

FREE

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2014

# LONDON DRINKER



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE



Chesham Arms – inquiry adjourned (see page 26) (photo: James Watson)

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## CONTENTS

Branch diaries	5
News round-up	10
Never too early	15
Super-regional conferences	16
CAMRA events	20
Beer festivals	24
Pub campaigning	26
London brewery news	36
Chocolate and beer	42
The Old Fishing Shack	42
WhatPub? update	44
Opinion	58
Book reviews	60
Membership form	62
Letters	63
Obituaries	63
Idle moments	64
Crossword	66



## GIVE OUR PUBS A FIGHTING CHANCE

If CAMRA is the Campaign for Real Ale, why does it get so involved with pubs? The answer is simple; beer – however it is served – is essentially a bulk product and this can only be properly served in a pub. Pubs are also a unique part of our cultural and architectural heritage and are valuable in their own right for that. It is even worth campaigning to save what are perceived as being bad pubs because they could easily improve under new ownership. A block of flats or a new-style mansion will never again serve beer.

I make no apologies for repeatedly banging this particular drum. CAMRA necessarily keeps its research up-to-date here and recently commissioned the Local Government Information Unit to report on the current situation. It noted that 28 pubs are closing every week and concluded that both the attitude of local councils towards pubs and our planning laws need to change. The disappearance of pubs in England has even become a research project being run by the University of Leicester.

Acknowledging that some councils are alert to this, Tom Stainer, CAMRA's head of communications, said, "CAMRA is grateful to the trailblazing councils who are leading the way in pub protection but it is still too few. We want all councils to follow suit and we hope the ideas in this report provide a useful starting point. Pub closures are not as simple as a badly run business or a changing marketplace, there are many external factors and pressures which have a bearing on pub survival."

Jonathan Carr-West, chief executive of the Local Government Information Unit, added: "Pubs play a vital role in many communities but across the country this precious resource is being lost at an alarming rate. Councils play a crucial part in protecting pubs and we hope that local authorities will draw inspiration from the examples featured in this report and act now to prevent our pubs from disappearing forever."

In London our councils are coming on board. CAMRA's London Region has sought to strengthen the draft amendments to the Mayor's London Plan and Westminster City Council are considering the following policy: *Public houses will be protected throughout Westminster, except where the unit has been vacant and actively marketed for at least twelve months at a reasonable market price or rent and the Council is satisfied that reasonable attempts to find an occupier have been unsuccessful* It may not be perfect but it is definitely progress. It also helps to deal with the problem of viable pubs being shut because of their site value given London property prices. See also the item about the Wheatsheaf in Tooting Bec (page 32) for what is happening in Wandsworth.

Of course, the planning laws can only be changed by Parliament and I am pleased to say

that there is also some progress here. On 2 July, Charlotte Leslie, the MP for Bristol North West, tabled the following Early Day Motion (no. 208 of 2014/15).

"That this House believes that permitted development rights are leaving pubs in England vulnerable to demolition or conversion to a range of retail uses without planning permission; further believes, in the light of evidence from the Campaign for Real Ale, that two pubs a week are converted to supermarkets, and that these planning loopholes are contributing to the loss of valued community amenities; is concerned that local people are being denied a say in the future of their neighbourhoods; and so urges the Government to bring forward amendments to the General Permitted Development Order 1995 so that any demolition or change of use involving the loss of a pub would require planning permission."

Although EDMs are largely 'gesture politics' and by convention, ministers do not sign them, they do draw attention to particular issues. 41 MPs had signed up as at 17 July. By the time that you read this, MPs will be off on holiday but I would still urge readers – not just CAMRA members – to lobby their MPs to ask them both to support this EDM and to contact the Localism & Community Rights Minister (Stephen Williams MP – not reshuffled) to urge him to bring the demolition or change of use of any pub within planning controls.

An E-petition has also been set up by pub campaigner Mark Bradshaw Newton as follows: 'That the Government help protect community pubs in England by ensuring that full planning permission and community consultation are required before community pubs are allowed to be converted to betting shops, supermarkets and pay-day loan stores or other uses, or are allowed to be demolished.'

CAMRA would urge everyone to sign this petition. It can be found at: [petitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/66572](http://petitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/66572). It runs until June 2015 and once 100,000 signatures are logged, a debate in Parliament is guaranteed. On 17 July I happily became signatory no. 4,083.

Finally, I acknowledge that not everyone sees this situation in the same light as you will see from the Opinion column in this edition. Another to object to CAMRA's activities was the managing director of a property consultancy specialising in marketing pubs and whose main objection was that the changes we want would affect the operation of the market as it is now. I will give the final word to our Regional Director, Geoff Strawbridge who simply said, "London property prices make pubs especially vulnerable to speculative purchase for alternative site use. Given the vital and unique role that pubs play within our communities, the demolition or change of use of any pub should now be subject to planning controls."

If you still need convincing, have a look at the Hackney Pubgone Group's slideshow: [www.flickr.com/photos/wmpix/3335152978/in/pool-1037677@N20/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/wmpix/3335152978/in/pool-1037677@N20/)

Tony Hedger



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[stalbandsbeerfestival.org.uk](http://stalbandsbeerfestival.org.uk) | [realales@yahoo.com](mailto:realales@yahoo.com)



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 August and September are listed below. Meetings and socials are open to all – everyone is welcome to come along.

## LONDON PUBS GROUP

Chair: Jane Jephcote, [jane.jephcote@googlemail.com](mailto:jane.jephcote@googlemail.com), 07813 739856

**August – Wed 20** Stockwell/Brixton SW9 crawl: (7pm) Landor, 70 Landor Rd; (7.45) Marquis of Lorne, 49a Dalyell Rd; (8.30) Duke of Edinburgh, 204 Ferndale Rd; (9.15) Canterbury Arms, 8 Canterbury Cresc; (10pm) Trinity Arms, 45 Trinity Gdns.

**September – Wed 17** (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.camra.org.uk](http://www.londonpubsgroup.camra.org.uk)

## LONDON CIDER GROUP

Ian White, [london\\_cider@btinternet.com](mailto:london_cider@btinternet.com) or text 07775 973760 (10-4 Mon-Fri)

**September – Thu 25** (8pm) Greater London Cider Pub of the Year presentation. Sussex Arms, Staines Rd, Fulwell, Twickenham.

For information and details, see <http://london-cider.blogspot.co.uk>

## YOUNG MEMBERS GROUP

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

## BEXLEY

Rob Archer, [camr@rcher.org.uk](mailto:camr@rcher.org.uk), [contacts@camrabexleybranch.org.uk](mailto:contacts@camrabexleybranch.org.uk)

**August – Wed 13** (8.30) Mtg. Prince of Wales, 13 Woolwich Rd, Belvedere. - **Thu 21** (8pm) Soc. Wilmington Cricket club beer festival, Oakfield Pk, DA1 2SS. - **Sat 23** (12pm) Soc. Old Dartfordians Club beer festival, Bourne Rd, Bexley. - **Wed 27**

Sidcup soc: (8pm) White Cross, 146 North Cray Rd; then Coach & Horses; Kings Head.

**September – Wed 10** (8.30) Mtg. Old Dartfordians Club. - **Sat 13** London Bridge crawl: meet (12pm) at station. - **Wed 24** Crayford soc: (8pm) Charlotte, Station Rd; then Penny Farthing; Crayford Arms.

Website: [www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk](http://www.camrabexleybranch.org.uk)

## BROMLEY

Janet Freak, [inquiries@bromleycamra.org.uk](mailto:inquiries@bromleycamra.org.uk)

**August – Sat 2** Pratts Bottom, Cudham & Halstead crawl: (12pm) Bulls Head, Rushmore Hill, Pratts Bottom; (1.30) R5 bus to (2pm) Blacksmiths Arms, Cudham La South; (2.50) R10 bus to (3.15) Cock, Shoreham La, Halstead; (4pm) Rose & Crown, Oford La. - **Tue 5** (7.30) Festival planning mtg. Shortlands Tavern, 5 Station Rd, Bromley. - **Sat 9** Maidstone trip (meet 10am Bromley South Stn for 10.23 to Maidstone East): (11.15) Society Rooms, Brenchley Ho, Week St; (12pm) Swan, 2 County Rd; (12.30) Rifle Volunteers 28 Wyatt St; +11 others, returning on 10.48 from Maidstone East. - **Tue 19** Bromley Boundary crawl: (7pm) Hop & Rye, 54 London Rd; (8pm) Prince Frederick, 31 Nichol La; (9.20) Baring Hall Hotel, 368 Baring Rd, Grove Pk, Lee. - **Sat 23** Soc. (12pm) Orpington Liberal Club beer festival, 7 Station Rd, Orpington.

Tickets must be purchased in advance (See [http://orpingtonliberalclub.co.uk/beer\\_festival\\_27.html](http://orpingtonliberalclub.co.uk/beer_festival_27.html)). -

**Tue 26** (7.30) Ctee mtg, Bickley, Chislehurst Rd, Chislehurst. -

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# Branch diaries

**Thu 28** Bromley North crawl: (6.45) Compass, 10 Widmore Rd; (7.20) O'Neill's, 27-29 East St; (7.55) Crown & Anchor, 19 Park Rd; (8.35) Anglesey Arms, 90 Palace Rd; (9.10) Freelands Tavern, 31 Freelands Rd; (9.50) Red Lion, 10 North Rd (plus possible visit to Railway Hotel 45 East St, if reopened).

**September – Tue 2** (7.30) Festival planning mtg, Club Langley, 2 Hawksbrook La, Eden Park. - **Thu 4** Petts Wood crawl: (7pm) Daylight Inn, Station Sq; (8pm) One Inn The Wood, 209 Petts Wood Rd; (9.45) Sovereign of the Seas, 109-111 Queensway. -

**Sat 6** Hastings trip (meet (9.15) Orpington Stn for 9.39 to Hastings): (11.10) John Logie Baird, 29-31 Havelock Rd; (12pm) General Havelock, 27 Havelock Rd; (1pm) FILO Brewing Co., Old Town Brewery, Torfield Cottage, Old London Rd; (1.50) First In Last Out 14-15 High St, Old Town, +8 others, returning on 10.10 from Hastings Stn. To reserve a place (numbers are limited) for the FILO brewery visit, contact Barry Phillips, 07773 335427 or email [bsp699@hotmail.com](mailto:bsp699@hotmail.com). -

**Tue 9** Hayes & Keston BR2 crawl: (7.30) George, 29 Hayes St; (8.30) Fox Inn, Heathfield Rd, Keston; (9.30) Greyhound, Commonsidge, Keston. - **Thu 18-Sat 20** 1st Eden Park Beer Festival, Club Langley, 2 Hawksbrook La, Eden Park. - **Tue 23** Bromley Common BR2 crawl: (8pm) Crown, 55 Bromley Common; (9pm) Bird in Hand, 82 Gravel Rd; (9.45) Two Doves, 37 Oakley Rd. - **Sat 27** Orpington crawl: (1pm) Maxwell, Station Rd; (2.15) White Hart, 106 High St; (3.15) Harvest Moon, 141-143 High St; (5pm) Beech Tree, 75 Wellington Rd, St Mary Cray; (6pm) White Swan, 21 Kent Rd, St Mary Cray; (7pm) Cricketers, 93 Chislehurst Rd, Orpington; (8.30) Orpington Liberal Club, 7 Station Rd, Orpington. - **Tue 30** (6.30) Pre-meeting soc. Rambler's Rest, Mill Pl, Chislehurst; (7.30) Cttee mtg. Imperial Arms, Old Hill, Chislehurst.

Website: [www.bromley.camra.org.uk](http://www.bromley.camra.org.uk)

## CROYDON & SUTTON

Peter McGill: 07831 561296; [pete\\_mcgill@hotmail.com](mailto:pete_mcgill@hotmail.com)

**August – Thu 14** (7pm and each half-hour after that) GBBF meet-up at Membership Stand. - **Mon 25** (12pm at beer tent) Carshalton Environmental Fair. Real ale available. - **Tue 26** Mtg (8.30) Dog & Bull, Surrey St.

**September – Wed 10** (8.30) Soc. Smugglers Inn, 320 Chipstead Valley Rd, Coulsdon. - **Thu 18** (8.30) Soc. Wallington Arms (formerly Jon Jakson), 6 Woodcote Rd, Wallington. - **Thu 25** (8.30) Mtg & London Drinker pickup. Windsor Castle, Carshalton Rd.

Website: [www.croydoncamra.org.uk](http://www.croydoncamra.org.uk)

## EAST LONDON & CITY

Branch telephone 07757 772564, [elacbranch@mail.com](mailto:elacbranch@mail.com)

**August – Tue 19** Liverpool St crawl: (7pm) Woodins Shades, 212 Bishopsgate; then Kings Stores, Dirty Dicks, Shooting Star, Maggie and Williams. - **Wed 27** Whitechapel crawl: (7.30) Indo, 133 Whitechapel Rd; (8.15) Good Samaritan; (9pm) George Tavern; (9.45) Blind Beggar; (10.15 White Hart).

