

Vol 34  
No 2



Apr  
May  
2012



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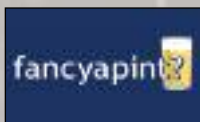


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## Hoppiness, hoppiness, the greatest gift that beers possess

Over the last decade both drinkers and brewers have become more adventurous, welcoming the fuller, robust flavours that American and New Zealand hops bring to a beer. But have you ever wondered why these hops are prevalent abroad but not in England?

In the Shakespeare's Head by Carnaby Street, Marston's spoke about their One Hop beer range, which they launched in January. Each month, they are producing a 4% ABV golden coloured beer with a different hop. The evening gave some interesting insights.

Although the UK is still well known for its hop growing, it is not in the volumes it once produced. In 1879, 17,000 acres were given over to hops. At that time one million barrels of beer were sold in London alone each year. Today it is a mere 2,500 acres that have hops grown on them and tastes are changing. In Britain it has been traditional for a beer to be brewed to be subtle, with a number of hops combining to give a mellow flavour and aroma coupled with bitterness, i.e. the brewer was not looking for big flavours. Therefore, any hops that were considered too aromatic or too intense in flavour were rejected. Because of the obvious success of hops with bigger flavours, the British hop industry is now considering varieties that were rejected in the 1950s as being too powerful. It was only four years ago that Marston's decided that their drinkers weren't ready for this type of intense taste.

Developing a new hop is not easy. Firstly, there are no genetically modified hops to enable any shortcuts. Secondly, you can't simply take a hop variety and grow it elsewhere. Take New Zealand. The north end of the South Island with strong winds and 'intense weather' gives a hop that has a strong resinous flavour. Take the same hop and plant it in Kent and the temperate climate will give a hop with a softer character.

So how do you decide on a good hop? Seeds are planted and then blasted with diseases. If they survive that, they are then tested in a brew. It is estimated that in every 15-20,000 seedlings you might get two varieties. So thinking that through, the twelve single hop beers that Marston's are brewing in 2012 have come from thousands and thousands of seedlings!

It was interesting to see the range of hops Marston's have chosen this year. During the evening the audience got a chance to try the first three in the range: Wai-iti (New Zealand), Galaxy (Australia) and East Kent Golding (England). The first is a brand new hop that came from Riwaki Research Station's work that annually picks 1,400 different hop varieties. It has an unusual flavour in that the citrus character is distinctly of limes, which made the beer very refreshing. Stocks of the hop are limited but it is definitely one to watch out for.

Others in the series include a





Polish hop, Marynka, and a French hop, Strisselpalt. And the next stage? There is the thinking to do something with British hops but, as at first they feel they need to try some of the hops that are being developed to deliver 'the big flavours' that drinkers now want, this is likely to be three years down the line. Good things come to those who wait!

Christine Cryne



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## Duty calls

In the sort of move normally associated with the size of chocolate bars, AB InBev, Carlsberg and Molson Coors are reducing the ABV of their premium lager brands from 5% to 4.8%. A concession to so-called binge drinking? No. It is to save 2.5p in duty on every pint that they sell. That 0.2% ABV equals 2.5p a pint gives you a notion of just how much duty is included in the price of a pint.

The rate of duty is set to increase again come the budget on 21<sup>st</sup> March when the 'duty escalator' will automatically increase the rate by inflation plus 2%. Remember also that VAT is charged on the price including duty so any increase in duty means an increase in VAT. London Drinker readers do not need to be told of the effect of these increases but you may not know that according to CAMRA's figures, despite a 35% increase in the rate of beer duty over the period

2007/08 to 2010/11, beer duty revenue received by the Government has only increased by 1% - yes, one single percent. If you then think about what has been lost in terms of such items as business rates and income tax not being received from closed pubs and their staff, this policy really fails to make any sense.

This time around, efforts to stop the escalator have intensified. Andrew Griffiths, the chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group, has put forward an Early Day Motion calling on the escalator to be suspended. An EDM will not necessarily lead to any direct change in policy but it does get the issue discussed, which is a start. CAMRA is calling on all its members to lobby their MPs to support the motion. Some 4,600 have done so already and if you want to join in, just go to the CAMRA website. CAMRA's Chief Executive, Mike Benner said, - "A freeze in duty would help protect the

*future of pubs. CAMRA's members are contacting their MPs asking them to tell the Chancellor that enough is enough."*

As I write this, sadly, I doubt if there will be any change to this year's budget, especially with the row about petrol duty kicking off again. When it comes to striking, I suspect that lorry drivers have more clout than us beer drinkers. There is however another tactic available. Wychwood Brewery - part of the Marstons (Wolverhampton & Dudley) operation - have set up an e-Petition on the Government's DirectGov website: <https://submissions.epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/29664>. Once 100,000 people have signed up there has to be a debate in Parliament. The petition is open until February 2013 so if we cannot do anything this budget, why not the next?

## Tied in knots

It is not always nice to be proven right. Just before the last edition



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went to press we learned of an Enterprise tenancy in Clapham where the tenants had just given up and returned the keys. The legal notice that Enterprise put on the door of the GBG-listed Manor Arms was headed 'peaceable re-entry'. I wonder just how at peace the people who have lost their livelihoods might be? That said, the Manor Arms has already re-opened under a new Enterprise lease, with real ale once again flowing from four hand-pumps.

So where are we as regards the tie generally? In my editorial in the last issue I expressed my doubts as to the Government's reaction to losing the House of Commons motion on the tie. The Chairman of Parliament's Business, Innovation and Skills Committee (BISC), Adrian Bailey, raised the issue again during Questions to the Prime Minister, getting this response from Mr Cameron: - *"I am a keen supporter of British pubs so I will write to the honourable gentleman and get him a*

*good answer."*

In the wake of the Chris Huhne resignation, there has been a change in the minister responsible, although no change in attitude. Norman Lamb has replaced Ed Davey and he too is holding out against the independent review that the BISC are demanding. Mr Lamb will be appearing before the committee soon. In the meantime, the Government is continuing with the so-called self-regulation deal that it struck with the British Beer & Pub Association, the pubcos' trade body. It has appointed Rodger Vickers to chair the plan's key body, the Pub Independent Conciliation Advisory Service. Mr Vickers, a chartered surveyor, has however had his neutrality called into question by the Fair Pint campaign who claim that he has been far too deeply involved with Punch Taverns. One of the publicans against whom he represented Punch called it *'an appalling decision.'* In fairness, Mr Vickers is

a consultant who has represented publicans as well.

The Opposition have now also entered the debate and some might feel not before time. Shadow minister for Small Business, Toby Perkins, backed the BISC's call for an enquiry saying, *"I fear that they (the Government) will continue to sit idly by as more pubs go to the wall, more young people are put out of work and more communities are left without a vital local resource."*

## Enterprising business

**F**ollowing on from the above, John and Heather Grover, who had the galling experience of having their previous pub, the Brewery Tap in Wimbledon Village, advertised for sale as a 'former pub' whilst they were still trading, are back in business at the Country House in SW18. As with the Manor Arms, people obviously still feel that it's worth giving the pub trade a go. Let's be grateful to them and wish them all well.

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Interestingly, in a recent article in the *Publicans' Morning Advertiser*, Simon Townsend, the Chief Operating Officer of Enterprise Inns said: - *"I'm inspired by the resourcefulness and innovation of great publicans. I take my hat off to our tenants' achievements in the past few years."* So how come then that the successful and innovative Brewery Tap is now a *Caffè Nero*?

## Health and welfare

I said last issue that I would include another angle on drinking and health from social anthropologist Kate Fox of the think-tank the Social Issues Research Centre. Unfortunately, I don't have the room but you should be able to find it on the internet. It is worth taking a look although I'm not wholly convinced.

The Scottish Parliament have decided in principle to have another attempt at introducing minimum pricing for alcohol. The exact rates will be announced when the measure is voted on but it seems that

they will keep to the fairly point-less 45p. That will, of course, lead to various legal challenges, including the claim that it is illegal under European law. However tedious, these are points that we do need to have settled.

Prime Minister David Cameron has indicated that minimum pricing may be included in the Government's alcohol strategy which is due out at the end of March. During a hospital visit, Mr Cameron described drunkenness rates as a 'one of the scandals of society' and claimed that in 2010-11 there were 200,000 hospital admissions with 'a primary alcohol diagnosis' costing the NHS A&E services (that is, us taxpayers) £1 billion a year. According to the Times, Health Secretary Andrew Lansley is against minimum pricing and Attorney-General Dominic Grieve is sceptical because of the likelihood of successful challenges. Mr Cameron also praised the provision of mobile medical units to deal with

alcohol-related cases on-the-spot, as used in Soho last Christmas, and mentioned the provision of special cells for drunks, as I believe is the practice in Russia.

An interesting bit of context: I recently heard a report on the radio to the effect that every day 12 postal workers are attacked by dogs and that in the year to March 2011, dog attacks led to 6,005 hospitalisations and yet no mention of a dog epidemic?

Mind you, they see things differently elsewhere. At the Chodovar Brewery in the Czech Republic, they are offering deep, hot, foaming baths of mineral water mixed with dark beer which are claimed to have medicinal benefits. It costs £20 for a 20-minute soak. No you can't drink it afterwards...

## Law and order – and Government

Under the terms of the current licensing laws, the main responsibility lies with local

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authorities but do not underestimate the influential role that the police can play. In this context, readers may wish to note that, as from 16<sup>th</sup> January, the Metropolitan Police Authority has been replaced by the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime with Mayor Boris Johnson now assuming the role of Police and Crime Commissioner. It will be interesting to see what policies are forthcoming regarding the licensed trade. Presumably, what were once the rozzers are now the Bozzers...?

I couldn't help noticing that the sentence for assault passed on MP Eric Joyce included a three-month ban from any bar, pub or restaurant. There was no mention that the bar where the incident took place is known to sell cheap alcohol, something which is supposed to be a bad influence on the rest of us.

Following on from that, health minister Anne Milton

made the following comment to a recent All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group event: - *"Of the Parliamentary events that take place at this time of year there are two that are always packed out. One is the beer and pubs event and anything to do with alcohol and the other is the Cadbury's chocolate one, which you can't move in. As minister for Public Health I do end up with a slight problem."* At least they were sampling a range of the new 2.8% beers at the time.

I am saying nothing about the Top Totty saga except that it is, in my view, a disappointingly silly name for a very good beer and the reaction to it does not merit reporting. No-one comes out of it well.

#### Fullers news

**F**ullers have been building up their pub estate recently. At the end of January they acquired three pubs from M&B, including the famous Flask in Highgate

Village, and shortly afterwards they bought 15 tenanted pubs from Enterprise Inns for £22.9 million which will come from existing financial resources. Most of these pubs are in the west and south-east where Fullers want to expand their presence. Please see Capital Pubcheck for full details.

More spectacularly, Fullers are opening a new pub at Kings Cross station. The large two-storey site is part of the Grade I listed Parcel Yard development and will feature a 'mix of modern and heritage' influences with a traditional British menu. They also acquired the freehold of the Old Fish Market in Bristol, which they had previously only leased.

Fullers had a good Christmas with a 5.1% rise in like-for-like sales in the nine weeks ending 21<sup>st</sup> January. They are however still remaining cautious over prospects for the remainder of 2012 because of 'economic uncertainty in the UK'. That said,

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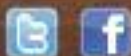


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- The Old Bell** – 96 Fleet Street, EC4Y 1DH
- The Henry Addington** –  
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- The Marquis of Granby, Westminster** –  
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Chairman Michael Turner was reported to be looking forward to the opportunity to 'showcase what is great about British beer and pubs' during the Olympics.

On the beer front, Black Cab porter proved so successful that it is now being sold in bottles at 4.5% ABV. Fuller's brewing director, John Keeling said, "By putting it into bottles, we're giving lots more people the chance to try this terrific ale. The matt black label is very striking and looks great on shelf so I'm hoping customers won't spend too long navigating the beer aisle before picking up a bottle."

John Keeling also recently collaborated with the Marble Brewery in Manchester to produce Old Manchester, a full-bodied 7.3% ABV dark amber ale. Like Roger Protz's IPA, this is being matured in the cask for three months. I'll try to find out more as regards availability.

Front Row, the malty 3.7% ABV bitter, returned to selected

pubs for the period of the Six Nations rugby tournament.

## London brewery news

Firstly, apologies to London Fields Brewery. The details that I gave in the last issue only applied in the run-up to Christmas but I had not appreciated that.

All is going well at Sambrooks. Despite having allowed room for expansion in their original choice of site, they are taking over an additional unit in April which will house a new fermenting vessel plus new cask washers and racking equipment. In the longer term, they plan to install a 3-barrel pilot brewery as well, for both training and experimentation. The brewery shop will also be redeveloped into a visitors' centre with regular tastings. As regards the beers, the Porter is now making way for the Pale Ale and there might be a special beer for the Jubilee as well.

Trumans are stepping up their search for a site for their own

brewery and are asking London drinkers to help out. They want a site in any of the boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest or Newham and it must be from 6,000 to 8,000 square feet in size, have good access and be capable of conversion to double height. The reward for the successful finder is a year's supply – 500 bottles – of their Runner Ale with a 12-bottle case going to anyone who makes a sensible suggestion. I wonder if there might be any suitable newly built sites in the Stratford area that will become available in the Autumn? Check out Trumans website for full details: [www.trumansbeer.co.uk/2012/01/find-us-a-brewery/](http://www.trumansbeer.co.uk/2012/01/find-us-a-brewery/). All credit incidentally to Trumans for never seeking to hide that their beer is currently being brewed for them by Nethergate.

## Aylesbury Brewhouse opens

Mark and Phil Stevens, owners of the Vale Brewery in near-by Brill, have reintroduced brew-



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ing to Aylesbury. The Aylesbury Brewhouse, located behind the Hop Pole pub, 83 Bicester Road, opened in December with Roger Protz doing the honours. Test brewing on the eight barrel length-plant had begun a month earlier and many of the beers will be 'limited edition' productions. Both those and Vale Brewery's usual range will be available more widely in London pubs, including at the Wenlock Arms in N1 and the Magpie & Crown in Brentford.

Mr Protz commented, "Vale Brewery has restored brewing to Aylesbury after a break of almost 75 years. The Aylesbury Brewhouse not only produces delicious beers but will tempt drinkers with special brews that go beyond the narrow boundaries of Mild and Bitter. The brewers are digging deep into old recipe books to recreate styles from the past and — most importantly — will involve customers in the Hop Pole in the creation of new

beers. This is modern brewing at its best — a close and engaged relationship between those who make beer and those who drink it."

Roger subsequently returned to the Hop Pole to help brewers David Renton and Simon Smith brew an IPA. Roger chose the style because of his enduring fascination with it. It is being matured for three months — as would have happened to original IPAs on their way to India — so should be ready in May and at 7% ABV, should be worth waiting for. It is provisionally named 'Sink or Swim' in honour of the Aylesbury duck.

I should explain that the previous brewery in Aylesbury, the Aylesbury Brewery Company (ABC), whose emblem was the Aylesbury Duck, closed in 1937 upon being taken over by Ind Coope although an ABC bitter continued to be brewed for many years after. The Hop Pole was originally an ABC pub.

## Wetherspoons news

Chairman Tim Martin has joined in the debate about duty increases, calling on Chancellor George Osborne to hold back further increases and that he would wait for the Budget before deciding whether JDW's expansion could continue at the current rate. Mr Martin was concerned that the price of a pint across the industry could rise by up to 10p to 15p this year, although not necessarily in his pubs.

Although they had a 3.6% increase in like-for-like sales over the 12 weeks ending 15 January, JDW had already announced that the number of prospective new openings in 2012 had been reduced from 50 to 40 and the long-term aim of 1,600 pubs may now be in doubt.

Despite chairman Tim Martin being no great fan of the single European currency, the company are staying neutral on the wider issues.


