 Sun.

SW19, HORSE & GROOM, 143-145 Haydons Rd. Wells: Bombardier. (SW117, BM27)

MORDEN (SM4), ROYAL SURREY PUB, 1 Abbotsbury Rd. Young: Bitter. Reinstated as a pub (11-11; 12-10.30 Sun) in August under new, independent ownership. No longer associated with club premises upstairs. Formerly ABBOT. (SW150, BM37, U207, U211, U213)

NEW MALDEN (KT3), RONNIES, 1 High St. Reopened and renamed HAN. no real ale. Formerly BOBOS and B WON. (SW151, U172, KT35, U195)

SURBITON (KT5), CORKYS, 12 Claremont Rd. No real ale. Reinstated as a bar in 2008 after a spell as 'Sels' cafe/restaurant and now renamed again to XZYTE. (U172, KT40, U198, 2KT41)

SURBITON (KT5), HOTEL BOSCO LOUNGE BAR, 9 St Marks Hill. No real ale., Independent modern bar open to general public.

WEST

W11, MAU MAU BAR, 245 Portobello Rd. No real ale. Independent live music bar in former shop premises.

HAYES (UB4), CARPENTERS ARMS, 1370 Uxbridge Rd. Greene King: IPA, Abbot. (W156)

HAYES (UB4), WISHING WELL, 1250-1256 Uxbridge Rd. Greene King: Ruddles Best Bitter (may rotate with other Greene King beers). (W162, U203)

HEATHROW AIRPORT (TW6), BRIDGE, Terminal 1 (Airside). Fuller: London Pride. Independent 'bar and eating house'. Open 6am-last departing flight.

HEATHROW AIRPORT (TW6), BRIDGE, Terminal 3 (Airside)). Fuller: London Pride. Independent 'bar and eating house'. Open 5.30am-last departing flight. Formerly O'NEILLS but not previously reported.

HILLINGDON (UB10), HILLINGDON ARMS, Sutton Court Rd. No real ale. Reopened. (W165, U213)

SOUTHALL (UB2), GRAND JUNCTION ARMS, 2 Bulls Bridge Rd. Courage: Best Bitter; Sharp: Doom Bar; Shepherd Neame; Spitfire. Beers may vary. (W186, U197) TEDDINGTON(TW11), KINGS HEAD, 123 High St.

Adnams: Bitter (£4/pint); Fuller: London Pride (£3.20); Sharp: Doom Bar (£3.20); Symonds Founder cider. Reopened in late September as one of a chain of gastropubs being launched by celebrity chef Raymond Blanc under the 'White Brasserie Company' name. Formerly leased by the erstwhile Massive Pub Co from Enterprise. (W196, U191, U212)

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC1, BOTTLESCRUE, Davys, now demolished. (U121, U195)

EC1, DRY BAR, Free, already reported no draught beer, now closed. (U186, U197)

EC1, TERRY NEILLS SPORTS BAR & BRASSERIE, Free, already reported converted to 'School Dinners' restaurant, now demolished. (E19, U69, U85, U190, U201)

EC2, BISHOP OF NORWICH, Davys, closed and boarded up for Thameslink construction work. (E29)

EC2, CITY TUP, Free, site now modern office block. Formerly SHORTS. (E35, U88, U98, U131, U134, U189, U192)

EC2, DAVYS (RUSSIA ROW), Davys, demolished in early 2000s, now office building on site. Formerly UDDER PLACE. (E36, U119)

EC2, DRAGON BAR, Free, closed by 2008 and now demolished with new buildings on site. (U164)

EC2, OLDE GRESHAM, Free (later Jamies Wine Bar), site now occupied by offices. (E34, U196)

EC2, PROPHET, Lewis & Clarke, closed due to fire in neighbouring premises. (U173)

EC2, VINO VERITAS (CHEAPSIDE), ex-S&N, converted to a pizza restarant by July 2003 and later demolished to make way for a new building including a pizza restaurant. Formerly MAGOGS. (E33, U98, U106)

EC3, FT'S FREE HOUSE AND ENGLISH CLUB, Thornley Taverns, converted to 'Orpheus' restaurant. (U163, U201)

EC3, LOWLANDER GRAND CAFE, Free, closed since October 2009. Formerly CHRISTOPHERS BAR & GRILL, originally POET BAR. (U145, U155, U158, U196, U201)

EC4, SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN, ex-S&N, confirmed demolished c. 1994 to make way for Paternoster Square development. (E54, U106, U108)

WC1, 2 ANGELS BAR, Free, now converted to restaurant. Formerly PETERS BAR. (N28, U155, W16, U196)

W1(Mar), APOLLO, Spirit, closed by 2008. (W50)

W1(May), BRUTONS, Regal, closed. (W58)

W1(May), LAST BID, M&B, converted to 'Semplice' wine bar/restaurant, no draught beer, delete from pub database. (W60)

W1(S), ATLANTIC BAR & GRILL, Free, previously reported no draught beer, now closed. (W234)

W1(S), BATH HOUSE, Greene King, closed for Crossrail construction work. (W63, U205)

W1(S), WALKABOUT, Regent Inns, closed and boarded up. (W70)

EAST

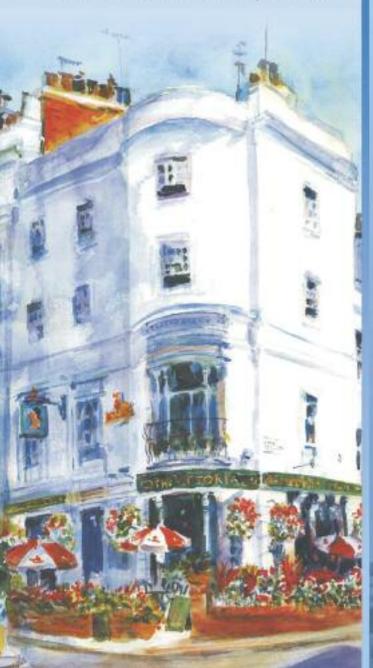
E1, BAR NAKODA, Free, converted to 'Bombay Grill' Indian restaurant. Formerly BLACK BULL. (E61, U110, U161, U198)

