

FREE

Vol 34
No 6



Dec
Jan
2012/13



The former Warren pub in Hounslow (see pages 33-34)

THE DUKE OF HAMILTON

EST 1721

23-25 NEW END • HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE • NW3 1JD

A proper British pub

- Immaculately kept local beers and microbrews
- Hearty home cooked food and snacks
- Sun trapped beer garden
- 320 ales served in our first year

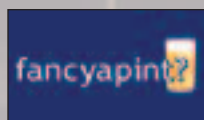


Tel: 020 7794 0258

twitter: @dukeofhamilton

www.thedukeofhamilton.com

**Best
London Pub of
the Year 2011**
*Fancy a Pint
Reviewers
Awards*



5 PINT RATED PUB



All ales £2.70 a pint Mondays and Tuesdays. See website for ales on tap.

London Drinker is published
on behalf of the
London Branches of CAMRA, the
Campaign for Real Ale Limited,
and edited jointly by
Tony Hedger and Mark Davies.
Tel: 07790 750024.

Material for publication should preferably be
sent by e-mail to LD@daviesolutions.co.uk.

Correspondents unable to send letters to the edi-
tors electronically may post them to
Brian Sheridan at 4, Arundel Road, Heathfield
Road, Croydon CR0 1EZ.

Press releases should be sent by email to
LDnews.hedger@gmail.com

Changes to pubs or beers should be reported to
Capital Pubcheck,

2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR or by
e-mail to capitalpubcheck@hotmail.com.

For publication in February 2013, please send
electronic documents to the editors no later than
Monday 14 January.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: £7.00 for mailing of six
editions should be sent to Stan Tompkins,
52 Rabbs Mill House, Chiltern View Road,
Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 2PD (cheques payable
to CAMRA London).

ADVERTISING: John Galpin
Tel: 020 3287 2966.

Printed by Cliffe Enterprise,
Eastbourne, BN22 8TR

Views expressed in this publication are those of their
individual authors and are not necessarily endorsed by
the Editor or the Campaign for Real Ale Limited.

Advertise in the next
LONDON DRINKER

Our advertising rates are as follows:
Whole page £325 (colour) £260 (mono)
Half page £195 (colour), £145 (mono)
Quarter page £105 (colour), £80 (mono)

Phone John Galpin now on
020 3287 2966, Mobile 07508 036835
johngalpinmedia@gmail.com

In this issue

Branch diaries	4
News round-up	10
Beer duty lobby	21
Capital Pubcheck	22
Membership form	32
Supermarket sweep	33
Assets of Community Value	34
CAMRA design awards	36
London CAMRA awards	38
A Gothic tale	44
London Pubs Group crawl	46
London brewery tour	48
West Middlesex awards	48
Letters	50
Cider crawl	50
Obituaries	53
LocAle update	54
Idle Moments	56
Crossword	58



Hello . . .

As the Rolling Stones once said,
"Please allow me to introduce my-
self", although I hope that one or two
of you may have been reading the News
round-up over the last few years so will
know my name.

With effect from the last issue I have
also taken over as joint editor alongside
Mark Davies. I would like to thank my
predecessor, Sarah Bleksley, for the
breath of fresh air that she brought to
London Drinker and to wish her all the
very best for her future plans.

I thought that this would be an ap-
propriate moment to explain our editor-
ial policies and practice. First, this is
not a magazine for CAMRA members.
It is put together by CAMRA members
for the general pub-going public, pri-
marily – but not exclusively – those
with an interest in cask conditioned
beer and the pubs that serve it. If those
who prefer to drink lager, wine or spir-
its want to read it, that is fine by us.
When it comes to keeping pubs in busi-
ness, their money is as good as anyone
else's and they also have a right to know
what is going on. You never know, they
might even be tempted to give real ale a
try.

We aim to keep the content balanced
and readable but inevitably our focus
will be on campaigning and explaining
how and why CAMRA is tackling vari-
ous issues. That does not mean that we
will not print contrary views, although
London Drinker is not the proper
forum for internal CAMRA disagree-
ments.

A few readers have complained about
the number of advertisements in the
magazine. While we will always try
very hard to provide an appropriate bal-
ance of editorial content, it is the adver-
tising that enables us not to charge for
the magazine and we make no apologies
for that. Consequently, London Drinker

does not draw any subsidy from
CAMRA centrally towards its produc-
tion costs. All articles are contributed
by volunteers and the magazine is put
together and published on the same
basis. In any case, the advertisements
are intended to interest readers in the
drinks, venues or events featured. I
should make it clear however that our
accepting an advert does not automati-
cally imply endorsement by CAMRA of
the pub or company in question.

CAMRA is of course a consumer or-
ganisation and indeed is acknowledged
as one of the most successful in Europe.
If any reader experiences poor service
in a pub or similar, then we would urge
you to complain – but equally, if you
have just been served some top quality
beer, why not tell the staff on the way
out? Please however, if you can, make
any complaint on the spot or write to
the pub or the company's head office,
or to both. Most sensible organisations
welcome constructive customer feed-
back.

If appropriate, you might also think
about involving the local trading stan-
dards office, but there is no point in just
writing to London Drinker. We have
no powers to act as advocates on your
behalf and we would not run the story
without first having both sides of the ar-
gument. That said, if the response to
your complaint reveals anything inter-
esting about how a company works, we
would be interested to know.

We may be amateurs but we try to
keep to the best standards of journalism
by, at all times, presenting a fair and bal-
anced view. Lord Reith, the founder of
the BBC, once said, "The public must
be offered something better than it
knows it wants". I'm not sure that we
can rise to that challenge but I hope that
you will continue to read and enjoy our
London Drinker magazine.

Tony Hedger

**Check the Beer
Festival Calendar
and visit your
LocAle pubs at**

www.camralondon.org.uk

Branch diaries

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

LONDON REGIONAL EVENTS

Regional Director: John Cryne, rd.greaterlondon@camra.org.uk, 07802 174861

December – Tue 4 (3pm) John Young Memorial Award presentation to Andy Moffat. Pig's Ear Beer & Cider Festival (see advert for details).

January – Wed 30 London Liaison Committee (Regional co-ordination meeting for London Branches). Royal Oak, 44 Tabard St, SE1. Secretary: geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk

Website: www.camralondon.org.uk

LONDON PUBS GROUP

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

December – Wed 5 Evening Crawl of Maida Vale and Maida Hill W9: (7pm) Warwick Castle, 6 Warwick Pl; (7.45) Prince Alfred, 5a Formosa St; (8.15) Warrington, 93 Warrington Cresc; (9pm) Chippenham, 207 Shirland Rd; (9.30) Red Squirrel (formerly Skiddaw), 46 Chippenham Rd. Public transport may be required at times.

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

Website: www.londonpubsgroup.org.uk

LONDON CIDER GROUP

Ian White, london_cider@btinternet.com or text 07775 973760 (10-4 Mon-Fri)

YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

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

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

BEXLEY

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

December – Fri 7 (8.30) Xmas soc. Crayford Arms, Crayford DA1. -

Wed 12 (8.30) Mtg. Railway Tavern, Bexley DA5. - **Fri 28** (12pm)

Twixmas social. Robin Hood & Little John, Bexleyheath DA6.

January – Wed 9 (8.30) Mtg. Crayford Arms. - **Wed 23** Welling So-

cial: (8pm) Green Man, then Fanny on the Hill, Foresters.

Website: www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk

BROMLEY

Tim Wilding, 020 8460 4445, inquiries@bromleycamra.org.uk

December – Sat 8 (7pm) Xmas party. HG Wells Centre, St Marks Rd, Bromley BR2. Free entry, family and friends welcome, light buffet provided. Free pint for CAMRA members of Kohinoor from Windsor & Eton Brewery, winner of the Beer of the Festival at Beckenham, or Mill-whites cider.

January – Tue 8 (7.30) Cttee mtg. Two Doves, 37 Oakley Rd, Bromley

BR2. - **Tue 15** (8pm) Soc. Sovereign of the Seas, 109 Queensway, Petts

Wood BR5. - **Tue 22** Bromley BR1 crawl: (7.30) Beech Tree, Farwig

Lane; (8.30) Swan & Mitre, 260 High St; (9.30) Barrel & Horn, 204

High St. - **Tue 29** (7.30) Cttee mtg. Orpington Liberal Club, 7 Station

Rd, Orpington BR6.

Website: www.bromleycamra.org.uk

CROYDON & SUTTON

Peter McGill, 07831 561296, pete_mcgill@hotmail.com

December – Tue 4 (8pm) Croydon Xmas soc. Green Dragon, 60 High



The Roebuck

72 Hampton Rd, Hampton Hill.

Tw12 1JN. Tel: (020) 8255 8128

Terry Himpfen and the girls welcome you to his distinctive community pub with a veritable treasure trove of memorabilia on show.

The small award winning walled garden has a summer house and a new gazebo for smokers. Four Bed & Breakfast rooms also available, all En-Suite with TV. Pub open 11am to 11pm (11:30 Fri & Sat) Noon to 4pm, 7pm to 10:30pm Sun. Buses R68 and 285 stop close by.

Voted Pub of the Year 2008 by CAMRA's Richmond & Hounslow Branch.

St. - **Mon 17** (8.30), Xmas social, Hope 48 West St, Carshalton.
January - Wed 9 (8.30) Wallington 2 pub social. Rose & Crown, London Rd/Wallington Corner (9.15) Dukes Head Hotel, 6 Manor Rd. - **Thu 24**, (8.30) Norbury soc. Moon Under Water, 1327 London Rd. - **Thu 31** (8.30) Branch Meeting and London Drinker pick-up, Windsor Castle (Cottage Room) 378 Carshalton Rd, Carshalton.
 website: www.croydoncamra.org.uk

EAST LONDON & CITY

John Pardoe, 07757 772564, elacbranch@yahoo.co.uk; Branch telephone 07757 772564
December - 4-8 Pig's Ear Festival. The Round Chapel, Powerscroft Road, E5. - **Thu 13** (8pm) GBG selection mtg. Leyton Orient Supporters Club, Oliver Rd, E10. - **Thu 20** (7.30) Young Members South London pub crawl. Old Kings Head, Kings Head Yard, 45-49 Borough High St. See www.facebook.com/events/350848101672288/
January - Tue 8 (8pm) Mtg. Nightingale, 51 Nightingale La, Wanstead E11. - **Fri 11** New Year brewery crawl: (6.30) Camden Town Brewery Bar, 55 Wilkin St Mews, NW5; (7.30) Cock Tavern, Mare St, E8 (Howling Hops Brewery); (8.30) Crate Brewery, Queens Yard, White Post La, E9; (9.30) Tap East, Westfield Shopping Centre, Stratford E20. Travel by London Overground. **Note:** these are not 'brewery visits', but visits to the pubs and bars attached to four local breweries. - **Thu 17** (8pm) GBG selection mtg. Walthamstow Cricket Club, 48a Greenway Ave, Walthamstow E17. - **Tue 22** E2 crawl: (7.30) Sebright Arms, 31-35 Coate St; (8.15) Albion, 94 Goldsmiths Row; (9pm) Marksman, 254 Hackney Rd; (9.30) Nelsons Head, 32 Horatio St; (10pm) Ravenscroft, 4 Ravenscroft St; (10.30) Royal Oak, 73 Columbia Rd.
 Website: www.pigscar.org.uk

ENFIELD & BARNET

Brian Willis; 020 8440 4542 (H), branchcontact@camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk, branch mobile 07757 710008 at events.
December - Wed 5 (7pm) Social at Pig's Ear BF (see above for venue); meet at Products Stand. - **Fri 21** (6pm) Mighty Oak night, Leyton Orient Supporters Club, Oliver Rd E10.
January - Tue 1 (12pm) Cobweb soc. Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, Enfield EN2. - **Wed 9** (8.30) Pub reopening soc. Black Horse, Wood St, Barnet EN5. - **Tue 15** (8pm) Cabbage Patch Stompers soc. Ponders End Allotments Assoc, 82A Church Rd, Ponders End EN3. **CAMRA MEMBERS ONLY** - **Wed 23** Lower Edmonton N9 soc: (8.30) Stag & Hounds, 371 Bury St West; (9.30) Beehive opposite. - **Thu 31** (8.30) 1st 2014 GBG selection and London Drinker pickup. Bald Faced Stag, 69 High Rd N2.
 Website: www.camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor, 020 8949 2099, ctaylor2007@freeuk.com
December - Wed 5 (8pm) KBF planning mtg. Willoughby Arms, Kingston. - **Thu 6** (8.15) Mtg. Berrylands, Chiltern Dr, Berrylands (back room). - **Thu 13** Evening visit to Wandsworth: (7.30) Alma; (8.10) Armoury; (8.45) Hop Pole; (9.20) Cat's Back (new Harvey's pub). - **Tue 18** (7.30 for 8pm) Xmas dinner. Woodies, New Malden. Please book and make menu choice with branch contact. - **Thu 20** Pre-Xmas Kingston crawl: (7.30) Bishop Out Of Residence; (8.05) Woody's; (8.40) Ram; (9.15) Druids Head; (9.50) Wheelwrights; (10.25) Kings Tun. - **Sat 29** A grand day out in Richmond: (12.30) Orange Tree; (1.20) Red Cow; (2.10) Dukes Head; (3pm) Marlborough; (3.50) Roebuck; (4.40) Victoria; (5.30) Watermans Arms; (6.20) Princes Head; (7.50) Sun.
January - Thu 3 (8.15) Mtg. Kings Tun, Kingston (upstairs). - **Tue 15** Kingston Richmond Rd ramble: (8pm) Grey Horse, then Oak, Queens Head and Boaters. - **Wed 16** (8pm) KBF planning mtg. Willoughby Arms. - **Tue 22** (8pm) Lamb, Surbiton. Come and help fill envelopes for forthcoming AGM. - **Thu 24** Korean evening in New Malden: (7pm) Bar Malden; (8pm) adjourn to a nearby Korean café restaurant, and after to the Watchman.
 Website: 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
December - Tue 4 (7pm) Pig's Ear BF soc. See above for address. -

Tue 11 (8pm) Xmas party. Queens Head, 66 Acton St, WC1. - **Tue 18** WC1 Hotel social: (7.30) Cafe London, Bedford Hotel, 83-95 Southampton Row; (8.15) Night & Day, Imperial Hotel, 61-66 Russell Sq; (9pm) London Pub, Royal National Hotel, Woburn Pl; (9.45) Tavistock Bar, Tavistock Hotel, Tavistock Sq; (10.15) County Bar, County Hotel, Upper Woburn Pl. - **Thu 27** Euston Road soc: (7pm) Bree Louise, 69 Cobourg St, NW1 followed by other pubs depending on what we find open!

January - Tue 1 Lunchtime Cobweb soc with Enfield & Barnet. (12pm) Wonder, 1 Batley Rd, Enfield EN2; then Hornsey N8 social: (7.30) Three Compasses, 62 High St; (8.30) Great Northern Railway, 67 High St; (9.30) Toll Gate, 26-30 Turnpike La. - **Tue 8** (8pm) LDBF envelope stuffing. Calthorpe Arms, 252 Grays Inn Rd, WC1. - **Tue 15** Kentish Town soc: (7.30) Oxford, 256 Kentish Town Rd, NW5; (8.15) Lion & Unicorn, 42-44 Gaisford St, NW5; (9pm) Abbey, 124 Kentish Town Rd, NW1; (9.30) Grafton, 20 Prince of Wales Rd, NW5; (10.15) Tapping the Admiral, 77 Castle Rd, NW1. - **Tue 22** (8pm) Mtg. Pineapple, 51 Leverton St, NW5. - **Tue 29** Angel N1 soc: (7.30) Charles Lamb, 16 Elia St; (8.30) Angel, 3-5 Islington High St; (9.30) Craft, 55 White Lion St.
 Website: www.camranorthlondon.org.uk

RICHMOND & HOUSLOW

Roy Hurry; 020 8570 0643(h), rh014q5742@blueyonder.co.uk
December - Fri 14 (7.30) Xmas Dinner. Clock House, 69 High St, Teddington TW11, 3-courses for £23.00. For menu options/booking form contact john.austin@blueyonder.co.uk, tel: 020 8892 6169 - **Tue 18** (8.30) Mtg. White Hart Hotel, 1 High St, Hampton Wick KT1. - **Sat 29** (from 12.30) Richmond pub walk with Kingston & Leatherhead Branch: see their Diary listing.
January - Thu 17 (8.30) Mtg. Moon on the Square, 30 The Centre, High St, Feltham TW13 - **Thu 14** Brentford TW8 pub walk: (7.45) O'Briens, 11 London Rd; (8.15) Six Bells; (8.45) Magpie & Crown, then incl. Brewery Tap, Watermans Arms, Royal Horse Guardsman.
 Website: www.rhcama.org.uk

SOUTH-EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew; 07751 989310 (M), contact@selcamra.org.uk
December - Mon 3 (8pm) Cttee mtg and soc. Talbot (upstairs rm), 2 Tyrwhitt Rd, SE4. - **Wed 5** (7.30) Pig's Ear Beer Fest: Assemble (6.30) Pembury Tavern, 90 Amhurst Rd, E8. - **Mon 10** (7.30) Xmas party. Fox on the Hill, 149 Denmark Hill SE5 (for booking and menu options see Website). - **Mon 17** New Cross Rd SE14 crawl: (7.30) White Hart, 184; (8.15) Hobgoblin, 272; (9pm) New Cross Inn, 323; (9.45) New Cross House, 316; (10.30) Royal Albert, 460.
January - Mon 7 (8pm) Cttee mtg & soc. East Dulwich Tavern (upstairs rm), 1 Lordship La, SE22. - **Wed 16** (8pm) AGM. Horniman at Hays (function rm), Unit 26 Hays Galleria, SE1. - **Wed 23** (8pm) GBG preliminary selection and soc. Blythe Hill Tavern (upstairs rm), 319 Stanstead Rd SE23. - **Mon 28** Tooley St SE1 crawl: (8pm) Shipwright's Arms, 88 Tooley St; (8.45) Platform, 56-58 Tooley St; (9.30) Cooperage, 48-50 Tooley St; (10.15) Horniman at Hays, Unit 26 Hays Galleria.
 Website: www.selcamra.org.uk

SOUTH-WEST ESSEX

Alan Barker, swessex@essex-camra.org.uk, 07711 971957 (M) evenings or weekends only.
Bookings for minibus trips to Graham Platt: 020 8220 0215 (H)
December - Tue 4 (7.30) SoCl. Pig's Ear BF (see above). New nominations from Branch Members for the 2014 GBG (i.e. for pubs NOT in 2013 GBG) must be received by tonight and nominators must be willing to survey them! - **Wed 12** (7pm for 7.30) Xmas Dinner. Eva Hart, 1128 High Rd, Chadwell Heath RM6. Book with Graham Platt on 020 8220 0215. - **Fri 21** (7.30) Mighty Oak Xmas soc. Leyton Orient Supporters Club, Oliver Rd, Leyton E10. - **Thu 27** (12pm), Anne's post-Xmas real ale stroll in SW London, ending at the Hope, Carshalton. For details see Website or contact Anne Radley on 07885 828172.
January - Thu 3 (8.30) New Year soc: White Hart, Kings Walk, Grays RM17. - **Wed 9** (8.30) Soc. White Horse, 173 Coxie Green Rd, Coxie Green CM14. - **Tue 15** (8.30) Social. Bar, 19 Sevenways Parade, Gants Hill IG2. - **Wed 23** (8.30) Soc. Olde Dog, Billericay Rd, Herongate Tye CM13. - **Thu 31** (8.30), Soc. Ship, 93 Main Rd, Gidea Park RM2.
 Website: essex-camra.org.uk/swessex

Branch diaries

SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mark Bravery, 020 8540 9183 (H), 07969 807890 (M), markbravery@blueyonder.co.uk.