**September – Tue 9** (8pm) Mtg. Peacock, 41 Minorities, EC3. - **Tue 23** Limehouse E14 soc: (7.30) Old Ship, 17 Barnes St; (8.30) Queens Head, 8 Flamborough St.

Website: [www.pigsear.org.uk](http://www.pigsear.org.uk)

## ENFIELD & BARNET

Brian Willis, 020 8440 4542 (H),

[branchcontact@camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk](mailto:branchcontact@camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk), branch mobile 07757 710008 at events.

**August – Wed 6** (8.30) Garden soc in memory of Sandie Ward. Ye Olde Cherry Tree. 22 The Green, Southgate. - **Sat 23** Wild

Card Brewery E17 open wknd: meet 10.30am Goose at Walthamstow Central Stn. - **Sat 30** Survey of W edge of the branch: meet 12pm Greyhound, 52 Church End, Hendon. September - **Wed 3** (8.30) Mtg. Old Mitre, 58 High St, High Barnet. - **Wed 10** Enfield Town survey: meet 8pm Kings Head, Market Place, bus to Ridgeway for 9.15. - **Tue 16** (8.30) 2015 GBG local launch. Misty Moon, 36 High St, High Barnet. Website: [www.camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk](http://www.camraenfieldandbarnet.org.uk)

## KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD

Clive Taylor 020 8949 2099, [ctaylor2007@freeuk.com](mailto:ctaylor2007@freeuk.com)

**August – Mon 4** (8pm) PotS presentation. . Regent, Walton on Thames. - **Wed 6** (8.15) Mtg. Running Horse, Bridge St, Leatherhead. - **Fri 15** (3pm onwards) Soc. Woodies beer festival, Thetford Rd, New Malden.

**September – Wed 3** (8.15) Mtg. Griffin, Common Rd, Claygate. - **Thu 11** West Molesey (Hampton Court) evening: (7.30) Albion; (8.30) Prince of Wales; (9.30) Mute Swan.

Website: [www.camrasurrey.org.uk](http://www.camrasurrey.org.uk)

## NORTH LONDON

Social contacts: Stephen Taylor, 07443 473746,

[stephen.taylor500@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.taylor500@gmail.com); John Adams, 07970 150707, [jpa1260@gmail.com](mailto:jpa1260@gmail.com)

**August – Sun 3** NW10 & NW6 soc: (1pm) Grand Junction Arms, Acton La; (2.30) Royal Oak, 95 High St, NW10; (3pm) Misty Moon, 26 Manor Pk Rd; (4pm) Masons Arms, 665 Harrow Rd; (4.45) Island, 123 College Rd; (5.30) Corrib Rest, 73-82 Salusbury Rd, NW6; (6pm) Caldo, 79 Salusbury Rd, NW6; (6.30) Alice House, 53-55 Salusbury Rd, NW6; (7pm) Earl Derby, 155 Kilburn High Rd. - **Tue 5** Barnsbury N1 social: (7.30) Regent, 201-203 Liverpool Rd; (8.15) Barnsbury, 209-211 Liverpool Rd; (9.15) Drapers Arms, 44 Barnsbury Rd; (10pm) Hemingford, 158 Hemingford Rd. - **Tue 12** GBBF Olympia soc: (7pm) Fuller's Bar. - **Tue 19** (8pm) Summer PotS presentation. Dukes Head, 16 Highgate High St. - **Tue 26** Holborn WC1 soc: (7.30) Square Pig, 30-32 Procter St; (8.30) Holborn Whippet, 25-29 Sicilian Ave; (9.30) Craft Beer Co, 168 High Holborn.

**September – Tue 3** Kentish Town soc: (7.30) Bluebell, 166 Malden Rd, NW5; (8.15) Lord Southampton, 2 Southampton Rd; (8.45) Sir Robert Peel, 108 Malden Rd; (9.15) Grafton, 20 Prince of Wales Rd; (10pm) Tapping the Admiral, 77 Castle Rd, NW1. - **Tue 9** Tottenham N17 soc: (7.30) Ferry Boat, Ferry La; (9pm) Beehive, Stoneleigh Rd. - **Thu 11** GBG 2015 N1 launch: (8pm) Wenlock Arms, 26 Wenlock Rd; (9.30) Earl of Essex, 25 Danbury St. - **Tue 16** GBG 2015 launch: (8pm) Royal George, 8-14 Eversholt St, NW1; (9.30) Swan, 7 Cosmo Pl, WC1. - **Tue 23** (8pm) Mtg. Joker of Penton Street, 56 Penton St, N1. - **Tue 30** Islington N1 soc: (7.30) Baring, 55 Baring St; (8.15) Rosemary Branch, 2 Shepperton Rd; (8.45) De Beauvoir Arms, 113 Southgate Rd; (9.15) Lord Clyde, 340-342 Essex Rd; (10pm) North Star, 188 New North Rd.

Website: [www.northlondon.camra.org.uk](http://www.northlondon.camra.org.uk)

## RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW

Roy Hurry, 020 8570 0643(H), [rh014q5742@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:rh014q5742@blueyonder.co.uk)

**August – Thu 21** (8.30) Mtg incl PotY shortlisting. Eel Pie, 9/11 Church St, Twickenham.

**September – Thu 18** (8.30) Mtg incl PotY finalist selection. Prince Blucher, 124 The Green, Twickenham.

Website: [www.rhcamra.org.uk](http://www.rhcamra.org.uk)



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# Branch diaries

## SOUTH EAST LONDON

Neil Pettigrew, 07751 898310, [contact@selcamra.org.uk](mailto:contact@selcamra.org.uk)

**August – Sat 1** Epping and Ongar Railway crawl: meet 10.30am Hamilton Hall, Liverpool Street Stn. - **Wed 6** Twickenham evening crawl: meet 6.15 (for 6.28 train) under clock Waterloo Stn: (7.30) White Swan, Riverside; (8.30) Eel Pie, 9 Church St; (9.15) George, 32 King St; (10pm) William Webb Ellis, 24 London Rd. - **Wed 13** GBBF Olympia visit: meet 7pm Membership Stand. - **Tue 19** Bromley Boundary crawl. See Bromley Branch Diary for details.

**September – Mon 1** (7.30) Mtg & soc. Kings Arms, 25 Roupell St, SE1. - **Tue 9** Forest Hill SE23 crawl: (7.30) General Napier, Bovill Rd; (8.30) All in One, 53 Perry Vale; (9pm) Dartmouth Arms, 7 Dartmouth Rd; (10pm) Railway Telegraph, 112 Stanstead Rd. - **Tue 16** Riverside crawl: (7.30) Anchor & Hope, Anchor & Hope La, SE 7; (8.45) Greenwich Yacht Club, 1 Peartree Way, SE10; (9.30) Pilot, 68 River Way; (10.30) Yacht, 7 Crane St. - **Sun 21** Red Bus Rover: (12pm) Market Porter, Borough Market SE1 for classic bus tour of iconic SE London pubs. See branch website for full details. - **Thu 25** Shooters Hill crawl: (7.30) Bull, 151 Shooters Hill, SE18; (8.30) Red Lion, 6 Red Lion Pl; (9.30) British Oak, 109 Old Dover Rd, SE3. Website: [www.selcamra.org.uk](http://www.selcamra.org.uk)

## SOUTH WEST ESSEX

Alan Barker, [swessex@essex-camra.org.uk](mailto:swessex@essex-camra.org.uk), 07711 971957 (M) evenings or weekends only. Bookings for minibus trips to Graham Platt: 020 8220 0215 (H)

**August – Sat 2** (12pm) Soc. Epping-Ongar Railway 2nd Summer Real Ale Weekend, North Weald Stn (by Vintage Bus from Epping Stn (Central Line), or from Shenfield Stn. - **Wed 6** (8.30) Soc. Wharf, Wharf Rd South, Grays. - **Tue 12** (7.30) GBBF, Olympia. - **Wed 20** (8.30) Soc. Fatling, 109 High St, Hornchurch. - **Sat 23** (12pm) Soc. 19th Clacton Beer Fest, St James Hall, Tower Rd, Clacton. - **Tue 26** (8.30) Soc. Foxhound, 18 High Rd, Orsett RM16.

**September – Tue 2** (8.30) Soc. Golden Lion, 2 High St/North St, Romford. - **Tue 9** (7.30) Soc. 28th Chappel Beer Fest, East Anglian Railway Museum, Chappel & Wakes Colne Stn. For extra late trains back to London, etc, see Festival Website: [www.chappelbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.chappelbeerfestival.org.uk). - **Wed 17** Leyton E10 soc: (7.30) King William the Fourth, 816 High Rd; (9pm), Leyton Technical, 265b High Rd. - **Sat 27** (12pm) Soc. Games Day at Felstar Brewery, Crix Green, Felsted, Essex, possibly followed by 2nd Witham Beer Fest, Witham Public Hall, Collingwood Rd, Witham CM8. Website: [essex-camra.org.uk/swessex](http://essex-camra.org.uk/swessex)

## SOUTH WEST LONDON

Mike Flynn, 07751 231191, [mike.flynn@camraswl.org.uk](mailto:mike.flynn@camraswl.org.uk);

Cricket: Tom Brain, 07796 265972, [tbrain@haysmacintyre.com](mailto:tbrain@haysmacintyre.com); Cycling: Geoff Strawbridge, 07813 358863, [geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk](mailto:geoff@coherent-tech.co.uk)

**August – Thu 21** Wandsworth SW18 soc/crawl: (6.30 early starters) Ship, 41 Jews Row; (7pm) Royal Standard, 1 Ballantine St; (7.30) Alma, 499 Old York Rd; (8.10) Grapes, 39 Fairfield St; (8.50) Armoury, 14 Armoury Way; (9.30) Hop Pole, 64 Putney Bridge Rd; (10.10) Cat's Back, 86-88 Point Pleasant.

**September – Wed 10** (7.30) Open cttee mtg inc. GBG 2015 distribution. Eagle Ale House, 104 Chatham Rd, SW11. - **Thu 18** Tooting SW17 soc/crawl: (6pm) By the Horns Brewery Tap, 25 Summerstown; (7.15) Antelope, 76 Mitcham Rd; (8pm)

Castle, 38 Tooting High St; (8.45) Selkirk, 60 Selkirk Rd; (9.40) King's Head, 84 Upper Tooting Rd; (10.25) Wheatsheaf, 2 Upper Tooting Rd.

Website: <http://swl.camra.org.uk>

## WATFORD & DISTRICT

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

**August – Mon 18** St Albans Rd soc: meet (8.30) North Watford Conservative Club. - **Tue 26** (8pm) Mtg. Sportsman, Scots Hill, Croxley Green. - **Sat 30** Chorleywood soc: meet (1pm) Stag, Long Lane.

**September – Wed 3** Watford Town Centre soc: meet (8.30) One Crown, High St. - **Thu 11** (8pm) Annual Darts Tournament.

West Herts Sports Club, Park Ave, Watford. - **Wed 24** St Albans Beer Festival, Alban Arena. Meet opposite products stand 6pm then hourly. - **Mon 29** (8pm) Mtg. Escourt Arms, St. Johns Rd, Watford.

Website: [www.watfordcamra.org.uk](http://www.watfordcamra.org.uk)

## WEST LONDON

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

**August – Tue 5** W6/W14 soc: (7.30) Albion, 121 Hammersmith Rd; (8.30) Latymers, 157 Hammersmith Rd; (9.30) Queen's Head, 13 Brook Green. - **Tue 12** (from 11am) Meet the Brewer, Portobello Brewery, Finborough Arms, 118 Finborough Rd, SW10. - **Tue 12-Sat 16** Working socs at GBBF: meet nr cider bar - **Thu 21** (7.30) Beer fest soc. Ship Tavern, 12 Gate St, WC2 - **Wed 27** Chelsea soc: (7.30) Zetland Arms, 2 Bute St, SW7; (8.30) Hour Glass, 279-283 Brompton Rd SW3.

**September – Thu 4** (7/7.30) Mtg. Defector's Well (upstairs), 170 Uxbridge Rd, Shepherds Bush W12 - **Thu 11** W2 survey crawl: meet (7/7.30) Black Lion, 123 Bayswater Rd. - **Thu 18** (from 7pm) Portobello Brewery reopening. Unit G, Mitre Bridge Rd Est, Mitre Way, W10 (with BBQ, possible charge).

Website: [www.westlondon-camra.org.uk](http://www.westlondon-camra.org.uk)

## WEST MIDDLESEX

Roy Tunstall, 07909 061609, [info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk](mailto:info@westmiddx-camra.org.uk)

**August – Wed 6** HA9 crawl: (8pm) Windermere, Windermere Ave; (9pm) Preston, 161 Preston Rd; (10pm) JJ Moons, 397 High Rd. - **Mon 18** (8pm) Committee Mtg, TJ Duffys, 282 Northfield Ave, W5. - **Sun 24** (1pm) Hanwell Conservative Club garden mini-beer festival, 40 Uxbridge Rd, W7.