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During their Spring Conference in Skegness, a group of UKIP members including Neil Hamilton MEP, attempted to distribute flyers in a JDW pub. They were refused permission and eventually were asked to leave by the regional manager.

A long-running legal action following a fraud by their property agents has been settled in JDW's favour with the award of £50,000 compensation plus the freehold of a site in Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

## High speed destruction

Given that most of the debate about the HS2 railway line has concentrated on leafy Buckinghamshire, readers may not be aware of the potential effect on the area around Euston Station. At least one pub, the Good Beer Guide-listed Bree Louise is in line for demolition, along with a number of other businesses, including the famous curry houses in Drummond Street. The development is not scheduled to start until 2018 so whilst there may

be hope of a change of mind on the project, the area is blighted until then.

## Youngs sell-offs continue

It is now looking as if the original rumour of Youngs disposing of some 30 pubs was correct after all. In addition to those already reported, a further fourteen pubs are now on the market. Only seven of the pubs are in the London area. Two of them, the Lord Nelson in Barnet and the Marble Hill (ex Rising Sun) in Twickenham are relatively recent purchases. See Capital Pubcheck for full details.

One, the Prince of Wales in Summerstown SW17, is known to have been acquired by Tesco's but hopefully, the others still have some chance of continuing as pubs in the hands of new owners, given that all but one are tenanted. Young's Property and Tenancy Director, David Turner, commented, - *"We are under no pressure to dispose of these pubs, but a sale of some*

*or all of them would create additional scope for us to invest in our managed estate."*

As reported elsewhere, the campaign to save the Castle in SW11 continues. It was whilst discussing this at a recent South West London CAMRA meeting that an interesting point emerged. I'm sure that it isn't deliberate but the majority of the pubs that Youngs have disposed of in recent times are modern pubs. A few years back we lost the Maltese Cat in Roehampton and then the Castle (Putney) which only dated back to 1959, followed by the Plough (Clapham Junction) (1958). Now the Castle, (Battersea) (1965), the Cricketers, Mitcham (1950s) and the Charlie Butler (Mortlake) (1968) are under threat. I know that not everyone likes modern architecture but pubs of this vintage are still part of our heritage. Three of them, the Plough, the Cricketers and the Castle (Putney) were replacements for pubs destroyed in air raids. 53 people

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died in the destruction of the Castle which had only been open for three years. I always felt that the replacement pub, nice building as it was, never quite escaped that history.

Meanwhile, recent beneficiaries of the investment mentioned by Mr Turner are the Brook Green Hotel in Hammersmith and the Cock in Fulham Broadway. Both have been refurbished with the emphasis on food service.

## Pub news

**A**ntic's expansion continues with the opening of two more pubs in Forest Hill and Catford plus the newly-refurbished Pratts and Paynes in Streatham. Looking eastwards, the Clapton Hart in Lower Clapton Road will reopen later this year. Full details can be found in Capital Pubcheck. While you are checking out the new pubs look out for Antic's own beer, Burnham No. 2 at 2.8% ABV. Brewing was due to start on 12th March.

Further to my report in the last issue, Hoopers in East Dulwich have had their licence reviewed and they have had to accept restrictions on both music being played after 11pm at weekends and on the use of their outdoor area after 10pm. It is probably the best compromise possible but I'm still not convinced that basis of the objection – that a new resident can object to what is already in place – was correct.

The National Geographic magazine has released a book called *'Food Journeys of a Lifetime'*. In the section on England – just England apparently – they say *'Enjoy the real experience of England—a cosy pub, a pint of good bitter ale to sip, a convivial atmosphere to enjoy, and in more and more cases a plate of wholesome food to tuck into'*. They then recommend ten pubs, the top three of which are in London – first is the Betjeman Arms at St Pancras with the Royal Oak at the Borough second and the Bricklayers Arms in Putney third.

Shepherd Neame have come up with an interesting new angle on food service. They have installed a fish & chip bar in the newly-refurbished Spanish Galleon Tavern in Greenwich. The usual chip shop fare is available, both to eat in and take away.

I'd like to get a plug in here for a new CAMRA local guide to Oxford, Witney and Abingdon. It is highly recommended and can be obtained either at beer festivals or through the CAMRA website. I have included it under 'pubs' because I was pleased to see that one pub in Oxford, the *Far From the Madding Crowd*, is owned by Charles Eld who, in a very sad episode, had his family brewery, Morrells, sold from underneath him. It is good to learn that he has stayed in the trade.

Times are changing. In the recent *Publicans' Morning Advertiser* 'Top 50 Gastropubs' competition, London had only two pubs in the top ten – the Harwood Arms in Ful-



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ham at two and the Anchor & Hope, Waterloo, at four. There were 11 other London pubs in the remaining 40 places.

One gastropub which has not taken off is the Devonshire Arms in Chiswick, which has closed again. Nick Gibson of the Drapers Arms in Islington took over the Enterprise lease from Gordon Ramsey less than a year ago but its location has proved to be too much of a problem. It is nearer the Hogarth Roundabout than the High Road and just does not get the passing trade. It is more suited to being a community pub but there simply may not be the scope for that, given the competition from nearby Fullers pubs.

## PubCo news

Fullers are not the only people interested in pubs at railway stations. SSP UK have already opened one of their 'Beer House' outlets at Charing Cross station and they are looking for a site at Paddington,

where they will be in competition with Fuller's Mad Bear and Bishop. SSP UK operate 33 other bars and pubs.

The Convivial London Pubs Company are also expanding and plan to open around 15 of their Brewhouse & Kitchen outlets, each of which will include an on-site brewery and family-oriented food. The new sites, in and around London, will follow the style of the first of the chain, the Botanist at Kew Gardens station. The project will be funded using the Enterprise Investment Scheme – which is nothing to do with Enterprise Inns, incidentally.

InnBrighton, who are based, as you may guess, in Brighton where they own 45 pubs, are also expanding into London. They have already acquired two free-of-tie leasehold pubs, the Britannia in Hackney and the Crystal Palace Tavern in East Dulwich and are looking for at least 20 more.

## M&B latest

In January it was reported that the Association of British Insurers who represent major institutional investors, had issued a 'red top' warning concerning M&B being the only firm in the FTSE 350 which had no independent non-executive directors on its board. The only current non-executive directors are representatives of major shareholder Joe Lewis's Piedmont investment company. Another corporate governance adviser, Pirc, has recommended that shareholders do not re-elect these two gentlemen. Nothing has happened since and the silence is deafening. Something must happen soon...

## Other trade news

Shepherd Neame are to brew the Boston Beer Company's Samuel Adams beer under licence.

St Austell Brewery are looking to launch a new pub-restau-



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rant concept called the Cornish Embassy to showcase Cornish beer and food. The first site will be either in London or Bristol. I suppose that both look pretty far away from the deepest south-west.

Arkells – arguably, along with Diana Dors and XTC, the best thing to come out of Swindon, have reported a fall in turnover and profit for the fourth year running. This was despite reducing running costs by £400K and a 3.3% increase in beer sales. Let us hope that the sharks do not now start circling this fine old family brewery and its 100-odd pubs.

Greene King are introducing Belhaven Black, a 4.2% ABV stout. Described as a 'Scottish stout to shout about', it will be available in keg only to begin with, with a bottled version to follow. It is hard not to assume that the aim is to take on the Guinness market. The success that Hop Back Brewery have had

with their Entire Stout since it won CAMRA's Champion Winter Beer award suggests that GK should try a cask-conditioned version.

Congratulations to Vera Ghey, licensee of the Bulls Head in Callington, Cornwall, who at 103 years old is Britain's oldest publican. I remember the pub from cricket tours many years ago and sunk some of the 1 million pints she is estimated to have served. Vera, who bought the pub with her late husband in 1949, also used to play a pretty mean sing-song piano.

Somewhat removed from the pub sing-song but - to me anyway - just as enjoyable is the music of Frederick Delius. A chap called Paul Crompton has reopened a failed Enterprise pub in Bradford. Looking for a new name, he noticed that the composer had been born next door so he has called the pub 'Delius Lived Next Door'. As it happens he didn't for

very long, but that is another story; it's still a cracking name.

## Olympic countdown

**P**ublicans in Stratford are unhappy at a proposal to turn the roof of the Westfield shopping centre into a temporary corporate hospitality site during the games. Local residents were given only two weeks in which to object to the temporary licence which will run from April to December and be for 'private ticketed events'. Although generally welcoming the development for regenerating the area, a number of local publicans claim to have already experienced a downturn of some 40% to 70% since the shopping centre opened.

Another concern for publicans is the retiming of deliveries. Pubs on the 'Olympic Route Network' will not be able to receive deliveries between 06:00 and midnight but many pubs have clauses in their licences forbidding them from receiving deliveries overnight.

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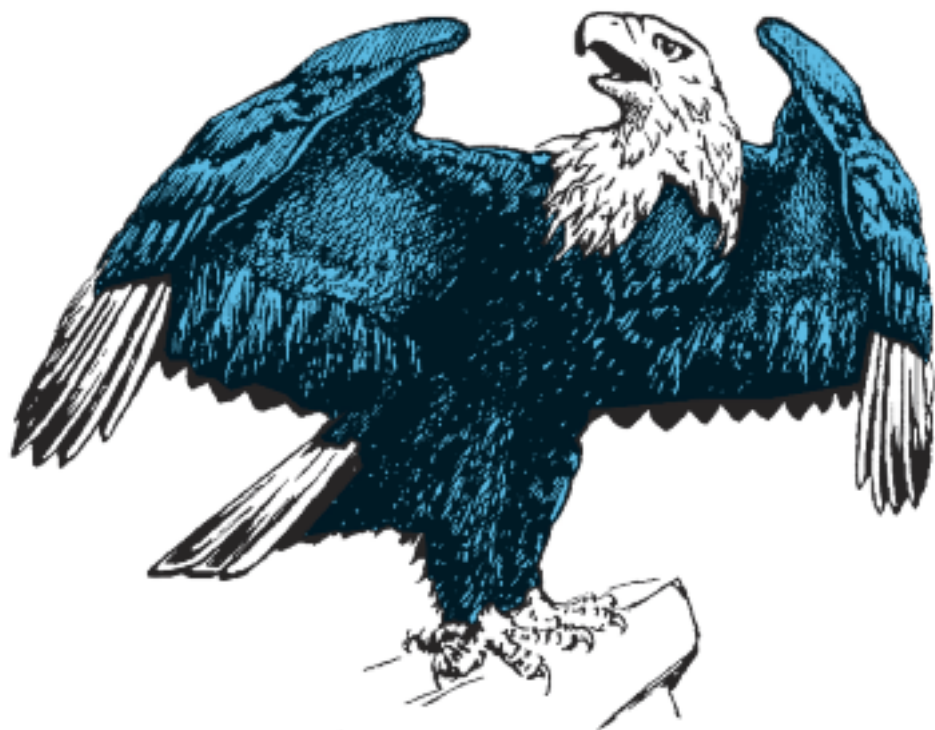
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Westminster for instance has frequently inserted a provision preventing deliveries during the period 23:00 and 08:00. Minor variations to licences are possible but at a cost and then the publican has to persuade his suppliers to deliver overnight.

If the Olympic authorities and local councils want to do something to help publicans, they could follow the example of the tourist body covering Derbyshire's Peak District and let pubs operate as tourist information centres. Pubs are, after all, acknowledged as tourist attractions – as evidenced by the National Geographic story above.

Before we get to the Olympics of course, we have the football European Championships. Carlsberg are putting £15 million into a press and TV campaign which will include a pub five-a-side competition in which they hope some 2,000 pub teams will participate, with the final being played at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium. Any pub entering a team must be a Carlsberg outlet.

## Farewell to Iain

CAMRA's Research and Information Manager, Iain Loe, one of the Campaign's longest-serving staff members, is retiring at the end of March after 23 years' service. Iain has played a vital role in CAMRA's development as an effective campaigning organisation. It's all very well to have opinions but to win arguments, you need to back up opinions with hard facts and Iain's unparalleled knowledge of the brewing and pub industry, both in the UK and wider afield, has helped us do just that. All involved with London Drinker send him their best wishes. I'm sure, however, that we have not heard the last of him, especially as regards the European Beer Consumers Union which he helped to found.

## And finally...

For those CAMRA members heading to Torquay for the Campaign's AGM and Members'

Weekend, have a look at a piece of waiting straight out of *Fawlty Towers*. It involves German chancellor Angela Merkel having beer poured down the back of her neck. The unfortunate waiter doesn't look Greek but I'm not sure about the man who appears to nudge him... Go to: <http://bit.ly/zRZfT6> - right at the beginning. She takes it remarkably well.

This is not a new story but it is worth telling. Kile Wygle, a NASCAR enthusiast from Ohio, built himself what he thought was the ideal mode of transport – a bar stool fitted with a lawn-mower en-

gine, capable of 38 mph. Unfortunately, it wasn't very good at corners, especially when its driver had 15 beers inside him. The police eventually decided that it was a vehicle so when he came out of hospital he was done for drunken driving.

My South West London CAMRA colleague Peter Sutcliffe – who knows about these things – tells me that I was quite right when I said that alcohol consumption in Russia is in decline but, as Peter puts it, it is only '*from the heroic to the merely excessive*'. The picture sums up the situation perfectly. The 'happy families' caption reads: "*This is our favourite store!*"

Tony Hedger

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The Royal Oak is surely well known to all discerning beer drinkers and pub lovers in London and beyond. Apart from being the only pub in London owned by Harvey's of Lewes, it is a thoroughly traditional two-bar establishment, free from distractions such as television, piped music and electronic machines. Conversation is king here, with top notch beer and food to help it along. You can usually expect to find 5 or 6 beers from the Harvey's range, from the tasty mild up to whatever the latest seasonal offering is, and there is also a 'guest' from a well-known regional brew-



ery in Chiswick. One of the pub's handpumps is also reserved for a draught cider. Frank makes sure that the ales are served in top condition – it has featured in the Good Beer Guide every year since Harvey's took it over – whilst John oversees the kitchen, which provides good hearty meals, well cooked from quality produce. The pub's cosy upstairs function room is a popular meeting place for a variety of groups.

Apart from Sunday evenings, the pub is open all day every day.

The highly trendy Borough Market (with a selection of noted pubs) is just a short walk up the road but don't miss the Royal Oak if you're in the area.

Fourteen pubs in Greater London were nominated by SPBW members, and these reflected the high standard of pubs and wide range of beers now available to London drinkers. The runners up, by the way, were the Harp (Covent Garden) and Ye Olde Mitre (Holborn).

*Roger Jacobson*

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## LONDON THEATRE BAR SCOOPS CAMRA NATIONAL TITLE

### *Clubs from Aberdeenshire, Dorset and Northamptonshire make top four!*

A popular theatre bar in west London, staffed solely by volunteers, has been recognised as the best club in Britain by CAMRA. The Questors Grapevine Club, situated inside the Questors Theatre, Ealing, has been named CAMRA's National Club of the Year 2012 after a panel of judges were impressed by the Club's focus on supporting local breweries and its dedication to promoting quality real ale to a wide audience. CAMRA's flagship clubs competition is organised in partnership with the trade publication Club Mirror.

The Grapevine was founded in 1959 by members of the Questors Theatre to act both as a social centre and as a source of funds to support the theatre's activities. With considerable help in the cellars from nearby brewery Fuller's (of Chiswick), the Club places a big emphasis on sourcing locally, with breweries such as Twickenham, Windsor & Eton and Rebellion also regularly featuring at the bar. An ever-present in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide, the Questors Grapevine Club is a previous winner of local CAMRA awards on numerous occasions, and finished as a National Finalist in the competition in 2006.