December – Thu 6 (7.30) Xmas buffet and soc. Old Sergeant (upstairs rm), 104 Garratt La, Wandsworth SW18 £12 per head. Names in advance to Social Secretary (philip.blanchard@camrasw.org.uk or by text to 07720 432802). - **Sun 16** (12.15) Packing envelopes for mail-out to branch members. Sultan, 78 Norman Rd, S Wimbledon SW19.
January – Mon 19 (7.30) Open cttee mtg (GBG short-listing). Priory Arms (upstairs rm), 83 Lansdowne Way, S Lambeth SW8 - **Thu 17** (7.30) Open cttee mtg. Bricklayer's Arms, 32 Waterman St, Putney SW15 - **Tue 22** (8pm) Beer festival countdown mtg. Battersea Mess & Music Hall, 51 Lavender Gdns, Battersea SW11 - **Thu 24** Battersea Beer Festival publicity crawl: meet (7pm) Falcon, 2 St John's Hill, Battersea SW11 - **Tue 29** Battersea Beer Festival publicity crawl: meet (7pm) Rose & Crown, 2 The Polygon, Clapham SW4.
Website: www.camrasw.org.uk

WATFORD & DISTRICT

Andrew Vaughan, 01923 230104 (H) 07854 988152 (M)
December – Thu 6 (8.30) Watford Town & Country Club, Rosslyn Rd, Watford. - **Fri 14** Xmas curry. Meet (7pm) Wishing Well, St Albans Rd, Watford. Contact branch to confirm booking.
Jan – Tue 1 (1pm) Get away from the family soc. Nascot Arms, Stamford Rd, Watford. - **Mon 14** (8pm) Mtg. Estcourt Arms, St. John's Rd, Watford. - **Fri 18** 'Pre-Xmas' London pub crawl: start (5pm) Hamilton Hall, Liverpool St Station. - **Wed 30** Watford High St crawl: start (8.30) Moon Under Water.
Website: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

WEST LONDON

Paul Charlton 07835 927357, paul@paulcw4.plus.com; Social secretary Alasdair Boyd: 020 7930 9871 x 143 (2.30-3.30 and 6-9.30pm Mon-Fri), banqueting@nlc.org.uk, fax 020 7839 4768

December – Tue 4 W4 soc: (7.30) Lamb Brewery (ex Barley Mow) by 269 Chiswick High Rd; (9pm) Tabard, 2 Bath Rd. - **Tue 11** Xmas party: (7.30) Albion, 121 Hammersmith Rd W14 (bring CAMRA card). - **Wed 12** Afternoon lobby of MPs at Houses of Parliament. - **Fri 21** (7.30) Alasdair's birthday party. Harp (upstairs) 47 Chandos Pl, WC2.
January – Wed 9 (7.30) Mtg. Defectors Weld, 170 Uxbridge Rd, Shepherds Bush Grn, W12 (bring CAMRA card) - **Wed 16** SW6 surveys: meet (7.30) Imperial Arms, 8 Lillie Rd. - **Wed 23** Mayfair W1 soc: (7.30) Windmill, 6-8 Mill St; (9pm) Burlington Arms, 21 Old Burlington St. - **Tue 29** WC2 soc: (7.30) Wellington, 351 Strand; (8.15) Coal Hole, 91-92 Strand; (9pm) Harp, 47 Chandos Pl.
Website: www.westlondon-camra.org.uk

WEST MIDDLESEX

John Bush, 07739 105336, info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk; Social secretary Jason Lansbury: 07740 288332, socials@westmiddx-camra.org.uk

December – Fri 7 (7pm) Pig's Ear; meet at Products Stand - **Sat 15** (7pm) Xmas party: contact Graham Harrison 07535 878996 or see website for more info. - **Thu 20** UB8 Soc: (8pm) Hut, 2 Old Orchard Clo; (9pm) Crown, Colham Green Rd; (10pm) Good Yarn, 132 High St. - **Sat 29** Pub crawl: meet (1pm) Drayton Court, 2 The Avenue, W13.
January – Wed 9 (8pm) Mtg. Angel, 697 Uxbridge Rd, UB8. - **Fri 18** Harrow soc: (8pm) Black Horse, 1018 Harrow Rd, HA0; (9.30) Castle, 30 West St, HA1; (10.30) Moon on the Hill, 373 Station Rd, HA1. - **Thu 24** Ickenham UB10 soc: (8.30) Soldiers Return, 65 High Rd; (9.30) Coach and Horses, 1 High Rd.
Website: www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk

Electronic copy deadline for the February/March edition: Monday 14 January. Please send entries to LD@daviessolutions.co.uk

De Olde Mitre

No.1 Ely Court, between
Ely Place and Hatton Garden
London EC1N 6SJ
020 7405 4751

CAMRA GOOD BEER GUIDE 2013
East London & City Pub of the Year 2006,
2008 and 2010



Christmas Ale Festival

*A different festive ale on
every day in December*

**Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year to all our
regulars and friends of the Mitre**

Open 11am-11pm Monday to Friday
Snacks available 11.30am - 9.30pm
(try our famous toasties)

Nearest tubes: Chancery Lane/Farringdon

ASCOT ALES
'Thoroughbred Handcrafted Ales'

Ascot Ales
01276 686696
Web: www.ascot-ales.co.uk E-Mail: info@ascot-ales.co.uk

....Are you fed up with your usual Christmas office party venue?
same old fizz/keg pub, same old boring restaurant?

...are you looking for somewhere different that is great
value with exceptional and often hard to find real ales?

Why not book your Christmas Office Party at Le Gothique

GBG 2010, 2011, 2012 & 2013.

Home of the Wandsworth Common Beer Festival.

Fixed price 3 course menu (with choices) just £17.95. Lunch or Dinner.

Fantastic Gothic bar for pre & after dinner beers plus
large mezzanine floor restaurant area.

All beers £3.60 or less plus full wine list.

CHRISTMAS MENU 2012

£17.95 3 Courses

Stilton and Broccoli Soup (V)

or

Fresh steamed mussels in white wine with shallots, garlic and parsley

or

Chicken and Duck liver pate with toast, apple and raisin chutney

or

Loch Fyne whiskey smoked salmon with finely chopped cucumber and dill

Fresh salmon in dill butter sauce

or

Moroccan tagine in filo basket with red pepper & tomato coulis (V)

or

Prime farm aged Rump Steak cooked to order with chips and pepper sauce

or

Traditional roast Turkey with chipolatas, stuffing, cranberry & bread sauce

Christmas Pudding with Brandy sauce

or

Mango Sorbet with raspberry coulis

or

English and French cheese board

Ring 0208 870 6567

and speak to Mark or Elliot.

Book it now whether you are just 2 or 100 in number.



Le Gothique

Le Gothique, The Royal Victoria Patriotic Building
John Archer Way, Wandsworth Common SW18 3SX.
www.legothique.co.uk email: marklegothique@aol.com

Great British Beer Festival

I am pleased to confirm that in line with the overwhelming preference of both customers and volunteer workers, the GBBF is staying at Olympia for 2013. As a consequence however, it will be later than usual, running from Tuesday 13 to Saturday 17 August. It is hoped that a bigger space will be made available so that the event will return to the size that we became used to at Earl's Court. It is also expected that the District Line shuttle will be running.

For those interested in the fate of Earl's Court, Hammer-smith & Fulham Council have given planning consent to the Capital and Counties group for an £8 billion redevelopment involving 7,500 new homes, three schools, shops, offices and a five-acre park. The Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, in whose area the exhibition hall actually stands, have also now endorsed the scheme.

Tony Hedger



Best wishes for
Christmas and the New Year
to all of our advertisers,
contributors, distributors
and of course, readers from the
London Drinker production team



46 GREAT PETER STREET, VICTORIA, SW1P 2HA
THE SPEAKER
A REAL PUB IN THE HEART OF LONDON
THE BEER - THE MEETS - THE TRADITIONS
Tel: 020 7262 1104 www.pubspeaker.com

Sunday 9th December
From 2-9pm for our annual 'Turning on the Christmas Lights'
Switch-on is at 5pm. Mince pies, port and crackers for all
This will also start our Christmas Ale Festival

Wednesday 12th December
CAMRA beer duty campaign. Opening 10am with choice of Milds,
Bitters, Winter Ales and Christmas Ales

Monday 14th January
Two weeks of ales from Lancashire and Yorkshire

Friday 25th January
We'll be serving Haggis, Neeps and Tatties all day
Every Wednesday and Thursday is home made Thai Curry night

Open Monday - Friday 11 AM - 11 PM

We now stock 50 bottled and craft beers from around the world



**SIMON
THE
TANNER**

A FINE LONDON PUB

251 Long Lane, London SE1 4PR
www.simonthetanner.co.uk
telephone: 020 7357 8740
simon@simonthetanner.co.uk
twitter: @Simon_theTanner



Use yours. Drink ours.

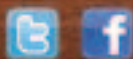
REFRESHINGLY HOPPY WELSH ALE

SA Gold is a full-flavoured, hoppy and refreshing golden ale, brewed at the home of the famous Brains SA in Wales. The beer is late-hopped using Cascade and Styrian Goldings, giving it complex and refreshing citrus aromas and flavours. It's delicious on its own and also makes a great accompaniment to food.

For a full list of London stockists, visit our website or scan the below QR code.
www.sabrain.com/londonstockists



Please enjoy responsibly



www.sabrain.com

BEER DUTY

The total of 100,000 signatures was achieved and the debate in the House of Commons took place on Thursday 1 November. The aim of the debate was to call for a review of the social and economic impact of the beer duty escalator, to report back before the 2013 Budget. No one spoke against the motion and the Government ministers present offered only token resistance. It was carried unopposed. London MPs who spoke were Bob Blackman (Harrow East), Jane Ellison (Battersea) and Bob Stewart (Beckenham). The outcome was welcomed by all parts of the trade.

The campaign does not end there however. CAMRA is staging a mass lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 12 December with members coming from all over the country. It is not too late to get involved. Please see details later in this edition.

Significantly, the autumn budget statement will be made before the lobby takes place and on 9 November, the Morning Advertiser reported that a Treasury spokesman had said, 'There are no current plans for a review of the beer-duty escalator but we do keep all taxes under review. We will continue to en-

gage with the alcohol industry, including pubs and breweries, on how the tax is affecting them.' We will see.

If the Government did want to make a change, here is an interesting proposition from Ted Bruning, the former editor of CAMRA's newspaper 'What's Brewing', writing on Facebook. "I've said it before and I'll say it again: a campaign to restore the duty differential between beer and spirits to what it was 20 years ago would be much more likely to succeed in the current climate than an attempt to get beer duty cut. I think the distilling industry knows that and I think it should be CAMRA's next big effort." Food for thought there.

PUB CLOSURES

CAMRA's latest research on pub closures, produced in association with CGA, was released ahead of the debate on beer duty. Disturbingly, it shows that since March pub closures have increased again to 18 a week, with over 450 pubs around the country having been lost since March. This is in comparison to the previous six months during which losses ran at 12 per week.

Mike Benner, CAMRA's Chief Executive, said, "As today's pub closure fig-

ures show, the future of Britain's valued community pubs remains in jeopardy. With pubs finding it ever harder to maintain consistent footfall at a time when prices are ever increasing, it is only hoped that Parliament will today take the first steps by voting to review punitive taxation policies on Britain's National Drink."

Please do read Roger Warhurst's item on the conversion of pubs into supermarkets later in this issue. I saw a report recently that in the first six months of 2012, 20 shops a day were closing and this rose to 32 in July and August following the closure of chains such as Game, Peacocks and Clintons. If this is so, why are supermarkets targeting pubs? The answer might be that the premises left available are subject to long leases with inflexible terms which the supermarkets will not touch. Perhaps some reform here would both help revitalise our high streets and save our pubs. Also, interestingly, according to 'You and Yours' on BBC Radio 4, 80% of 'new start' restaurants close within two years, with some 700 having closed in 2011.

In passing, I note with a certain irony

IT'S BRIM OOP NORTH!

Northern nectar with northern attitude!

31ST JANUARY - 3RD FEBRUARY 2013

Thursday 3pm-11pm, Friday 3pm-1am

Saturday Noon-1am, Sunday Noon-11pm

Thurs: Special guest Pete Brown talks about his new book 'Shakespeare's Local'

Fri-Sun: '50s & '60s Rock'n'Roll Soul & R'n'B DJs

Discount on ale and cider with a valid CAMRA card!

A REAL ALE FESTIVAL TO CELEBRATE THE FINEST BEERS FROM OOP NORTH!

THE SNOOTY FOX, 75 GROSVENOR AVENUE, LONDON, N5 2NN





CLERKENWELL
ISLINGTON
BRIXTON
BRIGHTON

— NOW OPEN —

— NOW OPEN —

THECRAFTBEERCO.COM

that the former Courage Worton Grange plant on the M4 near Reading – labelled the ‘megga kegery’ by CAMRA – has become a Tesco depot.

PLANNING MATTERS

A valiant attempt has been made to close the planning loophole that allows the conversion of pubs to shops, betting shops and restaurants without planning permission. Sadly, the Planning (Local Services) Bill, a ‘Ten Minute Rule’ bill put forward by Julian Huppert, the MP for Cambridge, made no progress. A thought: is this strictly a loophole? I would define a loophole as having been created by accident but I wonder if the lack of control over what happens to pubs was deliberate policy.

It would be nice if the supermarkets, and other developers, could take a leaf out of Costa Coffee’s book. They recently won planning permission to open a branch in Totnes, Devon. However so hostile was local opinion to their coming that after a meeting with the town’s mayor, they decided to stay away.

You would have thought that pub owners would be in favour of changes in the planning rules intended to protect pubs but it seems not. Brigid Simmonds, chief executive of the British Beer & Pub Association – in effect the pubcos’ trade body – recently told a BBPA Forum, *“It’s been quite interesting to see Cambridge City Council and the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea seeking to develop policies to restrict changes of use as far as public houses are concerned. We have real concerns about this being counter-productive.”* A BBPA spokesman added that he believed that such measures could place an ‘additional cost and burden on business.’ Why should they think that? My item on Punch Taverns below may give you a clue.

A group of architecture students came up with the idea of London pubs being given World Heritage status and submitted a 350-page document to Unesco supporting the requirement that pubs ‘bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition.’ Another condition, that they ‘represent a masterpiece of human creative genius,’ might be harder to prove. The idea was lampooned by the Guardian in its ‘Pass Notes’ column (15 October) but they could be on to something.

YES MINISTER

After some doubts, it has been confirmed that Brandon Lewis, who replaced Bob Neill as Minister of State in the Department of Communities and Local Government, will have responsibility for community pubs included in his portfolio. The MP for Great Yarmouth is a member of the All Party Parliamentary Beer Group and he has done his shift behind the bar of his local as part of the APPBG’s ‘MPs in Pubs’ campaign.

TANGLE OVER THE TIE

In October the new Consumer Affairs Minister, Jo Swinson, caused a furore in the pub trade when she said that the Government was happy to let the self-regulation arrangements that they had agreed with the British Beer & Pub Association – see above – continue unsupervised because all the commitments made had been achieved. When asked for a meeting by the trade’s leading paper, the Morning Advertiser, her department e-mailed back, *“This isn’t an area appropriate for a BIS minister to interview on”*. The logic is almost as mangled as the English.

This was some way from the independent review and possible introduction of a statutory code of practice that the Parliamentary Business, Innovation and Skills Committee had wanted when it won a debate back in January. Then, on 8 November, in response to a question in Parliament, Ms Swinson announced that her boss, Trade Secretary Vincent Cable, had written to all organisations involved to ask if the arrangements were working. The deadline for reply was set for 23 November and an ‘evidence-based’ decision will follow. Shadow trade minister Toby Perkins asked, *“Why doesn’t she just listen to the view of the House, the view of the industry and set up the independent review of whether the self-regulation deal is working. Let’s save some jobs and some pubs before it’s too late.”*

Ms Swinson assured the House that the Government was ‘listening’ and that they were ‘open-minded’ but refused to make any commitment as regards the review. CAMRA representatives had incidentally raised the issue with Mr Cable at the Liberal Democrats’ party conference in Brighton in September so we hope that had some effect on his thinking. Similarly CAMRA will be

among the organisations consulted in the new review.

FORTY YEARS ON

Congratulations are due to two west London pubs that have the distinction of being in all forty issues of CAMRA’s Good Beer Guide, something only seven pubs across the UK have achieved. The pubs in question are the Buckingham Arms, 62 Petty France, London SW1 and the Star Tavern, 6 Belgrave Mews West, SW1. Paying tribute to the ‘Magnificent Seven’ pubs, Roger Protz said, *‘It’s a remarkable achievement for the publicans of these pubs to have maintained an exemplary standard of beer over all these years. The special thing about these seven pubs is that they vary so much in their location, size and heritage, showing how brilliantly diverse our pub industry remains, even through weathering the high profile storm of closures in recent years.’*

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Surprisingly, Ipswich in Suffolk has been having serious problems with street drinkers, to the point where four of them have been murdered in the last three years. In response and in what I think is the first move of its kind, the local council has asked shops to remove strong beers and ciders – those over 6.5% ABV – from sale. Two examples given were Skol Super (9% ABV) and Frosty Jack ‘cider’. This is a voluntary code supported by the NHS and police and it has been adopted by the big chains, including Tescos, and 53 out of Ipswich’s 130 independent off-licences, which in itself seems a remarkably high number. Presumably if the scheme is successful this would give the licensing authorities reasonable evidence to justify adding the restriction to licence conditions in future. Pubs are not involved.

LAW AND ORDER

Innsatiable, the ‘furniture store’ in Farnham that was selling drinks, has now obtained a premises licence. In retrospect, I wonder if this was actually a very clever ruse to panic the licensing authority into granting a licence just to end the ‘problem’ whereas if the owners had applied for one through the usual channels, the process would have been more convoluted, with existing local licensees being able to object. While it ends this particular situation, there is no

indication that the obvious flaw in the licensing law which permitted it is being addressed.

The Metropolitan Police have announced that as part of their new strategy against sex crimes, they will use the revised licensing powers given to them under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act to close down pubs associated with high levels of rape and sexual assault. Under no circumstances would I trivialise these crimes but it is hard to see how this will help. Surely the perpetrators will simply move on and possibly, even worse, operate in less well regulated premises. After all, most of the pubs involved would very likely have CCT and SIA-trained door staff. The number of rapes reported in London has fallen in the last year with only one in ten attacks being reported and convictions being secured in just 15% of those cases. That, I believe, indicates that this problem requires something more than closing down a handful of pubs and clubs, but pubs are now an even easier target than before.

The licensing authorities at the City of Westminster have become very concerned about people drinking outside

pubs. The landlady of the Newman Arms in Rathbone Street W1, Tracy Bird, was taken at her word when joking at a meeting she had arranged with them that perhaps she should to tell her staff to slow down service so as to discourage customers. Takings fell by around £1,000 on the first Friday that she had to do this, and the Council relented, but Ms Bird also had to start using a food area as additional standing room on Thursday and Friday nights. Subsequently, Westminster have taken action against a second pub in the street, the Duke of York, a Greene King house. There the brewery had introduced barriers outside the pub to control the numbers but the Council decided that these were simply a further obstacle and are going ahead with a licence review. I will report the outcome next issue. What strikes me as odd is that Rathbone Street is not a main thoroughfare.

Under the changes made in the licensing powers mentioned above, both the police and local authorities no longer need to wait for a complaint from a third party before initiating a review of a pub's licence. They can simply do it themselves on whatever grounds they

like. The pub owner or licensee can, of course, fight it in court but that costs money and is even more difficult when the Council's actions have already reduced your takings.

LOCAL BREWERY NEWS

Sambrook's have now been joined in South West London by the Rocky Head Brewery and the Belleville Brewery. The former, in Southfields, has been set up by wine importer Steve Daniel and some friends and boasts a five barrel plant made up from odds and ends put together with the help of Sean Franklin, late of Roosters Brewery fame. Some of the kit comes from the now demolished Tetleys Brewery in Leeds. Brewing is only happening at weekends at present and the one beer being produced, a 6.5% ABV pale ale featuring New World hops, is available only in 330ml bottles. It is bottle-conditioned.

Beers from the Belleville Brewery Co, based near Wandsworth Common station, should come on line in January. Watch this space. We welcome them both.

Brewing has begun again in Watford with the arrival of the Pope's Yard Brew-

The Red Lion Isleworth

Linkfield Road, Isleworth Middlesex TW7 6QJ www.red-lion.info 020 8560 1457 (BR 2 mins)



Ten Best Reasons To Visit

- ◆ Four times CAMRA Local Pub of the Year
- ◆ Nine Real Ales on Pump & Five Ciders
- ◆ Cask Marque Approved
- ◆ Regular Beer Festivals
- ◆ Live R & B Music & Jazz
- ◆ Live Sky Sports
- ◆ Best Pub Pantomime 19th & 20th Jan
- ◆ Beer Garden with Smoking Area
- ◆ Traditional, Unspoilt Local with Character
- ◆ Voted Top Ten Boozer by Time Out

CAMRA Award Winner 2010

ery, set up by Ben Childs and Geoff Latham. The beers made their first public appearance at the recent Watford Beer Festival and the partners are already looking to expand their original one-barrel plant. The brewery takes its name from a previous local firm that eventually became Benskins.

You don't get one for fifty years then two come along at once... The Cronx Brewery in Croydon has been joined by the Clarence & Frederick's Brewing Co, whose beers were also at Wallington Beer Festival. The 12-barrel brewery has been set up by Sutton couple Victoria Barlow and Duncan Woodhead and takes its name from a combination of the their address and the name of their son.