**September – Wed 1** Cowley crawl: (8pm) Crown, High St; (9pm) Three Steps, High St; (9.30) Malt Shovel, 63 Iver La. - **Mon 8** (8pm) Ealing PotY presentation followed by Branch mtg. Forester, 2 Leighton Rd, West Ealing. - **Sat 20** Branch 40th Anniversary. Queen's Head, 23 High St, Cranford, TW5 (book via website or call branch contact). - **Mon 29** (8pm) Branch PotY presentation. Queen's Head, 54 Windsor St, Uxbridge.

Website: [www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk](http://www.westmiddx-camra.org.uk)

Electronic copy deadline for the October/November edition is Monday 8 September.

Please send entries to [ldnews.hedger@gmail.com](mailto:ldnews.hedger@gmail.com).



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## THE TIE

Despite suspicions otherwise, legislation on the tied house system was, after all, included in the Queen's Speech in the form of certain clauses in the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill. The proposals provide for the introduction of a statutory code and the appointment of a pubs adjudicator to oversee publicans' dealings with the bigger pubcos, especially as regards unreasonable rents and beer prices. Significantly, they will apply to all pubcos, not just those that operate 500 or more outlets.

They do not however go as far as reformers such as CAMRA and Fair Pint wanted in that they do not include a market rent only option for tied tenants or any change to guest beer arrangements. It is a start however. Crucially, the Government have conceded the argument that something needs to be done and CAMRA members can be proud of their efforts so far. There is however more to do.

According to the *Morning Advertiser*, the proposals were personally approved by Prime Minister David Cameron. The Government has also recently agreed to deregulate the playing of live music in pubs during normal opening hours. The report of the Government's consultation on this may give a deeper insight into how their overall thinking has changed. It said that the pub sector is "an industry made up of small businesses, many of them independently owned/managed with low net profit margins of around 4%. Business representatives commented that pubs faced higher than average compliance costs and increasing levels of red tape. They suggested that any legislation that made it easier for live music to take place would benefit the economy and small businesses that relied on leisure and tourism spend." It may be a slower journey than we like but I think that we are getting there.

Debate began on 17 July and by all accounts became very heated. It will continue after the holidays.

## ON THE HOUSE

Please do not any of you think that our elected representatives and their noble colleagues do not have the best interests our beverage industry at heart. A Freedom of Information request has revealed that in the two years 2012 and 2013 to stock their various bars, parliamentary authorities spent some £1.4 million on nearly 50,000 bottles of House of Commons Sauvignon, more than 26,000 bottles of House Merlot, 8,500 bottles of Champagne and more than 33,000 pints of guest ale. Only 498 bottles of alcohol-free lager were bought.

I don't know if they managed to sample

any of the above but on 9 June the organisers of Norwich City of Ale came to London to meet the All-Party Parliamentary Beer Group and share the secrets of their project's success.

## LAW AND ORDER

As predicted in this column, as a consequence of a local authority introducing a Late Night Levy, pubs have decided to close at midnight to avoid paying it. The specific instance here is the Borough of Islington and JD Wetherspoon. Confusingly however, local sources tell me that of the three pubs named by JDW, only the Angel stays open after midnight anyway (to 12.30am on Friday and Saturday). The White Swan closes at 11pm every night and the Coronet at midnight. It is unlikely that many of the more up-market bars in the area who have a strong post-midnight trade will follow suit. According to JDW chairman, Tim Martin, to cover the levy a pub would have to take an additional £500 per hour. I'm sure that all *London Drinker* readers are safely tucked up in bed by then, but I would be interested to hear of any examples where prices increase after midnight.

## ENTERPRISE INNS

Enterprise Inns reported 'steady growth' in sales for the six months ended March but profits were flat at £55 million. During this period Enterprise sold off a further 129 pubs but interestingly, they say that all but £1 million of the £42 million raised was re-invested in their existing pubs. Their overall borrowings have fallen by £2 million to £2.5 billion in the last year.

Some of that money may have gone here. Enterprise, under the guise of the Bermondsey Pub Co, have opened their first managed house, the St James of Bermondsey. That is not conspiracy theory; Enterprise's chief executive, Simon Townsend and financial director, Neil Smith, are directors of the company. Enterprise are reported to have been trying to sell the pub until recently for £1.1 million. The head of the Bermondsey Pub Co, Jason Harris, said, "What we've achieved is testament to what you can do with a proper pub" and the pub is using the hashtag #notanotherblockofflats. Mixed messages here?

Meanwhile Mt Townsend was hoping for a windfall from the football World Cup, which was heavily marketed across the company's 5,459 pubs, around 2,000 of which have Sky or BT Sports television available. Like many England fans among his customers, he may have been disappointed.

## PUNCH TAVERNS

Punch Taverns, having received waivers on covenants that could have put their pub-owning subsidiaries into default and administration, are making progress towards restructuring their £2.3 billion debt. The company intends to increase its equity by £50 million and swap some debt for equity (shares), thus reducing its debts by £600 million. This will however dilute the value of the shares held by ordinary shareholders. The deal should be completed in early August. The remaining debt is still high – quoted at £1.58 billion by the *Evening Standard* – but could be manageable. Crudely, it puts an average price of £425,000 on each of Punch's 4,000 pubs. That sounds unlikely but recently Punch sold four unidentified pubs in London to an investment company, Morgana, for £6.7 million compared with their book price of £2.5 million.

Having gratefully received those waivers, Punch have refused to reciprocate by granting anything similar to their troubled tenants. According to the *Morning Advertiser*, many Punch tenants are still concerned as to the company's future.

## PUB COMPANY NEWS

With Greene King deciding against their acquisition, Mitchells & Butlers (M&B) have purchased 173 pubs from the Orchid Pub Company following the decision by Orchid's owners, Deutsche Bank, to sell up. The price paid was reported to be £266 million. According to the *Morning Advertiser*, M&B were in competition with two investment companies. The pubs, originally purchased from Punch for £571 million, are in the south-east and north-west of England. M&B's estate is now around 1,800 and 96 of their new acquisitions will become food-led outlets such as Harvesters. There are 49 Orchid sites, mostly leaseholds and including the Sri Nam restaurant chain, left in the hands of administrators Ernst & Young. Lists of the pubs in question are included in our WhatPub? Update.

Greene King, who now operate 220 pubs inside the M25, have merged their Capital Pub Co and RealPubs purchases estates into one, new operation called the Metropolitan Pubs division. Each pub will have house beer brewed by GK plus some guest beers, mostly local.

Shepherd Neame, major operators these days in the London pub trade with some sixty sites, have made a significant change to their capital structure. They previously had 'A' shares which entitled you to vote but carried no dividend and 'B' shares which operated the other way around. Historically this arrangement was common in family

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businesses, allowing the family to retain control whilst still having 'outsider' shareholders. Sheps' intention was to change to having just the one class of share and putting them on the CREST dealing system with the aim of attracting more investors. Not everyone approved and former vice-chairman Stuart Neame threatened legal action but the measure was approved by 81% at a Special General Meeting on 6 June. The majority of shares will still be held, to begin with at least, by the family, directors, and employees. The new arrangements however must leave Sheps' open to possible take-over, something that cannot have been lost on chairman, Miles Templeman, from his time at Whitbread's.

Young's have reopened the Castle in what they call *'Up and coming Tooting Broadway'* after, in their words, a contemporary makeover. While retaining its 19th century façade, improvements have been made to the garden and the eating areas, including a new restaurant, the Orangery. The accent appears very much to be on food. Young's have also re-established themselves in Clerkenwell with the purchase of the Fox & Anchor. It was sold by Richard Balfour-Lynn, former owner of the Malmaison and Hotel du Vin chains, to fund the setting up of the St Barts Brewery – formerly the Distillers – which is described as an all-day British diner and craft beer pub. Following a 17% increase in profits in the year to March, Young's three senior directors have been awarded pay increases of between 29% and 35%. The chief executive now receives £640,000 per annum. The dividend to shareholders increased by 6%.

The Antic Collective chain continues to expand. They have taken over the former Wetherspoon pub in Harlesden and renamed it Misty Moon. They have however upset the locals in Deptford. Antic have converted a former Job Centre into a pub which they have called... the Job Centre. Antic say that the pub has 'quirky design features inspired by its function as a place that once served the unemployed.' This however has been deemed to be insulting and in poor taste and has provoked a campaign against the pub on social media. You cannot hold Antic responsible for the closure of the job centre and at least it isn't a betting shop or payday loan outlet, but I'm sure that there must be something more interesting in Deptford's history that they could have focused on?

The former Convivial Pub Company brew-pubs, the Botanist in Kew and the Lamb in Chiswick have both been reopened by new owners, Mitchells & Butlers. The accent at both is now on food but local beers are available. The brewing kit has now been

removed from both. Meanwhile, one of the people involved in setting up Convivial, Kris Gumbrell, has started a new company along similar lines called the Brewhouse & Kitchen with Enterprise Investment Scheme funding. The first outlet was in Portsmouth with one in Dorchester to follow. A chain of eight to ten is planned but it is not known if any of these will be in the London area. It is possible that B&K have acquired the redundant brewing kit.

## WETHERSPOON'S NEWS

**J**DW have purchased the freehold of the Grape & Grain, the well known free house in Crystal Palace. It is understood that they will not take over running it until the current lease expires.

JDW have also purchased the freehold of the Grade II-listed Greenwood Hotel in Northolt, Middlesex for a reported £2 million. They were bidding against chain store operators and developers and happily they won. The pub, which has been closed for a number of years, includes eleven ensuite letting rooms and a car park. It could be handy for all the VIPs who fly in and out of the nearby aerodrome.

After a £2 million refit, JDW have now opened their first pub in Ireland, the Three Tuns Tavern in Blackrock, not far from the University College Dublin campus. It will however not be selling Guinness. JDW will not pay Diageo's Irish prices. Instead they will serve Murphy's or Beamish, both from Cork. Some stout drinkers regard these as more interesting products anyway.

Wetherspoons took fourth place overall in the large organisation category of the Top Employer United Kingdom awards for 2014. JDW were praised for having 'outstanding HR policies and offering excellent working conditions.' They now employ 33,000 staff across the country, although there are still times when you wonder where they all are...

## OTHER TRADE NEWS

**E**van-Evans, the brewers and pub operators from Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, are looking to move into London and the south-east with a new venture called the Porter Street Brewery. The first is due to open in the autumn and there should be up to five outlets open within 18 months. These are likely to be existing leasehold pubs. The beers will be brewed in Wales for the first year or so with the company looking to acquire a local brewery in due course, possibly in Essex.

*London Drinker* has a new rival. Upmarket restaurant and bar group, Drake & Morgan, who operate seven sites in London, have launched an in-house magazine for their customers. *D&M Edit* is aimed at what their PR people describe as –

probably not unreasonably – 'young, professional, aspirational Londoners'.

Sharp's, the Cornish micro brewery owned by multi-national Molson Coors may have realised that we don't all like Doom Bar. They are adding a new beer to their permanent range, Atlantic Pale Ale. This 4.2% ABV golden ale is brewed with Cascade, Aurora, Citra and Simcoe hops so it certainly is not going to taste like Doom Bar! They are also brewing some 'limited edition' and 'single batch' beers, including a honey beer, a stout and 'Doom Bar Reserve 20' at 6% ABV.

## KEEPING ON TRACK

**F**ollowing its refurbishment, King's Cross station has been voted the best railway station in the world for food and drink in the 2014 International Airport and Rail Station Food and Beverage Awards, organised by industry magazines the *Moodie Report* and the *Foodie Report*. The awards are open to nominations from around the world and were judged by a team of experts who inspected the unique offerings at each nominated venue. The Parcel Yard, the Fuller's pub at the station, took the award for the best individual food and drink outlet. I'm sure that Fuller's thought that they were onto a winner when they opened the pub but its success must have exceeded their expectations.

Meanwhile, further round the Circle Line, the Mad Bear and Bishop at Paddington has won Fuller's Master Cellarman of the Year award for 2014. The current general manager, Helen Wilson, only entered the pub into the competition for the first time last year when they won Best Newcomer and came second overall. Now they have taken the top prize at only the second attempt. London Pride is their biggest seller and they keep an amazing five kilderkins of it on stillage at any one time. There is more news about Fuller's in our London Brewery News section.

There may be a cuckoo in the Circle Line nest however. Greene King have won a nine year lease from National Rail by competitive tender for a new pub on the balcony development at Euston station. They will be investing a 'seven figure sum' in the project which will be called the Duke of Grafton. The timescale for opening is not yet known.

## NOT SO GRIM OUT EAST

**I**am indebted to James Watson of CAMRA's East London & City branch for the following. The Rob Star chain continues to expand with the opening in August of the Jackdaw & Stump in Homerton High Street after refurbishment. Cask beers will be available, range as yet unknown. This follows the Star of Kings, the Star at Bethnal



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Green and the Star by Hackney Downs. A further two pubs at least are planned.