Having gone one better this year, the bar's 13-strong committee of volunteers were delighted to win the award. Jon Webster, Chairman of the Questors Grapevine Club, said,

*"This award is a fantastic achievement. We are*

*a small group of volunteers, most of whom have full time jobs, and we run the club in our spare time. We are dedicated to providing a good service and are particularly proud of our reputation for selling good quality, well-kept real ale.*

*"We are thrilled to receive this prestigious award and are lucky to enjoy the support of our customers and our families, without whom this success would not have been possible."*

In order to find the National Club of the Year for 2012, submissions were put forward by CAMRA's 200-plus local branches across the country, with the criteria based around the club's commitment to real ale. After a year of local and regional rounds, the Questors Grapevine Club beat three other National finalists to the accolade. These finalists are:

**Colliton Club**, Dorchester, Dorset

**Rushden Historical Transport Society**, Rushden, Northamptonshire

**Ravenswood Club (Royal British Legion)**, Banchoy, Aberdeenshire

John Holland, CAMRA Clubs Committee Chairman, heaped praise on the quality of the overall winner. He said, *"The success of the Grapevine stems from a group of dedicated people committed to supporting choice, and to offering an environment whereby people can learn more about the delights of good beer. It is very rare for a club of this nature to offer such a range of quality real ales, but there again such quality epitomises the level of detail seen throughout the venue, which is evident as soon as you walk through the doors."*

## GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL 2012 PUBLICITY EVENTS

West London Branch is organising four events to distribute publicity material for the Great British Beer Festival. These are scheduled for:

**Tuesday 26 June** from 6pm at the Albion, 121, Hammersmith Road, W14 (near Olympia).

**Wednesday 11 July** from 6pm at the Harp, 47 Chandos Place, WC2.

**Thursday 19 July**, from 6pm, at the Buckingham Arms, 62 Petty France, SW1.

**Saturday 28 July**, from midday, at the Cleveland Arms, 28, Chilworth Street W2.

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*Les Maggs*

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## Defend the Castle

'Defend the Castle' has all the makings of the most successful 'save the pub' campaign in recent years for CAMRA's SW London branch.

When Young's sold the freehold to the Castle in Battersea High Street last August for £1.1m to developers Languard Investments, the tenants Cate Toomey and Aaron Tumata were told that their tenancy, which ran until late July, was assured.

The sheer success of the campaign, which to date has generated over 700 individual written objections to the planning application for demolition and replacement with an anonymous block of flats, led directly to Languard terminating Cate and Aaron's tenancy. They were offered the chance to sever their support for the campaign by not allowing the meetings to take place there, and to withdraw their own written objections to the application. They refused. As Aaron said to me shortly afterwards, *"I want to be able to come back to Battersea in a year or two's time, and for people to be glad to see me. They won't be if I show I can be bullied by these guys."*

Aaron and Cate took over a pub with a great deal of untapped potential and have shown just how, over three and a half years, you can transform even the most unlikely looking premises – an unassuming early 60s brick pub – into a thriving hub of community life. The Castle is renowned for great real ales (always at least one Sambrook's, their local brewer), great food and great range of events and community activity. It is quite clear that the Castle meets the definition of an 'Asset of Community Value' in the newly enacted Localism Act. The many written objections show just how far and deep the Castle's foundations are dug into Battersea's collective consciousness.

The application is due to go to the Planning Committee on April 18th at 7.30pm at Wandsworth Town Hall. Come along and show your support. Imagine the after-party when it is refused!

Dale Ingram  
Pubs Preservation Officer  
CAMRA SW London

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# Watford & District 'Pre-Christmas' pub crawl

One of the most popular events in the Watford & District calendar is the 'Pre-Xmas' London Pub Crawl, which has gradually crawled beyond Christmas and now takes place in central London in January. Despite many losses over the years the older parts of London still have a large number and variety of pubs, and it's this diversity that makes the pub crawl such fun. This year we embarked on a lengthy trek from Clerkenwell to Canonbury via St. Luke's, Hoxton and De Beauvoir.

I was late out of work so I joined the crawl several pubs along at the **Old Fountain** off City Road. The pub was busy with a post-work crowd when I walked through the lower bar with its eye-catching tiled floor and lunchtime food counter and up to the top end where the evening drinkers were congregating. Over the heads of the crowd I could see beer from a couple of new London breweries. Brodie's beers were on the pumps and Kernel's bottles were high on the shelf behind. Beers by Kernel and Camden Town Brewery give the pub a bit of the air of the craft beer bars that have been popping up around London recently, but it's definitely a traditional boozer, and cask ales are the main attraction. The beer range varies but the pub always seems to have Dark Star Hophead on when I'm there. It was right in front of me when I got to the bar, so I had a pint of that. By the time I'd got

away from the bar a couple of fellow crawlers had turned up. It seemed that even so early in the evening the convoy of drinkers was beginning to stretch out: the inevitable consequence of different arrival times and drinking rates. The company arrived in dribs and drabs, gradually topping up the bar, and we stood around with beer glasses to our chests, jostled from all sides until it was time to duck out through the pub's second entrance onto Peerless Street.

The next stop was the **Wenlock Arms**, which will no doubt be very familiar to many readers of this magazine. It's a classic street corner local, standing out from the others in the area for its long standing commitment to real ale and its sheer scruffy charm. It was reasonably busy when we got there, indicating that the regular custom has not been put off by the threat of closure and redevelopment that haunts the pub. The beer range was a mixture of well known names and newer breweries. Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde Mild is a decent low gravity beer for a long session, so I had a pint of that.

The area around the Wenlock Arms is changing fast. Many of the older buildings were bombed out during the war and replaced by council flats, and now the developers are moving in again. Recently a planning application was submitted to demolish

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# Watford & District 'Pre-Christmas' pub crawl

the pub, but it was rejected by Hackney Council. The council has extended the Regent's Canal Conservation Area, which now includes the pub. Around the area the old buildings are being demolished and replaced by trendy new offices and apartments but the Wenlock still stands, and there's something cool about having a scruffy little boozer surviving amongst the modern buildings. The area wouldn't be the same without it and neither would the North London beer scene.

After leaving the Wenlock we zigzagged our way through the apartments and warehouses of Hoxton, across the Regent's Canal to the **Baring**. The beer range here was less ambitious than the previous two pubs, but still more imaginative than many places. I had a pint of the ubiquitous Sharp's Doom Bar. Looking around the main bar I could see that the owners had gone for the bare floor and sofa option, with the quirky addition of hip film posters and paintings of various pop musicians. There was a chalk board with posh pub grub, and candles in wine bottles on the tables. All of this gave me the impression of a gastropub with the relaxed informality of a bachelor pad. The combination seems to work and it has the feel of a real community pub supported by its locals. I think it provides a good example of what community pubs could do to maintain custom these days.

After leaving the Baring we walked up Southgate Road to the **Scolt Head**, which is located in posh De Beauvoir Town. Ardleigh Road and Culford Road on either side of the pub intersect at an acute angle providing the Scolt Head with a narrow tapering patio nicely shaded by trees. It was remarkably quiet out there given how busy the pub was when we went in. The inside was an artful update of what was presumably a bit of a run down local. The familiar mismatched furniture, bare bricks, boards and bric-a-brac were all there, along with a selection of Penguin books on the mantelpiece that included the intriguing sounding *"Don't, Mr. Disraeli!"* It's a reasonably large pub so it had plenty of room to accommodate the Friday night drinkers in a large room round to the left of the bar, as well as diners in the small restaurant area. The Scolt Head was certainly more 'gastro' than the previous pubs I'd visited that night, but not as much of an ale destination. The Crouch Vale Brewer's Gold went off while we were there so I reluctantly got a pint of Greene King IPA.

Just up the road was the **Duke of Wellington**. It's the sister pub of Mason & Taylor in Shoreditch, which is a very stylish, modern bar giving equal weight to cask, keg and bottled beer. In contrast the Duke of Wellington is a traditional pub with a strong emphasis on real ales, but with a modern appeal and a menu that looks to be a cut above the usual pub grub. The surroundings are traditional with some nice panelling and frosted glass

partitions, but with a modern colour palette and bare floors. The place was busy with a trendy young crowd when I arrived, but I managed to get myself a space at the island bar. The house beer is Sambrook's Wandle Ale, which at 3.8% was sufficiently low in ABV for me to cope with at that time of the evening. I got a pint and was gradually jostled over towards the fireplace, where I was largely out of the way.

The last pub of the evening was the **Lord Clyde** on Essex Road, which has a decidedly more traditional style of décor than the other renovations on the crawl, but without the flock wallpaper and vivid carpets many people might expect from that description. Instead, the Lord Clyde has plainly painted walls and sparse decoration to complement the dark wood of the original Charrington bar and panelling. It kind of has the look of a 1930s hotel bar. I was pleased to see that Harvey's Sussex Best was their regular beer, which is enough to ensure another visit from me.

From the Lord Clyde it was a bus ride back to the Angel, the Northern Line to Euston and back up to Watford. I'd like to finish by thanking Rick Clark for organising the crawl with impeccable taste every year, making sure each pub will be open on the night by going around and drinking in them in advance, poor guy.

*Andrew Vaughan*





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## Mud, Sweat and Gears *Ellie Bennett, Summersdale £8.99*

If you are looking for something a little different from the usual 'beer and pubs' literary offerings, here is something refreshingly far from the beaten track when it comes to beer writing. Moreover, if you enjoy pottering around the British countryside on a bicycle, this will certainly win your heart; if not, then no need to worry: the author does that bit for you while you read from the comfort of your own home or favourite pub seat. The book tells of the author's adventures whilst cycling 'from Land's End to John o'Groats via the pub' and does so in an engagingly witty and no-nonsense manner. The inevitable mishaps – for Ellie Bennett and her companion are no pros when it comes to cycling – are chronicled with a charmingly unembarrassed frankness. The author's infallible ability to laugh at herself come what may will have you laughing with her in no time at all.

Better still are the pubs and beers encountered en route. In full, the trip covers 32 days (including a few days' rest at the end) and it is a rare day indeed on which our heroes do not sample the local hostelrys wherever they happen to be at the time. Fortunately for us, they also happen to have



excellent taste. The mouthwatering descriptions of local beers at each stage are enough to make any real ale drinker feel eager to tour the country in search of these liquid treasures. The author is refreshingly forthright about any pubs that do not meet her high standards, and warmly complimentary about those which do. Every pub and beer sampled is diligently logged at the end of each day; and particularly good service is duly noted, and at the back of the book a list of fifty of the trip's best beers has helpfully been compiled including breweries and pubs.

However, this is not just a tale of cycling heroics and a guide to British ales and pubs rolled into one. More than that, it explores and celebrates those quirky facts and stories that make British history and geography so fascinating. The author has certainly done her homework, and every chapter will reveal new snippets of information to educate and entertain: the story of where Doc Martens boots come from; the origins of the study of geology; what 'Devil's porridge' is and many more titbits.

Intelligent, adventurous and very, very funny, this book is for any real ale lover: you are almost certain to find joy within its pages whether you enjoy cycling or not.

*Sarah Bleksley*



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## Dear Editors,

Recent press articles have shown that the Government are certainly clutching at straws to reduce NHS spending.

I will be interested to see how Real Ale brewers will feel when they are asked to produce ales of around 3.5% plus nothing more than 7%. It would make certain classic beers' flavours change.

You could also say that pubs already 'water down' beers to create extra profit.

*Tony Link, SE4*

## Dear Editors,

Helen Toomey's letter in the Feb/Mar edition raises an important point about the under-representation in CAMRA of black and minority ethnic (BME) members/festival goers. There is a glaring omission too in the publicity material from HQ for Community Pubs Month (CPM). Spot the non-white faces - you've guessed it! This is not helpful if the intention is for CPM to be inclusive!

OK, most - but not all - CAMRA members are white; but there is no reason why we cannot encourage and attract more BME interest in the Campaign. We should not fall into easy stereotypes, and I would venture to suggest that there are now more cultural differences between generations of families than between different ethnic traditions of the same generation. Colour and visible ethnicity are no determinant of one's liking for real ale.

CAMRA has achieved considerable success in attracting women and younger members, but has some way to go with other indicators of diversity. In a multicultural metropolis we in London should be leading the way.

And what about disability? Do we consider wheelchair access and special needs adequately at branch/regional level?

Sexuality/sexual orientation could be a personal matter, but maybe all diversity issues could be given more serious attention at all levels of CAMRA, perhaps with promoting diversity being more explicitly a CAMRA objective.

*Trudy Davies, SEL CAMRA member*

## Dear Editors,

I read with interest your paragraph on By The Horns Brewery. I can recommend the beer, having drunk a few pints of it in the Antelope in Tooting. As for Summerstown, it is also famous for a successful strike against wage cuts by women box makers at the Corrigan works in 1908 which gained national prominence with a rally of the women in Trafalgar Square. The strike was one of the earliest examples of working women organising, and is more than a footnote in Labour Movement history. Interested readers can learn more about the strike by going to [www.unionhistory.info](http://www.unionhistory.info) By the way, locals think of Summerstown as being in Tooting

rather than Wimbledon.

*Steve Mills, Tooting*

## Dear Editors,

Some time back now I did write in to request that the crossword and the puzzles page did not back on to each other thus making sending the crossword entry away easier to do without losing the puzzles. So thank you for arranging that. I contact you this time to pass a message to Andy Pirson regarding a question in the Dec/Jan issue and the answer in the current (Feb/Mar) issue of LD. I regret to inform him, or I am pleased to educate him, or both, about prime numbers. I refer to 'Number Puzzles', question 6.

I have to advise that there are only 25 primes less than 100 and not 26! I expect that he or his source has included the number 1, a common 'schoolboy' error, but which a mathematician will know is not prime at all. The smallest prime is 2, which is the only even prime. How odd!

*Deryn Brand*

*Editor's note: being a professional mathematician (of sorts) I would like to apologize for not noticing this error at the proofing stage. It is not always possible for us to complete the Idle Moments questions in the limited time between receipt and publication!*



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**July - August 2012**

London was once known as the capital of the world for beer with the exporting of its famous brews all around the globe. Today, although there are fewer breweries, London has recently seen a growth in the number of its small brewers, which is being embraced by Londoners. But of course, London's reputation for fine pubs has always been there with some of the best in the UK to be found here and many have been places where history has been made.

Research has shown that over 60% of visitors to Britain say that they will visit a pub when they come to visit. CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, is coordinating a campaign to raise the profile of beer and pubs during the summer starting the first week in July, featuring the Ealing Beer Festival and culminating with the Great British Beer Festival in August at Olympia. This will be preceded in late June with a special 'Visitors' London Drinker Magazine, which can be pre ordered by sending a cheque for £1 (includes postage) made payable to CAMRA, London, to Stan Tompkins, 52 Rabbs Mill House, Chiltern View Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 2PD.

But you don't have to be a visitor to find out what is going on and join the celebrations. We hope that most of the London brewers will take part as well as others who have a presence in London as well as many London pubs. From mid April onwards we will have a website up and running listing all the activities involving beer that we know about across London, whether it is a brewery open day to a beer festival or a pub quiz. So take a look at the website next month and come and join in the fun!

**[www.londoncityofbeer.org.uk](http://www.londoncityofbeer.org.uk)**



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/thefoxtwickenham

# Branch diaries

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

## LONDON REGIONAL EVENT

**May – Wed 30 (8pm)** London Liaison Committee (Regional co-ordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1.  
*Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk*

## LONDON PUBS GROUP

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

**April – Wed 18** Evening Crawl of Mayfair: (7pm) Audley, 41-43 Mount St, W1K; (7.45) Punch Bowl, Farm St, W1J; (8.15) Coach & Horses, 5 Hill St, W1J; (8.45) Guinea, 30 Bruton Pl, W1J; (9.15) Coach & Horses, 5 Bruton St, W1J; (9.45) Mason Arms, 38 Maddox St, W1S.  
**May – Wed 16 (7.15 for 7.30)** Mtg. Royal Oak, Tabard St, SE1 (upstairs). All branches and members interested in pub research and preservation welcome.

*Website: www.londonpubsgroup.org.uk*

## YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

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

**April – Thu 12** King's Cross N1 crawl: (7pm) Lincoln Lounge, 52 York Wy; (7.45) King Charles I, 55-57 Northdown St; (8.30) Millers, 19 Caledonian Rd; (8.45) Queen's Head, Acton St; (9.30) Harrison, 28 Harrison St.