The Howling Hops brewery now set up at the Cock Tavern in Mare Street, Hackney, are using the four-barrel plant originally used by the Camden Brewery. The Cock is a sister pub to the award-winning Southampton Arms where its beers will also be available. The brewer, Ed Taylor, has had experience with Redemption Brewery. It is hoped that they will brew a 'special' for the Pig's Ear beer festival.

Something that I missed a while back was the identity of the joint founder and brewer at the Beavertown Brewery, based at the Duke's Brew & Que in Hackney. He is Logan Plant, son of Robert of Led Zeppelin fame. Logan went into the music business himself but he eventually opted for a life in beer, no doubt influenced by his Black Country roots. Unfortunately, someone else already brews a 'Stairway to Heaven'.

TIMELY

As some of you may have noticed, *Time Out* magazine has gone 'free'. I wonder where they got that idea from? Anyway, they recently held their 'Drinking Awards' for 2012 and the winner in the 'Best New Beer Bar' category was the Crown & Anchor at 246 Brixton Rd, SW9. The runners-up were BrewDog at Bayham Street, NW1, the Bull at North Hill, N6 and the Railway Tavern, Jude Street, N16.

Incidentally, after their taking over the Mason & Taylors pub in Bethnal Green Road, E1, now renamed BrewDog Shoreditch, BrewDog are now reported

to be planning to turn the former Dalston Library in Hackney into a brewpub, although negotiations with the council are at an early stage.

NEWS FROM THE PUBCOS

The Draft House chain has moved away from their usual south London territory by taking over the Northumberland Arms in Goodge Street whilst the InnBrighton chain have increased their presence in London by adding the Dissenting Assembly (formerly the Clarendon) in Newington Green N1 to their estate, along with the Candlemaker (formerly the Bellevue) in Battersea.

Antic have had a couple of knock-backs. Their problems with the Catford Bridge Tavern are reported elsewhere and they have also had to give up on their 'Knowles of Norwood' site. They are still interested in moving into the area, however, and so if you know of a possible site which meets their requirements – good connections to transport, a populated area and an interesting building – let them know at fi@antic-ld.com. Antic's usual practice is to take

DORKING BREWERY



"Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year from all at Dorking Brewery."



Dorking Brewery is a member of SIBA and our ales can be ordered through the DDS scheme



The Brewery at Dorking Ltd.
 Engine Shed, Dorking West Station Yard, Station Road, Dorking RH4 1HF
 Tel: 01306 877988 Email: info@dorkingbrewery.com

realale.com

Over 90 quality ales, ciders and perries, including a European selection, available online or call **020 8892 3710**

Visit our shop:
371 Richmond Rd
Twickenham
Middlesex TW1 2EF





KING WILLIAM IV

"Home of Brodies Brewery"

New Brodie's beers always served here first in a
traditional East End pub

◆
24 handpumps also offering beers from
the top UK breweries

◆
Home cooked English food menu from £4.95

◆
Sky Sports and regular Beer festivals

◆
Rooms available from £45 a night

King William the Fourth
816 High Road, Leyton, E10 6AE

10 minutes from Walthamstow central station (Victoria line)

5 min from the Leyton Midland Road station (Overground)

a pub on a non-binding 'tenancy-at-will' basis, see if it works and, if it does, seek a longer deal. In the current climate this makes a lot of sense but there will always be a risk of losing a good site, although to lose it to redevelopment must be annoying.

FULLER'S

Having been well received when it was produced in bottles as one of the Past Masters range, the Double Stout (7.4% ABV) may be available for a short while in cask form in certain chosen pubs and perhaps even some beer festivals. The current autumn season offering, Red Fox, will be followed for a short period by the ever-popular Bengal Lancer.

YOUNG'S WIN AWARDS

Further to my report in the last issue, I am delighted to say that the Old Sergeant in Garratt Lane, Wandsworth went on to win the 'Best Community Pub of the Year' category in the *Morning Advertiser's* Great British Pubs Awards. Given their relatively short time at the pub, this is a great achievement for tenants Keris and Lee De Villiers and part-

ner Bronwen Cooper. Many congratulations.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find coverage of CAMRA's Pub Design Awards but Young's were winners in the 'UK Pub' category of the recent Restaurant & Bar Design Awards. First prize went to the Plough (Bar & Kitchen) on St John's Hill, Clapham Junction. The Plough is part of a development that replaced a pub of the same name and is styled on a New York loft, with floor to ceiling glass panel windows. Another Young's pub, the Hollywood Arms in Chelsea, SW10 was nominated in the same category.

Shortlist Magazine has conducted a poll to find the UK's best ten gastropubs. Some 5,000 readers voted and Young's pubs came fourth, fifth and seventh. They were respectively the Ship in Wandsworth, the Brook Green in Hammersmith and the Lion & Unicorn, a Geronimo Inn, in Kentish Town.

I want to clarify a story that has been doing the rounds recently. It has been rumoured that Young's have put up for sale their three pubs in Tower Hamlets. Not so. What has happened is that the local council has decided to sell the free-

holds of three pubs that it owns, one of which happens to be the Queen's Head in Limehouse. It is hoped that Young's themselves may buy the freehold but their interest has yet to be confirmed.

PROBLEMS AT PUNCH

According to a report in the *Guardian*, Punch Taverns are looking to restructure their debt because there is a genuine fear of bankruptcy if no action is taken. This has long been seen by City analysts as inevitable and formal talks with bond-holders are understood to be starting soon. The majority of bondholders are reported to be UK pension funds and insurance companies although there is some international private equity involvement.

Bonds are similar to mortgages in that they are secured against the company's assets, primarily its 4,500 pubs. If Punch defaulted, the pubs would end up in the hands of those whose aim – and, arguably, legal obligation – would be to realise as much money from them as quickly as possible. This we do not want. To try to put the situation in context, however, I worked out in a very crude calculation, based on the back

We stock a large range of hard to find local and Scottish craft ales.

Not to mention a great selection of excellent whisky, gin, vodka and other fine spirits.

Open 10-6 Monday to Saturday, 10-8 on Thursday and 12-5 on Sunday, so come in and check out our full range at your leisure or see us online at

www.royalmilewhiskies.com



Royal Mile Whiskies

3 Bloomsbury Street, London, WC1B 3QE 020 7436 4763

LEAD THE CHARGE!



OUR POPULAR BENGAL LANCER IS BACK ON A BAR NEAR YOU NOW. BREWED TO 5% BENGAL LANCER IS A CLASSIC INDIA PALE ALE THAT IS DISTINCTIVELY HOPPY AND SUPERBLY REFRESHING.

YOU CAN SEE THE FULL LIST OF STOCKISTS AT WWW.FULLERS.CO.UK

BENGAL LANCER

FULLERS.CO.UK



DRINKAWARE.CO.UK

pages of the *Morning Advertiser*, that the average freehold price for a pub across the UK is £260 thousand. If Punch were able to sell all of their pubs at that price tomorrow, they would raise £1.17 billion. Their bond debt is £2.4 billion. The pubs can't all become mini-supermarkets, can they?

Please don't think that Punch have lost faith in their pubs though. They are creating eight 'Regional Launch Manager' posts whose job will be to guide new licensees through their early days. Director Andy Slee explained, "*When the pub opens, it will open perfectly. The staff will be well trained and the licensee will know exactly what they are doing.*" Punch are also introducing free Wi-Fi into 3,000 of their pubs.

NEW BOSS FOR M&B

Mitchells & Butler have at last recruited a new chief executive. He is Alistair Darby who was chief operating officer at Marston's. Ironically, Mr Darby is the son of a former managing director of Bass Inns & Taverns, much of which now makes up M&B. The job, which comes with a reported salary of £500,000, had been vacant since last

March and was being covered by Bob Ivel as executive chairman. Mr Ivel will now revert to being non-executive chairman and will look to appoint some non-executive directors. Overall, M&B is running well as a company, with like-for-like sales for the current year increasing by 2.1%, and its share value rose 3.7% on the announcement of the appointment. Mr Darby does however have an elephant in his room, if you will excuse the expression, in the form of the intentions of the company's main shareholders, Joe Lewis and the Elpida company, owned by John Magnier and JP McManus. Other shareholders would welcome a return to paying dividends.

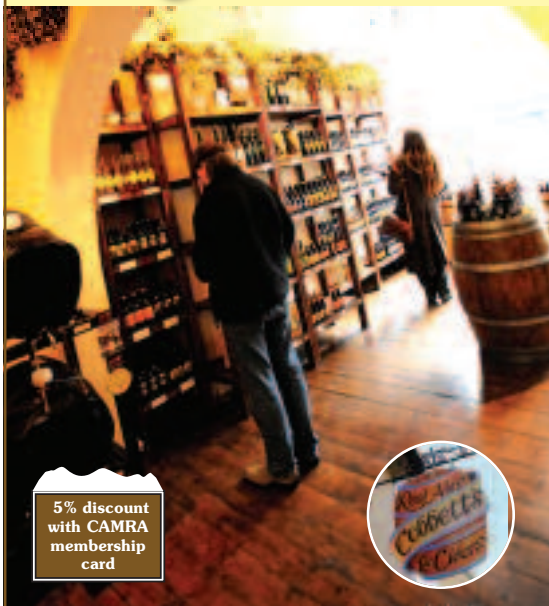
WAVING GOODBYE TO WAVERLEY

It is not just pubs that are having a bad time. The drinks wholesalers Waverley TBS have gone out of business with debts of £64.5 million. Their administrators have not been able to find a buyer and nearly 700 jobs have been lost. The company was originally part of Scottish & Newcastle but it was sold to a private equity company after the takeover by Heineken in 2008. Origin-

nally under Jeremy Blood, later of Mitchells & Butler, the company was turned around and by 2011 had become profitable. Then came a frighteningly swift deterioration, with poor sales leading to cash flow problems and the consequent spiral of reduced credit terms, with some suppliers completely refusing to trade with them. Matthew Clark is now the biggest specialist drinks wholesaler and is expected to pick up the bulk of WTBS's 8,000 customers.

One of Waverley TSB's biggest customers for draught beer was Enterprise Inns. As a consequence of WTBS not being able to supply, Enterprise had temporarily to free a number of their pubs from the tie. There was a downside to this however. WTBS held stocks of beer from a number of small brewers worth, according to SIBA (the Society for Independent Brewers), around £1 million. It is understood that the administrators will only pay for it if they sell it and there is a danger that it will go out of date in the meantime. This could lead to severe financial problems and possibly closure for several small breweries. The administrators, Deloitte, did however give an assurance

Cobbett's Real Ales



**An independent off-licence
specialising in Real Ales and
Ciders, in bottles and on draught**

**Opening hours Tue - Thur 12-8,
Fri & Sat 10-8, Sun 12-6,
Mon closed.**

**(see website for extended opening
hours throughout December).**



**23 West Street, Dorking, Surrey
RH4 1BY**

Tel: 01306 879877

**Email: info@cobbettsrealales.co.uk
www.cobbettsrealales.co.uk**

**5% discount
with CAMRA
membership
card**

that they would prioritise goods with a short shelf-life.

OTHER TRADE NEWS

Against the backdrop of the beer duty debate, the British Beer & Pub Association reported that, despite the Olympics and the Euro 2012 football tournament, beer sales fell during the July-September period by 5.6%, with 117 million fewer pints being drunk compared to the same period last year.

This was odd because Wetherspoons, now 860 strong, saw like-for-like sales over the six weeks to 9 September rising by 8.4%, over 2% better than the preceding eleven weeks. Profits for the year ending 31 July rose to a record £72.4 million. Chairman Tim Martin did however warn that this could not be expected to continue and criticised the Government's tax policies, including the Late Night Levy and increases in taxes on gaming machines.

JDW's latest beer festival featured ten beers from overseas. Eight of them were actually brewed in this country by brewers such as Marstons, Everards and Shepherd Neame in partnership with brewers from Japan, Lithuania and Italy.

Marstons also reported progress with an expected increase in sales of 2.2% over the year ended September. Profits were anticipated at £83.2 million. The Wellington Pub Company (800 pubs) however reported a drop in profits of 3.2% for the year ending 31 March, with turnover down 1.6%, while Admiral Taverns (1,150 pubs) have called in accountants PwC to review their options, in particular refinancing debts of £150 million. The company is in effect controlled by the Lloyds Banking Group who acquired a 45% stake as part of a previous deal over borrowings. The 50 pubs formerly owned by Robert Tchenguiz's R&L Properties group are being sold by the administrators, Deloitte. The agents handling the sale say ominously that *'this could include change of use in some instances.'*

There have been rumours in the business pages of several newspapers of forthcoming takeovers or mergers involving some combination of Greene King, M&B and the Spirit and Stonegate pub companies. Watch this space but don't be surprised at developments in the meantime.

The Charles Wells pub company has advised its licensees not to stock Red Stripe lager after the brand's owner, Diageo, increased the price, putting it up from around £3.50 to £4.00 a pint. Red Stripe

in brewed in the UK for Diageo by none other than the Wells & Youngs Brewing Co which is, of course, these days a wholly-owned subsidiary of Charles Wells. Diageo however maintain that pricing decisions are 'a matter exclusively for Wells & Youngs' so presumably what we have here is a row about the brewing contract price. I am reminded of an expression about supping with the Devil and a long spoon.

Following the competition that I mentioned in the August/September edition, Timothy Taylor are renaming their Best Bitter 'Boltmaker' after their biggest single outlet for the beer, the Boltmakers Arms in their home town of Keighley. I still think that my suggestion 'Landlady' was better, but there you are...

Whisky production is to return to London. The London Distillery Company are taking a new site in Battersea and, while the whisky will be some years away, they will also be producing gin, for which the area was once well known.

UNDER THE WEATHER

UK wheat yields are reported to be down by 14.1% after the wettest summer in 100 years led to the worst harvest in 20 years. The situation in the USA has not been much better because of drought. Although wheat is not the primary crop for beer production, there will inevitably be consequences for the trade.

Cider production has also been hit with this year's crop being reported as the worst in 15 years. The main problem was not direct damage from the rain but lack of fertilisation because bees do not fly when it's wet and windy. The chair of the National Association of Cider Makers, Paul Bartlett, commented, *"The increasing incidence of extreme weather has really buffeted our industry."* Not to say the poor old bees as well.

In passing, CAMRA's National Cider and Perry Pub for 2012 is the Royal Oak, in Wantage, Oxfordshire. Let's hope that they can maintain supplies. They can have up to 15 ciders and perries available at any one time.

The award-winning Nyetimber vineyard in Sussex was also badly hit, with their 2012 crop being so poor that no wine will be made from it. They had hoped to produce some 2 million bottles.

OVER THE WATER

Further to my report on Norwich as the 'City of Beer', the local CAMRA branch made an interesting contribution to the duty debate by donating, as part of Cask Ale Week, a cask of beer to each of three pubs which then sold the beer at prices based on typical European duty and VAT. This meant a reduction of 60p to £1 on usual prices. According to the *Metro*, in the UK we pay 55p duty per pint as compared to Ireland who, despite their economic problems, levy 39p, the Netherlands 16p, Poland 12p and the Czech Republic 8p. These figures are before VAT.

Fortunately, they didn't have to reflect the latest development in France where the tax on beer is set to be increased by 160%, putting up retail prices by some 20%. This will, of course, affect those British brewers who export to France as well as the indigenous trade. It is hard to see quite how it will help ease the budget deficit because beer is only 16% of the drinks market in France and consumption has already fallen by 8% since 2008. And the corresponding tax increase on wine and spirits? Guess...

...AND FINALLY

Japanese scientist Shinya Yamanaka won this year's Nobel Prize for Medicine, jointly with Britain's Sir John Gurdon. On being told the news, Mr Yamanaka said, *"I don't know how I am going to celebrate yet. I think I just need a beer."* Fortunately, he is based at the University of California so he should have had a good choice of powerful micro-brews available.

The Playboy Club was recently selling a cocktail called 'Old and Wise' which cost a staggering £5,050 a glass. The key ingredient was a 1788 Clos de Griffier Vieux cognac which itself cost £50,000 per bottle. Unfortunately, after two glasses of the cocktail, a customer asked to look at the cognac bottle and, getting up to leave, knocked over the bottle which, because it had been opened, was not insured. No, don't laugh...

Seen on a sign outside a Geronimo pub – and I have the photo to prove it... *'My girlfriend and I went on our 9th date to see the new Batman film. Our dates so far can be summarised as follows: dinner, dinner, dinner, dinner, dinner, dinner, dinner, dinner, Batman!'*

Tony Hedger

E-mail to ldnews.hedger@gmail.com. Please use this address only for news about real ale and the pubs that serve it.

OVER 600 OF THE FINEST ALES SOLD NATIONALLY AT J D WETHERSPOON

FEATURING GREAT ALES SUCH AS




BRITAIN'S NO.1 SUPPORTER OF MICROBREWERIES

JOIN CAMRA TODAY AND
RECEIVE WETHERSPOON

REAL-ALE VOUCHERS WORTH £20

FULL DETAILS ON APPLICATION FORM: WWW.CAMRA.ORG.UK

Subject to local licensing restrictions
and availability at participating free houses.

Lloyds  Bar

drinkaware.co.uk
wetherspoon

SUPPORTED BY



Beer Duty – Mass Lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 12 December

Have you had a moan or two of late as to how the price of beer has increased over the last few years? Well speak to a CAMRA member and they will tell you that a major reason is a not so little thing called the beer duty escalator. Introduced under the last government this vicious little tax means that each year beer duty goes up inflation plus 2%. This means that now that with a pint costing, say £3, almost a £1 is VAT and excise duty.

CAMRA has been working hard with many parts of the beer industry and we have now exceeded 100,000 signatures on an e petition calling on Government to remove the escalator - and the numbers continue to grow. This is only the 12th petition to reach this magic number, which led to a debate in Parliament, and we were delighted, when recently, a motion for the Government to conduct a thorough review of the economic and social impact of the escalator was passed.

But CAMRA believes this on its own may not be enough. The lobbying of individual MPs to get them on board will be key to achieving a turn around. To this end, a Day of Lobbying is being organised on 12 December to lobby as many MPs as possible. It is in all beer drinkers' interests to make as much noise about this unfair tax, a tax that is contributing to over 12 pubs closing every week as people increasingly have to reduce the number of times they visit a pub due to financial pressures. **And it is not just real ale that is impacted - it all beer: real beer, keg beer and lager.**

CAMRA is inviting everyone, whether you are a member or



not, to join us on this very important day. You may be busy but this campaign is worth one day of your time to change the future. This is a also rare opportunity to see inside, the Palace of Westminster and to see how it works. It really is impressive!

So what can you do? Register with CAMRA at www.save-ourpintlobby.co.uk or phone 01727 337851 and arrange a meeting with your MP on 12 December. We have arranged an initial meeting at the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster, before taking the short walk to Parliament. CAMRA is coordinating attendance because there are restrictions as to the number of people who can be in Parliament's lobby area at any one time. For members from Greater London, Kent, Surrey and Sussex, meet at the Emmanuel Centre, Tufton Street, SW1P 3DW from 1pm to 2pm to go lobbying 2.30 to 3.30pm

Afterwards, we will have a debrief, some free time to visit some pubs and then to have a rally at 4pm accompanied by some beer, thanks to the support of Fuller's, Shepherd Neame and Wychwood.

This is a major opportunity to change beer tax so if you don't do anything else in the next six months, this should be it. Any queries, Emily Ryans, CAMRA's Campaigns Manager, will be available to help: emily.ryans@camra.org.uk or on 01727 337851



AVS CASK BEERS

QUALITY ♦ VARIETY ♦ VALUE

'The Discerning Publican's Choice'



*We can hold over 1000
firkins under
temperature control,
ensuring our customers
are receiving them in
optimum condition!*

- ♦ Family-run business
- ♦ Established in 1990
- ♦ Deliveries into London, Kent, Surrey and Sussex
- ♦ Ever-changing monthly promotions
- ♦ Permanent stock holding of over 60 different brands of cask ale
- ♦ Supplying licensed trade; public houses, working mens' clubs, sports clubs and hotels
- ♦ We also supply beers for beer festivals - from the CAMRA Great British Beer Festival to pub festivals
- ♦ Helping our customers wherever we can
- ♦ Distribution service for breweries through the SIBA scheme
- ♦ Stocking the full range of Westons Ciders



For more information, to receive our stock lists or to place an order..

AVS CASK BEERS, GRAVESEND, KENT

Call us now on 01474 537767 Fax: 01474 363569

Email: sales_avscaskbeers@btconnect.com

www.avscaskbeers.co.uk

The aim of 'Capital Pubcheck' is to share information about the latest happenings on the London pub scene including new pub and bar openings, name changes, acquisitions, closures, notable changes to beer ranges etc.