Another new company to look out for is the Locals Club. Their first outlet, the Gun, in Well Street, Hackney, opened in June. The lease of this tiny ex-Whitbread market pub was acquired after a 'bidding war' and it is being run by Nick Stephens who has 15 years' experience at the popular Lock Tavern in Camden behind him. Two cask beers are available, a rotation of mainly local beers such as Five Points and Truman's and the fridges are well stocked with London bottled beers. The food offering is limited to toasted sandwiches and pork pies at the moment but there are plans to install a kitchen and dining room upstairs along with a roof terrace. Locals Club are aiming to build a chain of some five to ten pubs across East London. Details are in our Whatpub? Update column.

### TOP GRILLS

**C**ongratulations to Lee and Keris DeVilliers and Bronwyn Cooper who have got the Old Sergeant in Wandsworth into the Guinness Book of Records for staging a marathon barbecue on 9 and 10 May. They have also adopted an idea from their former pub, the Nightingale in Balham, and staged a charity walk along the Thames Path from Hampton Court to Putney. The first one was held in May and no doubt it will become an annual event, along with the many charity events that they hold at the pub and at its sister pub, the Pig & Whistle in Earlsfield.

### CAUGHT ON THE HOP

**A**ccording to the Financial Times, the number of craft breweries in the USA rose to 2,768 in 2013 and the industry is now worth \$14 billion per annum. This is however only 8% of the total USA beer market.

As a consequence of this astounding growth, the price of hops has doubled to between \$7 and \$10 a pound over the past five years. Prices have only previously reached this level in 2007/2008 when a severe drought affected the market. Although it is expanding, the supply of hops is limited and this could cause problems in the immediate future, especially when the industrial brewers use their financial muscle to secure supplies, even though they use less than a quarter of the amount of hops for an equivalent amount of beer.

### BEER MACHINES

**T**hanks to Steve Webb from Chelmsford who advises me that in the late 1960s/early 1970s the Prospect of Whitby had coin-operated, self-dispense taps. In those days it was handy, as getting near the bar was oft nigh impossible. At this time, especially in the Midlands and North-East, beer was frequently served by electric pump using bar-top dispensers which had a sliding cylinder or cubic hollowed-out perspex blocks with a flexible hemispherical neoprene diaphragm that slid or flexed from one side to the other in half pint volumes. I remember being fascinated by them while on canal trips in the Midlands and visits to Nottingham, sampling Hardy & Hansons, Home and Shipstones. Fond memories...

### AND FINALLY ...

**D**on't be fooled if you see a Black Sheep outlet open near you. A new coffee chain is using the same name as the Yorkshire brewers. Interestingly though, they are producing a 'single variety' coffee called Robusta, the beans for which come from a single plantation, Sethuraman, in India.

They may have won the World Cup but not everything is well in Germany. In the 'wurst' thing to happen since the previously reported scandal of the fixing of beer prices, 21 of the country's sausage-makers have now been fined 338 million Euros for similar offences by the Federal Cartel Office (not the kartoffel – that's a potato).

*Tony Hedger*



# Memories from abroad – never too early

**Editor's note:** it is pleasing to know that we have readers as far away as St Paul, Minnesota, USA. Here Rick Wright recalls an adventure in London.

There's a little pub in Kinnerton Street. It is not the smallest pub in London, not today. Many, many decades ago it was a simple 10' x 14' room in which the bar took up nearly half the available space. The last landlord to oversee the pub before its expansion in the mid-1970s was Len Cole. He was a large man who is said to have required every bit of space afforded him behind the bar. A cockney, born and bred, he was an affable man of simple tastes who ran an unadorned establishment. He served his customers beer and the occasional slice of roast beef. He didn't always open on time, particularly in the last decade, after his wife, Eva, passed on. The story goes that one morning, as he stood in the door enjoying the warm summer sun, he hailed a passing prospect, a sometimes regular who asked, "Don't you think 11 o'clock in the morning is a little too early to be drinking pints of bitter?" Len Cole replied with a sorrowful look, "It's never too early, dear boy, but one day it will certainly be too late". History does not record if the passer-by took the hint and the

time to smell the roses ... or sip the Benskins as the case may have been.

And now, Kevin Moran has been running things for thirty years. The pub has been gutted and rebuilt with the main room enlarged, the bar moved and made smaller, not only in floor space but height as well. Kevin's personality is everywhere to be seen, the walls covered with memorabilia of his time. Every picture and drawing a story. Every story a celebration of a still diminutive pub which is not just a middleman between the brewer and the drinker but a place of character and community.

One cartoon, maybe not the best on the walls, illustrates a more recent of Kevin's stories, a similar tale of early encounters. An American, perhaps a long, tall Texan, wearing cowboy boots and a Stetson hat, stepped into the Nag's Head and asked for cup of coffee. Ignoring his own steaming cup sitting at the far end of the bar, Kevin said, "We sell beer". "How about a latté, can I get a latté?" asked the Texan. Kevin suggested the fellow try Star\*\*\*\*s, around the corner ... and then, inspired, added, "How about a Wozzah? I can make you a Wozzah." The cowboy was puzzled. "What's a Wozzah?" Kevin replied, "It wozzah coffee before we added the brandy". Right on cue the

cowboy inquired, "A little early to be drinking, isn't it?". Only weeks before, Kevin had heard the Len Cole story and echoed the reply, "It's never too early, but one day it may be too late".

"It may be too late" echoed in the cowboy's mind. Did he sense something wicked? Did he believe Kevin was likely to pull a knife as to pull a pint? Whatever it was, the cowboy turned and made a hasty exit, fleeing down Kinnerton Street as though he'd been offered a shower at the Bates Motel.

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The print run for this issue of *London Drinker* is 58,000. It is distributed to some 1,200 pubs in and around Greater London by CAMRA volunteers. In addition 32,000 copies are distributed centrally by JD Wetherspoon.



## COME AND FIND OUT WHAT CAMRA IS DOING AND HAVE YOUR SAY

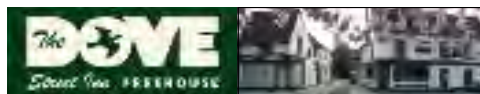
**W**e appreciate that not everyone can get to CAMRA's Members' Weekend. With a view to engaging as many CAMRA members from as many backgrounds as possible, six super-regional conferences are once again being run around the country. Members may attend any meeting; you do not have to live within the region where the conference is taking place. You do not have to be an active member of a branch or even consider yourself as active to come along. Everyone is welcome.

The agenda includes how CAMRA is structured and where you can get help, an update on CAMRA's key campaigns and the choice of two afternoon sessions on saving pubs or activating members. You can find the agenda and details of the six events at [www.camra.org.uk/superregionalconferences](http://www.camra.org.uk/superregionalconferences).

The London & South East Conference is taking place at the Orpington Liberal Club – CAMRA's Greater London Club of the Year – on Saturday 4 October from noon. The Club is just a five minute walk from Orpington Railway Station and the club is renowned for its great beer.

Please register online through the National CAMRA website. Login and select 'Go to my Account' followed by the 'Interests/Clubs' tab. Under the Interests section you will need to select the 'Add' tab and select the super-regional conference(s) that you wish to attend. Once saved, you will be registered for the event.

Enquiries: Lauren Anderson, [lauren.anderson@camra.org.uk](mailto:lauren.anderson@camra.org.uk); 01727 867201



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**Ian White – Regional Cider Co-ordinator**

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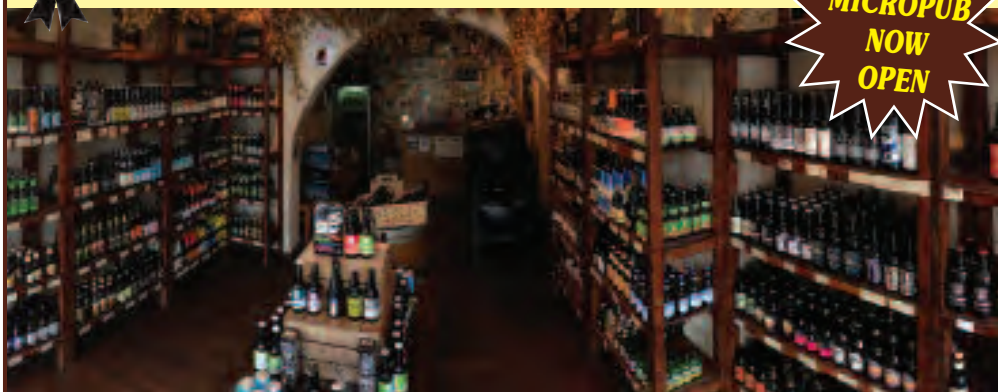
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# Up from down under

**K**irrilly Waldhorn is one of Australia's leading beer writers where she is known as the 'Beer Diva'. She stages many major beer spectaculars 'Down Under', including some at the Sydney Opera House. She is coming to London shortly to join Roger Protz, editor of CAMRA's Good Beer Guide for an evening of beer tasting and discussion on Monday 22 September. There will be six beers to taste followed by a buffet.

The venue is the Tokenhouse, 4 Moorgate, London EC2, starting at 6.30pm. The cost is £25 per head to cover both the beer and the buffet. Tickets can be obtained from [pr@fullers.co.uk](mailto:pr@fullers.co.uk). Fuller's are supporting the event.

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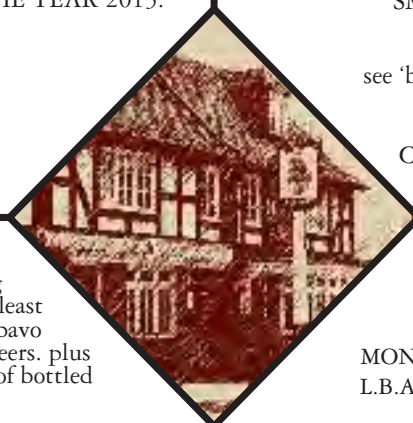
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A number of CAMRA branches in London have been making their Pub of the Year awards recently.

## BEXLEY BRANCH – THE DOOR HINGE, WELLING

London's first and Welling's own micropub, opened in March 2013 under the proprietorship of Mr Ray Hurley. Since then, it has become very popular – not just with CAMRA members – because of its honest presentation and freedom from the more usual distractions. A quick glance at the interior reveals a wall nearly fully covered with pump clips, this décor endorsing the tremendous range of breadth of breweries – Gadd's and Goddard's to name but two – which the host showcases. The small but dedicated team who manage the stillage room have put up over 300 different beers this year. The re-use of empty premises, once an electrical shop, adds an extra degree of social utility to the enterprise.

Accordingly, the Bexley branch of CAMRA had little difficulty in awarding Ray its Pub of the Year award for 2014, in appreciation of the attempt to undertake something different.



*Bexley CAMRA Chairman Martyn Nicholls presents Ray with his award*

## BROMLEY BRANCH – THE QUEEN'S HEAD, DOWNE

It was with great pleasure that the Queen's Head (Downe, Kent) was presented with the Bromley branch of CAMRA's Pub of the Year award for 2014 on 3 June. The pub always makes an effort to bring in guest beers, while providing a friendly setting and good food in the delightful village of Downe – famous for its association with Charles Darwin. The award was presented to Jackie and her husband Nigel by Kent Sadler, the Biggin Hill and Downe area representative for the Bromley branch. A good turn-out of local members afterwards enjoyed a number of jugs of the cask ales on tap that day before reluctantly calling time.



We were also pleased to present the Shortlands Tavern with a Runner up Award on 12 June. Manager Eren Lakeman said, "I'd firstly like to thank all of our regulars for supporting their local, and the staff for their hard work. The regulars and locals have a big input in our ale selection and that's what makes it a great community pub. Lastly I would like to thank the Bromley CAMRA branch for their ongoing support. Cheers, here's to first place next year!"



*Eren Lakeman, left with Yvonne Martin of Bromley CAMRA and Johnny (supervisor) on the right*

## SOUTH EAST LONDON BRANCH – THE IVY HOUSE, NUNHEAD

The members of CAMRA's South East London branch have voted the Ivy House in Nunhead their Branch Pub of the Year for 2014. This is a fitting end to a momentous year in the pub's history, after its rescue by a group of local residents from the hands of a property developer.

The Ivy House was built by Truman's Brewery in the 1930s and is a fine surviving example of the 'Improved Public House' concept, retaining many original features. Originally the Newlands Tavern, it was a famous 1970s south London 'pub rock' venue. In April 2012 all of this history came under threat when Enterprise Inns attempted to sell the building to a property developer for residential conversion. However, the local CAMRA branch succeeded in getting its interior Grade II listed, and a group of locals using new powers under the Localism Act had the pub listed as London's (and possibly the UK's) first Asset of Community Value. The community group then managed to raise sufficient loan and grant funding to purchase the property in March 2013 and, following a subsequent successful community share issue, the pub reopened its doors in August of that year.