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

## BEXLEY

*Rob Archer, camr@rcher.org.uk, contacts@camrabexleybranch.org.uk*

**April – Wed 18** Dartford DA1 soc: (8pm) Flying Boat, 36-42 Spital St; then Courthouse, 43 Spital St and Dartford Working Men's Club, Essex Rd.

**May – Wed 9 (8.30)** Branch mtg. Robin Hood & Little John, 78 Lion Rd, Bexleyheath DA6. **Sat 19** Gravesend DA12 soc: (Noon) Ship & Lobster, Mark La; then Canal Tavern, Canal Rd and Jolly Drayman, Wellington St. **Wed 23** Welling DA16 soc: (8pm) Lord Kitchener, 21 Wrotham Rd; then Foresters Arms, Upper Wickham La.

*Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk*

## BROMLEY

*Chair: Colin Brand, 020 8249 0189 or 07712 357873, cmband@aol.com*

**April – Tue 3 (8pm)** Cttee mtg, Farwig, 97 Farwig Lane, Bromley BR1. **Sat 14 (Noon)** Bexley Beer Fest soc. Sidcup Sports Club, Crescent Farm, Sydney Rd, Sidcup DA14. **Tue 17 (8pm)** Beer fest planning mtg. Rising Sun, 166 Upper Elmers End Rd, Beckenham BR3. **Mon 23 (8pm)** St George's Day soc. Jolly Woodman, 9 Chancery Lane, Beckenham BR3. **Mon 30 (8pm)** Cttee mtg. Tea Room, Greyhound, Commside, Keston BR2.

**May – Thu 3 (8pm)** Soc. Daylight Inn, Station Square, Petts Wood BR5. **Fri 11 (8pm)** Soc. George, 29 Hayes St, Hayes BR2. **Tue 15 (8pm)** Beer fest planning mtg. Rising Sun (see above). **Fri 25 (8pm)** Soc. Swan, 2-4 High St, West Wickham BR4. **Tue 29 (8pm)** Cttee mtg. Queens Head, 25 High St, Downe BR6.

*Website: www.bromleycamra.org.uk*

## CROYDON & SUTTON

*Peter McGill, 07831 561296, pete\_mcgill@hotmail.com*

**April – Wed 11** Sutton SM1 2-pub soc: (8.30) New Town, 7 Lind Rd; (9.30) Little Windsor 13 Greyhound Rd. **Thu 19** Upper Shirley CR0 2-pub soc: (8.30) Surprise, 107 Upper Shirley Rd; (9.30) Sandrock 107 Upper Shirley Rd. **Tue 24 (8.30)** Branch AGM. Dog & Bull, 24 Surrey St, Croydon CR0.

**May – Tue 1 (8.30pm)** Mayday Mild soc. Green Dragon, High St, Croydon CR0. **Wed 9 (8.30)** Soc to mark Doris's 40 years at the Joiners Arms. Joiners Arms, Woodside Green, SE25. **Thu 17** Carshalton Mild Hunt. (8.30) Sun, 4 North St; (9.30) Hope, 48 West St (both SM5). **Thu 31 (8.30)** Branch mtg and London Drinker pickup. Windsor Castle (Cottage Room), 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton SM5.

*Website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk*

## EAST LONDON & CITY

*John Pardoe, 07757 772564, elacbranch@yahoo.co.uk*

**April – Fri 6 - Mon 9 (11am – late)** Brodie's Bunny Basher Fest. King William IV, 816 High Rd, E10. **Wed 18** Crawl: (7.45) Three Compasses, 99 Dalston La, E8; (8.45) Fox, 372 Kingsland Rd, E8; (9.45) Duke's Brew & Que, 33 Downham Rd, N1. **Fri 20 (5pm-midnight)** Easter Ale Gala, featuring ales from Dark Star. Leyton Orient Supporters' Club, Oliver Rd, E10.

**May – Tue 1** Crawl: (8pm) Bell, 29 Bush La, EC4R; (8.45) Old Wine Shades, 6 St Martin's La, EC4; (9pm) Oyster Shed, 1 Angel La, EC4R; (10.15) Samuel Pepys, Stew La, EC4V. **Tue 15 (8pm)** Branch AGM. Birkbeck Tavern, 45 Langthorne Rd, E11.

*Website: www.pigsear.org.uk*

## ENFIELD & BARNET

*Brian Willis, 020 8440 4542 (H),*

*branchcontact@camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk, branch mobile 07757 710008 at event*

**April – Wed 4 (8.30)** 2-pub Muswell Hill soc: Keenan's, 89 Colney Hatch La, N10 then Minstrel Bog opposite! **Sat 7** Inky memorial ramble. Branch contact for details. **Tue 10 (8.30)** Orange Tree, Highfield Rd, Winchmore Hill N21. **Tue 17 (8.30)** Lord Nelson, 14 West End La, Barnet EN5. **Thu 26** Beehive, 24 Little Bury St, Edmonton N9.

**May – Wed 2 (8.30)** Refurb soc. The Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, Enfield EN2. **Sun 6 (8pm)** Rock/Blues band. Dignity, 369 Regent's Park Rd, Finchley Central N3. **Wed 9 (8.30)** Mild soc. Ponders End WMs Club, 46 South St, EN3. CAMRA members only. **Tue 15 (8.30)** Soc. Adam & Eve, The Ridgeway, Mill Hill NW7. **Thu 24 (8.30)** Soc. Elephant Inn, 283 Ballards La, F Finchley N12. **Thu 31 (8.30)** Soc & London Drinker pick-up. Bald Faced Stag, 69 High Rd, E Finchley N2.

*Website: www.camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk*

## KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

*Clive Taylor, 020 8949 2099, ctaylor2007@freuk.com*

**April – Wed 4 (8.15)** Branch mtg. Manor, Malden Manor, KT3 (opp rail stn). **Tue 10** New Malden KT3 crawl: (8pm) Royal Oak, Coombe Rd; (8.30) Glasshouse, 14 Coombe Rd; (9pm) Bar Malden, 1-3 St. George's Sq; (9.30) Grafton Club, 36 Grafton Rd; (10pm) Fountain, 120a Malden Rd; (10.30) Watchman (new W'spoons), High St. **Sat 14 (Noon)** Visit to King's Brewery, Horsham. Travel by train: 10.40 ex Wimbledon, change Epsom for 11.09 to Horsham. Names to Clive if interested by 10 April. **Fri 20 (7pm)** Hook Beer Fest soc. Scout Hall, Verona Drive, Surbiton KT6. Advance tickets advised. **Wed 25** Joint SW1 soc with W London branch: (6pm) Feathers, 20 Broadway; (6.55) Albert, 52 Victoria St; (7.30) Old Monk Exchange, Strutton Ground, 61-71 Victoria St; (8.10) Strutton Arms, 2 Strutton Ground; (8.45) Speaker, 46 Gt Peter St; (9.40) Cask Pub & Kitchen, 6 Charlwood St. **Sun 22 (12.30)** Kingston Beer Fest publicity crawl. Help distribute posters in nearby pubs. Meet Coronation Hall, 7 St Mark's Hill, Surbiton KT6.

**May – Tue 1 (8.15)** Branch mtg. Griffin, 58 Common Rd, Claygate KT10. **Wed 9 - Mon 14** Volunteers needed to help with Kingston Beer Fest. Contact Lesley Davis, KFBI3staffing@camrasurrey.org.uk. **Tue 22** East Epsom Exploration: (8pm) Vestry, 2 Church St; (8.40) Kings Arms, 144 E. St; (9.20) Barley Mow, 12 Pikes Hill; (9.55) Railway Guard, 48 Church Rd (all KT17); (10.35) Rising Sun, 14 Heathcote Road, KT18.

*Website: www.camrasurrey.org.uk*

## NORTH LONDON

*Social contacts: Stephen Taylor, 07531 006296, stephen.taylor2@selexgalileo.com; John Adams, 07970 150707, jpa1260@gmail.com. Branch chairman: Catherine Tonry, 07793 547067, camra@tonry.co.uk*

**April – Tue 3** Southgate Rd N1 soc: (7.30) Rosemary Branch, 2 Shepperton Rd; (8.15) Northgate, 113 Southgate Rd; (8.45) Scolt Head, 107a Culford Rd; (9.30) Hunters, 194 Southgate Rd; (10pm) Clarendon, 92 Mildmay Pk. **Tue 10 (8pm)** POTY winner presentation. Pineapple, 51 Leverton St, Kentish Town NW5. **Tue 17 (8pm)** POTY runner-up presentation. Jolly Butchers, 204 Stoke Newington High St, N16. **Tue 24 (8pm)** POTY runner-up presentation. Snooty Fox, 75 Grosvenor Ave, Canonbury N5. **May – Tue 1** Highbury Corner N1 soc: (7.30) Marquess, 32 Canonbury St; (8.15) Alwyne Castle, 83 St Paul's Rd; (9pm) Hen & Chickens, 109 St Paul's Rd; (9.30) Compton Arms, 4 Compton Ave; (10.15) White Swan, 255 Upper St. **Tue 8 (8pm)** Beavertown Brewery visit. Duke's



Brew & Que, 33 Downham Rd, N1. - **Tue 15** (8pm) Mild Month soc. Pineapple, 51 Leverton St, Kentish Town NW5. - **Tue 22** (7.30) Branch mtg. Brew Dog, 113 Bayham St, Camden NW1 (basement bar) followed by (9pm) Brew Dog craft beer tasting, approx £8 payable on the night. - **Tue 29** Hornsey N8 soc: (7.30) Maynard, 70 Park Rd; (8.30) Great Northern Railway, 76 High St; (9pm) Three Compasses, 62 High St; (9.45) Hope & Anchor, 128 Tottenham Ln; (10.30) Kings Head, 2 Crouch End HL.  
Website: [www.camranorthlondon.org.uk](http://www.camranorthlondon.org.uk)

## RICHMOND & HOUSLOW

Brian Kirton, 020 8384 7284 (H), [brian.kirton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:brian.kirton@blueyonder.co.uk)  
**April - Thu 5** Evening soc, United Service Club Beer Fest. 111 Spring Rise, Egham, TW20 9PE. - **Thu 12** Richmond 2-pub soc: (8pm) Pig's Ears (ex-Brouge), 5 Hill St, TW9; 2nd pub decided on the night. - **Thu 26** (8pm) Branch AGM. Prince of Wales (rear room), 136 Hampton Road, Twickenham TW2 (please bring membership card in case vote reqd).  
**May - Thu 17** (8pm) Branch business mtg. Admiral Nelson, 123 Nelson Rd, Whittow TW2. - **Wed 23** Teddington TW11 2-pub soc: (8pm) Clock House, 69 High St; (9.30) Masons Arms, 41 Walpole Rd.  
Website: [www.rhcamra.org.uk](http://www.rhcamra.org.uk)

## SOUTH-EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew, 07751 898310 (M), [branch.contact@selcamra.org.uk](mailto:branch.contact@selcamra.org.uk)  
**April - Mon 2** (8pm) Cttee mtg & soc. Roebuck (Function Rm), 50 Great Dover St, SE1. - **Wed 11** Catford SE6 crawl: (7.30) London & Rye, 109 Rushey Green; (8.15) Ram, 9 Winslade Wy; (9pm) Catford Bridge Tavern, Stn Approach. - **Mon 16** Borough SE1 crawl: (7.30) Libertine, 125 Great Suffolk St; (8.15) Gladstone Arms, 64 Lant St; (9pm) Trinity, 202-206 Borough High St; (9.45) St Christopher's Tavern, 121 Borough High St. - **Sun 22** Old Kent Rd pub survey: (12.30) Five Belts, New Cross Rd, SE14; end (approx 6pm) Victoria, 68-70, Page's Wk, SE1. - **Wed 25** Royal Borough of Greenwich SE10 crawl: (7.30) Mitre, 291 Greenwich High Rd; (8.15) Plume of Feathers, 19 Park Vista; (9pm) Vanbrugh, 91 Columb St; (9.45) Pelton Arms, 25 Pelton Rd.  
**May - Wed 2** (8pm) Cttee mtg & soc. Railway Bell (Garden Room), 14 Crowthorne St, SE19. - **Mon 7** Honor Oak SE23 crawl: (7.30) General Napier, 73 Bovil Rd; (8.30) Honor Oak, 1 St Germans Rd, SE23; (9.30) Railway Telegraph, 112 Stanstead Rd. - **Thu 17** (8pm) Branch PotY presentation: Blythe Hill Tavern, 329 Stanstead Rd, SE23. - **Wed 23** Peckham SE15 crawl: (7.30) Pyrotechnist's Arms, 39 Nunhead Green; (8.15) Old Nun's Head, 15 Nunhead Green; (9pm) Rye, 31 Peckham Rye; (9.45) Gowellt, 62 Gowellt Rd. - **Mon 28** Sydenham crawl: (7.30) Prince of Wales, 52 Perry Rise, SE23; (8.15) Prince Alfred, 178 Sydenham Rd, SE26; (9pm) Golden Lion, 116 Sydenham Rd, SE26; (9.45) Dolphin, 121 Sydenham Rd, SE26.  
Website: [www.selcamra.org.uk](http://www.selcamra.org.uk)

## SOUTH-WEST ESSEX

Alan Barker, [swessex@essex-camra.org.uk](mailto:swessex@essex-camra.org.uk), 07711 971957 (M) evenings or weekends only.  
Bookings for minibus trips to Graham Plat; 020 8220 0215 (H)  
**April - Fri 6** (Noon) Out-of-area soc. 7th Planet Thanet Easter Beer Fest, Winter Gdns, Margate CT9 1HX. By 'Javelin' Train 09.49 from Stratford Int in 81 mins; take DLR from W Ham/Stratford to Stratford Int. - **Thu 12** (8.30). Out-of-area soc. 10th Maldon Beer Fest, Town Hall, Market Hill, Maldon CM9 4RL: minibus from Chadwell Heath, Romford, Upminster & Stanford-le-Hope. Contact Graham Platt (*see above*). - **Wed 18** (8.30) Soc. Rising Sun, 144 Ongar Rd, Brentwood CM15. - **Sat 21** Double-Header beer fest soc: (1pm) Rising Sun, Church Hill, Stanford-le-Hope SS17; (5pm) Theobald Arms, 141 Argent St, Grays RM17. - **Tue 24** Double-Header RM2 soc: (8.30) Archers, 194/204 Main Rd, Gidea Park; (9.30) Ship, 93 Main Rd, Gidea Park.  
**May - Thu 3** (8.30) Beer fest soc. Traitor's Gate, 40-42 Broadway, Little Thurrock RM17. - **Wed 9** (8.30) Soc. Hutton Junction, 15 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton CM13. - **Wed 16** (8.30) Soc. Travellers Friend, 496/498 High Rd, Woodford Green IG8. - **Tue 22** (8pm) Thurrock Beer Fest soc. Thurrock Civic Hall, Blackshotts LA, Grays RM16. - **Thu 31** (8.30) Soc. Olde Dog Inn, Billericay Rd, Herongate Tye CM13.  
Website: [essex-camra.org.uk/swessex](http://essex-camra.org.uk/swessex)

## SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mark Bravery, 020 8540 9183 (H), 07969 807890 (M), [markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk)  
**April - Wed 4** (7.30) Open branch cttee mtg. Windmill, 40

Commonside West, Mitcham CR4. - **Thu 12** (7.30 for 8pm) Branch presentation (21 years in GBG). Priory Arms, 83 Lansdowne Way, SW8.