Information is gathered from a variety of sources including *London Drinker* readers, individual CAMRA members and branch contacts, breweries, pub operators, landlords etc. If you would like to contribute to 'Pubcheck' please send your news to the address below.

Small pub companies featuring cask beers from the new London microbreweries are continuing to expand throughout London. Antic have restored another bar in Tooting and taken over a pub in W3 Acton soon after their opening in N12 North Finchley. After their opening in SW9 Brixton, Craft Beer Co are shortly to take the lease of a pub in N1 Islington. InnBrighton have acquired a pub in SW11 Battersea and the Lost Group have opened in Twickenham. By contrast, BrewDog have predictably celebrated their takeover of the former Mason & Taylor in E1 Shoreditch by removing the handpumps!

The station bar operators SSP (Select Service Partners) have reinstated cask ale in their 'Beer House' at Charing Cross and rebranded another outlet at Waterloo. Greene King have transferred one of their pubs in E1 Spitalfields to their 'Real Pubs' subsidiary, with microbrewery beers replacing their own brands. Young's have acquired a riverside pub in Greenwich and reopened an earlier acquisition, impressively restored, in SW15 Roehampton.

A new microbrewery is due to be installed at a Barnet pub.

Pubs continue to be converted to convenience stores, particularly in good locations in more affluent areas. A major redevelopment scheme at Victoria has claimed three high profile Spirit pubs.

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 (2KT - 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 or write to Capital Pubcheck, 2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR.

NEW & REOPENED PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE

CENTRAL

EC1, LONDON APPRENTICE, 333 Old St. Fuller: London Pride; Wells: Courage Directors. Reopened and renovated as a pub after 15 years. Was converted to a nightclub '333 Club' by 2000, but this was unreported. (E19, U124)

WC2, BEER HOUSE (AT CHARING CROSS), Charing Cross Main Line Station Concourse. Greene King: IPA, varying Greene King beer (e.g. IPA Gold, IPA Reserve). Two handpumps reinstated in this SSP so-called 'Craft Beer' bar. Formerly BOADICEA. (W29, WC33, U223)

W1(Mar), DUKE OF YORK, 35 New Cavendish St. Confirmed reopened and renamed **FAT OF THE LAND** by June 2012. Marston: Pedigree. Styled a 'Pan-Mediterranean Pub and Dining Room' specialising in Catalan food. Ground floor restaurant with basement bar. (W52, U213, 223)

EAST

E1, WHITE SWAN & CUCKOO, 97 Wapping Lane. Sharp: Doom Bar. Reinstatement of real ale. (E75, U75, 117, 192)

NORTH WEST

EDGWARE (HA8), BLARNEYS, 128 Burnt Ash Broadway. No real ale. Independent Irish bar in former shop premises opened by October 2008.

WEMBLEY (HA9), WATKINS FOLLY, Empire House, 1 Empire Way. No real ale. Independent pub in former 'Rimzim' restaurant premises, originally offices prior to 2009

SOUTH EAST

SE1, CABIN, Unit 18, The Balcony, Waterloo Main Line Station. No real ale. C & B bar and restaurant with keg beer on new balcony, opened mid-2012.

SE1, CARLUCCIO'S, The Balcony, Waterloo Main Line Station. No real ale. Chain bar and restaurant with keg beer on new balcony, opened mid-2012.

SE1, SPORTS BAR & GRILL (WATERLOO), Unit 1, The Balcony, Waterloo Main Line Station. Marston: EPA, Ringwood: Best Bitter (£2.30/half pint, £4.30 pint), Wychwood: Brakspear Gold. Large bar and restaurant from small chain, with island bar, tiled and polished wood flooring, TV for sports, open kitchen. Tucked away at end of new balcony. Open 7-midnight (10.30 Sun)

SE16, OLD BANK, 239 Southwark Park Rd. 2 varying guest ales (e.g. Greene King IPA, Sharp's Doom Bar). 'Bar and carvery' opened March 2010 in former bank premises.

SOUTH WEST

SW9, CAFE CAIRO, 88 Landor Rd. No real ale. Reopened as an Egyptian themed cafe/bar/club, closed Mon-Wed and with possible door charges at weekends. (U202, BSM8)

SW9, CRAFT BEER CO, 11-13 Brixton Station Rd. Kent: Craft Pale (house beer, 3.8%), 9 varying guest beers on hand-pump from micros (e.g. Dark Star, Magic Rock, Otley, Thornbridge) and 18 other British, continental and American beers and two ciders on keg taps above the bar. Small modern bar just outside Brixton station, opened late September 2012 by Craft Beer in former 'Hive' restaurant and late night music bar premises. Spartan decor with upstairs seating area adorned with brewery prints. Younger sister of the Craft Beer

THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE PUB

SISTER PUB TO THE BREE LOUISE



• STOUT AND PORTER FESTIVAL
DECEMBER

• HAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH US!

PRIVATE FUNCTION ROOM FOR UP TO 100. BUFFET AND SET MEAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE

• PRESENT WRAPPING SERVICE FOR
DONATIONS TO EPILEPSY RESEARCH

• COMEDY CLUB ON THE 1ST THURSDAY OF
EVERY MONTH

• NORTHERN VS SOUTHERN FESTIVAL
JANUARY

320 GOLDEAWK ROAD W6 0XF WWW.THEDUCHESSOFCAMBRIDGEPUB.COM
02088347336 DISTRICT LINE TO STAMFORD BROOK OR 94/237 BUS ROUTES

Co in Clerkenwell and in the same ownership also as the Cask Pub & Kitchen in Pimlico. Beers are priced according to their strength. Pork pies and scotch eggs. Open 4-midnight Mon-Thu, 12-2am Fri & Sat, 12-10.30 Sun). (U226)

SW9, MARKET HOUSE, 443 Coldharbour Lane. Caledonian: Deuchars IPA. Formerly LIVING, LIVING ROOM, ISO-BAR and originally COACH & HORSES. (SW82, BSM11, U219,224)

SW11, BELLEVUE, 136 Battersea High St. Ex-Punch. Reopened on 1 November and renamed **CANDLEMAKER** by new owners InnBrighton, whose four London pubs now trade under the 'Drink in London' brand. Laine: Best; 4 guest beers mainly from local breweries e.g. ELB, Redemption. Complete internal makeover incorporates the old kitchen as trade space and a lot of work has gone into the garden with smoking shelters back and front. New upstairs kitchen in former meeting/function room and upper floor is manager's domestic accommodation. Open all week 12-midnight (1am Thu-Sat); food 12-9 Mon-Fri, 11-9 at weekends. Formerly GREYHOUND, was BUZZE BAR for a while. (SW89, WB33, U208,210,217,224)

SW15, KINGS HEAD, 1 High St, Roehampton. Ex-Enterprise. Wells: Bombardier, Young's Bitter, Special, plus 3 guest beers including always one from a local micro, e.g. By the Horns, Sambrook's, Surrey Hills. Reopened on 1 November as a Young's 'Pub & Dining House' after two years of rebuilding and refurbishment in the style of an English provincial stately home, with distinctive separate rooms and spaces. Open 10-11 (midnight Fri/Sat, 10.30 Sun. Food 10-10 daily. (SW101, BRP21, U215)

SW17, A BAR 2 FAR, 40 Mitcham Rd. Reopened mid-October 2012 after unreported closure in 2011 and renamed **GRAVENEY & MEADOW** by new lessee, Antic. Sambrook: Wandle; changing guest beer. A bakery, buttery and bar, popular for weekend 'brunches': in effect a cafe in daytime and a large, welcoming, single bar pub in the evenings. Open daily from 10am for food, and 11-11 (midnight Fri/Sat) for drinks. Formerly HORSE & GROOM. (SW109, BM11)

SW18, GRAND UNION, 96 Wandsworth High St. Young: Bitter. Reinstatement of real ale. Formerly KINGS ARMS. (SW113, WB13, U214,220)

KINGSTON (KT2), HAWKER CENTRE BAR, Lower Ham Rd. No real ale. Independent bar attached to sports centre but open to public.

WEST

W3, REDBACK, 264 High Rd. Confirmed renamed **ACTON ARMS**. Sambrook: Wandle plus 4 guest beers (with more to follow when function room opens). Now Antic tenancy from Enterprise from September. (W85, U225,226)

W5, JONOS, 13 Station Parade, Uxbridge Rd. Greene King: IPA plus one guest beer installed after refurbishment (W96) **HESTON (TW5), JOLLY WAGGONER**, 618 Bath Rd, Cranford. Adnams: Bitter; Brain: SA, not always available. (W163, U221,225,226)

TEDDINGTON (TW11), SAMMY'S, 172 High St. Reopened and renamed **ROYAL OAK** in September 2012. 3 varying cask ales. Formerly OAK. (U198, U209,224)

TWICKENHAM (TW11), RANCH, 29/31 York St. Reopened and renamed **ALES & TAILS** after refurbishment as a 'Craft bar and restaurant'. 5/6 varying cask ales from micros

(e.g. Sambrook's, Twickenham, Windsor & Eton) plus 10/11 keg taps with beers from Belgium, Ireland and the UK, and a cider and bottled beers. Ex-Mint Group, now operated by the 'Lost Group', who also run the Lost Society in SW8, the Lost Angel and the Powder Keg Diplomacy in SW11 and Citizen Smith in SW15. Wide choice of food. (W203, U195,197,202,225)

PUBS CLOSED, CONVERTED, DEMOLISHED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE

CENTRAL

WC2, MARQUIS OF GRANBY, 142 Shaftesbury Ave, Greene King (ex-Capital Pub Co), closed, future uncertain. The freehold was sold to the Shaftesbury Covent Garden property company by Capital Pub Co, prior to takeover by Greene King who continued to manage it. Now being refurbished for 'commercial' use. (W35, U193, WC45, U214,220)

WC2, OXYGEN, Free, closed 2012 and converted to Cafe Rouge restaurant. (W36)

W1(F), BLACK HORSE, M&B (Nicholson), now converted to a 'Byron' burger restaurant. (W43, U197,217)

W1(F), CHARLOTTE ST BLUES, Food & Drink Group, ex-Free, closed since at least 2011. Formerly JAMIES. (W46, U191,214)

W1(F), EAGLE BAR DINER, Free, closed c. 2011 and converted to an Asian restaurant. (U197)

EAST

E1, MASON & TAYLOR, Independent. Confirmed acquired by BrewDog Brewery and renamed **BREWDOG** in late October. No cask ale; handpumps removed as forecast. Note subsidiary name 'Shoreditch' does not appear on external signage. Refurbished with bar moved alongside windows with usual range of predominantly high gravity and expensive BrewDog keg beers and bottled beers from the UK and abroad. The loss of one of the early outlets for London microbrewers' cask ales. Basement to be used for a beer and spirit cocktail bar with no sign yet of brewing equipment. Open 12-midnight (1am Fri/Sat). Formerly 'Green & Red' cocktail bar and originally O2 BRASSERIE (BAR). (U170,187,216,226)

E2, BRITISH LION. Independent, ex-Whitbread, closed and boarded up. (E79, U110,132,189)

E8, KINGSLAND, Independent, ex-Allied (Taylor Walker), closed on police instruction, future uncertain. (E113, U70)

E15, RAILWAY TAVERN, 196 Plaistow Rd. Independent, ex-Bass via Punch. Ground floor converted to 'Plaistow Local Express' supermarket by September 2012. (E154, U73,81,85,169)

E17, PLOUGH INN, Independent, ground floor converted to 'Wood Street Supermarket' and flats being developed on upper floors. Was HECTORS for a while. Formerly PLOUGH. (E168, U80,134,174,197,217)

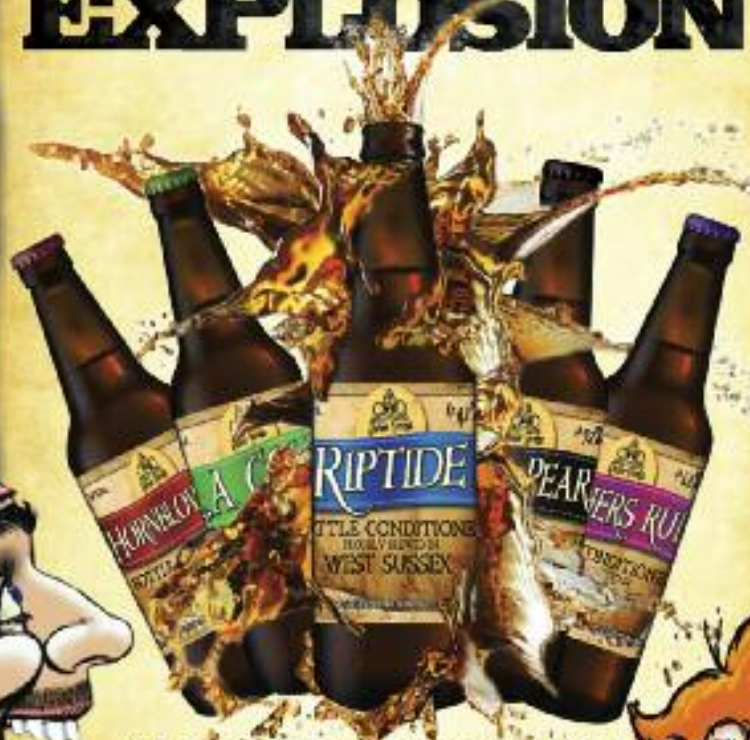
E17, TRYST, Punch, sold March 2012 and new owner applied for a 'lawful development certificate' for change of use to retail in September. Formerly STANDARD, originally ROYAL STANDARD. (E168, U157,194,223)

DAGENHAM (RM10), CHURCH ELM, ex-Allied (Ind Coope Romford), now demolished (2008) and site developed for housing and offices. (X45, U181)



Anchor Springs
Brewery Co. Sussex

GET READY FOR A TASTE
EXPLOSION



ANCHORS AWEIGH!!!
WITH FIVE
QUALITY CASK
CONDITIONED ALES
THAT'LL SWASHBUCKLE
YOUR PALATE...

NOW AVAILABLE IN CASK OR BOTTLES

BREWED IN LITTLEHAMPTON, WEST SUSSEX TEL: 01903 715111

NORTH

N7, McLOUGHLINS (CORA HOTEL), Free, previously reported as converted to food shop, now converted in December 2011 to 'Anthea Makedonia Hotel' with 20 rooms. Formerly BALMORAL CASTLE. (N85, U159,199,214,219)
N11, ORANGE TREE, S&NPC. Now converted to Tesco Express. Formerly BIG HAND MO'S, originally GROVE. (N107, U106,110,155,159,200,206,219)
N17, BAR LATINA, Independent, ex-Greenalls, converted to Sainsbury's Local store by September 2012. Formerly O-MARA'S, previously PERRY'S. (N135, U126,165)
N22, FREEMASONS ARMS, M&B, site now redeveloped for Tesco Express with flats above. (N155, U197,220)

NORTH WEST

NW9, PRINCE OF WALES, site now redeveloped for 'Prince of Wales House' including Tesco Express and residential in 2009. (W218, U178,202)
WEMBLEY (HA9), BEAR, Barracuda, closed and lease for sale. Formerly OLD POST OFFICE. (W221, U194,197,209)
WEMBLEY (HA0), GRAPEVINE, Free, converted to a flat c. 2008. (W219)
WEMBLEY (HA9), GREYHOUND, S&NPC, closed and boarded up after tenant went into administration. (W219, U202,205)
WEMBLEY (HA9), SPEAKEASY, Punch, sold, closed. Formerly CONNAUGHT. (W219, U202,216,225)
WEMBLEY (HA0), TOMMY FLYNN'S, Alpertown. Greene King, H unused; only streamflow version of Greene King IPA available. Formerly PLOUGH. (W221, U195,220,221)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, CLAREMONT, Independent, ex-Belhaven, demolished and eight flats under construction on site. (SE12)
SE1, SLOE, SSP, converted to retail as part of new balcony development by November 2012. Formerly REEF previously BALCONY BAR. (SE10, U102,160,212)
SE1, OAST HOUSE, SSP, closed and boarded up, along with whole block, as part of London Bridge Station upgrade. (SE27)
SE13, TWO 8 SIX, Free, closed, future uncertain. Formerly STONEWALLS, ZAR BAR, KELLYS BAR and originally CASTLE. (SE118, U196)
SE15, IVY HOUSE, Glenfield Holdings, closed and boarded up and sold to property developer by July 2012. Southwark Council have declared it an 'Asset of Community Value' and the developer has now put it back on the market. Formerly STUART ARMS. (SE140, U126,196,223)
SE16, JOLLY GARDENERS, Free, ground floor now converted to letting office for short-let apartments converted on upper floors. Formerly GARDENERS for a while. (SE146, U165,213)
SE16, YELLOW HOUSE, Enterprise, H unused. Formerly CAULKERS, originally NEW JOLLY CAULKERS. (SE145, U197,201)
SE18, PRINCE OF WALES, Greene King, now converted to flats. (SE171, U120,219)
SE20, QUEEN ADELAIDE (STREETS), Free, converted to Tesco Express by 2011. (SE190, U102,112)
SE27, GIPSY TAVERN, Punch, planning permission now granted by Lambeth Council for demolition and replacement by flats. (SE228, U222)

CROYDON (CR0), MANHATTAN, Free, confirmed now converted to Sainsbury's Local by August 2012. Formerly LATINOS, originally BRANNIGANS. (U159,177,188,191,226)

SANDERSTEAD (CR6), GOOD COMPANIONS, Limpsfield Rd, Hamsey Green. Enterprise, ex-Watney via Unique, not previously included on the Greater London pub database but in fact just within Croydon Borough since boundary changes in the 1990s. Sadly closed and boarded up by June 2012 and sold to Lidl who have submitted a planning application for demolition and replacement by a supermarket and 68 space car park. A local campaign to save the attractive 1950s pub, which lies on the 'London Loop' orbital walking route around Greater London, is underway.

SOUTH CROYDON (CR2), SWAN & SUGAR LOAF, ex-Pubs 'n' Bars leased from Whitgift Foundation. Now leased to Tesco with a planning application for ancillary matters facilitating conversion to retail use submitted to Croydon Council in August. (3SE279, U98,189,212)

WELLING (DA16), DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH, Independent, ex-Greene King, confirmed now converted to Tesco Express with opportunity to develop flats on upper floors. (3SE286, U44,87, K146, U157,225)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(W), DUKE OF YORK, Spirit, closed, boarded up and awaiting demolition as part of major area redevelopment scheme. (SW48, U188,200)

SW1(W), STAG, Spirit, demolished to facilitate major area redevelopment scheme. (SW50, U137,157,200)

SW1 (W), STAGE DOOR, Spirit, closed, boarded up and awaiting demolition as part of major area redevelopment scheme. (SW50, U188,204)

SW3, BOSUNS LOCKER, Free, basement Cornish theme bar closed along with former West Cornwall Pasty shop on ground floor, the latter having been converted to 'Ca'puccino' coffee bar. (U180)

SW3, CROSS KEYS. The owner has lost his appeal against refusal of planning permission by Kensington & Chelsea Council for conversion to a single dwelling. The pub remains closed. (SW56, U192,220,223,225)

SW4, BANK OF SWANS, Punch, closed and shuttered. (SW59, CSL8)

SW4, JOLLY GARDENERS, Conway Taverns, closed, boarded up and signage removed. (SW60, CSL14, U209)

SW9, ANGEL BAR & RESTAURANT, Independent, closed. Formerly ANGEL. (SW81, BSM6)

SW11, GROVE, Enterprise, operated by Atmospheric pubco, no real ale, H unused. (SW89, WB33, U207,213,215)

SW15, WAHOO, Cavendish Bars, closed. Formerly WALK-ABOUT, LITTEN TREE and SLUG & LETTUCE, originally WHITE LION. (SW104, BRP25, U211)

CHESSINGTON (KT9), HARROW, ex-Bass (Harvester), demolished and site redeveloped for housing. (SW134, U144,167,198, 2K14)

KINGSTON (KT2), ALEXANDRA, Greene King, closed and boarded up. (SW140, 2KT17)

KINGSTON (KT1), HONEST CABBAGE. Reverted to SIX BELLS in 2010. Enterprise, closed, future uncertain. (SW144, U190,213, 2KT22)

KINGSTON (KT2), RICHMOND PARK, Enterprise, ex-

Inntrepreneur via Unique, closed and freehold for sale and under offer in August 2010. (SW144, 2KT25)

KINGSTON (KT1), SLUG & LETTUCE, Stonegate, ex-Bay Restaurant Group, no real ale. Formerly CASA. (U165,198,199,212, 2KT26)

KINGSTON (KT1), SWAN, Enterprise, planning permission now granted in February 2012 for conversion of ground floor to art gallery, studio and associated office space. Has restrictive covenants preventing re-establishment as a pub or restaurant. (SW144, KT28, U204,214)

MITCHAM (CR4), QUEENS HEAD (JACK BEARDS AT THE), 10 Mill Green Rd, Hackbridge. Enterprise, closed. (SW147, BSM41, U214)

NEW MALDEN (KT3), WELLINGTON, Merlin Inns, H unused. Formerly DUKE OF WELLINGTON. (SW151, U145,212, 2KT36)

SURBITON (KT6), MAD HATTER, Enterprise, closed 2011, future uncertain. Planning permission for rear extension granted April 2012. Formerly VICTORIA. (SW163, U172, 2KT43)

SUTTON (SM1), WOODMAN, Enterprise, closed by July 2010, sold by September 2010 but planning application for alterations to facilitate retail use refused December 2011. (SW167, U207)

WORCESTER PARK (KT4), WORCESTER PARK, Spirit, ex-S&N, closed and believed sold to a hotel company in July 2012. Formerly WORCESTER PARK TAVERN. (SW169, 2KT46)

WEST

W6, FIRE STATION, Antic, closed. Formerly OLD FIRE STATION. (U185,216)

W6, HART. Reverted to WHITE HART, Orchid, closed with rumoured intentions to convert to a supermarket. (W103, U216).