Since reopening, the pub has gone from strength to strength and, in its first year under community ownership, has held numerous events, including folk sessions, Sunday lunch jazz, Meet the Brewer evenings, and even dance classes. The pub has also continued its long tradition of hosting live bands. The Ivy House has quickly developed a genuine community feel thanks to the friendly and varied mix of clientele and welcoming staff. English Heritage awarded the pub its *Heritage Angel* award for the best rescue of a heritage site.

Seven real ales are usually on offer, with a particular focus on London breweries, along with a range of craft keg beers and lagers plus a bottled beer selection.

Steve Silcock, chair of South East London Branch, commented, "All in all a worthy winner of the Branch Pub of





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Graham Pearson, Pub Manager, accepting the award, pictured with Ivy House management committee members Hugo Simms, Emily Dresner, Tessa Blunden and Stuart Taylor

Year and a powerful example of what a community can achieve when it really puts its mind to it".

On behalf of the Ivy House management committee, Emily Dresner added, "Our first year has passed extraordinarily quickly and has been an exciting period. We are very proud to have been named as local CAMRA Pub of the Year. Serving a strong range of well-kept real ales is a key part of our ethos, particularly showcasing local London breweries."

## WEST LONDON BRANCH – THE HARP, CHARING CROSS

It is difficult to find a quiet evening at the Harp where few weekday evenings are anything other than filled with a happy buzz from regulars in one of our smallest and most thriving pubs. We however made the best of it one Monday in early June, to present Binnie Walsh and her team with the West London branch of CAMRA's Pub of the Year award for 2014.

After a stentorian call to order, with Binnie and the team in position behind the bar, branch chairman Les Maggs in a few words said it all and made the presentation. In response, in her typical understated fashion, Binnie insisted that it was the staff, Sarah, Karl, Sally and the others, who underpinned everything that deserved the recognition but all who know the pub are aware of Binnie's leadership and style of management, perfected in more than 45 years in the trade and not least over the last 20 years at the Harp.

**Editor's note.** As we go to press we have learned that Binnie is selling the Harp to Fuller's. We will report on this in full in the next edition.



Binnie and team with their award

## NORTH LONDON BRANCH AWARD

As part of its celebration of 40 years of campaigning, CAMRA's North London Branch have presented a special award to the Duke of Hamilton in Hampstead. Steve Coxshall, owner of the pub, received the award on behalf of everyone who had been involved with the pub over many years. John Cryne, chairman of the North London branch of CAMRA, said, "The Branch is celebrating 40 years of campaigning this year and we thought it might be nice to commemorate a number of individuals and pubs that have been supportive of the Branch and real ale over many, many years. The Duke of Hamilton has been in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 22 times, a reflection of the excellent quality of their beer. It also won the Pub of the Year in 2003, beating hundreds of other pubs to gain this accolade. This pub is a traditional pub, serving the local community and welcoming strangers. This is a type of pub that is rapidly disappearing from London and thus we were so pleased when this pub was saved from closure a few years ago. This award is just a way for the Branch to say thank you and to celebrate a great pub".

The Duke has a traditional community feel. It dates back some 300 years and there is a central bar and three different seating areas inside with outside drinking areas at the front and rear. The pub stocks a changing range of five real ales and is a member of CAMRA's LocAle scheme, which means that at least one beer is always from a local brewery.



Steve Coxshall receives the award from John Cryne with enthusiastic support

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# Beer festivals

CAMRA's Bexley branch held its ninth beer festival in May. We moved the date away from Easter – it snowed last year – and indeed we had better weather but despite improvements to our venue, the Old Dartfordians Sports Club in Bexley, we were slightly disappointed with the turnout of customers. We don't think that the pink staff t-shirts put people off.



The Beer of the Festival, by customer vote, was Caveman Megalithic (5.9% ABV) brewed in nearby Swanscombe. The runner-up was Bourbon Milk Stout (4.3% ABV) from the Sonnet 43 Brewery in County Durham.

The Cider and Perry of the Festival was Severn Perry, followed by Magic Bus Dreamer Bus (a peach cider).

During the event branch Chairman Martyn Nichols took the opportunity to present our Club of the Year award to club steward Clive Burke.

We would like to thank Nina and Adele at Flying Firkin, Westerham Brewery for sponsoring the glasses, JD Wetherspoon for the t-shirts and all the other wholesalers and microbreweries for their assistance. Special thanks however go to all the unpaid CAMRA members from far and wide who gave up their free time to help make the festival an enjoyable event; without your help there would be no festival.

**Peter Trout**

## EALING

Now in its 25th year, Ealing Beer Festival was another success, held in a staggering 112 metres of marquee pitched in the grounds of Walpole Park. 3,772 gallons of beer were consumed by 10,200 customers, which those who understand this sort of thing say equates to a pint every 4.47 seconds. The first beer to run out was a new local favourite, Acton Blonde from the Aeronaut (Laine's) Brewery, just down the road in Acton.

Festival organiser Graham Harrison said, "I am absolutely delighted that over 10,000 visitors joined us to celebrate our silver jubilee, tasting a range of the best beers, ciders and perries in the country. Despite increasing the beer order from last year we had to make two re-orders so that we could offer a wide choice on our final day."

## LONDON DRINKER

A party of workers from the London Drinker Beer Festival (organised by CAMRA's North London branch) visited the Redemption Brewery in Tottenham to present them with the Beer of the Festival award for 'Make Me Smile', a 3.5% ABV golden ale. The beer was named in memory of CAMRA member, Gerrie Stokes, who died recently after a long illness.



Catherine Tonry, Festival Organiser, presents the certificate to brewery owner, Andy Moffat

## PIG'S EAR

One of Britain's most exciting and innovative new breweries, Colchester, only formed in 2012 by Roger Clark and Tom Knox, has already picked up many awards, from Clacton and Norwich Beer Festivals amongst others. The latest is Champion Beer of the Pig's Ear Beer Festival 2013. The Beer that was chosen by some 5,000 festival attendees was Brazilian Porter. Pig's Ear organiser, Derek Jones, waxing lyrical about a Brazilian, commented, "This is a subtle and intriguing coffee and vanilla dark malty ale with lovely hints of mocha and liquorice. Yet the richness is counterbalanced by hop elegance. No wonder it won."

Roger Clark added: "We're thrilled to win an award from a Festival as prestigious as Pig's Ear. We brew in a time-honoured Essex craft tradition with old-style fermentation and brewing yeasts and double-drop techniques. We now sell nationwide so the appeal isn't just local. The Brazilian is especially interesting as a dark beer that appeals to the new young and discerning quaffers of real ale. They like something well-crafted."



Third and fourth from the left, Derek Jones and Tom Knox. On the right of Derek Jones is Deputy Pig's Ear Festival Organiser, Andrew Wilson and on the left of Tom Knox is Roger Clark.

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# Pub campaigning

## WELLINGTON, CRAYFORD

**W**e would like to withdraw and apologise to those concerned for the comment made in the *WhatPub?* – Update 2 column in the June/July edition. It was based on misinterpreted information.

## FURTHER ALTERATIONS TO THE LONDON PLAN (FALP)

**C**AMRA Greater London Region made a submission on pub protection during the public consultation period which closed in April 2014. The next phase is an examination in public under the auspices of HM Planning Inspector Anthony Thickett. Regional Director Geoff Strawbridge and Pub Protection Advisor James Watson attended an initial meeting at City Hall on 11 July. We are recognised as an interested party in the examination process and are fighting hard for greater protection of London's pubs as recent planning and appeal decisions have demonstrated that such protection is long overdue. We may have the opportunity in September to speak in support of specific mention of public houses in Policy 4.8 of the plan as well as stronger wording in paragraph 4.48A. Furthermore, we intend to participate in the Mayor's consultation on supplementary planning guidance for social infrastructure which ends in October 2014. This is vitally important work; only a robust planning system can ensure the long term survival of public house uses on historic sites.

If you wonder why we are doing this, read on...

## BLACK LION, BAYSWATER

**T**his 300 year old pub, once used as a recruiting station during the Napoleonic Wars, has been sold by the Spirit pubco for an astounding £27 million. It will remain a pub for now but the long-term aim is to convert it into flats. I know that it is an up-market area but the flats are going to have to be very expensive for any return on the investment.

## CHESHAM ARMS, HACKNEY

**T**he story continues ... The owner was served an enforcement notice by Hackney Council on the grounds that he had converted the upper part of the pub into residential accommodation without the necessary planning permission. He appealed and consequently an inquiry needed to be held in front of a planning inspector. This took place on 24 and 25 June at the Hackney Picture House. According to a CAMRA member present, the inspector, Mr Murray, noted that the *'irony of holding these proceedings in a closed bar'* was not lost on him.

As you will see from the cover, a number of local residents and campaigners made their feelings known outside the venue. They were supported by CAMRA HQ staff who were there to observe this significant case.

Although Hackney Council had their lawyers, as is the way in these matters, the volunteers of the Churchwell Residents' Group and CAMRA found themselves pitted against barristers and professional planning advisors. However, as the latter found out, pub campaigners these days are well prepared and quite capable of engaging their own expert witnesses. I am told that there were some 'interesting' exchanges. The campaigners' main argument at this stage is that to allow the separation of the property into a 'lock-up' pub and separate accommodation would almost certainly ensure the loss of its original purpose for which it was given Asset of Community Value listing thus

making the ACV process meaningless.

The hearing has been now been adjourned until 10 September; watch this space. We may well yet see the Chesham Arms taking its rightful place in the resurgence of pubs in the area.

## CROCKER'S FOLLY, MARYLEBONE

**C**AMRA's Pub Heritage website reports that this great late nineteenth-century extravaganza of a pub could be reopening within a couple of months. The emphasis is expected to be on up-market food but nonetheless it would be so good to see this glorious building back in use. We will report further in due course but in the meantime see the entry on CAMRA's Heritage Pubs web site: [www.heritagepubs.org.uk](http://www.heritagepubs.org.uk).

## CROSS KEYS, CHELSEA

**T**o use football terminology – this was written whilst listening to the World Cup final – this seems like a score draw. It is reported that a long lease will be given to the MD Group for the ground floor and basement whilst the upper parts are converted to residential use. The MD Group already operates two successful food-oriented pubs in nearby Fulham, the Brown Cow and the Sands End, and it is understood that the Cross Keys will operate along the same lines.

## DR JOHNSON, BARKINGSIDE

**O**ther people have other ways of campaigning. According to the *Evening Standard*, this sadly derelict Grade II listed pub has been occupied by a group of squatters called the Suspenses (sic) Property Guardians. This is not illegal – yet – because it is a commercial property. The group is hoping to negotiate with owners, Spirit Pub Company, to reopen the pub for community use. Local business owners were reported as saying that they welcomed something being done about the pub but it wasn't clear whether that meant bringing it back into use or evicting the squatters.

## DUTCH HOUSE, LEE

**T**his Stonegate pub has survived several 'change of use' planning applications as well as an attempt to assign the lease to McDonalds and has now been listed as an ACV by Greenwich Council. It is also under consideration by English Heritage for possible Grade II listing. The pub remains open although real ale has been discontinued.

## FALCON, CLAPHAM JUNCTION

**C**AMRA's Pub Heritage bulletin for June reported that following its recent refurbishment, happily nothing has really changed except that the counter top at the rear has been extended outwards somewhat clumsily so that people can sit there to eat. It is reassuring that owners Mitchell's & Butlers' (Nicholson's) showed due respect to this fine late Victorian pub.

The Falcon is notable for having by far the longest bar counter in the UK at 125 ft, measured round its outer perimeter, and the new 'bump' must make it even longer. Many think that this distinction belongs to the Horse Shoe Bar in Glasgow but their bar measures out at a mere 104ft 3ins.

## GOLDEN LION, CAMDEN

**F**urther to our previous reporting on the Article 4 Direction, and the refusal of the first planning application for conversion to flats, we are delighted to announce that on 26





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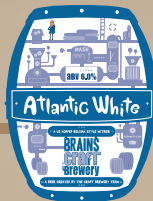
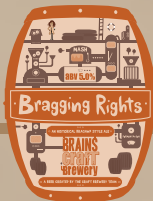


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# Pub campaigning

June Camden Council refused a second application involving conversion of the upper floors to flats. However, the battle does not end here. As we go to press, we are expecting Camden Council to confirm the Article 4 Direction which will effectively remove all permitted development rights, including the B1 office temporary option which has been damaging. Disappointingly, although somewhat predictably, the developer has appealed against the first refusal. Effective lobbying and campaigning by the Golden Lion team, with professional support from Planning for Pubs Ltd, has secured a hearing with the Planning Inspectorate after the developer requested a written representation process which would have excluded CAMRA and members of the public from taking part and joining in an oral discussion with the inspector. We can confirm that the hearing will take place at 10 am on 3 September at Camden Town Hall. All are welcome. Follow @goldenlionnw1 for further updates.