**May - Wed 2** (7.30) Open branch cttee mtg followed by (8pm) Branch AGM. Spread Eagle, 17 Wandsworth High St, SW18. Nominations to Branch Contact by 6 pm on 1 May. - **Tue 8** (7.30 for 8pm) Branch PotY presentation. Trafalgar, 23 High Path, Merton SW19. - **Thu 24** (7.30) Branch presentation (21 years in GBG) and mild month soc. Hand in Hand, 6 Crooked Billet, Wimbledon SW19.  
Website: [www.sulcamra.org.uk](http://www.sulcamra.org.uk)

## WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan, 01923 230104 (H) 07854 988152 (M)

**April - Tue 3** Abbots Langley soc: (8.15) Unicorn, Gallows Hill, WD4; (9.10) Royal Oak, Kitter Green, WD5; (9.50) Swan, College Rd, WD5; (10.25) Compasses, Tibbs Hill Rd, WD5. - **Sun 8** (1pm) Easter Beer Fest. Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty, Long La, Heronsgate WD3. - **Sat 14** Commonwood & Saratt soc: (12.55) Cart & Horses, Quickmoor La, Commonwood WD4; (1.35) Boot, The Green, Saratt WD3; (2.20) Cock, Church La, Saratt WD3; (3.10) Cricketers, The Green, Saratt WD3. - **Thu 19** (8.30) PotY presentation. Land of Liberty, Peace & Plenty (*see above*). - **Fri 27** Bushey & Oxhey soc: (8.30) Three Crowns, High Rd, Bushey Heath WD23; (9.15) King Stag, Bournehall Rd, Bushey WD23; (9.45) Swan, Park Rd, Bushey WD23; (10.45) Villiers Arms, Villiers Rd, Oxhey WD19. - **Mon 30** (8pm) Branch mtg. Oxhey Conservative Club, Keyser Hall, Lower Paddock Rd, Oxhey WD19.  
**May - Wed 9** Watford soc: (8.30) Flag, Station Rd, WD17; (9.15) Wellington Arms, Woodford Rd, WD17; (9.45) Molloy's, The Parade, WD19; (10.30) Moon Under Water, High St, WD17. - **Thu 17** (8pm) Annual Darts Tournament, West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford WD18. - **Tue 29** (8pm) Branch mtg. Sportsman, Scot's Hill, Croxley Green WD3.  
Website: [www.watfordcamra.org.uk](http://www.watfordcamra.org.uk)

## WEST LONDON

Paul Charlton 07835 927357, [paul@paulc4.plus.com](mailto:paul@paulc4.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](mailto:banqueting@nlc.org.uk), fax 020 7839 4768  
**April - Tue 6** SW1 soc: (7.30) Greyhound, 51 Hugh St; (9pm) Marquis of Westminster, 50 Warwick Way. - **Tue 10** (7pm for 7.30) Branch mtg, Albion, 121 Hammersmith Rd, W14. Bring CAMRA card for discount. - **Tue 17** W1/WC2 soc: (7.30) Spice of Life, 37-38 Romilly St, W1; (8.30) Bear & Staff, 11-12 Bear St, WC2; (9.30) Harp, 47 Chandos Pl, WC2. - **Wed 25** Joint SW1 soc with K & L branch: (6pm) Feathers, 20 Broadway; (6.55) Albert, 52 Victoria St; (7.30) Old Monk Exchange, Strutton Ground, 61-71 Victoria St; (8.10) Strutton Arms, 2 Strutton Ground; (8.45) Speaker, 46 Gt Peter St; (9.40) Cask Pub & Kitchen, 6 Charlwood St.  
**May - Wed 2** W2 soc: (7.30) Redan, 1 Westbourne Gro; (9pm) King's Head, 33 Moscow Rd. - **Tue 8** (7pm for 7.30) AGM, Defectors Weld, 170 Uxbridge Rd, W12. Bring CAMRA card for discount; buffet provided at small chg. - **Wed 16** W6 soc: (7.30) Blue Anchor, 13 Lower Mall; (9pm) Dove, 19 Upper Mall. - **Wed 23** SW soc: (7.30) Sporting Page, 6 Camera Pl, SW10; (9.15) Lloyds Oyster Rooms (Wetherspoons), above Fulham Bdy Stn, SW6. Bring vouchers. - **Tue 29** W1 Fitzrovia soc: (7.30) Duke of York, 47 Rathbone St; (8.30) Fitzrovia, 18-20 Goodge St; (9.30) King & Queen, 1-2 Foley St.  
Website: [www.westlondon-camra.org.uk](http://www.westlondon-camra.org.uk)

## WEST MIDDLESEX

John Bush, 07739 105336, [info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk](mailto:info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk); Social secretary Jason Lansbury: 07740 288332, [social@westmiddx-camra.org.uk](mailto:social@westmiddx-camra.org.uk)  
**April - Fri 6** (Noon) PotY Bank Hol Easter Beer Fest. Fox, Green La, Hanwell W7. - **Thu 19** (8pm) Ruiship Rugby Club Beer Fest. West End Rd, HA4. - **Sat 21** (8pm) Angel Beer Fest. 697 Uxbridge Rd, Hayes UB4. - **Mon 30** Norwood Green UB2 soc: (8pm) Lamb, 137 Norwood Rd; (9pm) Plough, Tentelow La.  
**May - Mon 7** Bank Hol crawl: (Noon) Southampton Arms, 139 Highgate Rd, NW5; (1.30) Euston Tap, 190 Euston Rd, NW1; (3pm) Harp, 47 Chandos Pl, WC2N; (4.30) Swan, 46 Hammersmith Bdy, W6; (5.30) Duchess of Cambridge, 320 Goldhawk Road, W6. - **Wed 16** (8.30) Branch AGM. Southall Conservative & Unionist Club, Fairlawns, UB1. - **Tue 29** Mini Harrow crawl: (8pm) Half Moon, 1 Roxeth Hill, HA2; (8.45) White Horse, 50 Middle Rd, HA2; (9.30) Castle, 30 West Rd, HA1.  
Website: [www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk](http://www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk)

Electronic copy deadline for the June/July edition: Wednesday 16 May. Please send entries to [ldondrinker@daviessolutions.co.uk](mailto:ldondrinker@daviessolutions.co.uk)

# Capital Pubcheck - update 223

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.

A bumper period for new flagship pub/restaurant openings in Central London by ETM and Young's Geronimo Inns in EC1 and EC4 and Fuller's at N1 Kings Cross Station. By contrast, but no less welcome, Antic continue to convert and upgrade pubs in inner city areas, most recently in SE6, Catford and SE23, Forest Hill, with an emphasis on microbrewery beers and simple food, and the future of the Wenlock Arms is now looking more promising. Young's are supplying Twickenham beers to two more pubs and have opened an unbranded basement bar in EC3 with Sambrook's and Redemption beers on offer. More outlets for microbrewery beers are recorded across London, and we welcome a new brewpub in N1 De Beauvoir Town.

On the down side, Young's continue to sell off pubs to property developers and a further nine 'wet-led' pubs in London are up for sale, one of which is specifically targeted for alternative use. Enterprise have sold a batch of pubs to Fuller's and the only one in London, in W13 West Ealing, sells London micro beers and is 'LocAle' accredited. The HS2 rail scheme is threatening the Bree Louise at N1 Euston. A station bar at WC2 Charing Cross

has been renamed 'Beer House' with the removal of handpumps and an increase in keg taps masquerading as 'craft beer' - beware.

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; 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 (ZKT - second edition); N - North London Beer Guide, 3rd edition; RHP - Richmond, 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; WC - WC1 and WC2 Real Ale Guide; X - Essex Beer Guide, 9th edition.

If you would like to report changes to pubs or beers, please email [capitalpubcheck@hotmail.com](mailto:capitalpubcheck@hotmail.com) or write to Capital Pubcheck, 2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR. Single copies of Update 220, which could not be printed in the October/November issue of *London Drinker* but was accessible only online at [www.londondrinker.org.uk](http://www.londondrinker.org.uk), may be requested from this address - please send A5 SAE.

## NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

### CENTRAL

**EC1, KINGS HEAD**, 49 Chiswell St. Reopened after four years' closure and renamed **JUGGED HARE** in March after major refurbishment by ETM Group, ex-Greene King. Adnams: Bitter; East London: Foundation Bitter (4.2%); Redemption: Trinity; Sambrook: Junction. Beers may vary. The Grade II-listed building was formerly part of the adjacent Whitbread Brewery complex. A small bar area for drinkers at the front features a cased taxidermy display and stag's head. A large dining room at rear has open-to-view kitchen specialising in roasted and grilled game, meat, fish and shellfish. The basement houses a 'walk-in' wine room to select favourite wines and a private function room also used for wine tasting. White decor with oak timber flooring, exposed ceramic tiles and some original brass ironmongery from the Whitbread brewery. Sambrook's have brewed a special 'Jugged Hare' pale ale (4.2%) in bottles available at the pub. Open 11-11 Mon-Wed, 11-midnight Thu-Sat and 12-10.30 Sun. Food 12-3.30/6-10.30 Mon-Fri, 12-4/6-10.30 Sat, 12-9.30 Sun. (E19, U74,75,142,192,201)

**EC3, OLD TOM'S BAR**, 10-12 Leadenhall Market. Sambrook: Wandle; Young: Bitter; guest beer (e.g. Redemption Trinity). Young's basement bar under Lamb Tavern, now operated separately but under same management as pub above, with its own entrance on Whittington St, opened October 2011. Also has keg and 'craft' bottled beers from Meantime and Camden Town, and Sipsmith gin. Quality cheeses, artisanal cold meals and jars of nuts and olives. Green and cream tiles, bare

bricks, polished wooden floor and mix of tables, chairs and sofas. Open 10am-11pm Mon-Fri only.

**EC4, ALL BAR ONE**, 44-46 Ludgate Hill. Fuller: London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar (seasonal highlight!). (U114,175,203)

**EC4, OYSTER SHED**, 1 Angel Lane. Adnams: Broadside; Sharp: Doom Bar, seasonal (Spring Cask Pilsner, 4.2%); Wells: Young's Bitter, Bombardier, plus keg Camden Town Wheat Beer and limited bottled beers. Beers may vary. Brand new Young's Geronimo-branded pub and restaurant opened late January on ground floor of Nomura office building. Large bar area with lower seating area with booths alongside tall windows looking out on the river. Modern decor with vague nautical theme, large chandeliers, light pine bar side and flooring, zinc bar top, mixture of chairs, tables and sofas and two large clocks at either end. One TV for sport and loud background 'music'. Open-to-view kitchen, serving oysters (@£1.75 each), traditional British food including daily specials and 2/3 course 'express menus' for 'City suits' in a hurry. Stairs lead up to mezzanine floor overlooking the main bar area with a small bar (no cask ale), a restaurant and separate function room. Note the early 19th century German wall map of Europe. Limited outdoor drinking within roped off patio area. Open 11-11 Mon-Fri, closed weekends. Food available 12-3/5.30-9.30.

**WC2, CHIQUITO**, 20/21 Leicester Sq. No real ale. Bar and Mexican restaurant operated by The Restaurant Group with separate bar area for drinkers. Premises was formerly a pub named HENEKEY TAVERN, a free house closed in 1985.

**W1(S), G-A-Y BAR**, 30 Old Compton St. No real ale. Independent gay bar now with keg beers, operated by

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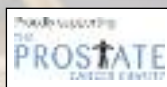


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4 PINT RATED PUB



# Capital Pubcheck - update 223

Mean Fiddler in former cocktail bar and theatre premises, opened by November 2008.

**W1(S), GREEN CARNATION**, 4-5 Greek St. No real ale. Independent bar with Oscar Wilde theme, now with keg beers, in former cocktail bar premises, originally a church residence.

**W1(S), LVPO**, 50 Dean St. No real ale. Bar now with keg beers originally opened in 1985 by Soho Bars & Clubs, then Urbium in 2008 and currently Novus since 2010.

## EAST

**E8, PICTURE HOUSE**, 270 Mare St. No real ale. Bar and kitchen, attached to small cinema, accessible directly from street. Formerly 'Ocean' music venue from 2002, originally a library.

**BARKING (IG11), FRANKIE & BENNY'S**, Jenkins Lane. No real ale. New build bar and restaurant at leisure and cinema complex and part of F&B chain not previously reported.

**ILFORD (IG1), FRANKIE & BENNY'S**, Iscene Leisure, Clements Rd. No real ale. Bar and restaurant and part of F&B chain not previously reported.

**ROMFORD (RM1), FRANKIE & BENNY'S**, Unit FR2, The Brewery. No real ale. Bar and restaurant and part of F&B chain not previously reported.

## NORTH

**N1, DUKE OF YORK**, 33 Downham Rd. Ground floor and cellar of this former Enterprise pub reopened in

February after five years' closure and renamed **DUKE'S (BREW & QUE)**, with in-house 'Beavertown Brewery'.

The upper floors have been converted to flats.

Beavertown: Neck Oil (Best Bitter, 4.3%); Godfather (Brown Ale, 4.8%); Eight Ball (Rye IPA, 6.6%); Dark Star: Hophead; Oakham: JHB; Redemption: Fellowship Porter, Urban Dusk. Beers will vary. Bottled beers from respected breweries in the UK, USA and Australia.

Independently operated by brewer Logan Plant and business partner. Decorated in spartan style with mixture of stools, chairs and tables, wooden floors, bare brick columns etc. The brewing equipment can be viewed at the rear. Seasonals and specials are promised. Simple food includes ribs, steak and chicken with salad and veg. Open 4-11.15 Mon-Fri, 10-11.15 Sat/Sun. Food 6-10.30 Mon-Fri, 10-4/6-10.30 Sat & Sun. (N42, U184,218,221) **N1, PARCEL YARD**, Unit 8, Shared Service Yard, Kings Cross Station, Goods Way. Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, Gales Seafarers Ale, Discovery, London Pride, Gales HSB, Bengal Lancer, ESB, seasonal beer. New Fuller's pub and dining room due to open on 18 March as part of the new Kings Cross station concourse redevelopment. It claims to be the largest station pub in the country at 10,000 sq ft, overlooking the platforms in a Grade I-listed area of the original station building, with a double-height atrium. It will be the only Fuller's pub to stock the full range of Fuller's ales including all available bottle-conditioned Vintage Ales. Guest beers are also promised.

**N1, PERSEVERANCE**, 194 Southgate Rd. Renamed **HUNTER**. Caledonian: Deuchars IPA; Sharp: Cornish Coaster, Doom Bar. Refurbished by new lessees Seven



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Eighths Ltd. Now Enterprise, ex-Bass via Unique. (N54)  
**N4, HALFWAY HOUSE**, 131 Blackstock Rd. No real ale. Independent bar in former restaurant premises, opened September 2011.

**N4, SUGAR LOUNGE**, 145 Stroud Green Rd. No real ale. Turkish bar and restaurant in former shop premises, opened by September 2009.