W12, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, Enterprise, closed and boarded up in October 2012, future uncertain. (W122)

W12, GRAND UNION, Punch, leased to Grand Union, closed after being sold. Formerly SEVEN STARS. (W123, U212)

W12, GREEN ROOM, Independent, closed. Formerly 'Bush Bar' cocktail bar and originally BLOB SHOP. (W235, U216)

W12, OLD BULL & BUSH, Greene King, now converted to a Tesco Express with flats above by April 2012. (W123, U211)

W14, BRITANNIA TAP, Young, planning application for conversion to flats now refused and appeal hearing awaited. (W127, U225)

BRENTFORD (TW8), ALBANY ARMS, Enterprise, closed c. August 2012, future uncertain. (W130, U191,202,204,217)

HOUNSLOW (TW6), BEAVER, Greene King, planning application now submitted for change of use to mixed retail and hot food takeaway on ground floor and housing in multiple occupancy on first floor. (W167, U212)

HOUNSLOW (TW4), DUKE OF WELLINGTON, Greene King, confirmed converted to Sainsbury Local store by September 2012. (W167, U215,222,223)

HOUNSLOW (TW4), WARREN, S&NPC, ground floor now converted to Tesco Express. (W170, U212,219,224)

SOUTHALL (UB2), GRAND JUNCTION ARMS, Free, H unused. (W186, U197,214)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), CROWN, Enterprise, closed and

*Fantastic Variety
of
Real Ales*

Open 12pm-12am
Sun-Wed
12pm-1am Thu-Sat



*Great selection
of bottled beers
from England, Belgium & Germany*



*Homecooked Pub Food
available 12pm-3pm/6pm-9:30pm Mon-Sat
12pm-9pm Sun*

*Now offering
Roast Dinner
& Pudding
for under £10
on Sundays*

*Christmas Menu
available upon
request*

*Traditional
Cider & Perry*

Capital Pubcheck - update 227

refurbishment work halted pending planning approval. (W202)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), KOYOTE BAR, Independent, closed and for sale for £600k. Formerly UP 'N' UNDER. (W205, U186,187,215,216)

UXBRIDGE (UB8), BRUSHWOOD INN, Enterprise, no real ale again. Formerly TURKS HEAD. (W215, U220,221,222)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

CENTRAL

WC2, O'NEILLS, 40 Gt Queen St. Renamed **PHILOMENA'S** by October 2012. Beers now Fuller: London Pride; Sharp: Doom Bar. (W36, U194, WC49)

EAST

E1, KINGS STORES, -beers listed; +Everard: Truman Runner; +3 guests (e.g. Old Dairy Blue Top, Sharp's Cornish Coaster). Now transferred by Greene King from main estate to 'Real Pubs' subsidiary. Open 11.30-11 (11.30 Thu/Fri, midnight Sat), 12-10 Sun. (E69, U161,184,188)

E2, SUN, -beers listed; +Sharp: Doom Bar; +3 guest beers. Now Independent, ex-Whitbread via Punch. (E85, U205)

NORTH

N10, JOHN BAIRD, -beers listed; +Sharp: Doom Bar; +Taylor: Landlord. Now Punch, leased to Priory Pub Co, ex-S&N via Spirit. (N104, U198)

N12, O'NEILLS, 762/764 High Rd. Renamed **BOHEMIA** following acquisition by Antic from M&B (ex-Bass) in July. Changing selection of microbrewery beers on 8 handpumps (e.g. Bath Ales, East London, Ilkley, Westerham, Windsor & Eton). Stripped down decor with mixture of sofas, wooden chairs and tables (with flowers), polished wood floors, tiled around bar, large chandeliers and dusty books. Table football. Open-to-view kitchen. Open 4-11 (midnight Thu, 1am Fri), 12-1am Sat, 12-10.30 Sun. Originally FRINGILLA & FIRKIN, one of the non-brewing 'Firkins'. Delete erroneous entry for Bohemia in U226. (U126,151,160,225)

N12, A'ZEEZ, 744 High Rd. Renamed **RESHAM**, an Indian restaurant and wine bar but retaining a separate drinking area and keg beers. Formerly AUTUMN HOUSE, BELGRAVE, O'NEILLS and PAGES BAR. Delete erroneous entry in U226. (N111, U110,160,163,168,181,184,198,210)

N14, KYE'S, now Trust Inns, ex-S&N, still no real ale. Formerly WOOLPACK. (N120, U106,198,220)

BARNET (EN5), BLACK HORSE, now leased to Oak Taverns who are planning to install a one barrel microbrewery, the 'Barnet Brewery', on reopening in late November. (N250, H19, U181,182,187,226)

NORTH WEST

NW2, QUEENSBURY, Free (London Gastropub Co), reportedly sold to Fairview Homes who are proposing demolition and replacement by 36 flats. A local campaign to save it is underway; it is currently still trading. Formerly GREEN (THE). (U173, 211)

SOUTH EAST

SE1, WELLESLEY. Renamed **BEER HOUSE (WATER-LOO)** in mid-November, -beers listed; +Fuller: London Pride (£1.95/half pint, £3.60/pint); +Greene King:IPA, IPA Gold, St

Edmunds Ale. Basement SSP operated bar, rebranded with large selection of keg and bottled beers from the UK and the Continent but few of any real interest to beer enthusiasts. Formerly COOPERS. (U160,170,193)

SE6, CATFORD BRIDGE TAVERN. Planning application submitted by the freeholder/developer to convert upper floors to flats, indicating the intention to change the use of the ground floor and basement to retail for 'a major supermarket' and for which planning permission is not required. Antic only had a 'tenancy at will' from Punch Taverns, which was terminated overnight after a vigorous campaign, supported by local councillors and the MP, had persuaded Lewisham Council to make an Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights and locally list the pub. The Council then refused the planning application. Formerly COPPERFIELD. (SE67, U107,202,222,223)

SE10, CUTTY SARK, -beers listed; +Wells: Bombardier, Young's Bitter, Special, London Gold (labelled Greenwich Gold); +guest beer (e.g. Butcombe Bitter). Lease acquired by Young's from independent operator Endforth in early November. Likely to close temporarily in the New Year for refurbishment. (SE94)

SE16, JACK BEARDS AT THE BLUE ANCHOR. Reverted to **BLUE ANCHOR**. Retains Wells: Courage Best Bitter but not always available. (SE145, U178)

SOUTH WEST

SW1(SJ), CAPTAINS CABIN, Spirit, ex-S&N, Under threat from redevelopment scheme for whole area proposed by the Crown Estate. (SW45, U139,180)

SW8, INIGO. Now open only after 9pm, a late night DJ party bar and club. Was TONKI GORILLA for a while. Formerly SW8 BAR CAFE and originally VICTORIA. (SW80, CSL31, U218,220)

SW8, LITHIUM. Renamed **FORBIDDEN TEMPLE**. (U219)

SW8, LOST SOCIETY. Now open as a bar only 5-1am Fri & Sat, 2-7 Sun, otherwise operating mainly as a restaurant or a venue for private functions. Formerly TEA ROOMS DES ARTISTES (SW80, CSL31)

SW8, VOX. Now operates only as a club, with limited late opening; delete from pub database. Formerly REZ's, CAFE BIANCO and originally CAFE MONEYPENNY. (SW76, CSL34, U214)

SW9, PRINCE, - Greene King: IPA; +two Redemption beers. Formerly HARLEM, originally PRINCE OF WALES. (SW82, BSM13)

SW11, CHELSEA REACH, Admiral. Renamed **PAYA & HORSE** by 2010, a Serbian bar and restaurant. (SW87, WB28)

CHESSINGTON (KT9), BONESGATE. Renamed **WILLIAM BOURNE** in 2011. (SW134, U151,164, 2KT14, U217)

KINGSTON (KT1), SIR ROBERT PEEL. Now simply **PEEL (THE)**. Now Punch, ex-Bass. (SW144, U140, 2KT26)

NEW MALDEN (KT3), FOUNTAIN, +Surrey Hills beers. Now Spirit, ex-S&N. (SW151, U132,165,182, 2KT34)

WORCESTER PARK (KT4), NORTH END TAVERN, Stonegate. For sale. (SW169, U217)

WEST

W4, LAMB BREWERY, -beers listed; +6 varying cask ales on

handpump including from sister Convivial operated Botanist Brewery (e.g. Lamb Dark Ale) and micros and regionals (e.g. Black Sheep, Caledonian, Sambrook's, Sharp). Also there are 12 keg beers on tap, including Lamb: Pilsner and American Pale Ale brewed in-house and continental lagers and weizenbiers, plus a large range of bottled beers from the UK and the Continent. The 'Lamb Brewery' plant, located opposite the bar, is currently believed to be brewing only keg beers with the Botanist concentrating on cask ales. Attractive decor, food. Formerly BARLEY MOW. (W86, U188,226)

W10, NORTH POLE. Now new owners Riding House Properties have leased the ground floor to Tesco and the inside has been stripped. Planning permission for ancillary changes to facilitate retail use including changing the signage, colour and frontage granted by Kensington & Chelsea despite objections from local residents quoting the draft pub protection policy. The option of an Article 4 Direction was rejected as not relevant, despite Government Ministerial support for such action where pubs are under threat. The possibility of compensation may have been the reason for the Council's reluctance. (W118, U198,213,226)

HOUNSLOW (TW3), ROSE. Renamed **BAR 113.** Formerly LARKINS CELLAR BAR and previously LARKIN INN. (W170, U195,198,210,218)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), MARBLE HILL. Renamed **ALEKSANDER** and building painted white. Now a true Free House, -beers listed; +Sharp: Doom Bar; +Surrey Hills: Ranmore Ale (£3/pint); +Twickenham: Naked Ladies. Formerly RISING SUN. (W204, U209,223 to 226)

TWICKENHAM (TW1), OLD ANCHOR. Now debranded

by Young's with 'Free House' sign outside, suggesting it may have been sold. (W203, U209,222 to 225)

CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 226

NEW PUBS ETC

EC3, LIME STREET EXCHANGE. Address should read: 52-54 Lime St.

N12, A'ZEEZ. Delete entry; correct version under 'Changes' above.

KINGSTON (KT1), STEINS. Is an Independent bar.

KINGSTON (KT1), O'NEILLS Is M&B, ex-Bass.

PUBS CLOSED ETC

EC1, ROYAL MAIL. Is a Free House, not Allied (Taylor Walker).

E1, MASON & TAYLOR. Note correct name. Entry should have been under 'Changes'.

SE13, MARKET TAVERN. Should read: planning application now submitted'.

OTHER CHANGES ETC

N1, CLARENDON. Should read: Renamed **DISSENTING ACADEMY.**

W2, PRINCE ALFRED. Should read: leased to Glendola.

TEDDINGTON (TW11), BLOATED MALLARD. Add: Formerly RAILWAY.

TWICKENHAM (TW1), MARBLE HILL. Delete duplicate references.



LEYTON ORIENT SUPPORTERS CLUB

Invites you to its annual...

MIGHTY OAK BREWERY

CHRISTMAS ALE NIGHT

FRIDAY 21st DECEMBER

Doors open at 5.00pm

✳ **ADMISSION FREE** ✳

Come and try their extensive range of Christmas Ales, and of course our FREE mince pies

T/F: **020 8988 8288** E: **loscmembers@aol.com** W: **orientsupporters.org**

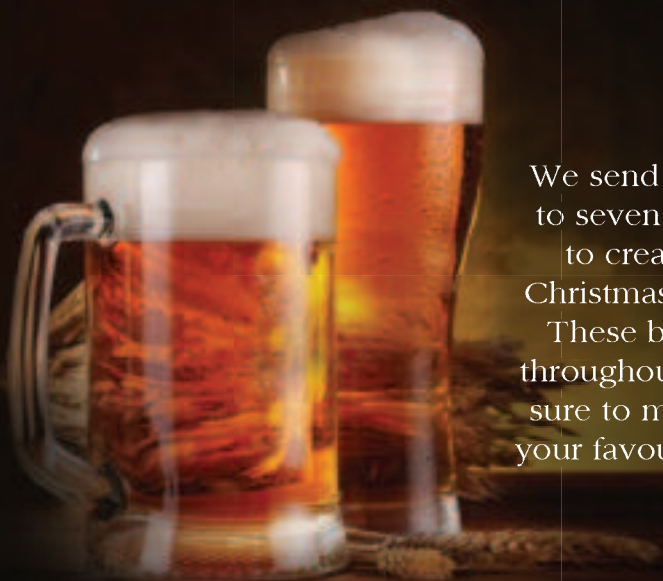
**LEYTON ORIENT SUPPORTERS CLUB, MATCHROOM STADIUM,
OLIVER ROAD, LONDON E10 5NF**

Just a few minutes from Leyton (Central Line) Station. Buses 58, 69, 97, 158 & 308 to Coronation Gardens



HO HO HO

CHRISTMAS BEER CHRISTMAS CHEER



We send our pub managers
to seven different brewers,
to create seven unique
Christmas Ales, just for you.
These beers are available
throughout December, so be
sure to make a discovery in
your favourite this Christmas.



**SCAN YOUR SMARTPHONE OVER THE CODE TO FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT OUR EXCLUSIVE NICHOLSON'S CASK ALE CLUB**

WWW.NICHOLSONSPUBS.CO.UK



FIND US ON FACEBOOK.COM/NICHOLSONSPUBS



@NICHOLSONSPUBS



VALES
5 GOLD RINGS



OXFORDSHIRE
MEADS MUST



SAMBROOK'S
LONDON WINTER



MOORHOUSE
ELVES BELLS

7 ALES OF CHRISTMAS



ANDWELL
DING DONG



BROUGHTON
SANTA'S OATMEAL STOUT



BRENTWOOD
THE ONLY WAY IS SANTA

Fifty London pubs have been converted or redeveloped for supermarket convenience stores since 2010, generally without the need for owners to seek planning permission for change of use. The survey by CAMRA London branches also shows that the rate of losses to convenience stores is speeding up with 9 converted in 2010, 19 in 2011 and 22 so far in 2012 with another 13 in the pipeline and likely to be lost by year's end. The rate is approaching one pub lost to a convenience store every 10 days.

Pub conversions for residential use require public consultation on planning applications but permitted development rights allow pubs to be converted to shops, restaurants, betting shops, estate agents etc without planning approval but not vice versa. The major supermarket operators are vying with each other to snap up sites in suburban high streets for convenience stores, having switched from building megastores, and they are taking full advantage of this planning loophole to convert pubs in good locations. Although there are many vacant retail premises in London, pubs are more attractive to them than shop units since they are already licensed for alcohol and often have small off-road car parking areas or gardens that can be covered in tarmac.

The main culprit is **Tesco** who have converted 28 pubs with a further 10 currently under threat. **Sainsbury** have converted 11 with another one under threat. Together they account for 78% of the conversions with a further 3 going to smaller chains and 8 to independent traders mainly serving ethnic communities.

The pubs have been offered up mainly by the national pubcos and regional breweries with Enterprise Inns and Punch Taverns contributing 8 each, Greene King 6, Mitchells & Butlers 3, Scottish & Newcastle 2 and one each from Fuller, Spirit and Wetherspoon. The remainder had been operated by small pubcos or independents, some of which were second hand, having previously been acquired from big pubcos and breweries. Of those under threat, 4 more are from Punch, 2 are from Enterprise and one each from Fuller's and Young's.

The pubcos and breweries often claim that the pubs disposed of are no longer viable and of course there are many reasons why pubs are failing, including the

highest taxation on beer in Europe and demographic changes etc. However typically the pubs converted to convenience stores are in the more affluent suburbs in prominent high street locations and are often linked to the conversion of upper floors to flats. Of the 50 lost, 33 were located in the London postal districts and 17 in outer districts within Greater London.

It is rare for pubs deemed 'unviable' to be marketed for continued use as pubs prior to sale. The owners are not keen to offer them to rival operators, particular those with a different business model that might make a success of them, even though the few that have escaped the clutches of the pubcos have proved how weak the unviability argument often is. Rather they are advertised by agents as 'development opportunities'. There is also some evidence that supermarkets in particular pay a premium over the value as a pub. It is understood that one of the major supermarkets offers agents an incentive of £20k to identify sites successfully converted to convenience stores.

Once a major supermarket operator has been secured to take the lease on the ground floor, the way is open for developers to raise the finance to convert the upper floors, where function rooms, kitchens and staff accommodation are often located, into self contained flats. Ironically the 'luxury apartments' often marketed are generally sold at prices well out of reach of the shop workers below but nevertheless help Councils tick their housing target boxes.

Pubs earmarked for disposal by pubcos and breweries are often dealt with in a devious way. Both pub owners and supermarkets like to keep a low profile while the process of running down, closure and conversion takes place. Third party developers or agents are employed to carry out pre-application discussions with local planners for any ancillary permissions that might be needed such as for the installation of ATMs, illuminated signage, enlarging entry doors etc. and which might reveal the intention to convert to retail use.

Customers and staff often only find out a pub is closing at the last minute when it's too late to mount an effective campaign to save it. There are also suspicions that pubs are sometimes deliberately run down with temporary management prior to disposal to help reduce potential local objections.

Two recent examples of popular and viable pubs threatened by conversion to convenience stores where campaigns to save them have been vociferous, are the Catford Bridge Tavern, SE6 and the North Pole, W10. Highlighted in this issue's *Capital Pubcheck*, they illustrate well many of the above characteristics with supermarkets, pub owners and developers apparently colluding together to outwit potential objectors, aided by a weak planning regime. For the Catford Bridge Tavern, Lewisham Council has locally listed the pub, made an Article 4 Direction to remove permitted development rights and refused permission for flats upstairs. Sadly, Kensington & Chelsea Council have ruled out taking similar action, despite recently consulting on a pub protection policy, and Tesco's contractors are already at work stripping out the pub's fittings.

There are of course many pub conversions to other retail uses, restaurants, betting shops etc. which can also generally take place without planning permission, as well as numerous conversions to residential use which generally do require permission. A recent Private Member's Bill to try and close the planning loophole failed to get Government support but CAMRA is continuing to lobby for a change in the planning regulations. Most agree that it is unacceptable and undemocratic that pubs that have served their communities for many years can be converted to other uses without any opportunity for consultation through the local planning process, and that action is needed as a matter of urgency.