E3, DUKE OF WELLINGTON, ex-Phoenix, closed and boarded up. (E90, U112)

E11, COLEGRAVE ARMS, Enterprise, closed with speculation in local newspaper that it is intended to convert for use as a mosque. The pub was established in 1869. (E127,

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U124, U168, U192)

E14, WELLINGTON ARMS, ex-Ascot, closed by 2006. (E149, U99)

BARKINGSIDE (IG5), DOCTOR JOHNSON, TCG ex-Courage via S&N, closed July. Future uncertain for this unspoilt art deco estate pub on CAMRA's National Inventory of historic pub interiors. (X12)

DAGENHAM (RM10), ROBIN HOOD, ex-Greene King, already reported demolished and now Lidl supermarket built on site. (X45, U160, U161, U182, U184)

NORTH

N1, CROSS KINGS, Free, closed and boarded up. Formerly BACKPACKER. (N38, U181, U195)

N1, CROWN, 103 Copenhagen St, Free, planning application now submitted to Islington Council for conversion to eight two-bed flats. (N40, U213)

N1, DEN, 157 Caledonian Rd, ex-Whitbread, closed, boarded up and for sale. Formerly PRINCE OF WALES. (N55, U184)

N1, DUKE OF CLARENCE, Enterprise, confirmed now converted to flats. (N41, U189, U203, U213)

N1, DUKE OF YORK, 33 Downham Rd, Enterprise, closed and boarded up for some time. (N42, U184)

N1, JACK BEARDS, Free, previously reported upper floors in residential use, building now demolished. Formerly VICTORY. (N61, U112, U149, U181)

N1, LARK IN THE PARK (WHELANS), 60 Copenhagen St, Free, closed. Formerly GEORGE IV. (N46, U109, U112, U120, U184)

N1, NORTHGATE, Punch, ex-Taylor Walker, closed. Formerly DOG & DUMPLINGS. (N41, U158, IS19)

N1, SIR ROBERT PEEL, ex-Bass, now demolished. (N57, U181)

N1, TROLLEY STOP, Free, remains closed and now derelict, not being converted to flats as previously reported. (N60, U184, U205)

N2, DICK TURPIN, Punch, closed and freehold for sale. (N66, U177, U183, U211)

N3, QUEENS HEAD, Enterprise, ex-S&N, closed. (N70, U106, U130, U174)

N6, BULL, Meredith Group, closed and sold, future uncertain. (N81, U156, U174, U185, U205)

N7, LORD PALMERSTON, Independent, ex-Taylor Walker, H removed since 2001. Renamed EL COMANDANTE, a South American theme bar featuring Che Guevara on the pub sign. (N88)

N7. McLOUGHLINS, Free, still closed but CORA HOTEL now displayed on Brewery Road side. Formerly BALMORAL CASTLE. (N85, U159, U184, U199)

N15, GOLDEN STOOL, ex-Bass, now a hoarding outside advertises its pending conversion to a Tesco store due to open in November. (N125, U140, U202, U210)

N16, BOOTHS, Free, closed, restaurant remains upstairs. (U140)

N17, ANTWERP ARMS, Enterprise, ex-Bass, no real ale (N133)

N17, BEEHIVE, Enterprise, no real ale. (N133, U106, U193) N17, CORNER PIN, Enterprise, closed and gutted in preparation for it becoming a Spurs ticket office. (N134, U191, U202)

N17, RED LION, ex-Bass, now converted to Turkish run shop in 2009. (N136, U178)



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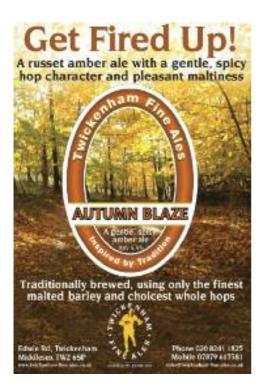


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N17, WHITE HART, Punch, ex-Bass, closed and converted to two commercial units, one a solicitors, the other empty.

N19, ANGIES VII (OF HOLLOWAY ROAD), Free, closed Formerly MARLBOROUGH,. (N144, U165)

BARNET (EN5), ALBION, Punch, now being converted back to residential in the form of two cottages. (N249, U200)

NORTH WEST

NW1, CAMDEN, Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique, closed and boarded up. (N162, U157)

NW1, CAMDEN FALCON, Free. Ground floor now converted to flat and for sale as such. (N162, U184, U195)

NW1, CHARLOTTE, Free, converted to Italian restaurant by January 2010. (U192)

NW2, WISHING WELL. Renamed SHANNON, Enterprise (leased to FT Pubs & Bars), closed and to let. (U151)

NW3, ADELAIDE, Urban Leisure Group, ex-Bass via Punch, now converted to a private function venue for hire. Formerly VICEROY. (N190, U157, U197, U209)

NW5, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, ex-Truman, already reported converted to residential, the development also includes a small shop. (N198, U154)

NW5, PRINCE OF WALES, Enterprise, closed and boarded up following planning permission for conversion to flats. (N200, U213)

NW6, PRIORY TAVERN, Enterprise, ex-Truman via Unique, H unused following refurbishment in contemporary style. (N206, U109)

HAREFIELD (UB9), SWAN, Enterprise, closed and boarded up. (W148)

HARROW (HA1), APOLLO, Spirit, now converted to Tesco Express store. (W150, U198)

HARROW (HA1), MATRIX, Free, remains of pub now demolished following fire in 2008. (W154, U186, U202)