**N6, DUKES HEAD**, 16 Highgate High St. Fuller: London Pride. Formerly SETTLE INN, originally DOG. (N81, U205)

**N7, BARCOSA**, 54 Holloway Rd. Renamed **LAMB**. Fuller: London Pride. Plus BrewDog and Camden Town keg beers. Formerly TANK, BEER HOUSE and FLOUNDER & FIRKIN. Now independent, ex-Punch. (N87, U154,176,204)

**N9, KING WILLIAM IV**, 192 Hertford Rd. No real ale. Reopened. Formerly WILLIAM IV. (N101, U204,219)

**N19, NEW BRUNSWICK**, Dartmouth Park Hill. No real ale. Reopened July 2011. Now independent by November 2008, ex Greene King. Formerly PICKLED NEWT (NEW BRUNSWICK) for a while. (N144, U109,117,164,188,209)

## NORTH WEST

**NW6, ARCHES WINE BAR**, 7 Fairhazel Gdns. No real ale. Independent bar in former shop premises, opened by July 2007.

## SOUTH EAST

**SE6, COPPERFIELD**, Station Approach, Catford Bridge. Reopened early March and renamed **CATFORD BRIDGE TAVERN** by new operator, Antic. Varying beers from microbreweries in London and elsewhere (e.g. East London, Kent, Ilkley) on eight handpumps, plus two real ciders (e.g. Sandford, Severn). Mock Tudor pub with wood-panelled bar with many original features including fireplace; dusty books, wooden floors, mixture of furniture, low lighting. Additional large lounge and seating area at rear, together with a restaurant area under development. Bar billiards; free WiFi. Open 4-midnight Sun-Thur, 4-1am Fri, 12-1am Sat. Food 5-10 Tue-Fri, 12-5/2-10 Sat, 12-5 Sun. (SE67, U107,202,222)

**SE13, ANCHOR**, 165 Lewisham Rd. Reopened and renamed **BRIDGE HOUSE**. Fuller: London Pride. Enterprise, ex-Labatts. Open 12-11 (10.30 Sun). (SE118, U102,138,214)

**SE14, FIVE BELLS**, 153-155 New Cross Rd. Courage Best Bitter by June 2011. Enterprise, ex-Bass via Unique. (SE127, U152)

**SE14, JACK BEARDS AT THE WHITE HART**, 184 New Cross Rd. Now simply **WHITE HART** by June 2011. Varying guest beer (e.g. Ramsbury Gold). (SE131, U157)

**SE14, ROSEMARY**, 44 Lewisham Way. Renamed **OLD HABERDASHER**. Adnams; Broadside. Formerly ROSEMARY BRANCH. (SE130, U210)

**SE15, IVY HOUSE**, 40 Stuart Rd. Two varying real ales (e.g. Caledonian, Castle Rock, Otter and St Austell). Large function room with stage for live music and comedy performances at rear. Enterprise, ex-Truman via Glenfield Holdings. Formerly STUART ARMS. (SE140, U126, U196)

**SE15, PRINCE ALBERT**, 111 Bellenden Rd. Sharp: Doom Bar. (SE138, U161,219)

**SE19, ALMA**, 95 Church Rd. Castle Rock: Harvest Pale;

Loddon: Hoppit; Skinner: Betty Stogs. Enterprise, ex-free house. (SE178, U102,120,219)

**SE22, BARCELONA**, 481 Lordship Lane. No real ale. Independent tapas bar and one of a small chain of four, opened in former shop premises by April 2005.

**SE22, BLACK CHERRY BAR**, 21 Lordship Lane. No real ale. Independent bar in former shop premises, opened by February 2006.

**SE22, CASTLE**, 280 Crystal Palace Rd. Courage: Best Bitter; Sharp; Doom Bar. (SE197)

**SE23, SYLVAN POST**, 24-28 Dartmouth Rd. Three to five varying cask beers from micros (e.g. By the Horns, Grain, Moor), plus keg beers from BrewDog, Meantime etc. New Antic pub opened late February in former post office premises on ground floor of residential block. Many of the post office features have been retained including the counter (now the bar), security screens (now relocated to create booths), letter box, etc. Framed telegrams and postcards adorn the walls. Formica topped tables, a mixture of old chairs, and low lighting complete the scene. The back room has postage stamp wallpaper and the two former safes now provide intimate seating areas! Board games available. Open 4-11 (midnight Fri), 12-midnight Sat and 12-11 Sun. Simple food menu includes fish, meat, burgers and sandwiches available until 10pm.

**CROYDON (CR0) FRANKIE & BENNY'S**, Valley Leisure Park, Purley Way. No real ale. New build bar and restaurant and part of F&B chain not previously reported.

## SOUTH WEST

**SW11, ALL BAR ONE**, 32-38 Northcote Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar. (U130, WB24)

**SW11, CROWN (JACK BEARDS)**, 102 Lavender Hill. Reverted to **CROWN**. Greene King: Ruddles Best Bitter. Real ale reinstated in this Enterprise pub now leased to Best Place Inns with plans for a hostel upstairs. (SW87, WB29, U213,214)

**SW16, WHITE LION**, 232 Streatham High Rd. Fuller: London Pride. Enterprise, now operated since 2010 by Music4Children charity and with hostel accommodation for 70 guests who enjoy 20% discounts at the bar. Was **WHITE LION (HOBGOBLIN)** for a while. (SW108, BSM36)

**SW19, ALL BAR ONE**, 37-39 Wimbledon Hill Rd. Fuller: London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar. (SW116, BRP28)  
**SW19, HEMINGWAY'S**, 57 High St, Wimbledon. No real ale. Independent cocktail and wine bar with keg beer, opened c2010 in former bar/restaurant premises.

**KINGSTON (KT1), FRANKIE & BENNY'S**, Unit 7, 1st Floor, The Rotunda. No real ale. Bar and restaurant and part of F&B chain not previously reported.

**RICHMOND (TW9), BROUGE (BISTRO & BELGIAN BEER CELLAR)**, 5 Hill St.. Previously unreported basement bar and restaurant with no real ale but featuring Belgian keg and bottled beers, opened by August 2008 in former restaurant premises. Renamed **PIGS EAR (BEER CELLAR)** in January 2012, now with real ale installed: cooled stillage behind the bar accommodates six varying casks from microbreweries (e.g. Otley) with two or three available at a time as advised on chalk board. Bottled beer range expanded to include 'craft' world beers.

## WEST

**FELTHAM (TW13), FRANKIE & BENNY'S**, Leisure

# Capital Pubcheck - update 223

West, Brouwells Lane. No real ale. New build bar and restaurant and part of F&B chain not previously reported.

## PUBS CLOSED, CONVERTED, DEMOLISHED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

### CENTRAL

**EC1, 26 SMITHFIELD**, Punch, ex-Bass, H removed. Formerly **NEW MARKET** and was **FROG & FIDDLE** for a while. (E21, U83,121,152,169,195,197,208)

**EC1, PRINT WORKS**, Wetherspoon, already reported closed, converted to a late night club, 'Ghost' by May 2009 but now closed again and for sale as a bar. (U167,185,204)

**EC1, WHITE HART**, Punch, now demolished. Pub was established before 1796. (E27, U159,207)

**EC4, CHAMBERS BAR**, Free, already reported converted to restaurant, now demolished along with whole block. Formerly **O'DONNELLS** and originally **RUMBOE**. (E53, U121, 184,199)

**WC2, BOADICEA**, Select Service Partners. Renamed **BEER HOUSE (CHARING CROSS)**, no real ale, H removed. Despite the reference to 'craft beers' outside, the handpumps have been replaced by a plethora of keg taps, mainly dispensing the usual lager suspects from global brewers. The 'craft beers' reference seems to apply only to some of the bottled beers from the UK, continent and USA. An unfortunate precedent and a clear warning of how the much trumpeted but undefined term 'craft

beer' is starting to be used to confuse the less well informed beer drinker and undermine the cask ale market. A Network Rail press release even refers to the Beer House as a 'real ale pub'. (W29, WC33)

**W1(Mar), DUKE OF YORK**, 35 New Cavendish St, ex-Sam Smith. Upper floors have now been converted to flats and ground floor and basement have been let to QHA Ltd who operate the **Queens Head & Artichoke**, NW1 and Norfolk Arms, WC2. It is due to be renamed **FAT OF THE LAND** on reopening at Easter. (W52, U213)

**W1(May), HOG IN THE POUND**, Greene King (Capital Pub Co), now demolished by October 2011 along with surrounding area for redevelopment. (W60, U188,220)

**W1(S), MOLLY MOGGS**, Enterprise, no real ale. (W67)

**W1(S), NANOBYTE**, Faucet Inn, ex-Broken Foot (in 2008), closed c2009 and converted to 'Otarian' vegetarian restaurant in May 2010. Closed again in July 2011 and due to reopen as 'Chipothe' Mexican restaurant. Formerly **MOON & SIXPENCE** (Wetherspoon). (W67, U185,189)

**W1(S), JERK**. Renamed **SAVANNAH JERK**, Free, no draught beer, Caribbean bottled lagers only; delete from pub database. Formerly **N2O**. (W67, U201)

**W1(S), SLUG & LETTUCE**, Town & City, ex-Bay Restaurant Group. Closed early 2010 and converted to 'Wahaca' restaurant in November 2010. (W69, U197,207,210)

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## EAST

**E7, FOREST GLEN**, ex-Bass, now signage in window says 'new restaurant opening soon'. (E108, U113,207)

**E8, DISTRICT**, ex-Bass, demolished by September 2004, site still vacant. Formerly EARL AMHURST. (E112, U159,163)

**E9, DEURAGAN ARMS**, Shepherds Lane ex-Watney, reported converted to 'Camis' club in June 1985. Now closed and still standing derelict. (omitted from E guide)

**E11, THATCHED HOUSE**, Free, already reported converted to 'All Seasons' bar/nightclub with no draught beer, which closed in 2010. Now converted to betting shop. (E130, U125,156,160,168,172,192)

**E11, BELL**, Enterprise, closed suddenly on 1 January as a surprise to regulars. (E127, U112,124,153,197)

**E11, COLEGRAVE ARMS**, Enterprise, confirmed converted to Islamic religious use as a community centre or mosque. (E127, U124,168,192,214,222)

**E14, JAMIES**, Mainpoint/Kornicis, ex-Food & Drink Group, now converted to 'Camino' Spanish restaurant. (U190,215)

**E15, CHEVY CHASE**, Punch, now converted to 'D'Graf' restaurant. Originally HOPE. (E153, U99,142,215)

**E15, ESSEX ARMS**, Enterprise, closed again by January 2012. (E153, U69,108,124,161,215)

**E17, TRYST**, Punch, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), closed December 2011. Formerly STANDARD, originally

ROYAL STANDARD. (E168, U101,157,194)

## NORTH

**N1, ELBOW ROOM**, Free house acquired with small chain by Inc Group in 2010, closed and for sale as a bar or restaurant. (U168)

**N1, MITRE**, 183 Copenhagen St, Finn Inns, now converted to residential use as the 'Rambler Building'. (N52, U181,213)

**N7, DEVONSHIRE CASTLE**, Enterprise, still closed but now legally occupied by squatters according to notice in window in June 2011. Was TONIC for a while. (N86, U188,203,213,220)

**N8, BAR APOGEE**, Punch, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), latterly bottled beers only, demolished by July 2011. Formerly O'S BAR, BLUE BAR CAFE and originally BIRD IN HAND. (N93, U143,157,199,202)

**N8, QUEENS HEAD**, Punch, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), now converted to a Turkish furniture shop in February. (N95,U211)

**N10, HILL**, Enterprise, ex-S&N, already reported as converted to restaurant, now closed. Formerly GREEN MAN. (N103, U157,182,186,213)

**N15, BLACK GRAPE**, ex-Watney, closed by January 2011 and part in use as a hostel. Formerly RIDGE BAR, originally BLACK BOY. (N123, U156,189,202,204,213)

**N15, GOAT**, ex-Punch, ex-Greenalls, closed mid 2011 and to let as 'former public house'. (N124, U138,193)

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**N20, I BAR**, Punch, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker) via Spirit, closed by August 2011. Formerly **REAL MUSIC CLUB**, **NEW BULL & BUTCHER** and originally **BULL & BUTCHER**. (N147, U198,201,203,207)

## NORTH WEST

**NW1, NW1 BAR**, Wellington Pub Co, closed and being converted to 'Coté' French chain restaurant. Formerly **PARKWAY BAR**, originally **WINDSOR CASTLE**. (N171, U171,193,CE13,217)

**NW3, MOJAMA**, ex-Laurel, now being converted to a 'Wagamama' restaurant in January 2012. Formerly **BABUSHKA**, originally **DOMO**. (U146,191)

**NW4, KERRIGANS**, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), now converted to community centre. Formerly **BELL**. (N193,U120,192)

**NW7, BELL AT MILL HILL**, Marston, closed by August 2011 and converted to a 'Prezzo' pizza restaurant by November 2011. Formerly **INDIGO CAFE BAR**. (U216)

**NW9, BLARNEY STONE**, Enterprise, closed by June 2011. Formerly **BLACKBIRDS**. (N217, U106,194,220)

**NW9, WORLDS END**, ex-Ambishus, already reported closed, converted to discount supermarket, now closed. Formerly **WHITE LION OF MORTIMER**. (U109,138,140,201)

**RUISLIP (HA4), CAFE @ THE SIX BELLS**, H unused. Note correct name. (W182, U204,209)

## SOUTH EAST

**SE1, LAMBETH WALK**, ex-Courage, closed and for sale. (SE23, U201)

**SE1, ROYAL STANDARD**, Free, now converted to 'Royal Salsa', a salsa dance club. (SE32, U184,214)

**SE1, SCENE**, Independent, ex-Courage, converted to 'Club Favour' night club. Formerly **HENRY COOPER**. (SE20, U166)

**SE1, WILLIAM**, Sycamore Taverns, now converted to 'Pho Can Tho' Vietnamese restaurant. Formerly **KING WILLIAM IV**. (SE23, U102,184,214)

**SE1, WORLD TURNED UPSIDE DOWN**, Enterprise, now converted to a Dominos pizza takeaway restaurant. (SE41,U109,116,222)

**SE8, NAVY ARMS**, ex-Ascot, now converted to flats. (SE81, U113,157,203)

**SE8, OSBORNE ARMS**, Admiral, sold and now converted to 'Jessica Mathers' charitable trust offices. (SE81, U210)

**SE9, GREYHOUND (YE OLDE)**, Enterprise, ex-S&N, ground floor converted to 'Yak & Yeti' Indian/Nepalese restaurant, upper floor to flats. Retains pub signage. (SE86, U107,158,193,211,213)

**SE10, ROYAL GEORGE**, Shepherd Neame, now converted to two flats following a majority decision by Greenwich Council's Planning Committee in 2010 to approve Sheps' planning application, disregarding objections and with scant regard to its local community value. Ironically, the pub name and Sheps' badging remain at the top of the building. (SE101, U209,210,211,213)

**SE14, DOWN THE HATCH**, Free, now converted to a Dominos pizza takeaway restaurant by June 2011. Formerly **HATCHAM ARMS**. (SE127, U158,186)

**SE14, DUKE OF ALBANY**, ex-Courage, now converted to residential use by June 2011. (SE127, U199)

**SE14, FLOWER OF KENT**, ex-Courage, H removed.

(SE127)

**SE14, FOX**, Free, formerly reported converted to tyre shop, now in use for religious purposes by June 2011, an extension to the 'New Faith Tabernacle' church behind. (SE127, U102)

**SE14, FOX & HOUNDS**, ex-Courage, demolished by June 2011 along with surrounding area for redevelopment. (SE127)

**SE14, NEW CROSS INN**, Independent, ex-Courage, H removed. A music venue with a hostel on upper floors. (SE128)

**SE14, ROYAL ARCHER**, Free, now converted to residential use. (SE130, U102,120,199)

**SE15, BUN HOUSE**, Admiral, ex-Enterprise, closed and sold to property developer. (SE134, U159,219)

**SE15, MAISMORE ARMS**, ex-Courage, now demolished. (SE136, U160)

**SE15, MONTAGUE ARMS**, Free, closed in February following bereavement of long standing licensees, Stan and Bet. Future uncertain for this famous entertainment pub full of eclectic paraphernalia. (SE128, U102 – incorrectly listed under SE14 in SE guide)

**SE15, SWAN**, Punch, now demolished. (SE140, U219)

**SE16, PRINCE OF WALES**, Shepherd Neame, closed and boarded up in February 2012. (SE150, U165)

**SE17, CROWN**, Independent, ex-Punch by January 2010, formerly Bass. Closed by January 2012. Wenlock Brewery exterior decoration still intact. (SE156)

**SE17, MONAGHANS**, ex-Watney, now converted to betting shop. Formerly **KINGS HEAD**. (SE159, U188,195)

**SE18, GREAT HARRY**, Wetherspoon, now work underway to reopen, following fire damage in summer 2011 riots. (U154,161,207,220)

**SE20, ROYAL OAK**, Punch, ex-Bass (not Free), sold by September 2005, closed by March 2011. (SE190, U102)

**SE21, SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON**, ex-Watney, now demolished and replaced by new housing by January 2012. (SE194, U191)