Roger Warhurst

London pubs converted or redeveloped for supermarkets

Battersea, Carbon (was Barringtons)

Charlton, Woodman

Chessington, Maverick (was Port of Call)

Croydon, Manhattan (was Brannigans)

Dagenham, Beacon

Dagenham, Railway

Ealing, Granville

Eltham, Royal Eltham

Erith, Style & Winch (was Boundary)

Euston Station, Puccinos

Feltham, Horse & Groom

Fulham, Salisbury Tavern

Harrow, Apollo

Hillingdon, Oak Tree

Holloway, Jolly Roger

Hounslow, Duke of Wellington

Supermarket sweep

Hounslow, Warren
Islington, EQ (was Y Bar)
Kilburn, Britannia
New Southgate, Orange Tree
North Kensington, Ion
Palmers Green, Polski Bar Sportowa
(was Cock Tavern)
Penge, Queen Adelaide
Plaistow, Railway Tavern
Shepherds Bush, Old Bull & Bush
(was Travellers Rest)
South Hornchurch, Cherry Tree
South Tottenham, Botany Bay (was Greyhound)
South Tottenham, Golden Stool (was Mitre)
Southall, North Star
Southfields, Grid Inn
Stockwell, Russell Hotel
Stratford, Pigeons

Streatham, Rose & Crown
Tottenham, Bar Latina (was Perry's)
Twickenham, Red Lion
Walthamstow, Essex Arms
Walthamstow, Plough Inn
Wandsworth, Blend (was Foote & Firkin)
Wandsworth, Front Bar (was All Bar One)
Welling, Duchess of Edinburgh
Welling, Infernos (was Station)
Wembley, Desi Dons (was Hop Bine)
West Drayton, Fox & Pheasant
West Ealing, Spinning Wheel
West Kensington, Fox
West Norwood, Jack Stamps (was Thurlow Arms)
Whetstone, Sapphire Lounge (was Rising Sun)
Wood Green, Freemasons Arms
Wood Green, Shout (was Chicago Rock Café)
Woolwich, Queen Victoria

London pubs reportedly under threat by supermarkets

Brixton, George IV Music Bar (was George IV)
Catford, Catford Bridge Tavern
Feltham, Crown & Sceptre
Hillingdon, Master Brewer Hotel
North Kensington, North Pole
Sanderstead, Good Companions
South Croydon, Swan & Sugarloaf
South Wimbledon, Grove (was Grove Tavern)
Summerstown, Prince of Wales
Sutton, Angel
Sutton, Woodman
Twickenham, Old Anchor
Walthamstow, Tryst (was Royal Standard)

Listing pubs as Assets of Community Value

The news that the Ivy House in Peckham, statutorily listed in the summer after an application by CAMRA to English Heritage, has become the first known instance of a pub to receive designation as an Asset of Community Value under the Localism Act is a major boost to the protection of pubs which are specifically named in the Localism Regulations as being particular targets for protection by this means.

A community group- there are several forms which are equally valid as 'nominating parties' – comprising a minimum of 21 local people must identify the site and describe its special qualities which deserve protection by Registration. Fundamentally, it must be a place with 'communal value' – where local people come together to take part in some group activity, whether individually or as formal groups. There is no reason why a local CAMRA branch should not appoint the 21 from amongst its own members.

If the owner decides to sell a Registered ACV, they must notify the Local Authority immediately and the authority will then notify the nominating group, who then have six weeks in which to decide whether they wish to make a bid for the property, which may be either land – such as playing fields or a bowling green – or buildings. Having notified the authority that they do wish to make a bid within that time, the community group then have six months in which to draw up a business plan, form themselves into one of the acceptable forms of community company, raise funds and then make a bid.

Unlike Scotland, the right conferred is not a right to buy, just a 'right to try'. The owner can continue to market the property and elicit bids from other potential purchasers, including developers, and he is not bound to accept the community's offer. He may, however, sell the property to the registered community group at any time during the 7.5 month moratorium, but not to any other party. If he does sell to someone else, the deal can be legally 'unwound' and the property placed back on the market. Such a restriction will put a stop to under-the-table deals between pubcos and non-pub-

operating commercial enterprises such as the supermarkets, when the only time the community knows it is about to lose its social hub is when a planning notice goes up outside the building or a neighbour receives notification in the post. Or it's boarded up.

Southwark Council are to be congratulated for their perspicacity. Lewisham Council too have shown a proper regard for their community pubs after it was shown that more than half of that borough's pubs have been lost in the past 15 years. Lewisham, ably guided by Cllr Liam Curran, have been leading the way in issuing Article 4 Directions to save pubs under threat from developers. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and LB Islington have also recently introduced new pubs protection in their Local Plans.

In Wandsworth, local Battersea MP Jane Ellison has just launched, in partnership with the local CAMRA branch, a campaign to protect as many of the borough's remaining pubs as possible by ACV Registration, following the massively well-supported campaign in her constituency to save the Castle from an unwanted residential development by Languard Investments dubbed locally as the 'Battersea Bunker'. Two other pubs nearby have also been acquired by developers and are expected to close in the near future.

CAMRA is formulating guidance for local authorities and branches about how to benefit from the Assets of Community Value legislation. Please speak to your local branch Pubs Officer or Pubs Protection Officer about how to go about nominating your locals to protect them. Or contact me: dale.ingram@camraswl.org.uk.

Dale Ingram

Dale Ingram is an historic buildings and planning consultant specialising in the conservation of historic pubs and breweries. She is Pubs Preservation Officer for SW London CAMRA, and CAMRA's London Region Pubs Protection Adviser. She also sits on CAMRA's national Pubs Heritage and Planning Advisory Groups.

Master Cellarman of the Year 2012...

winner



Officially the best kept pint of Fuller's beer, The Harpenden Arms, winner of Fuller's master cellarman of the year 2012.

The Harpenden Arms 188 High Street,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2TR



www.fullers.co.uk



CAMRA Design Awards

Two North London pubs have been commended for their design work in CAMRA's prestigious National Pub Design Awards competition, held in association with English Heritage and The Victorian Society. The Awards are held annually, with the categories dedicated to championing pubs showing vision, imagination and a level of restraint in their design. This year's announcement comes at a time when Britain's pub closure rate has increased to 18 per week, with countless community pubs under threat across the land. For all work completed during 2010, an experienced panel of judges consisting of architects, historians and pub campaigners travelled the length and breadth of the country to visit pubs submitted into the competition.

In the Conversion to Pub Use category, the Euston Tap, NW1 2EF received a Highly Commended Award as runner-up to the winner, the Drop Forge in Birmingham. While in the Refurbishment category, the St John's Tavern N19 5QU was commended for the work done.

Commenting on the winning designs this year, Dr Steven Parissien, an architectural historian, author, and one of the competition judges, said, *"For over twenty years the Pub Design Awards have been celebrating the Best of British. Amidst the gloom and doom, this past year has, reassuringly, seen a number of first-rate pub schemes, all of which illustrate how pubs can, and should, be treated. Interestingly, the majority of our award winners involve new work done to historic, listed buildings – which, for many both at home and abroad, define what a pub should be."*

Congratulation to our two London winners; it is good to see that the capital is not falling behind when it comes to the design and refurbishment of our pubs.

John Cryne



Jamie Haworth (centre) of the Euston Tap receiving their award from Christine Cryne CAMRA (left) and Steven Parissien (judge) on the right

**"a beer drinker's
mecca"**

***Good Beer Guide
2005-2013***

CAMRA MEMBERS' SHORT BREAKS
Second Night's Accommodation Free!
through 31 March 2013
direct flights from Luton, Gatwick & Heathrow



100 Belgian Beers
240 Single Malts

Real Ale & Cider
9 Ensuite Rooms

the
ANDERSON

restaurant • whisky bar • accommodation

Fortrose, by Inverness

tel. 01381 620 236

www.theanderson.co.uk

Christmas

GUEST ALES

AVAILABLE AT J D WETHERSPOON

FEATURING ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:



SHEPHERD NEAME
RUDOLPH'S REWARD
3.7% ABV



BANKS & TAYLOR
SANTA'S SLAYER
4.0% ABV



BRAINS
FESTIVE CHEER
4.0% ABV



CALEDONIAN
ELF ESTEEM
4.0% ABV



HYDES
RACEY RUDOLPH
4.0% ABV



BUTCOMBE
CHRISTMAS STEPS
4.2% ABV



HARDYS & HANSONS
ROCKING RUDOLPH
4.2% ABV



MOORHOUSE'S
ICE WITCH
4.3% ABV



MORDUE
TINSEL TOON
4.3% ABV



ORKNEY
CLOOTIE DUMPLING
4.3% ABV



THWAITES
GOOD ELF
4.3% ABV



WYCHWOOD
BAH HUMBUG!
4.3% ABV



RUDGATE
BREWDOLF
4.4% ABV



ADNAMS
YULETIDE
4.5% ABV



BURTON BRIDGE
SANTI-FREEZE
4.5% ABV



COTLEIGH
RED NOSE REINBEER
4.5% ABV



GREENE KING
FIRESIDE
4.5% ABV



JW LEES
PLUM PUDDING
4.8% ABV



LYMESTONE
PUDDING STONE
4.8% ABV



BATEMANS
ROSEY NOSEY
4.9% ABV



TITANIC
PLUM PORTER
4.9% ABV



ARKELL'S
NOËL ALE
5.0% ABV



ARUNDEL
OLD SCROOGE
5.0% ABV



EVERARDS
NUTCRACKER
5.0% ABV



EXMOOR
EXMAS
5.0% ABV



STONEHENGE
RUDOLPH
5.0% ABV



BEARTOWN
SANTA'S EXTRA
CLAWS 5.2% ABV



SKINNER'S
JINGLE KNOCKER
5.5% ABV

Subject to local licensing restrictions
and availability at participating free houses.

Lloyds Bar

drinkaware.co.uk
wetherspoon

London CAMRA Awards

Greater London Pub of the Year 2012 – The Hope



Croydon & Sutton branch usually hold an 'eve of festival' social at the Hope on the Wednesday evening before Wallington opens but the event took on a different slant this year when it became the occasion to present the Hope's Greater London Regional Pub-of-the-Year certificate.

The presentation was made by CAMRA's Greater London Regional Director John Cryne who handed the certificate to Rodger Molyneux Chairman of 48 West Ltd the company running the pub, which is owned by 32 of its customers. Rodger paid tribute to the hard work of pub manager Rowan Barrett and all the staff who work there. At this point they were joined on stage by almost all the staff (somebody had to serve the beer) wearing splendid new black jackets. The jackets are embroidered with a version of the Hope's compass logo which also includes a CAMRA logo and a reference to the 2012 title.

Thanks go to Kent and Kissinggate breweries who each produced a specially brewed beer to refresh the guests after the presentation.

The Hope can be found at 48 West Street, Calshalton, Surrey SM5 2PR, close to the railway station.

Terry Hewitt

O's take the club prize

Members of Leyton Orient Supporters Club together with guests at the Piglet 15 beer and cider festival raised their glasses in celebration of the Club winning the CAMRA Greater London 2012 Club of the Year competition. CAMRA Regional Director, John Cryne, presented the Award and congratulated the Club on their achievement, the sixth time it has won the regional award. He was also able to announce that the Club had gone on to win its Super Regional category and so would go on to be one of the four finalists in the national competition. After London took the last national award with Qwestors, here's hoping for a double!

For more information on the Club go to www.orientssupporters.org.



Club Secretary and Bar Manager Mike Childs (centre) receives his award from John Cryne (left) and John Pardoe, East London and City CAMRA Branch Chairman (right).

Winter is the time for comfort,
for good food and warmth,
for the touch of a friendly hand
and for a talk beside the fire:
it is the time for ale

WINTER CHEER
A dark, malty
spicy ale
Inspired by Tradition

Twickenham Fine Ales, Edwin Road, Twickenham TW2 9SP
Telephone 020 3241 1225 Mobile 07070 617504
Email sales@twickenham-fine-ales.co.uk www.twickenham-fine-ales.co.uk

ALE CIDER MEAT

THE SOUTHAMPTON ARMS

**18 HANDFULS FULL OF LOVELY ALE & CIDER
AND A FRIDGE FULL OF LOVELY MEAT**

HIGHGATE RD NW5, KENTISH TOWN/GOSPEL OAK

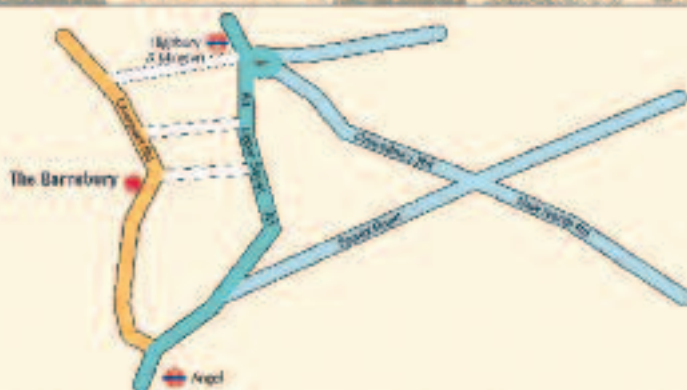
The Barnsbury Pub

Fabulous traditional pub in
the heart of Islington

Immaculately kept real ales
and microbrews

Mouthwatering new menu of
home-made pub classics by
Boyden's Kitchen

Forget marathons, drink beer!
Proud supporters of The Prostate
Cancer Charity



Turn right from Highbury station and then right into Highbury Station Rd.
Continue to Liverpool Rd, and turn left, walk for 8-10 mins to pub on your right.
Angel tube only 6 mins walk away.

209-211 LIVERPOOL ROAD ISLINGTON N1 1LX
020 7607 5519

Twitter @thebarnsburypub
www.thebarnsbury.co.uk



Wallington Beer Festival 2012

The 19th Croydon & Sutton Real Ale Festival, held in October, again featured beers from within 30 miles of the hall and was considered a success despite a slow start on the opening Thursday, when heavy rain seemed to keep prospective drinkers away.

Croydon's new brewers were voted the festival's favourite beers. Clarence & Frederick's claimed both first and third places in the 'Beer of Festival' vote, with Cronx in the number two slot. It was Clarence & Frederick's (www.cfbrewing.co.uk) first public appearance and their Smoked Red (5.1%) was the beer of the festival, with Golden Ale (3.8%) in third place. The brewery is in Neville Road, not far from the centre of Croydon.

The Cronx brewery (www.thecronx.com) who have been brewing just a little longer at their site in New Addington, achieved the second place with Entire Porter (5.2%). Croy-



don now has two working breweries for the first time in nearly eighty years. We look forward to seeing their beers available in local pubs on a regular basis.

Thank you to everyone who helped, and to all those who supported by consuming the beers, ciders and foreign beers.

Success for Sambrook's

Congratulations are due to Sambrook's Brewery of Battersea. Their Wandle bitter won the 'Best Bitter (less than 5%)' category at the recent World Beer Awards. They celebrated by giving away over 150 pints at their first ever stockist, the Draft House Westbridge on Battersea Bridge Road. Further celebrations are being planned.

Sambrook's are very much a success story, especially on their home territory. These days more often than not you can find a Sambrook's beer in roughly half of the 28 pubs now serving real ale in London SW18 (Wandsworth, Earlsfield and Southfields). Wandle is a regular beer at six of the local Young's pubs and their beers are frequent guests in several others as well as in a number of several free houses.

Having had great success with their Lavender Hill beer, Sambrook's are brewing another beer for the Nicholsons chain, this time, it is understood, a Christmas Ale.

Sambrook's were given a name-check by Battersea MP Jane Ellison in the Beer Duty debate – the only London brewery to have that honour.

NELSON BREWERY



**BREWERS OF FINE KENTISH ALES
FROM THE BIRTHPLACE OF
H.M.S. VICTORY**

WWW.NELSONBREWERY.CO.UK



**CASK ALE, POLYPINS AND BOTTLES
DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOUR DOOR**

**01634 832828
SALES@NELSONBREWERY.CO.UK
"EXPECT THE BEST"**

THE OLD COFFEE HOUSE

A Real Pub in the heart of the West End



Open 11am 'til 11pm

An exciting selection of Brodie's Beers over five handpumps
including exclusives

49 Beak Street London W1F 9SF
020 7437 2197

0.4km from Piccadilly Circus Station/Oxford Circus Station

Twickenham Beer and Cider Festival

Keen beer and cider lovers made tracks to York House (Clarendon Hall) 18 to 20 October to sample some of the 70 ales and 25 ciders on offer. The real ales came from small breweries from all over the UK and the ciders and perries from apple and pear growers in the West Country. This was the 12th Twickenham Beer Festival organised by the Richmond and Hounslow branch of CAMRA and over the two and a half days some 2,000 customers drank over 8,000 pints of beer and a fair quantity of cider as well.

The Beer of the Festival, as voted for by the public, was "Diamond Geezer" a 4.9% ABV red-amber bitter ale from the By The Horns Brewery in Summerstown, SW17.

The Richmond and Hounslow Branch of CAMRA also announced their branch Pub of The Year at Thursday evening's opening session. To much acclaim, this was the Sussex Arms on Staines Road in Twickenham. Until last year a run down, empty watering hole, it was taken over by Twickenham Taverns and under-managers Pete and his partner Ash, and now offers 12 ales and 6 ciders. It is now thriving and is very popular among CAMRA members and locals alike.

CAMRA spokesman John Austin, (who dutifully attended all

sessions to ensure accurate reporting!) said that a larger than ever proportion of the drinkers were young and that many were women, indicating an increasing appreciation of real ale and real cider among the younger generation.

John Austin



John Young Memorial Award, 2012

The John Young Memorial Award publicly acknowledges on an annual basis an individual or organisation that CAMRA's London branches believe has done the most for real ale and/or pubs within the Greater London area.

This year, the sixth award goes to Andy Moffat of Redemption Brewery, which he founded in 2010 with no previous brewing experience. Andy has been a strong supporter of real ale and CAMRA, sponsoring beer festivals and encouraging pubs who wouldn't usually stock real ale to stock it. An active member of the London Brewers Alliance, he hosted the brewers for the first collaboration brew, which was then modified to become Fellowship Porter. The brewery has expanded from two core beers at launch to a range of six core beers including the award-winning Trinity, a great example of a beer not needing a high ABV to be full of flavour.

In honour of his late uncle, Torquil Sligo-Young will once again be presenting the award, this year at 3pm on Tuesday 4 December, the opening day of the 29th Pig's Ear Beer & Cider Festival at the Round Chapel, Powerscroft Road, Hackney E5 0PU.

The Hope, Carshalton.

Proud to be Greater London Pub Of The Year 2012

7 Hand Pumps with
at least 1 Dark Beer.
3 'Key Keg' Lines
with exotic beers.
50+ Bottled beers
from around the world



Bar Menu 12-3pm
'Pot' Meals to 10pm
No TV, Muzak or
machines
3 Real Ciders.

By Beer Enthusiasts, For Beer Enthusiasts.

Many unique beers from fabulous independent brewers
"A Real Ale Haven" Supporting LocAle. Regular Beer Festivals.

The Hope is owned and operated by 48 West Ltd, a company owned by customers of the pub.

48 West Street, Carshalton, Surrey. SM5 2PR

www.hopecarshalton.co.uk T:020 8240 1255

3 minutes walk from Carshalton Station

See YourRound.co.uk for our 'Beer Cam'

29th Pig's Ear Beer & Cider Festival

Tuesday 4th December to
Saturday 8th December 2012

The Round Chapel, Powerscroft Road,
off Lower Clapton Road, Hackney, E5 0PU



Prices:

- Card-carrying
CAMRA Members £2
- Non-Members £4

Opening Hours:

Tues, Wed, Thurs
& Sat: noon-23:00
Friday: noon-23:30

Directions:

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

Round Chapel, Powerscroft Rd.



Further information: www.pigsear.co.uk



@pigsearcamra



facebook.com/camra.elac

ILLUSTRATION: JOHN CROCKFORD



A Gothic tale

In which Mark Justin from Le Gothique in Wandsworth and founder of the Wandsworth Common Beer Festival is invited to Faversham...

Like many London Drinker readers I have always harboured a desire to brew my own beer. Well, an offer from Shepherd Neame, Britains oldest brewer, to come along to their pilot brewery housed within the portals of their Faversham facility was an offer I could not refuse. In fact, it was like letting a child loose in a sweet factory! The pilot brewery is a 4 barrel (16 firkin) 'brewery in a brewery'. Stewart Main is the brewer in charge of beer development at Shepherd Neame and he was to be my guide throughout the brew. But make no mistake: this was strictly hands on. Stewart was there only in an advisory capacity. It was up to me to choose the style of beer, work out a recipe and, most importantly, decide the strength!

But what beer should we brew? This year's Supreme Champion Beer of Britain was a Barley Wine. But with Coniston only brewing a limited amount, many people have missed out on a revival of this once popular beer style so we decided upon attempting a barley wine but at a maximum ABV of 6%. It was always going to be on the low side for a true barley wine but nevertheless we soldiered on.

My first surprise was the sheer amount of malted barley needed to produce just 16 firkins of beer. The more malt = the more sugar = the more alcohol. The first law of brewing! So we weighed up 167kg of six different malts. Again I was surprised that 120kg were pale malts even though we were producing what would definitely be a dark brown/red beer. A surprisingly low proportion were chocolate and dark malts. A little, it would appear, goes a long way. Apparently, even

Guinness is predominantly (80%) pale crystal malts.

The hopper positively groaned under the sheer weight of the malts about to be dropped, slowly, into the hot water (known as liquor). With a paddle we ensured that a porridge-like consistency was maintained without any patches of dry lumpy malt. The 25kg sacks of malt really took some pouring. This was going to be thirsty work.

At the boil stage we dropped in some First Goldings hops and 5 minutes before the end of the boil we added a few more but this was not going to be a particularly hoppy brew. The emphasis would clearly be on the malt for our barley wine. All along I was taking thermometer readings and checking on the original gravity of the brew. It started out at 1080 OG and my first thought was that I had over egged the pudding but this settled down to a more acceptable 1060 OG during the sparging process. Another revelation was that this entirely unalcoholic beverage was so wonderfully drinkable at this stage. Both Stewart and I drew off a pint of this ruby red/brown nectar which reminded me of the Ovaltine and Horlicks of my childhood.