KENTON (HA3), McGOWANS, Free, now converted to 'Babylon Palace' Mediterranean restaurant. Formerly JAMES JOYCE. (W216, U207, U213))

RUISLIP (HA4), WINDMILL, M&B, already reported demolished, site now occupied by offices called Windmill House. (W184, U195, U197)

WEMBLEY (HA9), INNISFREE, Pubs 'n' Bars, closed. (W219)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, ARCHDUKE, Independent. No draught beer; delete from pub database. (U201)

SE1, ROYAL STANDARD, Free, closed. (SE32, U184) SE1, WILLIAM, Sycamore Taverns, closed. Formerly KING WILLIAM IV. (SE23, U102, U184)

SE9, WHITE HART, Enterprise, ex-Inntrepreneur via Unique, leased to Pubs 'n' Bars, closed, freehold for sale. (SE88) SE13, ANCHOR, Free, ex-Labatts, closed. (SE118, U102,

SE13, BAR PHOENIX, ex-Whitbread, now demolished and site laid out as open space. Formerly ROEBUCK. (SE121, U116, U197)

SE13, PITCHERS, ex-Whitbread, site now laid out as open space. Formerly PLOUGH. (SE121, U116, U199, U212)

SE25, BEEHIVE, M&B, ex-Bass, no real ale. (SE214) CROYDON (CR0), BIRD IN HAND, Punch, ex-Friary

Meux, no real ale. (3SE236, U52)

CROYDON (CR0), DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, Independent, no real ale. (3SE241, U200, U204)

ERITH (DA8), CROSS KEYS, Enterprise, ex-Truman, closed, licence reportedly revoked owing to invasion by men on

horses! (3SE255, U43, U47, U85, U164)

SOUTH WEST

SW7, SWAG & TAILS, Independent, closed and planning application from new celebrity owner Tamara Ecclestone to increase capacity and extend hours rejected by Westminster Council following representations from neighbours. A flashing neon sign advertising fish and chips' has now apparently been installed in the front window to the consternation of local residents! (SW73, U192, U203)

SW8, GLADSTONE, Enterprise, closed. (SW78. CSL29)

SW10, AD LIB, Free, converted to restaurant which has now closed. Formerly BLAH BLAH BAR, MODÉNSA, 246 and originally FRONT ROOM. (U156, U157, U162, U166, U168, U181)

SW10, BARTOK, Independent, ex-Inntrepreneur, now operates as a function venue and club for Chelsea FC ticket holders; delete from pub database. Formerly CAMEL, BLACK BULL and BULL BAR. (SW84, U136, U181, U204)

SW10, BRB @ THE BRIDGE, Punch, now converted to restaurant. Formerly BLUE BAR CAFE, SCRUFFY MURPHYS (MURPHYS PHARMACY) and originally GUNTER ARMS. (SW85, U150, U160, U178)

SW10, FULHAM BAR & EATING HOUSE, Innventive, closed. Formerly FULHAM (THE), BRASSERIE DE L'AUBERGE and FULHAM TUP. (SW85, U181, U191,

SW11, CROWN (JACK BEARDS), Enterprise, now leased to Orange Sun, ex-CC Taverns (trading as Jack Beards), H unused, future uncertain. (SW87, WB29, U213)

SW11, HALO, Punch, closed and being demolished. Formerly ZONIST BAR, HEDONIST CLUB, CIRCLE, GALANGGA and FOUR CHIMNEYS. (SW88, WB33)

SW16, JACK STAMP'S BEER HOUSE, Faucet Inns, now converted to estate agents' office. Formerly HALF & HALF. (SW105, BSM31)

SW17, LITTLE HOUSE, Punch, closed again and sold for site redevelopment unless Wandsworth Council can be given adequate grounds for preservation; an application for spotlisting of this London Regional Inventory pub has been submitted on behalf of the local historical society. Formerly QUEEN VICTORIA. (SW110, BM18, U211, U213) SW17, SPIRIT, Free, now converted to 'Tartine' French cafe.

(U174, BM20, U202) SW18, ROYAL OAK, Punch, closed, shuttered and for sale. (SW114, WB18, U207)

SW18, STAR & GARTER, Punch, closed and being demolished following planning permission in May 2010 for flats on the site. (SW115, WB20)

SW20, EMMA HAMILTON, Punch Pub Co (formerly Spirit), suddenly closed and boarded up in August 2010 and said to have been sold to a nearby resident who has been in discussions with a number of institutional owners, including hotel chains. Allegedly they would convert the existing building, extending it both sides and to rear with hotel accommodation. However, the existence of an underground stream may limit the development potential of this very large, main road site. (SW125, BRP37, U199)

SW20, JUNCTION TAVERN, Admiral, closed since May 2010 and reportedly sold for conversion to restaurant. (SW125, BRP37, U207, U210)

CHESSINGTON (KT9), BUNKERS BAR, Independent. Now known simply as CHESSINGTON GOLF CENTRE BAR, H unused. (SW134, U132, U172, KT14)

CHESSINGTON (KT9), MAVERICK, Greene King, closed, future uncertain. Formerly PICKLED NEWT (PORT OF CALL), originally PORT OF CALL. (SW134, U132, U172,

U198, 2KT15)

CHESSINGTON (KT9), WHITE HART, Enterprise, still closed and delicensed (not listed in new Kingston pub guide). (SW135, KT16, U204)

KINGSTON (KT1), BULL & BUSH, ex-Ascot, converted to guest house of the same name with no bar. (SW140, U140, U172, KT20)

KINGSTON (KT1), ESSENCE, Independent, ex-Bass. Now operates as a night club only; delete from pub database. Formerly RB'S SPORTS BAR, originally ROYAL BARGE. (SW144, U143, U151, U172, KT26, U198)

KINGSTON (KT1), JD'S CAFE BAR, Independent, converted to unlicensed cafe. (U172, KT22)