On a happier note, after years as a keg only pub, in recognition of the assistance and support from, amongst others, North London CAMRA, the publican, Dave Murphy, has begun selling real ale. From late June St Austell Tribute was available on cask with other beers planned. We trust this will serve as a reminder to those naysayers who maintain that we should only be supporting real ale pubs, that a keg pub is merely an ugly cygnet, waiting to be transformed into a beautiful elegant swan.

## MAGDALA TAVERN, HAMPSTEAD

According to a report in the *Camden New Journal*, this pub, located in South Hill Park NW3, has been sold for £2.1 million by Punch Taverns to a company registered in the British

Virgin Islands. It is believed that the plan is to 'refurbish' it by converting the upper floors into self-contained residential accommodation but retaining the pub. The pub is Victorian in origin and was refitted in the 1930s. It is included in CAMRA's London Regional Inventory of historic pub interiors.

The pub has a macabre association as the site of the murder on Easter Monday 1955 of David Blakely by Ruth Ellis, an event that had significant consequences for our legal system.

## OLD PARR'S HEAD, WEST KENSINGTON

CAMRA's West London branch is joining with local residents to prevent this pub from being converted into flats. In February of this year, the local council, Hammersmith & Fulham, "resolved that the Council should seek to introduce a pub protection policy similar to that in operation in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea". The latter's policy is a good one to follow – see below. This will be an interesting test of H&F's policy, given that the council has changed political control since the policy was adopted.



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**30TH AUGUST 2014**





# Pub campaigning

## OLD WHITE BEAR, HAMPSTEAD

**C**amden Council has confirmed that the temporary Article 4 Direction issued on 10 February has now been made permanent. This has curtailed the usual 'permitted development rights' under which there was little control over a change of use. Now any plans to turn the pub into anything other than a pub will now have to be submitted to the Council as a full planning application. The developers originally wanted to turn it into a luxury six-bedroom house but having met with considerable local opposition – a 4,000 signature petition – they then sought to convert it into a restaurant. This was however thought to just be a spoiling tactic. There is genuine hope locally that the pub will reopen.

## PINEAPPLE, WATERLOO

**T**his will be sad news for any former GLC employees, especially those who regularly played darts. A planning application has been submitted to Lambeth Council to add an extension to the rear of this nineteenth century pub to allow the uppers floors to be converted into a single private dwelling and five flats. The ground floor would become a restaurant with a basement bar just a third of the size of the existing bar with no natural light.

The Waterloo area has lost over a third of its pubs in the past 20 years with several becoming back-packers' hostels, which is not surprising given the presence of the station. New restaurants however abound, probably for the same reason.

## QUEEN'S HEAD, LIMEHOUSE

**T**his Grade II-listed pub in the York Square Conservation Area was sold by Tower Hamlets Council to an Islamic Education Charity in 2012. Young's still have five years remaining on the lease and there is a sitting tenant. For once we are pleased to report a well managed and organised campaign to save the pub, most impressively *before* it is truly under threat! The regulars have been mobilised under the stewardship of local neighbour Matt O'Leary. There are plans to have the pub registered as an ACV which, if approved, will make it the first ACV pub in Tower Hamlets.

CAMRA's ELAC Branch is providing support. The publican is very much behind the campaign and Matt has already contacted ward councillors, MPs, his Assembly member and various others including celebrities who have frequented the pub in the past. His next step is to write a letter to HRH the Prince of Wales, whose late grandmother memorably pulled (and allegedly drunk most of) a pint of Young's Special in the pub in 1987. At this time, we are unsure as to the intentions of the new freeholders. The Queen's Head is a quintessential community pub in an area devoid of good pubs and with even less choice of quality real ale. It serves Young's beers which are well kept and served. Please lend your support to the campaign via the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/save-the-queens-head-limehouse](http://www.facebook.com/save-the-queens-head-limehouse) and, if you find yourself in the area, call in for a pint!

## SWAN & EDGAR (FEATHERS), MARYLEBONE

**W**e have a new hero: planning inspector Mr Peter Rose, who has dismissed an appeal by the developer against Westminster City Council's refusal to grant planning permission to turn the Swan & Edgar into yet another single luxury home. This gentleman is clearly one to watch. Apart from a minor technical error in which he describes pubs as planning use class

A5 when in fact they are class A4, the report is so pro-pub that John Cryne, Chairman of CAMRA's North London Branch in whose area the pub stands, commented "*T'was as if we wrote it ourselves!*". The branch was so instrumental in opposing this development that they even got a mention in the decision note.

In an echo of the seminal decisions on the Cross Keys and Phene Arms, both in Kensington & Chelsea in 2012, the inspector recognised the need to protect pubs as important community facilities, and once again confirmed that the use of a pub is part of the character of a conservation area. His words in this case are so sweet and lyrical to our cause that they are worth repeating in full. "*The existing site contributes positively to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area not only through the physical presence and features of the building but through its long-established use as a traditional back-street public house. Both aspects reflect the historical development of the site and of the wider Conservation Area and both contribute to the visual and functional distinctiveness of the setting. Although the use contrasts with the predominant residential character of this part of the Conservation Area, it brings activity and vitality to the neighbourhood consistent with its charm and heritage and provides a particular sense of local historic focus.*" The pub, one of London's smallest, is included in CAMRA's Greater London Inventory of historic pub interiors.

The decision here, although specific to this case, could easily apply to dozens of other London pubs under threat such as the Old Parr's Head as mentioned above. The words quoted, from an inspector's decision are hugely significant to our pub campaigning aims here in London and we intend to dine out on them for some time to come. It remains to be seen whether or not the owner here will submit a revised application for another roll of the dice with Westminster or try to sell the pub on. Regardless of his next move, all London drinkers should be raising a glass to inspector Peter Rose. Cheers!

## WALTHAM OAK (CHESTNUT TREE), LEYTON

**W**e reported on this planning appeal in the last issue. Unfortunately, the inspector's decision went against the pub. Although Waltham Forest Council had originally refused consent for a mosque in the building on the grounds of traffic, congestion, noise and other amenity issues, thanks to ELAC Branch Secretary Kim Scott, the issue of pub protection was also well and truly on the agenda at the appeal hearing. Alas the inspector was not convinced. He argued there were many other pubs in E10 and E17 to choose from! This is a subjective opinion, especially when set against the background of *Capital Pubcheck* figures which show an attrition rate of 62% over the last 30 years, with many more pubs in that part of London far from secure.

It is hard not to see this as a textbook example of a pubco, in this case Punch, allowing – or perhaps encouraging – the running down of a pub so that its closure as a 'bad pub' becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy and making inevitable its sale, at a development price somewhat higher than the current use value, to a buyer bent on change of use. In this case the buyer was an Islamic charity but could just have easily been a fast food outlet, supermarket, or housing developer. Another historic pub bites the dust, thanks to the unholy combination of pubco policy and our defective planning system.

# BESTSELLER

The last two centuries have given us some great books. Many based in London. About Londoners. Like the pipe smoking sleuth from Baker Street, the nanny that preferred her umbrella to the Routemaster, and the boy that never grew up. OK, so he wasn't from London, but he did visit - probably flew over our brewery - and while those authors were busy writing their stories, we were writing ours. Brewing books, dating back to 1845. They're not famous, but like any good classic they're still being read today, by our brewers, who in turn continue our story with new recipes and tales of cask and keg. Not exactly populist, but to enjoy our story you don't have to read it, just take a sip.



*Made of London*

BREWED BESIDE THE THAMES

### WENLOCK ARMS, HOXTON

Development work continues at this old favourite. Following the installation of new toilets, the back room has been extended and redecorated and is now called the Brewer's Room. As well as providing more space it is also intended to be the venue for 'Meet the Brewer' events. Next on the agenda is exterior redecoration followed by work on the kitchen which should lead to the reintroduction of food.

### WHEATSHEAF, TOOTING BEC

Following the consultation exercise previously reported, Wandsworth Council have accepted that there is 'overwhelming support' – 33 letters and 447 e-mails – for Article 4 Directions to prevent both demolition and change of use without the full planning application procedure being undertaken. The direction as regards demolition was to go ahead immediately but the direction on change of use was going to be held back until the Council had adopted a policy on town centre uses that includes specific measures to protect public houses as community facilities. However in the light of a new application for planning permission to extend the upper floors and convert them to residential units, the Council is commendably, in its own words, "taking swift action to make an immediate Article 4 Direction on both demolition and change of use based on the threat to the local amenity and wellbeing of the area".

Local CAMRA members are asked to look out for and participate in any consultation on the new policy which is expected to be in place by July next year. That we have got this far demonstrates that it is worth the effort.

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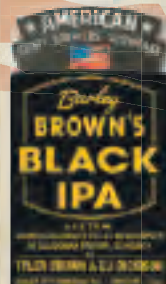
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John Kimmich has travelled to Adnams Brewery in Suffolk to brew this brown IPA.

The all-English malt recipe is complemented by huge amounts of American hops, delivering a dense, resinous citrus, pine hop character.

## **BELL'S KALAMAZOO AMBER ALE 5.8% ABV**

Bell's Brewery,  
Michigan, USA

This amber-coloured beer, brewed at Wadsworth Brewery in Wiltshire, has a harmonised floral hop aroma, balanced by a subtle, fruity yeast flavour and a rich, complex malt profile.

## **BARLEY BROWN'S BLACK IPA 5.2% ABV**

Baker City Brewing Company,  
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This pure black beer, brewed at Caledonian Brewery in Edinburgh, has an inviting creamy head, with pine and citrus on the nose, leading to a strong hop bitterness, mellowed by the smooth dark malt.

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# London brewery news

## ADVENTURE

The Adventure Brewery in Sutton have temporarily suspended brewing and are selling their existing brewing kit as part of a plan to expand capacity. With thanks to *News & Ale* for this information.

## BEAVERTOWN

Having now settled into much larger premises in Tottenham Hale, Beavertown opened a brewery tap on 5 July. It is open on Saturdays only from 11am to 5pm. Check their website for full details: [www.beavertownbrewery.co.uk](http://www.beavertownbrewery.co.uk).

## CRAFT BEER CO

According to a report in the *Morning Advertiser*, this free house chain – now seven strong, including the Cask in Pimlico – are looking to start brewing their own beer. It will be a brewery in its own right rather than a brewpub although it might have a brewery tap. Director Martin Hayes said, “We wouldn’t just be trying to put liquid into our own pubs. We wouldn’t be doing it just to make a house lager. We’d be doing it to make really unusual beers that could stand next to the best.”

## FULLER’S

Fuller’s have registered encouraging results for the year ended 29 March. Total revenue increased 6% to £288 million with adjusted profit rising to £33.5 million, a slight fall from last year because of acquisition and reorganisation costs. Food,

accommodation and strong exports contributed significantly but beer and cider sales were also up.

Some of this will be going on a 51% stake in the Stable chain of pizza and cider outlets which has seven outlets in the south-west of England. The deal also included the 19 bedroom Bull Hotel in Bridport, Dorset. Consideration is being given to expanding the concept in our direction in due course.

The George IV in Chiswick is closing at the end of July for a refurbishment that will take several weeks. Rumour is that the food offering may be increased from the current ‘Ale & Pie’ format.

**Stop press!** As we go to print, word is coming through of a very significant purchase by Fuller’s in central London. (See pages 22 and 54.) Full details will be in the next edition.

## KERNEL

Bermondsey-based Kernel Brewery were winners in the Real Ale in a Bottle category in the London and South-East area round of CAMRA’s Champion Beer of Britain competition for 2014 Champion. The finals were the culmination of a year of beer tastings and nominations, with the winners judged by a panel consisting of journalists, fellow brewers and CAMRA members. The winning beers were Export Stout (Gold) and Export Porter (Silver).

The Export Stout went on to win the Overall Bronze award at the regional round held at Reading Beer Festival. It will now go forward to the Champion Bottled Beer of



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# A BARREL-LOAD OF BANTER

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


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Britain finals which will be held at the Great British Beer Festival in August.



Evin O'Riordain of Kernel, flanked by Branch Chair, Steve Silcock and Secretary, Anna Lancefield.  
Cor! Look at all those bottles!

## LATE KNIGHTS

Late Knights have opened a third pub, this time in Peckham, with another to follow in Ramsgate. This will be a brew-pub. It is planned to have breweries at all of their pubs in due course.

## MONCADA

Moncada have expanded into an adjoining unit to their premises in Kensal Town which will enable them to expand operations in due course.

## TWICKENHAM FINE ALES

Nooksack American Pale Ale, as mentioned in the April/May edition (page 31), went on to win Beer of the Festival on its official launch at the Sussex Beer & Cider Festival. The beer, limited in production to just 100 casks, was brewed in collaboration with Kissingate Brewery of Lower Beeding in Sussex.



LBN Magna Carta label

## WINDSOR & ETON

Magna Carta, mentioned here last edition, has acquired a rather splendid label. It is the work of one of Britain's most popular and best-selling printmakers, Graham Clarke, adapted from an original etching called 'Very Much Obligated'.

Meanwhile the competition to brew the Magna Carta beer itself is really hotting up as the London Amateur Brewers vie for the prestige of creating

the beer.