After the boil it was cooled down to 18°C or so, and



pumped into fermenting vessel No.2. By now we were nearly 4 hours into the brewing process which had begun at 8am. I was beginning to feel a little tired as we went off deep into the Shepherd Neame brewhouse to collect some of their 'ale yeast' from an enormous conical vessel. An amazing 6 litres of yeast was dropped into FV No.2 and the rest was left to Mother Nature and Captain Science to do their thing. The final ABV was 6%.

What a day! One I will never forget. The beer was the centrepiece of my recent Halloween Beer festival but it will be available at the GBG-listed Le Gothique until Christmas so why not pop over and try a pint. Le Gothique is located in the Royal Victoria Patriotic Building on Wandsworth Common, SW18.

Mark Justin

**The
FOX**

Green Lane,
Old Hanwell,
London W7
Tel: 020 8567 4021

CAMRA West Middlesex

Pub of the Year 2005, 2007, 2010 and 2011

***We're a unique family-run pub
with award-winning beers
and freshly cooked food; a
welcome pit stop for visitors to
the Grand Union Canal and
Hanwell Flight of Locks.***

Weekday lunch available 12 - 3pm

Evening menu available

Tues - Sat 6 - 9.30pm

Saturday Brunch 12 - 4pm

Sunday Roasts 12.30 - 3pm

Email: thefox@oldehanwell.fsnet.co.uk

The Pembury Tavern

90 Amhurst Road, London E8 1JH
020 8986 8597

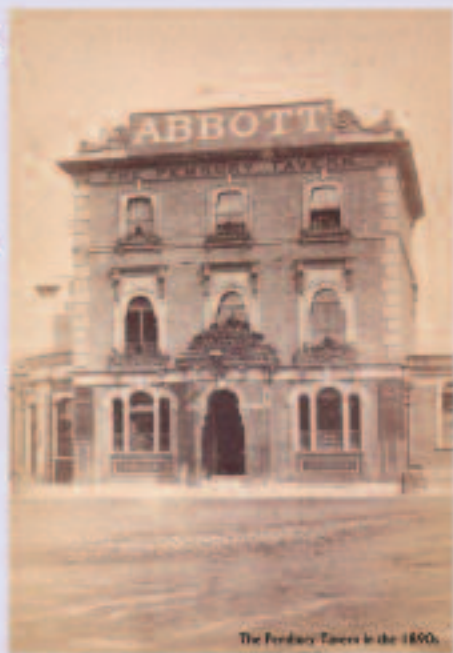
Real Ales, Cider and Perry,
German and Belgian bottled beers,
Fine Wines and Meads

Open 12–11 every day
and later on Friday/Saturday

Modern Italian kitchen serving
main dishes 12–3 and 6–9pm,
stonebake pizza 12–10pm
(and to 11pm Thu/Fri/Sat)

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

SPBW London Pub of the Year 2010



The Pembury Tavern in the 1890s.

26 WENLOCK ROAD, N1 7TA

THE WENLOCK ARMS

WINE & SPIRIT STORES

Barking up the Becontree

Late-October 2012 saw a hardy group of London Pubs Group supporters venture out to the 'Wild East' for an afternoon tour of selected pubs in Redbridge and Barking & Dagenham. Jumping-off point at noon was the Cauliflower, 553 High Road, Ilford. This pub is not a listed building but it is one of London's Real Heritage Pubs (i.e. on CAMRA's London Regional Inventory of Pub Interiors of Special Historic Interest) and the description is as follows: "A vast edifice some way out of the centre on the main road east out of Ilford. It dates from the great pub boom around 1900 and still has the vestiges of a truly wonderful interior. The imposing frontage is more or less symmetrical and, stylistically, is a revival of architecture from around 1600. The interior has been largely opened out but immediately by the main entrance is a screen with a wide round arch in a timber and glass surround which provides some kind of subdivision in the front part of the pub. The servery is large and takes care of all parts of the pub." Look out also for the ornate stillion stretching right up to the high, decorated ceiling which incorporates a built-in clock and a lovely small, glazed-in office and the splendid etched and polished glass in the rear area. Real ale was available here in the form of Caledonian Flying Scotsman.

Next (bus route 150) was the Lord Napier in Green Lane, Goodmayes. This former Ind Coope pub is neither a listed building nor one of London's Real Heritage Pubs but it is a (possibly) early 20th-century building with a pleasing double-gabled red brick and stone frontage. Sadly the exterior of the ground floor storey has been painted over. It has a largely opened-up interior with some decorative elements in a restrained neo-Classical style, such as the carved wooden pediment over the bar-back, the carved wooden pineapples on the metal and wooden railings and the stained glass entrance lobbies and baffles bearing a red roundel design with blue relief. Greene King beers were available.

We then went by 364 bus through the heart of the huge former LCC Becontree Estate to the Cherry Tree in Wood Lane. Like the Lord Napier, this pub is neither listed building nor a London Real Heritage Pubs but, according to Basil Oliver in *The Renaissance of the English Public House*, it was jointly designed by C C Winnill and F G Newnham for Barclay Perkins & Co Ltd. Pevsner's *Buildings of England: London 5* East says of the Cherry Tree that it was built in 1933 and "evokes a late-17th-century double pile house in red brick with low wings and steeply pitched roof with big square dormers."



The pub has a two-roomed interior. The left-hand room is accessible but seems only used for functions and is unusual in that it has a sort of gallery. In 1985 the pub suffered a serious fire which no doubt part explains the apparent lack of original fittings inside. Sharp's Doom Bar is usually served here and was in quite acceptable form during our visit.

The Becontree Estate is a phenomenon, albeit a pretty grim one. In 1919 the London County Council was allowed to build outside the old county of London and plans were drawn up to accommodate 120,000 people in 24,000 terraced houses on what was then agricultural land. By 1935 the scheme was officially complete and 167,000 people had been housed. Further development took place after World War II. The 'Right to Buy' scheme later destroyed the homogeneity of the houses and indeed not one original door or window frame was visible on the thousands of houses we passed. Still extant though are the wide grass central reservations on the busiest thoroughfares which were once intended to link the tram systems at Barking and Chadwell Heath on reserved tracks.

Next (368 bus) was the Roundhouse in Lodge Avenue, Becontree. Again not listed but also mentioned in Basil Oliver's book where he says it was designed by A W Blomfield and has "an ingenious plan". Mr Oliver also says that it had "an Indoor Bowling Green which must surely be unique." A plan of the pub can also be seen on p.112 of F S Yorke's *The Planning and Equipment of Public Houses* as well as appearing in CAMRA's own London Heritage Pubs. The fittings, apart from some sub-Art Deco wall paneling and the bar counters, are largely replacements. No Real Ale is served here.

Back on the 368 bus to Barking Abbey we passed various closed pubs which amply demonstrated the decimation of pub numbers now affecting many parts of the capital. Still trading however is the huge Thatched House on Ripple Road. This former Ind Coope roadhouse of 1936 once boasted a public bar, saloon bar, private bar, public dining room, saloon dining room and an off sales department. Class division even extended to separate public and saloon garden areas. Today the pub still has a large formerly illuminated Double Diamond roof sign made up of individual letters which were once commonplace but now are very rare.

Next was the White Horse on London Road. This was built in 1955 for Mann's brewery and replaced a previous pub of the same name opposite. It is a three-roomed detached red brick pub with faux ornate plasterwork in the rear room and the public bar. Two fine original fireplaces remain and the two portholes at the front strike a very "moderne" note. An illustration in the council booklet *'Barking Pubs Past and Present'* published in 1995 appears to show that today's central entrance was once either a private bar or off-licence. Again, No real ale is served here.

The final stop on the tour was the Victoria in Axe Street, Barking. Though not a listed building nor one of London's Real Heritage Pubs, this 1961 construction for Charrington is in a classic domestic style with two bars, and replaced a terraced establishment nearby dating from 1882. The exterior is in red brick with a gently curving bay window at ground floor level. There is some fine wooden diagonal panelling on the bar counter and longitudinal fielded panelling on the walls, though ubiquitous glass gantries have been fitted above the serving areas. Notable also are the original 'Public Bar' and 'Saloon Bar' glass signs above the entrance doors; and the upholstered button-back material fitted below the bar counter in the more upmarket saloon side. The Victoria is a rare intact survivor from a period of British pub design which is not well-regarded and whose products have not survived happily into the 21st Century.

The Regional Inventory descriptions in these notes are extracts from the book published in July 2008 by CAMRA called *London Heritage Pubs: An Inside Story* by Geoff Brandwood and Jane Jephcote. The book has descriptions and photographs of all 156 pubs currently on the London Regional Inventory.

Jane Jephcote and Kim Rennie

The itinerary and notes for this crawl are on the LPG website in the *Past Crawl* section: www.londonpubsgroup.org.uk.

HARVEYS
The Sussex Brewers

*'Time honoured beer -
locally revered'*

PRINCE of DENMARK

STRONG DARK BEER
was named

SUPREME CHAMPION

 *at the London 2012
International Beer Challenge*

In total Harveys received three gold
awards from the judging panel -
the only British brewery to do so.

Draught Prince of Denmark has
been specially racked in
preparation for the Battersea
Beer Festival 2013

LEWES CASTLE BROWN ALE

was awarded the

GOLD MEDAL

in the Stout and
Porter Class at the
Peterborough CAMRA
Beer Festival 2012

STOP PRESS

HARVEYS CHRISTMAS
ALE NAMED 'WORLD'S
BEST DARK BARLEY
WINE' AT THE WORLD
BEER AWARDS 2012



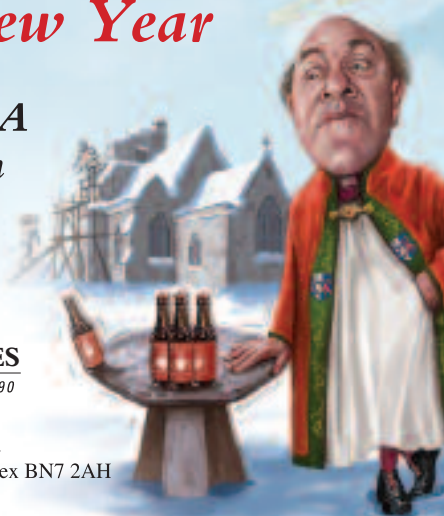
*A Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year*

*To all CAMRA
branches from
everyone
at Harveys*

HARVEYS of LEWES
SUSSEX BREWERS SINCE 1790

Harvey & Son (Lewes) Ltd
6 Cliffe High Street • Lewes • East Sussex BN7 2AH
Tel: 01273 480 209

www.harveys.org.uk



A London trio

On a fine sunny day in September, winners of the Great British Beer Festival bid for a triple brewery trip visited Sambrook's, Brew Wharf and Kernel.

These three brewers represent three different approaches to the burgeoning London brewery landscape. Sambrook's, in Battersea, is in the mode of a more traditional brewery producing solid bitters and best bitters coupled with seasonals and selling into the main pub trade. Their success was evident on the visit with their continual expansion and the opening of a visitors' centre.

Then a brief train to London Bridge and the visitors were treated to a look behind the scenes at Brew Wharf in Borough. But the tiny brewery can be seen by any pub goer through a large glass window. The majority of their beer is produced and sold in the pub and no beer is ever the same; strong flavours are usually the order of the day.

The third brewery, Kernel, is another that is expanding and was a walk away from Borough. Based under the arches in Bermondsey, their business is mainly based on bottled beer and range from Pale Ales and IPAs to Porters and Stouts. As well as various pubs, off licenses and restaurants, you can buy



the beer directly from the brewery on a Saturday. Each beer lists the hops used on the bottle and with beers of alcohol content of 5% ABV (alcohol by volume) upwards, it was a nice way to round off the day!

Christine Cryne

West Middlesex pub and club awards

The West Middlesex branch of CAMRA concluded a series of award presentations with their Club of the Year award going to the Grapevine Bar at the Questors Theatre in Ealing. This is also CAMRA's current national Club of the Year. This coincided with their Autumn beer festival for which cellarman Nigel Bamford had chosen winning beers from CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain competition. This were greatly appreciated.

As from this year the Branch now selects a Pub of the Year from each of the boroughs in its area with those pubs going forward to the overall branch award. This was, once again, won by the Fox in Hanwell. Fuller's donated a firkin of Golden Pride which was given in small quantities to branch members and pub regulars! Runner up in the Ealing area was a former previous winner, the Red Lion in Ealing, and an award was also made to the Forester in West Ealing, which is well worth a visit because it is also on the National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors.



Jill Tindall, landlady of the Queen's Head, Pinner, with West Middlesex Branch Chair, Graham Harrison.



Hillingdon winner – JJ Moons (Gil Coray, Chair Graham Harrison and Area Manager Gill Brown).

The Hillingdon winner was J J Moons in Ruislip Manor. Gil Coray has run this pub since it opened in 1990 making him the longest serving Wetherspoon manager at the same pub throughout the country. At the time of the presentation Gil had organised a LocAle festival with 35 beers on sale which he topped a couple of months later with 50. The pub has a real ale club which meets most Wednesdays to help Gil in selecting the beers that will be available both from local brewers and the Wetherspoon seasonal list. Runner up was the Old Orchard in Harefield. The pub has stunning views of the Colne valley during daylight and welcoming real fires when it is dark.

The Harrow award was won by the Queen's Head in Pinner, a community local run by Jill Tindall for the last 18 years. The pub has a farmer's market in the car park on a Sunday and will soon be the only pub left in the village centre which opens during the day. It is free of music, TVs and fruit machines and all the better for it – one of the few remaining real pubs. Runner up was the Castle on the Hill in Harrow, a Fuller's house where the manager had hugely improved the beer quality. Sadly, he left shortly after we presented the award.

THE CHARLES DICKENS

FREE HOUSE - BAR & RESTAURANT



1812-1870

THIS PUB IS IN
THE GOOD
BEER GUIDE
2013!

EVER CHANGING
SELECTION OF
GREAT FINE
ALES!



XMAS BUFFETS
FROM MON. 3RD DEC
XMAS LUNCHES
& DINNERS FROM
MON. 17TH DEC.
BOOK A.S.A.P!

50P OFF EACH PINT
OF REAL ALE
FOR CARD-
CARRYING **CAMRA**
MEMBERS!
ALL DAY SAT & SUN ONLY. CHEERS!

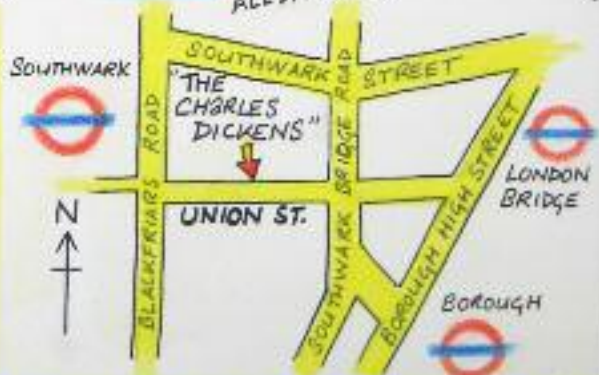
160 UNION ST.
LONDON. SE1 0LH

TEL: 020 7401 3744

OPEN:

WEEKDAYS 12-11pm

SUNDAYS 12-LATE



WWW.THECHARLESDICKENS.CO.UK.

St. Dunstons
2012

ARTIST: STEPHEN B WHATLEY

Dear Editors,

Having seen an advert in your fine publication for the Kings Tun Wetherspoon pub, I had to share a experience I had there recently. As I was in the area to meet a friend we spent a couple of hours in there enjoying some fine cask ales from the likes of Thornbridge. As with my past visits the beer was well kept and the bar staff polite and friendly. However, in the evening three security guys appeared from nowhere and began justifying their presence by going around telling people to take their hoodies off (no one had a hood up). One guy had a hooded top on with nothing underneath so they let him tuck his hood in. So what had been a pleasant evening was spoilt by these jobsworths annoying us. One said it was policy but no signs were visible. So, if you want a nice pint in the Kingstons area go to Kings Tun but either go in the day before the heavies arrive or don't wear a hooded top.

Michael Head

Editor's comment – *I hope that Mr Head has been in contact with Wetherspoons about his experience in line with what I say in my editorial. If Wetherspoons want to make any comment, we will, of course, give them right of reply. My guess is that Wetherspoons are obliged to engage security staff under the terms of their licence and they will not be Wetherspoons,*

own staff. That said, Wetherspoons are still responsible for their actions.

Dear Editors,

Iheard that squatters have moved into the Charlie Butler at 40 Mortlake High Street about two months ago. As you know, on 11th July Languard Investments Ltd. closed and boarded-up the pub. The developers had taken this action to help realise their plans to demolition the pub and to redevelop the site for a four-storey residential building. It looks as if they now have another problem to sort out. Now the law has made it a criminal offence to occupy private homes, pubs are the next easy target.

George Gimber

Editor's comment (again!) – *Not wishing to be cynical, it may not necessarily be a problem. The owners are able to demolish the property any time they like; they only need planning permission for what they put in the hole that is left. It may be that they can use these events to put pressure on local residents by giving them the apparent but fictitious choice between going along with the campaign to save the pub or getting rid of the squatters.*

And now for something different: a London-wide cider crawl

Modern networking via google groups, pays off! A suggestion from a contributor; Stephen Swain from Trafford & Hulme Branch, suggested a crawl around London cider pubs and so Mick Lewis (Apple Committee member) and Ian White (London Regional Cider Co-ordinator) put together an itinerary. It became clear that with so many pubs we had to have a number of Crawls on the same day. It would also be advertised to all branches that were in travel to London for a day trip so that CAMRA members from different branches could meet up and get to know each other.

Stephen reports on his experience: arriving at Euston at 11.30 it was a quick walk to the Bree Louise and what a find! There were 11 ciders available and a CAMRA discount as well. This is what I hoped the day would be when I suggested it 4 months ago. My idea had been to find out where to drink cider in London and then be able to lead people in my Region on a day trip to London.

In The Bree Louise I had Fosseway Somerset Scrumpy. As more and more people arrived, we split into three separate trips; West, Central & East. I decided to go on the East trip with Mick Lewis leading. We left the Bree Louise just after 12:00 and took the Underground to Stratford, still with Olympic signs all over the place. The Pub/Brewery Tap East is at the back of the Westfield Shopping Centre. There was a choice of two ciders and I plumped for the Sandford Orchards Perry. We then caught a 97 bus to the Orient Football Supporters Club, the current London Club of the Year with a number of CAMRA certificates on the wall. Cost of entry is £1 but free to CAMRA members or if you have a 2013 GBG. Away supporters are also welcome and since it was a match day it was very busy but the volunteer staff kept the queue at the bar to a minimum. From a choice of three ciders, I chose Kentish Pip. The bar closes at 14.30 for the game so we moved off to the Red Lion at Leytonstone, the current East London Pub of the Year and Antic's most

easterly pub where I had a Black Dragon. Onwards next to Ye Olde Rose & Crown in Walthamstow for a Millwhites Hedge-layer and then to the Cock Tavern, where from the six available I had the London Cider Co Traditional and the Dorset Nectar Dabinett.

With 30 minutes to get back from Hackney Central to Euston for my train at 19:00, I made it with 4 minutes to spare although the train did leave 8 minutes late. Overall, I thought it was a great day out and was just what I wanted from the day giving me the chance to see different pubs and have different ciders.

Ian White now takes over: I took a party Westwards to the Red Lion in Isleworth, to meet another cider rep, Richard. We had a naturally carbonated cider and a pet hedgehog to muse over whilst basking in the back garden enjoying ciders from Middle Farm. Next came the Sussex Arms in Twickenham - this year's Cider Pub of the year for Greater London - with its expected good range of different ciders and the Duchess of Cambridge, Stamford Brook, the Bree Louise's sister pub, where I ended up with a half of Badgers Spit and met up with the West London branch who were having a social there. We finished up at the Euston Tap, arriving at same time as the remnants of the East crawl so good timing! People from the Central crawl arrived a bit later after spending too much time in the Harp; well it can easily be done! They had visited the Southampton arms, a previous winner of Cider Pub of the year for Greater London, then to Borough Market and the New Forest cider stall.

So the day was a good success; running a number of crawls bringing together members from other branches. We had members from London, Home Counties and from Manchester, plus a couple from New Zealand, now that is something! The next Cider Away Day is in Birmingham followed by Manchester in the New Year. We will be looking to see if we can run an ale tour of London in the New Year.

Ian White, London Regional Cider Co-ordinator

The Barnsbury Pub

Best Burger and Ale in London



The Brackenburger

"The Best Beer Burger & Ales in London" and that's coming from the Beef himself!