KINGSTON (KT1), KELLY ARMS, Enterprise, converted to student housing. (SW143, KT22, U197)

KINGSTON (KT1), OCEANA, Independent. Bar is now open only to customers of the attached nightclub; delete from pub database. (U172, KT24)

KINGSTON (KT1), SWAN, Enterprise, still closed and delicensed (not listed in new Kingston pub guide). (SW144, KT28, U204)

KINGSTON (KT1), WORKS BAR, Independent, ex-Puzzle, absorbed into attached night club; delete from pub database. Formerly BAR (THE) and previously PUZZLE. (SW144, U155, U172, KT29)

MITCHAM (CR4), CRICKETERS, Independent, ex-Young, closed; planning application now submitted for demolition and replacement by flats. (SW145, BSM38)

MORDEN, MORDEN TAVERN, Reef Estates, ex-Enterprise, closed August 2010 for site redevelopment as warned in U213. Despite its Pub Protection Policy and the absence of

other pubs on the estate, Merton Council had reportedly sold the freehold to the developers in February 2009. Was TAVERN for a while. (SW150, BM39, U203, U211, U213)

SURBITON (KT5), RISING SUN, M&B, ex-Bass, now demolished and replaced by flats (delete erroneous report of conversion to flats in U188). (SW162, U140, U145, U172, KT43, U179)

WEST

W5, PARKVIEW, TCG, closed and boarded up, lease for sale from TCG whilst freeholder has building for sale. (W98, U197, U209)

W7, KINGS ARMS, Enterprise, H removed after refurbishment. (W108, U202, U210)

W10, FAT BADGER, Enterprise leased to Real Pubs, H unused. Formerly CARNARVON ARMS and BED. (W116, U189, U192)

W10, TEN WEST, Free, reverted to ION, closed and converted to showroom for Westbury Development Trust. (W116, U189)

W14, SEVEN STARS, Fuller, confirmed sold by Fuller's to property developer. Remains closed and a sad end for this art deco and former Good Beer Guide pub. (W129, U213)

HAMPTON WICK (KT1), RAILWAY, privately owned, ex-Enterprise, planning application for conversion to single dwelling refused by Richmond Council following public meeting, future uncertain. (W146, U204, U209, U211)

HAYES (UB3), FAMOUS GEORGE ORWELL, Barracuda, H unused. (W160)

HAYES (UB3), KINGS ARMS, Enterprise, closed and freehold for sale. (W160, U196, U202)



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HOUNSLOW (TW3), BLUE GINGER BAR, Enterprise, planning application now approved by Hounslow Council for change of use to restaurant. Formerly SOUTH WESTERN. (W170, U199, U202, U212)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), JOLLY FARMER, Enterprise, closed and to let. (W167, U212, U213)

NORTHOLT (UB5), PLOUGH, Fuller, confirmed that site of burnt down and demolished pub is to be sold off to developers. (W176, U187, U199, U209, U211)

SOUTHALL (UB2), HAVELOCK ARMS, Free, closed. Front bar being converted to betting shop. Believed back bar may reopen as pub. (W186)

SOUTHALL (UB1), THREE HORSESHOES, Pubs 'n' Bars, closed although new licence applied for. (W188, U194) TEDDINGTON (TW11), PARK (THE), Free (Galleon), H removed. (W196, U186, U209)

TWICKENHAM (TW11), RED LION, ex-Enterprise, confirmed converted to Tesco Express store opened in late July. Was FILTHYS (AT THE RED LION) for a while. (W204, U192, U207, U211)

UXBRIDGE (UB8), COWLEY BRICK, Enterprise, closed and rumoured that the intention is to convert to residential use. (W206, U205, U207)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES CENTRAL

EC2, DIGRESS CITY. Renamed AMBER. (U208) EC2, PRINCESS (OF SHOREDITCH), -beers listed; +Adnams: seasonal beer; +Meantime: London Pale Ale; +Sambrook: Wandle. (E35, U169, U212)

EC2, SIR PAUL PINDAR. Renamed ALL BAR ONE, rebranded by M&B, -Greene King: IPA; +Sharp: Doom Bar. Was FIRST & LAST for a while. (E36, U66, U80, U155, U175, U207)

EC2, TABERNACLE. Renamed McQUEEN, still no real ale. (U178)

EC2, WOODINS SHADES, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor: Landlord; +five guests from micros and regionals, An example of the recent increase in beer range in M&B's Nicholson estate. (E36, U181)

EC3, PITCHER & PIANO, The Arches, 9 Crutched Friars. Renamed BAVARIAN BEERHOUSE, still no real ale. Has the same branding as the branch in City Road, EC1, including German keg beers, food, exposed brickwork and waitresses in traditional Bavarian dress. Now operated by small Bavarian Beerhouse Group, ex-Marston. Formerly McDAIDS/CLEMENTS, originally BULLA. (E39, U131, U142, U191

EC4, CARRIAGE HOUSE. Renamed PLUM TREE, still no real ale. (U140)

EC4, HOOP & GRAPES, +two beers from Shepherd Neame's in-house micro, taking full advantage of range available. Was SAMUELS for a while. (E49, U69, U140, U164, U178)

WC1, BLOOMSBURY BOWLING LANES BAR. Correct name and address is SWIVEL BAR, Bloomsbury Bowling Lanes, Tavistock Hotel, Bedford Way. (U196)

WC1, PAKENHAM ARMS, -beers listed; + five varying real ales. Now Convivial Pub Co, ex-Capital Pub Co. (N28, HB11, U184, W23)

WC1, SOLUTION. Renamed BLOOMSBURY STREET, a bar and restaurant, still no real ale. Marlborough Hotel has been renamed Bloomsbury Street Hotel. (W25)

WC2, MARQUIS OF GRANBY, 142 Shaftesbury Ave. Capital Pub Co have sold the freehold for £3.49 million to an unknown buyer, but continue to manage the pub under a lease agreement. (W35, U188, U193)