W&E's master brewer, Paddy Johnson, reports that there are now twelve currently on the go.

## ON YER BIKE

Some Yorkshire breweries made quite an event of the Grand Départ of the *Tour de France* which passed more than a dozen of the area's independent breweries. Amongst the offerings were a blonde ale called Le Champion from Timothy

Taylor's and Velo, a spiced beer from Black Sheep. Ilkley Brewery came up with Marie Jaune, a 4.5% ABV blond beer made with French hops and yeast. Bottles were available at £1.99 per 500ml bottle in Booths and at £3.20 in Harvey Nichols. A number of pubs in Otley renamed themselves in French – with the Black Horse becoming the Cheval Noir and the like – for the duration. No wonder that they kept falling off. . .

The idea didn't seem to catch on in London but then again, we did have the Olympics.

**At 30 June 2014,  
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**L**ondon Beer City, a week-long, city-wide celebration of the capital's beer renaissance, is to launch this year. Incorporating one-off events at the city's best pubs, bars and breweries, it will take place between 9 and 16 August, when it is intended to complement the huge array of cask ales on offer at the Great British Beer Festival. Beer dinners, special brewery openings, tours, brewer events

and more are planned.

London's own breweries will be particularly well represented

due to the involvement of the London Brewers' Alliance. The event is being co-ordinated by Will Hawkes, author of *Craft Beer London* and the current British Guild of Beer Writers' beer writer of the year.

For those feeling a touch more energetic, beer writer and prominent ramblor Des de Moor is leading two Beer Heritage walks. The first, on Saturday 9 August, is called 'Porters, Peers and Pilgrims: a London brewery heritage walk' and the second is on Thursday 14 August and is called 'The Thames Path and Fuller's Country: a riverside pub and brewery walk'. Both start at 10.30am and there is a charge: £10 and £8 respectively. Places can be booked in advance.

To find out more and see what events are being held go to [www.londonbeercity.com](http://www.londonbeercity.com). For the walks, go to [desdemoor.co.uk/walk-londons-beer-heritage-in-london-beer-city-week](http://desdemoor.co.uk/walk-londons-beer-heritage-in-london-beer-city-week).

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## Hmm – chocolate and beer

As part of CAMRA North London branch's 40th birthday celebrations, we organised a chocolate and beer tasting at the Pineapple in Kentish Town. It turned out to be a sell out with no spare seats.

Christine Cryne, beer writer and beer judge matched six beers, three from London, with six chocolate items (all the latter were from the Co-op), with a view to complementing or creating a contrast of tastes. Christine commented that all of the beers were on the stronger side so as to be able to cope with the strong flavours of the chocolate, most of which were Fairtrade.

The matchings were:

**Moncada Amber (4.7% ABV)** from London with Ghanaian 85% dark chocolate

**Teme Valley Wotever Next (5% ABV)** from Worcestershire with Peruvian creamy milk chocolate

**Dark Star Revelation (5.7% ABV)** from Sussex with a Ghanaian dark chocolate with toffee and sea salt

**Portobello Kensington Porter (4.9% ABV)** from London with Peruvian dark chocolate with dried sweetened cranberries

**Durham Bede's Chalice (9% ABV)** from Durham with Ghanaian dark chocolate and orange oil

**Redchurch Old Ford Export Stout (7.5% ABV)** from London with mini chocolate cakes with Belgian chocolate

And the conclusions? The audience voted Bede's Chalice their favourite beer of the night (it certainly created a warm feeling on drinking) and the best combination went to Revelation with the dark chocolate with toffee and sea salt, a really interesting blending of flavours. A great evening was had by all as could be told by the hubbub towards the end of the tasting! For more details of the tasting, and for news of a cider and cheese tasting this autumn, visit the news section of the branch website: [www.northlondoncamra.org.uk](http://www.northlondoncamra.org.uk).

**PS** If you missed this tasting and would like to try a chocolate and beer tasting, Christine is doing a tasting at the Great British Beer Festival at Olympia. See [gbbf.org.uk](http://gbbf.org.uk)

**Advance Notice**

The Fourteenth

**TWICKENHAM  
BEER & CIDER  
FESTIVAL**

at  
**YORK HOUSE**  
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from  
**THURSDAY 23rd OCTOBER**  
to  
**SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER**

**NOTE NEW OPENING TIMES**  
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website: [www.london.camra.org.uk](http://www.london.camra.org.uk).  
You can zoom in there to read London  
Drinker in larger print.**

## On our travels – the Old Fishing Shack

I am in Cyprus, enjoying a beer. It is not one of the local brews, Keo or Leon. It happens to be a Scottish Belhaven Twisted Thistle. It could have been a Belgian Duvel or a German Diebels Alt, or even a Fuller's 1845. I am drinking in the Old Fishing Shack Ale and Cider Pub in Paphos which is run by CAMRA member Athos Polydorides and his wife Suzanne just as it has been for the past twenty years or so, in spite of the difficult times in Cyprus. Fisherman Athos uses beers from 15 different countries as bait to attract discerning drinkers from around the world, as well as the locals who know a good pub when they see one. We are drinking in the company of a young Russian couple sharing a bottle of Boon Mariage Parfait; a tattooed Gloucestershire maths school teacher on his third Abbot Reserve, and an expat from Devon enjoying a glass of scrumpy.

So what time do you open, I asked Athos. "We are at our nearby specialist shop, the Beer Sellar, in Geroskipou during the

day. We typically open the pub here at around 7pm, and stay till late. Sundays it is from 1pm with roast potatoes and black pudding."

The Old Fishing Shack with its nautical decor, pub cat Felix, and piles of board games, is a back street boozer, not a bar. The number of beers runs into hundreds, and the super-knowledgeable Athos knows them all. He adds, "We sell a lot of Belgian beers. It seems more British people are visiting Belgium and getting to know the different styles. All the Triples sell well, plus of course German Hefe Weizens."

On 25 to 27 September they will be holding their annual beer and cider festival – their ninth. The full address is Margarita Gardens, Tefkrou Street, Kato Paphos 8041. Their e-mail address: [sathopol@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:sathopol@cytanet.com.cy)

**David Bunyan**

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# WhatPub? – update 3

CAMRA's online pub guide, **WhatPub?** is our repository of current information on London's pubs, as well as being a big part of our online presence for the general public.

**WhatPub? Update** publishes news items collated by Branch Pubs Officers, often from information supplied by CAMRA members using the 'Submit Update' button displayed to members on each page. We aim to report all openings and closures of places that satisfy the CAMRA definition of a pub (including those selling draught beer but not real ale); all places that add or remove real ale; as well as changes of name, ownership and (significant) changes of beer policy.

The 'crowd power' of a 100,000-strong member organisation will ensure that **WhatPub?** is kept as up-to-date as reasonably possible, and that it will be the country's leading source of pub information on an enduring basis. Readers are encouraged to visit [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com) for additional details on these and other pubs, and to 'Submit Update' when they find incomplete or out-of-date entries.

New openings this edition include microbrewery tap rooms in E3 and SE1. A number of pubs have been taken over or opened by small operators with a commitment to (often local) real ale, in EC1, EC3, E9, N12, NW5, SE20, Petts Wood and SW19. At the other end of the scale, Fuller's and Wetherspoons have opened new outlets at Heathrow. While several campaigns to save pubs are featured in pub news, some slip through the net including a recent GBG pub in E14. Pubs owned by Greene King in E14, Remarkable Restaurants in N19 and Wetherspoons in NW3 have closed, as has a real ale destination pub in W6. A number of pubs previously sold by Enterprise and Punch, among others, have met their final ends. Finally, tranches of pubs have been bought by M&B and by Stonegate; these are listed in the separate box.

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

### CENTRAL

**EC2, BAR MUSIC HALL** (Duvel-Moortgat), 134 Curtain Road. Was Hell. Having closed in the early 2010s, reopened in May by Columbo Group as their second **BLUES KITCHEN**, after Camden High Street NW1. Continued emphasis on live music. No real ale.

**EC2, CORNEY & BARROW**, 109-111 Old Broad Street. Long-standing chain wine bar, on this site for over a century. Real ale (eventually!) introduced, Sharp's Doom Bar.

**EC2, HENRY'S** (Tattershall Castle), 4 London Wall Buildings, Blomfield Street. Having closed in 2012, reopened June 2014, renamed **BIERSCHENKE**, a German bar/restaurant relocated from the Strand WC2. No real ale. German draught and bottled beers.

**W1 (SOHO), GRACE** (Novus), 42-44 Great Windmill Street. Previously Sugar Reef (Urbium), with no draught beer. Acquired in 2011, renamed and draught beer introduced. No real ale.

### EAST

**E3, CYGNET** (Truman), Swan Wharf, 60 Dace Road. Truman's brewery tap opened in a former warehouse, with a large front terrace by the Lee Navigation. Full range of Truman's beers, plus a guest. Open 9am-11 (1am Fri & Sat).

**E5, FITZGERALDS** (ex-Enterprise), 43 Lower Clapton Road. Was Elephant's Head. Having closed in 2012, with the upper floors converted to flats, the ground floor has now reopened as **BONNEVILLE**. Primarily a French restaurant, it is possible (just!) to have a drink without ordering



# 100



# BEER

# FESTIVAL

18-21 SEPTEMBER 2014

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food but the bulk of the space is given over to diners. No real ale but an impressive selection of London and imported keg beers including Brugs Zot, Meantime, Paulaner, Redwell.

**E5, CRICKETERS** (ex-Enterprise), 181 Clarence Road. Having closed in 2009, reopened in June as **VERDEN**, the first of a new wine bar/deli chain. No real ale. Camden Town beers on keg.

**E9, GUN** (ex-Whitbread), 235 Well Street. Changed hands and reopened in June after short closure, the first outlet for a new venture called Locals Club. Despite its small size, the Gun already attracts a vibrant and varied crowd. Real ale restored, two changing, e.g. Five Points, Redemption, Truman's, Keg Beavertown, Pressure Drop, Soundwave, Weird Beard and others. Fridges well stocked with London bottled beers. Food limited for now to toasted sandwiches and pork pies, but there are plans to install a kitchen and dining room upstairs along with a roof terrace.

**E18, NAPIER ARMS** (Enterprise), Woodford New Road. Real ale restored late 2013, Sharp's Doom Bar. This followed a period as a lap-dancing club; new operators are committed to making the pub more family-friendly.

**DAGENHAM (RM9), BREWERS FAYRE** (Whitbread), 2 New Road. Opened in late 2012, with adjacent Premier Inn. Fuller's London Pride. Open 11-11(10.30 Sun).

## NORTH

**N12, BOHEMIA** (M&B lease), 762-764 High Road. Was Fringilla & Firkin, O'Neills. Having closed in August 2013 after a year being operated by Antic, reopened in June by London Brewing Company, who also run the Bull N6, with plans to install an in-house brewery. Three of their own real ales, plus two guests.

**N16, ROBINSON CRUSOE** (Enterprise), 177 Green Lanes. Renamed **TOMMY FLYNN'S**, one of a small Irish chain. Real ale restored, Caledonian Flying Scotsman and Sharp's Doom Bar. CAMRA members get a 10% discount on cask beer.

## NORTH WEST

**NW1, BAR GANSA**, 2 Inverness Street. A tapas bar. No real ale. Limited draught lagers. The bar has been here for over 20 years but has only recently added draught beer.

**NW1, GOLDEN LION**, 88 Royal College Street. The campaign to save this developer-owned pub is covered elsewhere. As a thank you for CAMRA's support, real ale has been restored, St Austell Tribute sometimes swapping with Sharp's Doom Bar.

**NW5, WESTPORT INN** (Enterprise), 166 Malden Road. Refurbished by the son of the previous operator and renamed **BLUEBELL**. Real ale restored, three changing, e.g. Portobello, Windsor & Eton. A large range of craft kegs.

**NW10, ROYAL OAK** (Enterprise), 95 High Street Harlesden. Real ale restored in 2013, e.g. Fuller's London Pride, Wells & Young Bombardier.

**NW10, WILLES DEN JUNCTION HOTEL** (ex-Punch), 47 Station Road. Having become a Brazilian restaurant in the late 2000s, reopened as **LE JUNCTION** (the sign reads "LE JCT"), much refurbished. No real ale.

## SOUTH EAST

**SE1, ANSPACH & HOBDAY BREWERY TAP ROOM**, 118 Druid Street. Having opened in Feb 2013, as a tap room within the brewery, now added six of their own draught beers, plus two from co-located Bullfinch Brewery. No real ale. Open 11-5 on Saturday, part of what has become known as the Bermondsey Beer Mile.

**SE4, LONDON BEER DISPENSARY**, 389 Brockley Road. Previously a wine bar and beer shop. Opened in May by Late Knights Brewery. Late Knights and guest beers sold on gravity from eight jacket-cooled casks on the open bar floor. Real cider, from five handpumps. Open 5-12(M-F), 4-12(Sat), 4-11(Sun).