Kyran Bracken MBE, World Cup Rugby winner and winner of Dancing on Ice.

Please follow us on Twitter for updates and special offers

Twitter@the barnsburypub

THE BARNSBURY

209-211 Liverpool Road
Islington, London N1 1LX

Tel: 020 7607 5519

www.thebarnsbury.co.uk



Sunday Roasts start at only £12.50

CAMRA South West London presents the

23rd Battersea Beer Festival



6 - 8 February 2013

Wednesday to Friday, noon until 11pm

Over 150 Real Ales from across Britain
Ciders and perries - Foreign beer - Food

Grand Hall, BAC

Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TN

10 minutes walk from Clapham Junction Station

£4 public admission (£3 before 5pm on Wednesday)

£1 discount for CAMRA members at all times

(Admission is at the discretion of BAC and CAMRA South West London)

Glasses sponsored by Harveys

(now at the Cat's Back, Wandsworth SW18 1PP)

batterseabeerfestival.org.uk



BatterseaBeerFestival



BatterseaBF



batterseabeerfestival.org.uk

David Kitton

David Kitton, who died in Salisbury at the end of September, was instrumental in getting CAMRA's involvement with real cider and perry off the ground. In 1984 he somehow persuaded Virgin Books to publish *The Cider Directory*. This book, which listed all known cider outlets with a very comprehensive listing of producers, was then taken up by CAMRA, and he compiled the first two editions of the Good Cider Guide, starting in 1987.

It dawned on me at this stage that there was a lot of information about cider and perry within CAMRA, but no group to put it all together. So David's work persuaded me to put a motion at CAMRA's 1988 AGM to get a cider committee formed. In Birmingham I made my first ever public speech, and 24 years later, the APPLE Committee is still going strong.

Now David was a 'bit of a character' to say the least. He actually visited every producer in those early guides, with very detailed directions for getting to them. David didn't drive, he used public transport and then walked to them, so having a vehicle and trying to follow his instructions could be interesting, especially when he often used narrow lanes that only an anorexic could fit into, or hills that would trouble most mountaineers. It could be a severe challenge for someone driving a Transit van.

His instructions for making cider at home when you didn't have the right equipment was equally eccentric. He suggested using a mangle to crush the apples and pressing through net curtains, for example. This did work, but your mum's curtains were never the same afterwards, as someone I know discovered. He also suggested putting the pulp into a pillowcase and then using a spin dryer. Even I didn't try that. He did, of course, make his own cider by more traditional methods, and some of you may remember seeing it at beer festivals - the oddly named Gibbon Strangler!

For many years he lived in the Bromley area, with a house full of railway memorabilia including a collection of railway grandfather clocks. He even owned his own railway engine and set of carriages. His main occupation, though, was advising on church restoration. He had an earlier book published relating to the clergy called *'For Heaven's Sake - A Collection of Heavenly Howlers'*. Only he could have written that.

So just remember that without David the cider fraternity in CAMRA would never have got to where it is now. And finally, I have to own up to having a very rare copy of his last Good Cider Guide. Unfortunately it isn't signed!

Mick Lewis

Malcolm Kay

We are sad to report that Malcolm Kay, whose *'Beery Bits and Bobs'* stall was seen at many CAMRA beer festivals, has died following a road accident in bad weather on his way home from Nottingham Beer Festival. He was just 55. We send our condolences to his family.

The Star

17 Church Street, Godalming, Surrey
Tel: 01483 417717



**WE WISH ALL
OUR CUSTOMERS
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND
THANK YOU FOR
YOUR VALUED
SUPPORT**

We offer probably the best selection of cider and perry in the country - both on draught and by bottle

We're only 3 minutes from Godalming rail station on the Waterloo/Portsmouth line

**CAMRA Good Beer Guide
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013**

**CAMRA Surrey & Sussex Cider
Pub of the Year 2008**

www.thestargodalming.co.uk

London LocAle Scheme

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

Baring, 55 Baring St, Hoxton, N1 3DS

Constitution, 42 St Pancras Way, NW1 0QT

Dissenting Academy, 92 Mildmay Park, Newington Green, N1 4PR

Edward Rayne, 12 Coombe La, Raynes Park, SW20 8ND

Grafton, 20 Prince of Wales Rd, Kentish Town, NW5 3LG

Hanbury Arms, 333 Linton St, Arlington Sq, Islington, N1 7DU

Maid of Muswell, 121 Alexandra Park Rd, N10 2DP

Queens Head, 15 Denham St, W1D 7HN

Queens Head, 24 High St, Downe, BR6 7US

Union Tavern, 45 Woodfield Rd, Maida Vale, W9 2BA

Hackney, London Fields, Redemption,
Sambrook's

Sambrook's or other

ELB, Hackney, Moncada, Redemption
varies

varies

London Fields

Redemption

Moncada, Sambrook's etc

Westerham

Fuller's, Moncada and others

The following pub has left the scheme.

Ravensbury, Croydon Rd, Mitcham, CR4 4JA

The complete list is maintained at www.camralondon.org.uk

Advertise in the next LONDON DRINKER.

Our advertising rates are as follows:

Whole page £325 (colour), £260 (mono); Half page £195 (colour),
£145 (mono); Quarter page £105 (colour), £80 (mono).

Phone John Galpin now on 020 3287 2966 Mobile 07508 036835

Email: johngalpinmedia@gmail.com or [Twitter@LDads](https://twitter.com/LDads)

ALETRAILS

*"Good Beer
guided walks"*

Short break beer
walking holidays
with CAMRA pub walks
author **BOB STEEL**
also guided pub walks
in London

FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO
JOIN OUR MAILING LIST VISIT

www.aletrails.com

email us: beer_hound@blueyonder.co.uk



8 constantly changing real ales,
1 real cider and 3 keg beers.
An extensive range of bottle craft beer
Food served daily

1 minute from Old St. Tube - Exit 8
3 Baldwin Street, EC1V 9NU
020 7253 2970

 @oldfountainales

info@oldfountain.co.uk

www.oldfountain.co.uk

Now open at weekends!

Since 2007 there has been an annual Cask Beer Report that gives an indication of the state of play on real ale drinking in Britain. Researched and written by Pete Brown, this report is designed to provide an insight for pubs and brewers. This year, finally, we have seen the results of CAMRA's campaigning bearing fruit with an increase in real ale sales of 1.6% year on year – the first time there has been a rise since the early 1990s. This might seem to be modest but with the rest of the beer market declining at 3.5%, this has got to be a time to celebrate.

Growth is being driven by ales of 4.1% ABV (alcohol by volume) or below and the report showed that real ale has now overtaken keg beer sales. This is due to increased penetration (over 53% of people say they have tried real ale) and availability. Although over half of the sales are in community and traditional wet led pubs, there are 12% more café bars and the like, stocking real ale and there has also been a little growth in availability in circuit pubs, attracting a younger drinker. It was also good news for real ale pubs in that 50% of pub goers

agree that the provision of good quality real ale is an important reason for visiting a pub and the figures showed that pubs that stock real ale are less likely to close.

Other interesting snippets were 28% of drinkers are saying they are drinking more and those that are drinking less are usually doing so on health grounds. But there are still challenges. Although in recent years we have seen the number of younger people and women drinking real ale increase, this year the numbers were flat. Beer sales for this year are again down; this time by 2.5% with real estimated to end the year flat. 16% of people who have tried real ale do not drink it now. So we have still a mission to inspire new people to try real ale and to ensure that the beers available encourage them to drink them rather than something else. And that's where getting both the range and quality right is key. That's the next challenge!

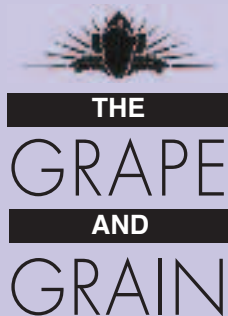
For more information see www.caskreport.co.uk.

Christine Cryne

London Drinker production

The *London Drinker* team apologise for the delay in publication of this issue. At the time of printing, Mike Hammersley, who normally puts the magazine together for us, is seriously ill. We hope you will all join us in wishing him a full and speedy recovery.

We have been most grateful for the help of David Littler of Sovereign Commercial Printers, based in Stoneleigh, for stepping in at very short notice. Thanks also to Martin Faithfull at our printers, Cliffe Enterprise, for their flexibility and support.



17 Real Ales and Real Ciders

2 Anerley Hill, Crystal Palace SE19 2AA
020 8778 4109

www.thegrapeandgrain19.co.uk

Monday 17th Dec

Big Beer Band "Singers Night"
Seventeen Piece Swing/Jazz performing Xmas songs
with top notch vocalists

Wednesday 19th

"An Evening of Christmas Carols" with The Crystal
Palace Brass Band

Sunday 23rd

Live Jazz with The Zena James Duo from 2pm and The
Sax Pastilles from 5pm

Xmas Eve

9pm Conrad & The Atomics – Live 1950's Rock 'n'
Roll

Sunday 30th

Live Jazz with The Janet Penfold Duo from 2pm and the
Sax Pastilles from 5pm

New Year's Eve

"The Paul Partridge New Years Eve Extravaganza"
The quiz of the year starts at 8pm followed by an
evening of pure cheese from the decks, think stilton!

Idle Moments - The Answers

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

NUMBER PUZZLES:

1. 2 Solstices in a Year (Summer and Winter)
2. 4546 MilliLitres in an Imperial Gallon
3. 406 is the Route Number of the North Circular Road
4. 46,145 Yards in the Marathon
5. 1966 Year of the First Episode of Star Trek
6. 20 Ponies in a Monkey (Five Hundred Pounds)
7. 2 Full Moons in a Month gives you a Blue Moon
8. 60 Nautical Miles is One Degree of Latitude at the Equator
9. 29 British Gold Medals at the Twenty Twelve Olympic Games
10. 1016 Feet is the Height of the Shard

5BY4:

(Top 10sBy10)

1. Nat King Cole – 14
2. The Who – 13
3. Bobby Darin – 9
4. Rolling Stones – 21
5. Elvis Presley – 56
6. Cliff Richard – 64
7. Cilla Black – 11
8. Status Quo – 22
9. Roy Orbison – 12
10. The Beatles – 28

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

1. The airliner which still holds the transatlantic speed record for a subsonic plane (i.e. excluding Concorde) in scheduled service is the Vickers (BAC) VC10.
2. After winning her gold medal for the heptathlon at the recent Olympic Games, Jessica Ennis' next notable achievement was to appear on the front cover of The Beano.
3. The road which crosses the River Thames at the Dartford River Crossing is the A282.
4. The U.S. Secretary of State after whom the economic plan to rebuild Europe after the Second World War was named was George Catlett Marshall.
5. The Canadian writer (1911-1980) whose statement "The medium is the message" became almost a catchphrase in the 1960's was Marshall McLuhan.
6. Bruce McLaren (1937-70), racing driver and founder of the McLaren company, was born in New Zealand (at Remuera).
7. Bruce McLaren died following an accident in practice while testing a prototype car at Goodwood.
8. The Bavarian town where the Passion Play is performed every 10 years is Oberammergau.
9. The dachshund, like many breeds of dog, was developed initially for hunting badgers.
10. In October 1818, the line of latitude formally established as the border between the USA and Canada was 49° north (or the "49th Parallel").



The Queen's Head
www.queensheadlondon.com
66 Acton Street, London, WC1X 9NB
telephone: 020 7713 5772
twitter : @TheQueens_Head

**A BEAUTIFUL
LITTLE VICTORIAN BOOZER
TUCKED AWAY ON
ACTON STREET,
JUST OFF GRAYS INN ROAD**

Serving

**ONLY THE BEST IN
LAGER, ALE,
CIDER, PORTER
AND CHEESE**

"Wet Paint" said the sign.

So I did.

Didn't 'all upset the bloke with the brush.

No, I didn't really but I did once ask the landlord of the Builders Arms to clarify the sign (it was in the gents' toilet). That amused him.

Anyway, as the season to be jolly approaches and the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness (and the season to sort out the beer festival accounts) is upon us, here are a few little puzzles for you to have a go at – or even impose on visiting relatives (should ensure they don't outstay their welcome).

I think that this time I shall start with some number puzzles (Yes, of course I always do):

1. 6 M on BGB
2. 288 P in a B
3. 2,900 S in the RFH
4. 90 T of the S (in B)
5. 1 F the P
6. 3 SIS on CD in the M
7. 2 L of OH
8. 25,000 is the S of an OSPM
9. 4 S on a TG
10. 252 OP in a G

As we draw towards the end of a significant year, I thought I would do my little bit to recognise the success of Team GB in the Olympic Games so for this month's 5BY4 I have selected then British medal winners (not the blindingly obvious ones) to see if you can match the people with their events – a mixture of gold, silver and bronze. I have chosen all men this time; it is my intention to celebrate the women in the next edition (and maybe pairs after that):

1. Ed McKeever
 2. Alan Campbell
 3. Alistair Brownlee
 4. Chris Froome
 5. Fed Evans
 6. Nick Dempsey
 7. Luke Campbell
 8. Robbie Grabarz
 9. Peter Wilson
 10. Louis Smith
- A. Shooting – double trap (gold)
 - B. Boxing – bantam weight (gold)
 - C. Cycling – time trial (bronze)
 - D. Sailing – sailboard (silver)
 - E. Triathlon (gold)
 - F. Canoeing – K1 200 metres (gold)
 - G. Athletics – high jump (bronze)
 - H. Gymnastics – pommel horse (silver)
 - I. Rowing – single sculls (bronze)
 - J. Boxing – welterweight (silver)

Now, to finish off with here are some nice simple straightforward questions for you to answer (or not – it's up to you). You might notice a little bit of seasonality creeping in to some of them:

Find pubs or pub-like bars a short stroll from the ticket barriers of stations on the Tube Map. Good real ale pubs score eight stars or more, pubs with ten gold stars are worth the journey.

pubsnearthetube.com

Find pubs or pub-like bars a short stroll from the rail stations on London's Rail & tube map.

pubsnearthestation.com

1. The first of these were produced in 1843 by John Calcott Horsley for Henry Cole (an "important figure in the early days of the Victoria & Albert Museum"). What are they?
2. Just two companies in the World, Victorinox and Wenger are licensed to produce what range of products?
3. Where would you be entering if you passed between Cape Banks and Cape Solander heading in a westerly direction? (It opens off the Tasman Sea.)
4. How many people can the Royal Albert Hall accommodate (under current safety restrictions)?
5. Who was the British architect responsible for the rebuilding of the Reichstag building in Berlin between 1993 and 1999?
6. What long running television programme has a signature tune played by the Balanescu String Quartet?
7. Who was crowned king of England on Christmas Day – and in what year?
8. Maurice Cole was born on Christmas Day 1944. By what name is he better known?
9. Who, in 1826, introduced the Christmas lectures for children at the Royal Institution?
10. Christmas Island is a dependency of which country?

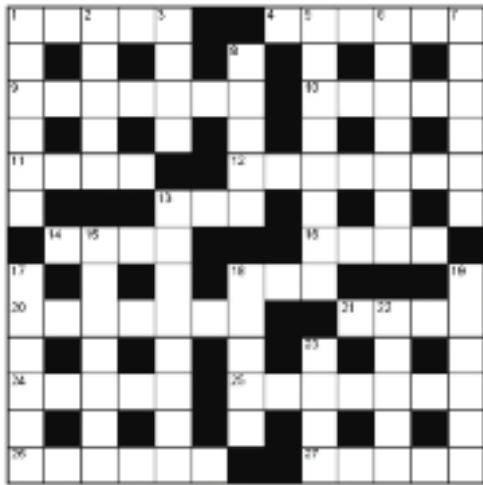
And finally...

Have a good Christmas and New Year (and Advent and Plough Monday . . . and Epiphany).

Andy Pirson

Yes, I know that Plough Monday comes after Epiphany – that was just the order in which I thought of them

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON



Name

Address

All correct entries received by first post on 23rd January will be entered into a draw for the prize.

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

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

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

OCTOBER'S SOLUTION



£20 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

1. Exercises in attempt to get woman, perhaps. (5)
4. English k-keep making determined attempt. (6)
9. Very great old flower, it's said. (7)
10. Steal popular bird. (5)
11. First draught beer in the valley. (4)
12. In a second release a police officer. (7)
13. Cook young fish. (3)
14. Any close might contain a house. (4)
16. Dances topless in slippers? (4)
18. Advancing or retreating, they're great fighters. (3)
20. Collection of some early Hartnell underwear. (7)
21. Man may be greatly misled. (4)
24. Opening to Coriolanus Act 1. "If you prick us do we not bleed?" (5)
25. Crops supplied for former Italian leader. (7)
26. He's encountered in strange events. (6)
27. Some bank lending required for bender. (5)

DOWN

1. Die in support for girl. (6)
2. Smashing plate is a bit of a bloomer. (5)
3. Passed water rising up in the ocean. (4)
5. What composers get paid? Lots! (8)
6. Piece inside of the mouth is going round. (7)
7. Kind offer. (6)
8. Initiating sex experiments always means you're sordid. (5)
13. It's warm and welcoming if returning to live. (8)
15. Most of us fear a chest pain. (7)
17. Small cuts in poor housing. (6)
18. Prevents acne flaring up. (5)
19. It's very hard to cut off drug. (6)
22. Common seamen, it's said, show spirit. (5)
23. Girl in a stick up. (4)

Winner of the prize for the August Crossword:
Bill Thackray, Croydon.

Other correct entries were received from:

Derek Abbey, Ted Alleway, Tony Alpe, David Anderson, Pat Andrews, Hilary Ayling, Denis Balkin, Newton Bear-Regis, Steve Block, John Bowler, Deryn Brand, Kelvin Brewster, Jeremy Brinkworth, Mark Broadhead, Olivia Brown, John Butler, Eddie Carr, Jon Christie, J.A.Creasy, Kevin Creighton, N.Cunnane, Jim Curran, Paul Curson, Peter Curson, Michael Davis, John Dodd, Richard & Clever Clogs Douthwaite, Steve Downey, Tom Drane, Brian Exford, Mike Farrelly, Robert Ferrier, Sally Fullerton, G.J.Geary, B.Gleeson, Marion Goodall, Paul Gray, Alan Greer, Richard Gregory, Caroline Guthrie, Stuart Guthrie & Les Bienvenue, Dave Hardy, Roy Harris, John Heath, Lucy Hickford, Graham Hill, William Hill, R.Holt, Chris James, Carol Jenkins, Claire Jenkins, David Jiggins, D.M.L.Jones, Mike Joyce, P.Kerigan, Roger Knight, Honor & Dick Krol, Mick Lancaster, Pete Large, Tony Lennon, Rosemary Lever, Andy Lindenburn, Mike Lloyd, G.Lopatis, Donald MacAuley, Kevin McCarthy, David McKenzie, Mrs S.Maddox, Pat Maginn, Steve Maloney, John Mannel, John Marsden, Tony Martin, Jim Mason, Terry Mellor, Jan Mondrzejewski, M.J.Moran, Al Mountain, Dave Murphy, J.Murphy, Brian Myhill, Mark Nichols, Paul Nicholls, Alan O'Brien, Michael Oliver, R.Owl, Tom Perment, Mrs Lesley Perry, Mark Pilkington, Charles Pottins, Andrew Prescott, Miss G.Price, Mrs I.Price, Ms S.Price, Nicholas Priest, Derek Pryce, Boris Robback, Richard Rogers, Pete Simmonds, Nobby Slacktrouser, A.I. & M.V. Smith, Lesley Smith, Ian Sneesby, Ivan Stevenage, Ian Symes, Ken Taylor, Mark Thompson, Steve Thornton, Mr. Vida, Mrs E.Vida, Andy Wakefield, Kevin Ward, T.Watkinson, Martin Weedon, Mrs E.A.Whole, Nigel Wheatley, Ian Whiteman, Dave Wichall, Ms. V.Williams, John Williamson, Sue Wilson, D.Woodgate, David Woodward, Peter Wright & the Missus, Ray Wright, Paul Young.

There were also 1 incorrect and 4 incomplete entries.

CASK



'Pub of the Year'

Publican Awards 2011

'Pub of the Year 2011'

CAMRA West London

'London cask ale Pub of the Year'

Great British Pub Awards 2011

10 REAL ALES CHANGING DAILY

EXCLUSIVE IMPORTED CRAFT KEG BEERS

500+ BOTTLED BEERS

LUNCH & DINNER SERVED DAILY



WWW.CASKPUBANDKITCHEN.COM

Tel: 020 7630 7225

T·E·A TIME

on the

HOGS BACK



T.E.A - jolly satisfying Traditional English Ale.
We've brewed it in Tongham, Surrey for over 20 years,
with the finest English malt and local Fuggles hops.

HOGS BACK
BREWERY CO
TONGHAM

Mad hogs and Englishmen