W1(F), JAMIES. Renamed CHARLOTTE STREET BLUES,

a live music venue, still no real ale. (W46, U191)

W1(F), NORTHUMBERLAND ARMS, 43 Goodge St. Confirmed sold by M&B to property company Shaftesbury Charlotte St Ltd who have submitted a planning application to Camden Council for conversion of the upper three floors to flats, which could result in the ground floor becoming unviable as a pub due to the lack of space for ancillary facilities currently accommodated on the first floor. A campaign to oppose the application is being led by CAMRA West London Branch. (W47, U210)

W1 (Mar), HARCOURT ARMS. Now simply HARCOURT, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Brakspear: Bitter. (W52)

W1(May), MASONS ARMS, 38 Maddox St, -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, Royal London (4%), St Edmunds (4.2%), Old Speckled Hen. Acquired from Punch Pub Co (formerly Spirit) by Greene King in June. (W61)

EAST

E1, PIPELINE, -beers listed; +Shepherd Neame: Spitfire; +Taylor: Landlord. Now independent, ex-Food & Drink. Formerly PUZZLE, originally OLD MONK. (U153, U170, U209)

HORNCHURCH (RM12), HARVESTER. Renamed COMPASS, still no real ale. Formerly Compasses. (X71, U168)

ROMFORD (RM7), TAVERN (THE). Renamed HAVERING WELL, now Enterprise, ex-S&N. Formerly BIG HAND MO'S. Note corrected name. (X100, U176)

NORTH

N1, KINK, 342 Caledonian Rd. Reverted to original name: PRINCE OF WALES, still no real ale. Formerly ISLINGTON (THE) and RALPH'S. (N56, U120, U205)

N1, WENLOCK ARMS. Developers have acquired adjoining commercial sites with the intention of redeveloping for flats. Approaches have been made to the owners of this genuine free house to sell up with a view to including the pub's site in the development proposals. Future uncertain for this unique pub renowned throughout London, the UK and abroad. (N62, IS21)

N8, ALL BAR ONE, 2/4 The Broadway, acquired by Wetherspoon from M&B in early September, temporarily closed whilst undergoing refurbishment and due to reopen under a new name in mid-November. (U131, U192)

SOUTH WEST

SW8, REZ'S. Renamed VOX, still no real ale. Formerly CAFE BIANCO and originally CAFE MONEYPENNY. (SW76, CSL34)

SW8, VAUXHALL GRIFFIN, -Fuller: London Pride; +Black Sheep: Bitter; +Sharp: Doom Bar. Formerly WYVILS, originally BUILDERS ARMS. (SW76, CSL38, U206)

SW11, PRINCE OF WALES. Now acquired by Faucet Inns, ex-Enterprise, leased to Food & Fuel. Formerly SETTLE INN and originally RISING SUN. (SW90, WB36, U199, U212)

SW11, RISE. Renamed WALKABOUT in June 2010. Formerly BAR RISA and previously CORNET. Jongleurs theatre next door renamed Highlight. (SW87, WB37)

SW17, ANTELOPE. Freehold now bought from Enterprise by leaseholder Antic for a reported £2.1 million provided by Downing Venture Capital Trust. Formerly JACK BEARDS. (SW109, BM14, U208)

SW18, FOG (JACK BEARDS IN THE). Reverted to COUNTRY HOUSE and Enterprise, ex-CC Taverns (trading as Jack Beards). (SW111, WB9)

SW18, KINGS ARMS, -Young: Special, seasonal beer; +Wells: Bombardier. Renamed GRAND UNION, another of the



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Saturday 9th October - ... Latin Jazz

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Priday 20th Nevember - warr Sara French Quintette Course Josep France

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The Traf is a small traditional local pub with a great range of Real Ale and Cider. Each Thursday is Curry Night - Curry & a pint for £6.

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small, upmarket bar & grill chain, after lease by Young's to Grand Union Group and colourful refurbishment of bars and garden in late August 2010. Young's Bitter now £3.60/pint however. (SW113, WB13)

SW18, WANDLE, -beer listed; +Adnams: Bitter; +Sambrook: Wandle; +Weston: Country Perry. Formerly PUZZLE, originally SAILOR PRINCE. (SW114, WB18, U200, U213)

SW19, HIDEAWAY BAR. Renamed THREE WAYS in mid-September, a 'bar & grill', still no real ale. Formerly WILKIES, originally JASPERS. (U179, BM27)

KINGSTON (KT1), HOTEL ANTOINETTE. Now ANTOINETTE HOTEL, -Draught Bass; +Fuller: London Pride. (U172, KT22)

KINGSTON (KT1), HA! HA! BAR & CANTEEN. Renamed HA HA BAR & GRILL. (U165, 2KT22)

MITCHAM (CR4), QUEENS HEAD (JACK BEARDS AT THE). 10 Mill Green Rd, Hackbridge. Enterprise, now leased to the Bar & Taverns Co Ltd; ex-CC Taverns (trading as Jack Beards) and then briefly Orange Sun; freehold for sale. (SW147, BSM41)

RICHMOND (TW10), LASS O'RICHMOND HILL. A planning application for conversion to four flats was withdrawn when Richmond Council demanded that it be marketed as a pub for a year before considering change of use. It is understood Young's have now acquired the pub from Punch Pub Co. Richmond are to be applauded for such firm action, an example other Boroughs could well follow. Was OLD ORLEANS for a while. (SW156, U164, RHP22) SURBITON (KT6), ELM TREE. Renamed DUKE OF YORK, Formerly HOGSHEAD. (U131, U197, 2KT41)

WEST

W9, WARRINGTON HOTEL. It is rumoured that Gordon Ramsay Holdings are to put the pub up for sale. (W115, U192, U200)

W14, CROWN & SCEPTRE, -beers listed; +Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; +St Austell: Tribute, retains guest beer. Refurbished and now leased from S&N Pub Co (now part of Heineken) by publican of nearby Albion, W14. (W127)

LET'S DRINK FOR OUR TROOPS!