**SE22, CASABLANCA TAVERN**, Free, converted to residential use by February 2012. (U102)

**SE22, HEBER ARMS**, ex-Courage, converted to residential use by January 2012. (SE200)

**SE22, SPRINGERS WINE BAR**, Free, converted to butchers shop by February 2012 (SE201)

**CHISLEHURST (BR7), STATIONMASTER (YE OLDE)**, Punch. Renamed **BICKLEY (THE)** in 2008. Now operated primarily as a restaurant. Although you can order a drink in a small bar area without eating, only bottled beers are available; delete from pub database. Formerly **BICKLEY ARMS**. (3SE225, U107, 8K63, U164)

## SOUTH WEST

**SW1 (W), MASH TUN**, Select Service Partners, confirmed converted to 'Wasabi' 'sushi and bento' outlet. Formerly **VICTORIA TAVERN**. (SW50, U181,220)

**SW1 (W), WESTMINSTER**, Free, closed December 2011, formerly **PAGES BAR**, originally **WESTMINSTER ARMS**. (SW49, U181)

**SW4, PERFECT BLEND**, Independent, renamed **PARK HOUSE** in November 2010, another cafe/restaurant/bar, but now closed. (U204, CSL17)

**SW4, SAND**, Free, now converted to children's shop. Formerly **CLOCK HOUSE**. (SW59, U204,205, CSL39)

**SW8, DEWDROP**, ex-Allied Domecq (latterly Marpletime), now demolished in February after three years' closure. (SW76, U204, CSL26)

**SW9, JUNCTION (LOUGHBOROUGH)**, Free, already reported converted to residential, the ground floor is however used as an office for a local regeneration project. Formerly **WARRIOR**. (SW84, U207, BSM43)

**SW17, PRINCE OF WALES**, Young. Freehold for sale with 'possible retail/residential use' and Tesco understood to be interested. Closed late February and bar interior since gutted. English Heritage sadly but understandably rejected a last minute appeal for listing that might have saved this much loved pub. (SW110, BM18)

**SW19, BREWERY TAP**, Enterprise, ground floor now converted to Caffè Nero restaurant. A scandal. (SW116, BRP30, U217,218,220)

**SW19, GROVE SW19**, Independent, sold to unknown purchaser and closed on 7 March; future uncertain. Formerly **GROVE TAVERN** and was **DOYLES** for a while. (SW117, BM27, U210,211,221,222)

**SW20, EMMA HAMILTON**, ex-Punch, planning application now submitted to Merton Council for demolition and replacement by a five storey block of 57 flats. (SW125, BRP37, U199,214)

**MITCHAM (CR4), CRICKETERS**, Independent, ex-Young. On 17 February, Merton's Planning Applications Committee rejected a second application for insensitive

redevelopment of the site of this closed pub in the historic Mitcham Green conservation area. (SW145, BSM38, U214)

## WEST

**W4, DEVONSHIRE ARMS**, Independent (Ben Maschler), closed again, future uncertain. Formerly **DEVONSHIRE HOUSE**. (W88, U198,216,220)

**W6, OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE**, Free, now demolished. (W104, U192)

**W12, STINGING NETTLE**, Young, closed by January 2012 and freehold sold to PPR Estates for 'development use'. PPR intend to convert the upper floors to residential use and the ground floor and basement for 'alternative commercial use and investment'. The loss of another community local. More evidence that Young Pub Co appear more interested in realising property values than operating pubs. Formerly **BUSHRANGER**. (W122, U199,200)

**HOUNSLOW (TW4), DUKE OF WELLINGTON**, Greene King, closed and boarded up following sale of pub to Sainsbury's and planning permission granted by Hounslow Council for various ancillary changes facilitating conversion to supermarket use. (W167, U215,222)

**TEDDINGTON (TW11), QUEEN DOWAGER**, ex-Young. Planning permission for demolition and replacement by four houses by property developer owner refused by Richmond Council in February. (W196, U221,222)

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throughout May

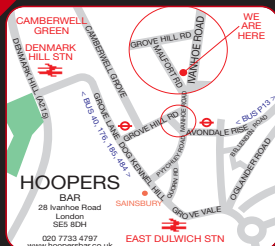
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# Capital Pubcheck - update 223

## OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

### CENTRAL

**EC1, AL'S.** Renamed **CARAVAN** in 2010. Primarily a restaurant with a small bar area. Still no real ale. (U144)

**EC1, EXMOUTH ARMS.** -beers listed; +varying beers from micros (e.g. Oakham, Redemption) on four handpumps, +unusual keg and bottled selection. Refurbished. (E15, U164)

**EC1, MATCH.** Renamed **GIANT ROBOT** in 2010. Now a 'bar cafe deli diner', still no real ale. (U145)

**EC1, KING OF DIAMONDS.** Renamed **ARGYLE** after refurbishment by Stonegate and branded 'Classic Inns', -Greene King: IPA; +Sharp; Doom Bar; +2 guest beers (e.g. Redemption; Sambrook) (E19, U151,204,217)

**EC1, SMITHFIELD GRILL.** Should read **SMITHFIELD BAR & GRILL.** Operated by 'Blackhouse' group. (U197)

**EC3, HENNESSY'S.** -Greene King: OSH; +Sharp: Doom Bar. Independent, ex-Bass in 2001. (E43, U171)

**EC3, SHIP,** 11 Talbot Ct, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +St Austell: Tribute; +Sharp; Doom Bar; +5 guests from regionals and micros. Now M&B (Nicholson), ex-Bass. Formerly **SHIP TAVERN.** (E42, U131,151)

**WC1, LORD JOHN RUSSELL.** -John Smith: Bitter; -Budvar; Yeast Beer; +Brains: Bitter. Operated by Wellington Pub Co. (W19, WC19, U220)

**WC1, QUEENS HEAD,** 66 Acton St, -beers listed; +3 varying guest beers (e.g. Oakham). (W24, U213, WC25)

**WC2, SAVOY TUP,** +Pilgrim: Surrey Bitter. Pub remains open and trading. (W40, U216, WC54)

**WC2, SUN TAVERN.** -beers listed; +Courage: Directors; +Thwaites: Wainwright. S&NPC pub now leased to Morton-Scott, ex-Market Taverns. (W41, WC58)

**W1(S), VILLAGE SOHO.** Now simply **VILLAGE.** Now Novus since 2010, ex-Soho Clubs & Bars via Urbium in 2008, still no real ale. (W70)

### EAST

**E2, STICK OF ROCK.** Former pub in retail use since c1993 until 2011, acquired by Barworks Pub Co who plan to reopen it as a pub under its original name, **WELL & BUCKET** in April 2012. (E85, U70,89,99,113)

**E11, LOADED DOG.** Renamed **SHEPHERDS INN.** Independent pub, now part of Lithuanian pub/restaurant chain 'berneliu užėja' ('Lads Pub'). Primarily operates as a restaurant but retains a small bar area. Still no real ale. Formerly **EROSION**, **FAZE II** and originally **COWLEY ARMS.** (E128, U124,134,155,168,187,209,214)

**E18, MORTIMER'S.** Renamed **LIZARD LOUNGE**, still no real ale. (U147)

### NORTH

**N1, BETJEMAN ARMS.** -beers listed; +Sharp: Cornish Coaster (house beer badged Betjeman Ale); +2 guests (e.g. Wells Bombardier, Sambrook's Wandle). Formerly **SHIRES BAR** and in **NW1.** (N174, U179,200,213,218)

**N1, COMPASS.** -beers listed; +Adnams: Meantime Pale Ale; +Black Sheep; Bitter; +East London: Foundation. Now Independent, ex-Courage. Formerly **SALMON & COMPASSES.** (N57, U142,184,207)

**N1, KING CHARLES I.** -beers listed; +4 varying beers always including Brodies beers. Formerly **CRAIC HOUSE** and **CHARLES THE FIRST.** (N39, U137,184,185,186,204,215)

**N1, WENLOCK ARMS.** **N1, WENLOCK ARMS.** Now statutorily protected by the Regent's Canal Conservation area and all thought of demolition forgotten. The current owners are due to complete sale of the pub to Wenlock LLP in early April and the new owner intends to refurbish it; plans are well underway. There may be a period of temporary closure at handover. (N62,IS21,U214,220,221,222)

**N3, INNISFREE.** Renamed **INFINITY** by June 2011. Formerly **LEGENDS.** (N69, U152, 188,216)

**BARNET (EN5), LORD NELSON.** Freehold for sale by Young's for £525k with vacant possession. (N251, H19,U179)

### NORTH WEST

**NW1, BREE LOUISE.** Threatened with demolition to make way for proposed rebuild of Euston Station as part of HS2 rail, construction, due to commence in 2018. Enterprise pub leased by Craig Douglas with an extensive range of cask ales and ciders on handpump and gravity. Formerly **JOLLY GARDENERS.** (N168, U178, CE7, U212)

**NW4, CHEQUERS.** -beers listed except Courage: Best Bitter. (N193, U153,162,169)

**NW5, DARTMOUTH ARMS.** New planning application submitted for conversion of upper floors to flats and transfer of kitchen to basement; original application withdrawn. (N198,CE26,U207,212,217)

**NW7, THREE HAMMERS.** -beers listed; +Adnams: Broadside; +Fuller: London Pride; +guest beer (e.g. Itchen Valley). Now M&B (Ember Inns), ex-Six Continents. (N210, U151,165)

**NW9, GEORGE.** -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA, Royal London. Punch, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker). (N217, U208)

**NORTHWOOD (HA6), NORTHWOOD HILLS.** Renamed **NAMESTE LOUNGE**, still an Indian bar and restaurant with no real ale. (W178, U195)

**RUISLIP (HA4), PLOUGH.** Acquired by M&B from Whitbread (Beefeater) and rebranded as a 'Miller & Carter' steakhouse, -Wadworth: 6X; +Adnams: Broadside but not available to non-diners. (W182)

**WEALDSTONE (HA3), WEALDSTONE INN,** Punch, freehold for sale. (W218)

### SOUTH EAST

**SE1, BLUE EYED MAID.** -beers listed; +Greene King: IPA; +Taylor; Landlord; +guest. Punch, ex-Watney. (SE10, U145)

**SE1, KINGS ARMS,** 65 Newcomen St, -beers listed; +Flowers: Best; +Harvey: Sussex Best Bitter; +Sharp: Doom Bar. Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique. (SE23)

**SE9, BEEHIVE.** -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride; +Sharp; Doom Bar; +Wells: Bombardier. Now leased to Gladewood Taverns. (SE85, U107, 207,208)

**SE11, GREYHOUND.** Renamed **BROWN DERBY** by October 2011. Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique. (SE107, U175)

**SE14, AMERSHAM ARMS.** -beers listed; +Bath: Gem; +Harvey: Sussex Best Bitter. Enterprise, ex-Courage via Unique. (SE125)

**SE14, MARQUIS OF GRANBY.** Subsidiary name **KELLYS BAR** now removed, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride. Punch, ex-Bass. (SE128, U144)





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**SE14, ROYAL ALBERT**, -beers listed; +varying beers from micros (e.g. Dark Star, Kent) and real cider. Formerly **SIX STRINGS BAR** and **PARADISE BAR** for a while. An Antic pub. (SE128, U102,184,192,216)

**SE14, TELEGRAPH (AT THE EARL OF DERBY)**, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Fuller: Gales Seafarers Ale, seasonal beer. Operated by Remarkable Restaurants group. (SE127, U199,216)

**SE14, WALPOLE PUB**. Reverted to simply **WALPOLE**, still H unused. (SE131, U216)

**SE21, ALLEYNS HEAD**, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Taylor: Landlord; +Wells: Young's Bitter; +5 varying guests from Ember Inns quarterly list. Now M&B (Ember Inns), ex-Six Continents. (SE194, U165)

**SE22, EDT (EAST DULWICH THEATRE)**. Reverted to full name **EAST DULWICH TAVERN**, -beers listed; +Adnams: Lighthouse; +2 each from Dark Star and Skinners. Beers may vary. (SE198, U152,216)

**SE22, FOREST HILL TAVERN**. Renamed **ROSE** by February 2012, -beers listed; + Fuller: London Pride; +Otter: Bitter. (SE198, U107,203)

**SE22, HARVESTER (GROVE TAVERN)**. Now reverted to **GROVE** under Stonegate ownership and all Harvester branding removed. Still no real ale. (SE198, U171,217)

**SE22, MAGNOLIA**. Now simply **MAG** by January 2012, -beers listed; +Sharp: Doom Bar; +Taylor: Landlord. Formerly **MAGDALA**. (SE200, U202)

**SE22, PALMERSTON**, -beers listed; +Harvey: Sussex Best Bitter; +Hogs Back: TEA; + Sharp: Doom Bar. Formerly

**LORD PALMERSTON**. (SE200, U122,179)

**SIDCUP (DA15), BLACK HORSE (YE OLDE)**, -beers listed; +Adnams: Bitter, seasonal beer; +Wells: Bombardier. Now Spirit, ex-Courage via Punch (managed). (3SE273, U60, K127)

**THORNTON HEATH (CR7), LORD NAPIER**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £425k; existing lease expires 2014. (3SE283)

**THORNTON HEATH (CR7), RAILWAY TELEGRAPH**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £495k; existing lease expires 2013. (3SE284)

## SOUTH WEST

**SW3, CROSS KEYS**, Independent. Planning application to convert to a 'mansion' single dwelling refused by Kensington & Chelsea Council. Pub still trading in March. (SW56, U192,220)

**SW8, PLOUGH INN**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £600k with vacant possession. (SW79, CSL33)

**SW11, CASTLE**, Independent, ex-Young, now threatened with demolition. A vigorous 'Defend the Castle' campaign has been mounted by local residents, with support from CAMRA and nearby Sambrook's Brewery, to canvass effective objection to a planning application for wholesale redevelopment by Languard Investments Ltd, the property speculators to whom Young's had sold this pub and others. Given the choice between continuing to campaign for the survival of the Castle and remaining there as Languard tenants after 22 May, Aaron and Cate have chosen to campaign. Good for them! Languard will

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# Capital Pubcheck - update 223

hardly win friends and influence people by closing a popular and now deservedly high profile pub. Local MP Jane Ellison is among its active defenders. The application will be considered by Wandsworth's Planning Committee on 18 April. (SW87, WB28, U220)

**SW12, NIGHTINGALE**, +Twickenham beers. (SW92, BM9)

**SW14, CHARLIE BUTLER**, -Greene King IPA; +Fuller: London Pride; +Wells: Young's Bitter. Planning application from developer/owner to demolish this ex-Young's pub and replace it with flats deferred by Richmond Council with request for justification of loss of pub and impact on area. Meanwhile the pub remains open and trading. (SW97, RHP7, U197,200,221,222)

**SW15, PRINCE OF WALES**. Punch, ex-Spirit. Leasehold interest sold by Etive Pubs Ltd to Food & Fuel gastropub operator. (SW103, BRP22, U202)

**SW15, SPENCER ARMS**. Renamed simply **SPENCER** and now owned by small multiple operator Gareth Lloyd Jones, ex-Honor Ltd. Was **PUTNEY PAGE** for a while. (SW104, BRP22)

**SW17, BOWLER**. Renamed **ALTHORP** after purchase by Gareth Lloyd Jones. A sister gastro-pub of the Spencer and the Canonbury, N1. (U216)

**SW17, GORRINGE PARK**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £600k with vacant possession. (SW109, BM12)

**SW19, COMMOM ROOM**. Now Koricis, ex-Food & Drink Group. Still no real ale. (U181, BRP30)

**SW19, CROOKED BILLET**, +Twickenham beers. (SW117, BRP30)

**SW19, PRINCE OF WALES**, 2 Hartfield Rd, -beers listed except Fuller: London Pride; +Greene King: OSH; +Taylor: Landlord; +2 other beers. Now Spirit again after a spell as Punch Pub Co (managed) and branded 'Taylor Walker'. (SW118, BM28)

**RICHMOND (TW9), MITRE**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £525k; existing lease expires in 2013. (SW155, RHP23, U222)

## WEST

**W13, FORESTER**. Freehold sold by Enterprise to Fuller's in March 2012 as part of a package of 16 pubs totalling £25.4m, all the remainder being outside Greater London. The tenants, MC Bars have recently spent £300k on refurbishment and the pub has been given 'LocAle' status by CAMRA West Middlesex branch in recognition of the availability of well kept beers from Sambrook's and Twickenham as well as Fuller's. It is to be hoped that such choice will remain. (W126, U221,222)

**TWICKENHAM (TW1), MARBLE HILL**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £600k with vacant possession. Formerly **RISE SUN**. (W204, U209)

**TWICKENHAM (TW1), OLD ANCHOR**. Freehold for sale by Young's for £650k; existing lease expires in 2014. (W203)

**TWICKENHAM (TW2), RIFLEMAN**. The popular tenants have announced that they have given notice to leave within six months owing to an unacceptable rent hike by Enterprise. (W204, U191,217,218)

## CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 222

### NEW & REOPENED PUBS ETC

**E1, MARKET COFFEE HOUSE (ENGLISH**

**RESTAURANT)**, 50/52 Brushfield St. Should read **ENGLISH RESTAURANT**, formerly 'Market Coffee House'. Grade II-listed building with dining room upstairs. Salvaged interior from Bell, Carter Lane, demolished in 1999.