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A pub crawl through history

A Pub Crawl through History – The Ultimate Boozer's Who's Who, by Mike Pentelow and Peter Arkell

Janus Publishing Company Ltd. 2010, ISBN 978-1-85756-701-4 £16.99

This is a very interesting book; it isn't exactly a pub crawl, more a historical crawl through pubs. The authors, who are both journalists, have found pubs throughout the UK and Ireland that are named after commoners and have arranged them chronologically from Thomas Beckett to Freddie Mercury and Matthew le Tissier.

As they say in the introduction, commoners who have had pubs named after them are, in fact, very uncommon people indeed, whether famous or infamous, including highwaymen, inventors, explorers, revolutionaries and reformers, writers, actors and sports stars.

Each of the entries includes details of the pub's location and phone number but no information on opening times or beers stocked because these are so changeable, although there are lists at the back of pubs included in the Good Beer Guide and Real Ale Pub Guides for 2009.

The book is divided into two main sections; existing pubs and pubs which are 'gone but not forgotten'. The entries in the main section of existing pubs are all illustrated with a picture of the pub sign and, often, pictures of memorabilia in the pub or of events or places associated with the person. The biographical details given in the entries are fascinating and whet the appetite for finding out more about some of the people and events.

I was particularly interested in the entries on social reformers and radicals and in pubs such as the Land of Liberty Peace and Plenty in Heronsgate, named for Feargus O'Connor and his short-lived Chartist settlement of O'Connorsville there, the Charlotte Despard in Archway Road named after the pre-First World War suffragette and William Morris with his local connections.

There is an index of place names as well as an index of people and pubs, so that it would be possible to organise actual crawls of the pubs, but this book also makes a very good armchair crawl particularly now that the evenings are getting longer.

Ellen Fames

German beer's real capital

Bamberg and Franconia - A guide to Beers, Breweries and Pubs (Second Edition),

by John Conen.

Published by John Conen, 2010. Available in the UK only from CAMRA Books (www.camra.org.uk/books) or perhaps at your local CAMRA Beer Festival. £9.99 (CAMRA Members £7.99)

magine it – a small city with nine breweries of its own, and around another 140 breweries within a 35km radius. Then add to this fantasy a host of first rate pubs and beer gardens in which to sample the products of these breweries. Only it's not a fantasy. The Franconian city of Bamberg makes the dream a reality. The small and attractive city of Bamberg itself is familiar to many of the more savvy beer lovers, if only because it is the home of smoked beer (Rauchbier), but the goodies to be found in the area around it are perhaps not so well known. To say Bamberg and its environs are worth a visit is to understate matters; it's one of these places every serious beer drinker should have on their list of places to visit before they die. Bamberg is the obvious focal point of a region that has managed to preserve much of its deep rooted brewing tradition in the face of mass-produced, mass marketed Harnbier which has contaminated so much of the globe, including even some parts of beer-loving Germany.

The new, second, edition of John Conen's Guide gives you pretty much everything you need to make the most of a visit to the area. Although the pubs and beers of Bamberg itself receive the greatest

attention, recommended pubs in around 50 other towns and villages are also featured. All the important stuff is there: opening hours, rest days, details of public transport and, naturally, the beers on sale.

The Guide comprises only 96 pages, but is packed with useful information such as how to get there from the UK: how best to get around once you are there; the cuisine of the area, a glossary of food terms to help in the understanding of menus, and even a recipe for one of the local specialities! There is also a short section on general tourism and sightseeing in Bamberg which may help persuade any non beerloving partners of the attractions of the area. For the more serious beer aficionado there is a brief history of brewing in Bamberg and a section describing the brewing process. These are complemented by a bibliography and a list of useful websites. Finally, there are plenty of photographs, not only of breweries and pubs but of some of Bamberg's more photogenic buildings and views.

In short, if you are thinking of visiting this beer drinker's paradise, then make sure that the first thing that goes into the suitcase is a copy of this Guide. Whether you are spending just a few hours on the way to somewhere else, or are planning an extended stay, this book will help steer you to brilliant pubs and first rate and distinctive beers, and provide a fascinating read into the bargain.

Brian Sheridan









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We will hold a 'meet the brewer' session on Friday 22nd with James and Lizzie from Brodies in East London, they have some very unusual beers to match our cheeses!

During the week we will have some live music along with great steaks from our steakhouse being served throughout the week, we hope to see you here!

Membership discounts on ale available, sign up at www.northnineteen.co.uk

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Tuesday - Live music and open mic 8pm start Wednesday - Poker Tournament 7.30pm start Dartboard and board games always available

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Our Ale and Whisky Bar is open daily for food, drinks and conversation. We always have six well kept real ales and 40+ top quality whiskies.



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There are no strangers here, just friends you haven't met yet

Brewed in London

The London Brewers Alliance (LBA) was conceived earlier this year with the intention to raise awareness of London's thriving brewing industry. Phil Lowry at Brew Wharf invited all of London's brewers to meet socially and the result was a collaboration never seen before in the history of London brewing - large, medium and small companies working together for the greater good in the interest of beer.

It was decided to host a social event for the trade and public to champion and showcase beer 'Brewed in London' and the centrepiece of that event would be a collaborative brew of a London Porter style beer. In late August ten brewers from eight breweries together with a CAMRA brewery liaison officer, the London Ale Taster and a journalist all gathered at Redemption Brewery in Tottenham to mash in the dark beer and generally share their experiences.

The result was a 5.3%, dark and fruity ale with delicious roast character and the beer was exclusively available to taste at the London Brewers Showcase that was held at Brew Wharf in Borough Market on 17 September.

The intention was to host an intimate beer festival to celebrate the resurgent vitality of London's brewing culture. This showcase was open to trade and press for a couple of hours and then the general public for the rest of the evening. The collaborative brew had its own pride of place among all of the



other brewery stalls and over thirty beers from fifteen London breweries were available to try.

Two or three of each brewery's beers were racked up on individual tables and the brewers were there to talk about the beers, their brewery and the brewing methods. They were never slow to top up glasses so that everyone could taste as many of the beers as possible.

From Sambrook's Wandle to Kernel Citra IPA, from Brodies Porter to Twickenham Naked Ladies. Add in a cask strength Fullers Brewers Reserve, a Meantime Helles and a Redemption Urban Dusk and you had a full range of beers and beer styles - all BREWED IN LONDON - something for everyone.

About 250 people came along to enjoy the beer and chat to all of the brewers. Many CAMRA branches were able to use the event to take advantage of various sponsorship opportunities available and a good time was had by all.

Phil Lowry said, "Over the last century many large breweries left the city and some closed down entirely. Now in the last decade new brewers have started to emerge crafting exceptional ales, stouts and lagers and using traditional London porter recipes. We created the London Brewers Alliance so we could help get the word out there together. Large and small we are a group of innovative and talented breweries, with a strong group of passionate brewers who truly believe that London has world class beer. I'm delighted with the success of our first showcase event and hope that people are now getting excited about this city's beers."

The evening also saw the launch of a promotional film that has been made. The ten minute video which shows many of London's breweries and interviews the brewers was screened continuously throughout the evening. (Check it out by searching for London Brewers Alliance on YouTube).

The London Brewers Alliance are making special efforts to put beer brewed in London back on the map. They wholeheartedly support CAMRA's LocAle scheme and are keen to engage further with CAMRA members and CAMRA's London beer festivals.

These are fine beers from some of the finest people I have ever met in the industry. In my role as London Ale Taster, I am right behind them.

The London Brewers Alliance is made up of the following breweries:

Brodies Beers, Brew Wharf, Camden Town Brewery, The Florence, Fuller's, Ha'penny Brewing Co., The Kernel Brewery, London Amateur Brewers, Meantime Brewing Co., The Ram Brewery (see last issue of London Drinker), Redemption Brewery, Sambrook's Brewery, Twickenham Fine Ales, Windsor & Eton Brewery (who were invited to the founders meeting) and Zerodegrees (Blackheath)

More information can always be found at their website: www.londonbrewersalliance.org

Steve Williams

Idle Moments

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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

- 2 Classic Horse Races are Run at Epsom
- 330 Feet is the Height of the Forth Railway Bridge
- 3. 1896 First Modern Olympic Games Held in Athens
- 55 Broadway is the Address of London Transport
- 4 Rods, Poles or Perches in a Chain 5.
- 1820 George the Third Died
- 1 Atomic Number of Hydrogen
- 25 Score for the Outer on a Dart Board 120 Farthings in a Half Crown
- 10. 7 Balls Fall from the Drum in the National Lottery Draw

5BY4:

The female singers matched to their bands were:

- Eddi Reader Fairground Attraction
- 2. Judith Durham - The Seekers
- 3. Cerys Matthews - Catatonia
- Jacqui Abbot The Beautiful South 4.
- 5. Carol Decker - T'Pau
- Sharleen Spiteri Texas
- 7. Grace Slick – Jefferson Airplane
- Maire (Mova) Brennan Clannad
- Dolores O'Riordan The Cranberries
- 10. Madeline Bell Blue Mink

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

- It was a hovercraft (the Saunders Roe SRN-1) that made an historic first crossing of the English Channel on 26th July 1959.
- The invention of 1979 by Joop Sinjou of the Netherlands and Toshi Tada Doi from Japan was the compact disc.
- 3. And in 1971 American Ted Hoff first developed the microprocessor.
- The American Percy L.Spencer first announced the microwave oven to the World in 1947.
- And lastly on inventions, the engineering hero turned villain, Walter Midgley (1889-1944) gave us CFC refrigerants (chlorofluoromethanes) and tetraethyl lead (anti-knock petrol additive), both now outlawed because of environmental concerns.
- It was the rights to Peter Pan that were given by the author (J.M.Barrie) to Great Ormond Street Hospital
- 7. The difference between a QC and a KC is the gender of the Monarch (they stand for Queen's Counsel and King's Counsel).
- The smallest building designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens is Queen Mary's Dolls' House (now in Windsor Castle).
- The feted pilot of a de Havilland Tiger Moth called Jason was Amy Johnson.
- 10. The unfortunate characteristic of the stunningly attractive heroine of Max Beerbohm's 1911 novel, Zuleika Dobson, is that all of her lovers end up committing suicide.

ell, here we are again - it's October already (well, it Wwill be by the time this hits the streets) and nearly time for me to go on my summer hols. In the meantime how's about a little aphorism from Mark Twain (I might ask you his real name some time) writing in Following the Equator in 1897:

Let us be thankful for the fools. But for them the rest of us could not succeed.

Now, let's kick off proceedings with a selection of number puzzles; how may of these can you solve?

- 3 SD by IKB
- 2. 1000 is the SR of OM
- 13 BYS the BB 3.
- 743 H in M (The CGF) 4.
- 5. 2 D of KG the S
- 6. 1000 OG of AA
- 7. 4 USP were A
- 1727 SINB in G 9. 373 DK is the BP of W
- 10. 9 C in the P of U

Copenhagen

For 5BY4 this time I thought (Don't know why - I just did) I would pick ten European capital cities and ask you to sort them by their populations. When I say ask you to sort them I don't mean for me, I won't benefit because I know the answers already - it's just for your amusement(?). Here are the cities and populations:

A. 2.193.031

	Copemingen	11.	=,100,001
2.	Brussels	B.	3,255,944
3.	Paris	C.	592,082
4.	Stockholm	D.	3,439,100
5.	The Hague	E.	7,556,900
6.	Madrid	F.	829,419
7.	London	G.	531,199
8.	Oslo	H.	2,743,796
9.	Rome	I.	488,370
10	Rerlin	ī	1.080.790

There, easy wasn't it. But getting them right might be a bit more troublesome. Yes I know, it's all rubbish; I don't know why (/if?) you read it.