**NW1, CIDER TAP**. Address is 188 Euston Rd.

**SE9, WHITE HART**. Add: Reopened.

**W7, INN ON THE GREEN**. Formerly **DOLPHIN**.

## PUBS CLOSED ETC

**N17, ANTWERP ARMS**. Delete 'still'.

**SE1, LORD NELSON**, 386 Old Kent Rd. Delete entry, thankfully still trading. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

**SE23, FOREST HILL**. Should read: Upper floors being converted to flats, ground floor future uncertain.

## OTHER CHANGES ETC

**N8, MAYNARD**. Last ref should read HH27.

**SE5, CASTLE**. Add: not Free.

**SE15, AFRIKAKA** should read **AFRIKIKO**.

**UXBRIDGE (UB8), MALT SHOVEL**. Formerly **SHOVEL**

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The following pubs have joined the London LocAle scheme since the full listing in the last issue of *London Drinker*.

Bald Faced Stag	69 High Rd, East Finchley	N2 8AB	Sambrook's, Windsor & Eton
Bull	13 North Hill, Highgate	N6 4AB	LBC (house beers), Redemption, Sambrooks
Dignity	363 Regents Park Rd, Finchley	N3 1DH	Sambrook's
Elephant Inn	283 Ballards La, North Finchley	N12 8NR	Fuller's
Forester	2 Leighton Rd, West Ealing	W13 9EP	Fuller's, Sambrook's, Twickenham varies
Foresters Arms	Upper Wickham La, Welling	DA16 3ER	Fuller's
North Nineteen	194-196 Sussex Way, Upper Holloway	N19 4HZ	Brodies, Fuller's, Sambrook's
Orange Tree	18 Highfield Rd, Winchmore Hill	N21 3HA	Fuller's, Redemption, other
Pineapple	51 Leverton St, Kentish Town	NW5 2NX	Brodies, Redemption, Sambrook's
Questors Grapevine Bar	12 Mattock La, Ealing	W5 5BQ	Various
Southall Conservative & Unionist Club	Fairlawns, High St, Southall	UB1 3HB	Rebellion
Tabard	2 Bath Rd, Turnham Green	W4 1LW	Red Squirrel, Sambrook's or Windsor & Eton
Volunteer	46 Church Rd, Bexleyheath	DA7 4DA	Millis
Wonder	1 Batley Rd, Enfield	EN2 0JG	McMullen

The complete list is now maintained at [www.camralondon.org.uk](http://www.camralondon.org.uk)

## GEOFF HARPER, 1914-2012

Well known CAMRA campaigner and member of Richmond & Hounslow Branch, Geoff Harper passed away at West Middlesex Hospital on 27 January at the age of 97.

Although his parents were originally from Herefordshire, Geoffrey Meredith Harper was born in Brentford in 1914, and, apart from a brief period soon after birth back in Herefordshire to escape the zeppelins, he spent almost his entire life in Twickenham.

On leaving school at the age of 15, Geoff joined the Post Office - his father had been a postman - starting as a telegram delivery boy, about which he had several interesting tales to tell. He worked his way up to becoming manager of the sorting office that was behind the Post Office in London Road (later at a newly-developed site over the railway bridge). It was unfortunate that he was uneasy with his final position as there was considerable industrial unrest at the time. Geoff was very relieved when his retirement date finally came and he could again be a loyal friend to former colleagues, as indeed he was to his seven brothers and sisters and their children: a true family patriarch who could be relied on for sound advice and guidance. Many of us were not aware that Geoff married in 1941, but his beloved wife Phyllis died in 1979 and they did not have any children.

Probably around retirement time (or perhaps earlier: records are not clear) Geoff joined the rapidly growing CAMRA (member number 4294 under the current system), which became his principal non-family interest. Although not holding any officer positions, Geoff was a very regular attendee at branch meetings, socials, beer festivals and other



er events. He much enjoyed attending CAMRA AGM weekends, usually with friend and former colleague the late Bernard Flynn, and especially those at Portsmouth and Hove when he found time to indulge in his great love of sea swimming - even though then over 80. He and Bernard were also regular weekly visitors to the 100 Club in Oxford Street for his other great passion, jazz music, and no doubt had some influence over the Club's serving of real ale.

It was entirely appropriate that on 14 February 2003 when JD Wetherspoon opened the 'Sorting Room' (now the William Webb Ellis) in the old Post Office building, Geoff was invited to the opening and to pull the first pint. A framed photograph of him on an old Post Office bicycle, in the company of other local CAMRA members, is still prominently displayed.

Once he was into his 90s, Geoff's enjoyment of life was hampered by the onset of tremors associated with Parkinson's Disease. His appearances at branch events grew fewer because he felt embarrassed at having to drink through a straw, and increasing deafness was causing him problems, but he did continue to deliver *London Drinker* to several local pubs until finally taking heed of advice that he should no longer be driving! Having sold his car, he would then most mornings cycle to the William Webb Ellis for breakfast, claiming that his bicycle was more reliable than his legs.

A remarkable, dedicated, loyal and friendly man, and our sympathies are with his surviving relatives: his nieces and nephews, Sabrina and Elizabeth Fuller, Monica and Clifford Harper, and Patty French.

*Roy Hurry*

# Idle Moments

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

## NUMBER PUZZLES:

- 3 Piers at Blackpool
- 80 Quatre Vingt in French
- 6 Top Ten Hits of Bob Dylan
- 1951 Year of the Festival of Britain
- 30 Pieces of Silver
- 1 for His Nob
- 2 Points for the Yellow Ball in Snooker
- 997 Highest Prime Number under One Thousand
- 4 EC Postal Districts in the City of London
- 3 Dashes is O in Morse Code

## 5BY4: (What the Romans called them)

- Durnovaria – Dorchester
- Deva – Chester
- Verulamium – St. Albans
- Danum – Doncaster
- Eboracum – York
- Camulodunum – Colchester
- Lactodorum – Towcester
- Sulloniacis – Edgware
- Salinae – Middleswich
- Durolipons – Cambridge

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

- Natalia Nikolaeva Zakharenko was professionally known as Natalie Wood.
- The colour that the male Sinai Agama, (a small lizard) turns in the mating season is a striking shade of blue.
- Portia Simpson Miller was sworn in on 5th January 2012 as Prime minister of Jamaica.
- The Hugo Awards (named after Hugo Gernsback) are awarded annually for Science Fiction.
- Fingal's Cave, celebrated in Mendelssohn's 'Hebrides Overture' is on the island of Staffa.
- Fingal's Cave's name in Gaelic, Uamh-Binn; means 'Cave of Melody' in English.
- Nunney Castle, built for Sir John Delamere in 1733, is in Somerset.
- The Red Devils are a parachute display team.
- In Greek mythology Hygieia was the goddess of good health.
- The Ealing Comedy film in which all eight victims were played by Alec Guinness was Kind Hearts and Coronets. The murderer was Dennis Price.

*Pessimism, when you get used to it, is just as agreeable as optimism* (Arnold Bennett 1867-1931).

**A**s an engineer for most of my life, I know what he meant – but I'm not sure I can agree with him. Anyway, here are some number puzzles to cheer us up (Easily pleased, some people!)

- 64 Y of QVR
- 24 P (or B) on a BB
- 2 of EA on NA

- 40 DT
- 100 S on a S and LB
- 27 L is the CC of a RRME
- 4 A on the C of L
- 48 F in a S (OC)
- 30 P in a G of H
- 1 NOH by BH

Following the popularity of last time's 5BY4 (not a single complaint!), I thought I would follow it up with 'More Roman Names.' Can you match the archaic names with the modern ones?

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Dubris           | A. Isle of Wight     |
| 2. Praetorium       | B. Staines           |
| 3. Durocornovium    | C. Ilkley            |
| 4. Olicana          | D. Dover             |
| 5. Calcaria         | E. Bridlington       |
| 6. Ad Pontes        | F. Dunstable         |
| 7. Vectis           | G. Tadcaster         |
| 8. Isca Dumnoniorum | H. Chester-le-Street |
| 9. Concangis        | I. Exeter            |
| 10. Durocobrivis    | J. Swindon           |

And now, after much scraping of assorted barrels (mainly metaphoric ones), here are some nice straightforward questions which you might like to try answering. Call them general knowledge if you like – or trivia – or whatever; here they come:

- Where in London are both Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin buried (along with quite a lot of other famous people)?
- On 6th March this year it was announced that the Queen had approved the appointment of David Ison to what role (based in London)?
- Who was the author of the book 'I Didn't Know You Cared' which spawned a couple of TV series of the same name and 'Tales from a Long Room'?
- By what epithet is Pat Clifton better known?
- After John Leyton reached No. 1 in the pop charts with 'Johnny Remember Me' the follow up reached No. 2 (his only other top ten hit) – what was it called?
- What was the name of the group fronted by Ian Hunter that took its name from the title of a novel by Willard Manus?
- What 1960's pop hit took its title from the motto of Boys Town, made famous by the eponymous film starring Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney?
- A particular form of what household appliance was invented and patented by Albert Einstein and his former student Leo Szilard in 1930?
- Who was the engineer who designed the first tunnel to be built under a river?
- In which naval dockyard was HMS Victory built?

And so there you have it. I hope you have enjoyed this little venture into self improvement (Hah!); at least it's better than watching footie on the goggle box. Yes it is!

All right – please yourselves.

Until next time . . .

*Andy Pirson*



# WHAT'LL IT BE THEN?

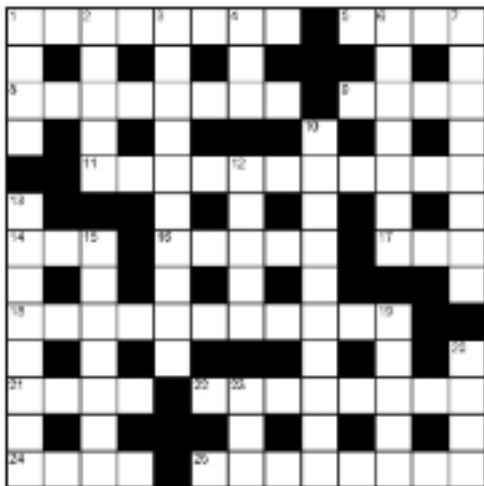
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Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



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

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

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

We apologise for an error in the solution for the December crossword. 15 Down should have read "ENDMOST," not "ENDOOST."

## FEBRUARY'S SOLUTION



## £20 PRIZE TO BE WON

### ACROSS

1. Fellow pilot going down. It causes a strain [8]
- 5 and 9. Worry for boss taking on a revolutionary. [4,4]
8. Provide expedition except for the old enemy. [4,4]
9. See 5.
11. May God make the Queen long to do it. [5,4,2]
14. It provides a service in the dispensary. [1,1,1]
16. Gas found right inside silver working. [5]
17. Sink seen in passageway. [3]
18. Coins sent around to outskirts of city bringing harmony. [11]
21. Broderick is holding a flower. [4]
22. English girl is attached to a railway representative. [8]
24. Head off from 19 direction. [4]
25. Is it fair to put beast in trap? Completely the opposite. [8]

### DOWN

1. Accountant given hush money. [4]
2. One who exists for the organ. [5]
3. In return almost deceive a group of police officers. It's hazardous. [6,4]
4. It grows during Michaelmas. [3]
6. See corn being popped. They ask for more. [7]
7. Arrange time for training. [8]
10. Setter making regular students upset. [7,3]
12. Weird thing in the dark. [5]
13. Reveal princess is nearby. [8]
15. Satisfies desires of wild creatures, it's said. [7]
19. It works in a brewery. [5]
20. Sort some twenty pence pieces. [4]
23. Damage upturned sign. [3]

Winner of the prize for the December Crossword:  
D. Fleming, London SE16.

Other correct entries were received from:

John Adams, Ted Alleway, Pat Andrews, Mark Antony, Raymond Austin, Hilary Ayling, D.J. Bell, Alan Bird, Steve Block, Jeremy Brinkworth, Mark Broadhead, Sarah Brown, John Butler, Eddie Carr, John Cattemull, Mike Chewter, Jon Christie, A. Cockayne, Chas Creasey, J.A. Creasey, Kevin Creighton, N. Cunnane, Paul Curson, Peter Curson, Michael Davis, P. Desmond, John Dodd, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Steve Downey, Tom Drane, D. Duggan, Jonathan Edwards, Martin Evans, Kathryn Everett, Brian Exford, Mike Farrelly, Robert Ferrier, Nigel Fitch, M. Fletcher, Dudley Freeman, Sally Fullerton, Marion Goodall, Paul Gray, J.E. Green, Anthony Greenbury, Alan Greer, Richard Gregory, Mrs J. Guaitolini, Caroline Guthrie, Stuart Guthrie & Win Tawarna, Brian Hall, Dave Hardy, Roy Harris, Joe Hart, John Heakin, John Heath, F. Hegarty, Andrew Hide, Graham Hill, William Hill, Ron Holt, David Hughes, Chris James, Carol Jenkins, Claire Jenkins, David Jiggins, D.M.L. Jones, Simon Jones, Mike Joyce, Ian Kellock, Honor & Dick Krol, Mick Lancaster, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, Tony Lennon, Julie Lee, Rosemary Lever, Andy Lindenburn, Tim Llewellyn, Mike Lloyd, G. Lopatis, Derek McDonnell, Sheila McGrath, Ken McKenzie, Pat Maginn, MAP of Guildford, Allan Marshall, Tony Martin, Terry Mellor, Jan Mondrzejewski, M.J. Moran, Al Mountain, John Mulcahy, Dave Murphy, J. Murphy, Brian Myhill, Mark Nichols, Paul Nicholls, G. Notley, Anne & Mike O'Sullivan, Michael Oliver, Laurie Parkes, Nigel Parsons, G. Patterson, Alan Pennington, Mark Pilkington, G. Pote, Barrie Powell, Jeanette Powell, Nicholas Priest, Derek Pryce, Pat Quinn, F. Read, Paul Rogers, Richard Rogers, Miss Sadier, John Savage, Fergal Scott, Bob Smith, Lesley Smith, Ian Sneesby, Ivan Stevenage, Ian Symes, Bill Thackray, John Turnbull, Vic the Beard, Tom Vickers, Andy Wakefield, Leo Walsh, Martin Weedon, Alan Welsh, Martine Welsman, Mrs E.A. Whale, Janet Wight, John Williamson, Sue Wilson, Bob Winrow, D. Woodgate, David Woodward, Jennifer Woodward, Peter Wright & the Missus, Ray Wright, Eric Zoriot.

There were also 9 incorrect and one incomplete entries.

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