And so finally let's have a bit of trivia. If you know all this lot you're probably totally insufferable (Join the club).

- Complete the sequence: CEDG CDEC ECDG -GDEC - ?
- Discovered 25 years ago, Buckminsterfullerine is a particular form of which common chemical element?
- What shape is a single molecule of
- Buckminsterfullerine?
- What is an orrery?
- Adam Afriyie is the first black Conservative MP. What constituency has he represented since he was first elected at the 2005 general election?
- Mijburgh's Blue, found in the High Veldt of South Africa is what kind of creature?
- Marycragg weighs 1,990 kg and was discovered on 19th May 1990. What is it?
- How many construction workers were killed during the building of the Eiffel Tower between 1887 and 1889?
- Among piston engines, what is unusual about the Stirling cycle engine?
- 10. For what is the Stirling Prize awarded every year (since 1996)?

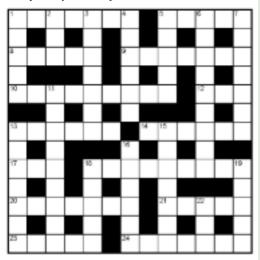
So there we are then; all done for a couple more months. It'll be nearly Christmas by the time the next lot come out; have a good time and some good beer in the meantime. By for now.

Andy Pirson



Crossword

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



Name			

All correct entries received by first post on 17th November will be entered into a draw for the prize.

Prize winner will be announced in the February London Drinker. The solution will be given in the December edition.

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

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

AUGUST'S SOLUTION



£20 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

- 1 & 5. Here, tight, staggers, an example to us all.
- 8. Going up and down the Strand. [5]
- 9. One friend takes in web page, for example, to copy. [7]
- 10. Rely on flower, one that contains water. [5,4]
- 12 Run from baby elephant. [3]
- 13. Throw the Queen some sugar. [6]
- 14. Join together and get me in the money. [6]
- 17. Slide in the skid pan. [3]
- Paper said, surprisingly, to be valued. [9]
- 18. 20. One from the B.B.C. [7]
- 21. It's best if I give out cards. [5]
- 23. It takes several shots to recover. [5]
- 24. Where you may find a stage coach. [7]

DOWN

- 1. He's safe. [5]
- 2. For some ale I'd have a festival. [3]
- 3. General unrest to increase. [7]
- 4. Leading barrister in examination of a group of families. [6]
- 5. Consider using spare king. [5]
- 6. They're weak when close to drinks. [4,5]
- 7. It's pleasing to be in yours. [7]
- 11. Wagging tail gives little sign. [9]
- 13. Sack the money man. [7]
- 15. Tool rejected on pit test. [7] 16. Quietly leapt about in programme. [6]
- 18.
- Girl swallows it in friendship. [5]
- 19 Dig out some model vehicles. [5]
- 22. Worry about empty ale tins. [3]

For a second consecutive issue we must apologise for our typesetter (once again it was not our Compiler). In the last edition he gave the solution for 1 Down in the June crossword as "POTHER" - it should have been "POTTER." We think he is going senile.

Winner of the prize for the June Crossword: Carol Jenkins, Bath.

Other correct entries were received from: Ted Alleway, Tony Alpe, Mark Antony, Hilary Ayling, John Barker, Mike Belsham, Steve Block, Deryn Brand, Jeremy Brinkworth, Mark Bromshead, Oliver Burton, John Butler, Eddie Carr, John Cattemull, Michael Chewter, John Christie, Carole Cook, Chas Creasey, Kevin Creighton, Paul Curson, Peter Curson, Des Daniels, M.A.P.Davies, John Dodd, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Steve Downey, Tom Drane, C.J.Ellis, Brian Exford, Conor Fahy, Mike Farrelly, D.Fleming, Arthur Fox-Ache, Sally Fullerton, Gillian Furnival, G.J.Geary, B.Gleeson, Graham & Karen, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Alan Greer, Alan Groves, Stuart Guthrie, Peter Haines, David Hughes, Stephen Kloppe, Leila Hammond, John Heath, Graham Hill, William Hill, Chris James, Clare Jenkins, Les Jenkins. David Jiggens, Mike Joyce, Roger Knight, M.Lancaster, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, Tony Lennon, Addy Lindenburn, G.Lopatis, D.J.McDonnell, Ian McNicol, Pat Maginn, Steve Maloney, Terry Mellor, A.M.Miller, M.J.Moran, Al Mountain, David Murphy, Paul Nicholls, Gerald Notley, Alan O'Brien, Michael Oliver, Nigel Parsons, G.Patterson, Alan Pennington, Mark Pilkington, Mrs G.Pote, C.Pottins, Derek Pryce, Anne Radley, Alph River, Paul Rogers, Richard Rogers, Charlotte Rose, Sarah Rose, Sheila & Richard, Pete Simmonds, Nobby Slacktrouser, Lesley Smith, Al Sperryduck, Ken Taylor, Bill Thackray, Paul Tiffany, Vic the Beard, Andy Wakefield, Mrs C.Ward, David Watkins, Martin Weedon, Martine Welsman, Ms E.A.Whale, John Williamson, Sue Wilson, G.Wipitt, David Woodward, Peter Wright & the Missus, Ray Wright.

There were also six incorrect entries.

Address



HOGS BACK



Hogs Back Brewery Ltd, Tongham, Surrey, GU10 1DB. Tel: 01252 783000 www.hogsback.co.uk