**SE8, BIRDS NEST**, 32 Deptford Church Street. Real ale restored. Sharp's Doom Bar plus three changing guests.

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### Sunday 7th September 2014 - 10am to 5pm

### Free Event - Hampton Station, Station, Ashley, Percy & Wensleydale Roads and Station Approach

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Railway steam loco 488

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488 and 1520 will be on display in Station Road



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Twickenham Fine Ales beer tent and Anniversary Ale, pony rides,  
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Family fun and games, WW1 exhibition, model railways and refreshments  
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Ride the miniature  
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See the model layout of  
Hampton Station in the 50s



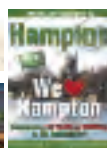
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**SE8, JOB CENTRE** (Antic), 120 Deptford High Street. Opened in June, in the former employment office. Six changing real ales.

**SE9, TUDOR BARN**, Pleasance, Well Hall Road. Back to being a bar, with restaurant and function room. Real ale restored, Adnams Explorer.

**SE11, LITTLE APPLE**, 98 Kennington Lane. Was King's Arms. Real ale restored after many years, Sharp's Doom Bar.

**SE16, YELLOW HOUSE** (Enterprise), 126 Lower Road. Was Caulkers. Refurbished and reopened as a bar and dining room. Still no real ale.

**SE20, GRACES** (ex-Spirit), 1-3 Witham Road. Was Dr W G Grace. Having been closed and sold in 2009, reopened in May, independently owned. Up to three real ales, e.g. Shepherd Neame.

**SE27, NORWOOD HOTEL** (Enterprise), 3 Knights Hill. Refurbished in spring, renamed **GREAT NORTH WOOD**. Real ale restored, four guests, e.g. Belleville, Clarence & Frederick, Cronx.

**SE28, CUTTY SARK**, 14 Joyce Dawson Way. 1980s pub in Thamesmead shopping centre. Confirmed as selling real ale for a number of years. Greene King Abbot and Olde Trip.

**DOWNHAM (BR1), DOWNHAM TAVERN** (Enterprise), Downham Way. Reopened after a six-month licence suspension. Real ale restored, Wells & Young Courage Best.

**PETTS WOOD (BR5), ONE INN THE WOOD**, 209 Petts Wood Road. Newly opened 'micropub'. Four changing real ales, all currently sourced from Kent breweries. Closed Mon; 12-2.30, 5-9.30 Tue-Thu; 12-2.30, 5-11 Fri; 11.30-11 Sat; 12-3 Sun.

## SOUTH WEST

**SW6, GEORGE & DRAGON** (Accor Hotels), 47 Lillie Road. Previously unreported bar, open to the public and selling real ale, on the first floor of the Ibis Hotel. Pastiche of a traditional pub. Fuller London Pride.

**SW6, LOW COUNTRY**, 4 Fulham High Street. Was King's Head.

Renamed **OX WAGON** in August 2013. Real ale restored, Sharp's Doom Bar.  
**SW14, TAPESTRY TAPAS BAR** (Greene King), 1 Lower Richmond Road. Was Jolly Milkman. Real ale restored, Green King IPA via Revolution font. Still primarily a restaurant with a bar.

**SW16, MINT** (Star), 5 Streatham High Road. Was Genevieve. Renamed in May, **BRIGHTON WAY**. Real ale restored, Caledonian Golden XPA, Theakston XB.

**SW18, WILLIE GUNN**, 422 Garratt Lane. Having closed last year, reopened in May, renamed **BEN'S CANTEN**, sister to one in SW11. Still no real ale.

**WALLINGTON (SM6), JOHN JAKSON** (Marston lease), 6-16 Woodcote Road. Having closed last year, reopened by Antic and renamed,

**WALLINGTON ARMS**. Eight handpumps, intended always to include local beers and real cider. M-W 16-23; Th-F 16-24; Sa 12-24; Su 12-23.

## WEST

**HEATHROW (TW6), FLYING CHARIOT** (Wetherspoon), Terminal 2 Landside, Heathrow Airport. Opened in June, in the newly rebuilt Terminal 2. Fuller's London Pride, Sharp's Doom Bar plus up to 4 guests such as Windsor & Eton Knight of the Garter and Windsor Knot.

**HEATHROW (TW6), LONDON'S PRIDE** (Fuller), Terminal 2 Airside, Heathrow Airport. Opened in June, in the newly rebuilt Terminal 2. Fuller's Chiswick Bitter, ESB, London Pride, Gales Seafarers, Wingman (3.6% house beer and seasonals).

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

## CENTRAL

**EC2, CHEZ GERARD** (Brasserie Blanc). Having closed in October after a brief period offering real ale, now a champagne bar & restaurant with no draught beer.

**The Green, Green Hops of Kent Real Ale Festival**

The biggest collection of **Green Hop Ales** ever seen in London!  
Plus a selection of great cider from the Garden of England.

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The background of the entire poster is a photograph of two tall glasses filled with beer. The glass on the left contains a dark, reddish-brown beer with a thick, white head of foam. The glass on the right contains a lighter, golden beer, also with a thick head of foam. Both glasses are sitting on a rustic wooden surface. The lighting is warm, highlighting the textures of the beer and the wood.

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**EC4, PORTERS LODGE** (ex-Enterprise). Closed, reportedly due for demolition.

**W1 (SOHO), DEVONSHIRE ARMS** (ex-Spirit), 17 Denman Street. Having closed in 2012, now absorbed into one of Jamie Oliver's restaurants, next door.

**W1 (SOHO), PROFILE**. Closed, opened in June as a Vapiano chain restaurant.

**WC2, INTREPID FOX**. Was Conservatory. Closed, future uncertain. The Intrepid Fox has now moved to the former Archway Tavern N19.

## EAST

**E14, NORTH POLE** (Enterprise). Demolished. Appears to have happened without anyone noticing, despite having a run in the GBG in recent years.

**E14, PHOENIX** (ex-Punch). Having closed c.2010, with permission for residential conversion granted in 2012, now demolished.

**E14, SPINNAKER** (Greene King). Closed in 2013.

**E15, WHEELERS** (ex-Punch). Having been reported closed in 2013, now demolished.

## NORTH

**N19, HIDEAWAY** (Underdog). Real ale discontinued after brief experiment.

**N19, SHAFTESBURY** (Remarkable). Closed in May after five years run by Remarkable Restaurants. Future uncertain.

**ENFIELD (EN1), HOP POLES** (Enterprise). Closed in May, lease on the market.

## NORTH WEST

**NW3, DACH & SONS**. Was Horse & Groom. Having closed in 2013, now an estate agent.

**NW3, WETHERSPOONS**. Closed suddenly in June after 13 years.

Wetherspoon have reportedly paid a premium to surrender the lease. The unit will become restaurants. A sad loss in a poorly served area.

**NW5, HOOT N' ANNIES** (independent). Was Annie's. Real ale discontinued after a couple of years.

**NW9, CLAY OVEN LOUNGE**. Was Tonky Gorilla. Closed, now a Lebanese Restaurant.

**NW9, KING'S GARDEN BAR** (Enterprise). Was King's Arms. Renamed Sept 2013, **BLACK LEAF LOUNGE**. Real ale discontinued after refurbishment.

**NW9, RED PEPPER**. Was Red Lion. Having closed in 2008 and been demolished in 2009, there is now a care home on the site.

**NW10, BANK**. Was Sipps Lounge. Closed for a few years, future uncertain.

**NW10, BRENNAN'S BAR**. Closed 2009, now a Claims UK office.

**NW10, ELM TREE**. Having closed by 2004 and had permission for demolition refused in 2008, since converted to retail use.

**NW10, KEATS**. Closed by 2009, now a Lebanese restaurant.

**NW10, LIQUID BAR**. Closed by 2011, now Domino's Pizzas.

**NW10, RICHARDSON CAFE BAR**. Having closed by 2008, now substantially rebuilt as a banqueting suite, not a pub.

**NW10, ZOOBAR**. Was Angies IV. Closed within the past few years, now Katie's (wine bar), no draught beer.

**HAREFIELD (UB9), (ST JAMES AT THE) HORSE & BARGE** (Star). Closed for some months, lease on the market.

## SOUTH EAST

**SE1, FIRE STATION** (Marston). Closed for major refurbishment, will not reopen until late 2015.

**SE1, SHIP AGROUND** (Enterprise). Real ale discontinued.

**SE9, CROWN** (Greene King). Closed and boarded up in May. Future uncertain.

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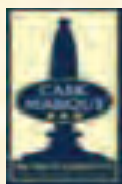
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**SE12, DUTCH HOUSE** (Stonegate). Still trading as a pub after permission for change of use was refused. Now listed as an ACV by Greenwich Council and being assessed by English Heritage for possible Grade II listing. Real ale discontinued.

**SE17, HAMPTON COURT PALACE** (ex-Pubs'n'Bars). Sold in February to a hotel operator and soon closed. It is believed the new owner does not intend to retain the bar.

**SLADE GREEN (DA8), LORD RAGLAN** (Enterprise). Closed, freehold on the market, a planning application has been submitted for residential conversion.

## SOUTH WEST

**SW6, CHANCERY** (Punch). Was Halfway House, Front Room. Renamed in 2012 as the **ANTIQUÉ CHAIR**, but closed within two years, now a Co-op.

**SW7, TEA CLIPPER** (ex-Convivial). Having been sold in 2012, permission for residential conversion was granted last year on appeal, closed in June 2014.

**SW11, MISH MASH** (Living Bar), 45 Lavender Hill. Was Craven Hotel, Craven on the Hill, Harvey Floorbangers. Having closed in 2009, permission now granted for ground floor and basement conversion to dance studios.

**SW18, ROYAL OAK** (ex-Punch). Having closed in 2010, with residential conversion of upper floors and extensions to the rear, permission was granted in September 2013 to convert the ground floor as well.

## WEST

**W3, MILL HILL** (ex-Orchid). Having closed in March 2013, planning permission now granted for residential development involving part conversion, part demolition.

**W6, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE** (Enterprise). Was originally Queen of England. Closed, future uncertain. It was a sister pub to the Bree Louise and had an extensive range of real ales.

**W14, JAM TREE** (Greene King lease). Was Royal Oak, Priory. Renamed **UNDERBROOK** in 2013. Now closed, future uncertain.

**COWLEY (UB8), GRAND UNION** (Star). Was Royal Oak. Change of tenant, real ale discontinued.

**FELTHAM (TW13), SAWYERS ARMS** (Fuller). Having been closed and sold to a developer in late 2013, demolished in June.

**HAYES (UB3), VICTORIA** (Enterprise). Closed following a police raid.

**SOUTHALL (UB1), BEEHIVE @ JALANDHAR JUNCTION** (ex-Punch). Closed, planning application to convert upstairs.

**TWICKENHAM (TW1), ALES & TAILS** (Lost Group). Was Hook, Line & Sinker, Ranch. Closed June 2014, future uncertain.

**UXBRIDGE (UB8), ABROOK ARMS** (ex-Punch). Having been sold by Punch last year, now closed. The former landlord believed new owners wanted to convert to a hotel.

**UXBRIDGE (UB8), CROWN & SCEPTRE** (Star). Closed for some months, lease on the market.

**UXBRIDGE (UB8), ORANGE PEEL HOTEL**. Having closed in 2012, permission since granted for residential conversion.

## OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES

## CENTRAL

**EC1, DISTILLERS** (Pocket Pubs). Taken over by Cunning Plan Pub Co and renamed **ST BART'S BREWERY** in June. Not in fact a brewery; the equipment on display stores Meantime beers. Up to four real ales, e.g. Rooster, Thornbridge.

**EC2, CAPE** (Bramwell). Bought by Stonegate (see box). Renamed in July as a **SLUG & LETTUCE**.

**EC2, PHOENIX** (Greene King). Converted to Metropolitan Pub Co format. Greene King IPA and three guests, e.g. East London, Redemption.

**EC3, HENNESSYS** (Enterprise). Taken over by a former operator of the Junction Tavern NW5, and reverted to **THREE TUNS**. Now offering Sharp's Doom Bar and up to four guests.



The poster features a stylized illustration of a beer bottle with a green hat on top. A red starburst contains the text 'TWITTER: @PRIORYARMS83' and 'TUBE STOP: STOCKWELL'. A banner across the bottle reads 'THE PRIORY ARMS'. The background is yellow with black text.

# Oktoberfest

FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER – SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

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**From Around The Country**

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**EC4, O'NEILLS** (M&B). Reverted to **SUGAR LOAF**. Expanded range of Sharp's Doom Bar, St Austell Nicholson's Pale Ale and four guests.

**WC2, BIERSCHENKE**. Basement under Daly's Wine Bar. Taken over by City Pub Co and renamed **BIER PALAST**. The Bierschenke has now relocated to London Wall EC2. Still no real ale, German draught and bottled beers.

**WC2, HARP** (independent). Sold to Fuller's in July. It's reported that they will retain six guest real ales. More in the next edition of *London Drinker*.

## EAST

**E8, PUB ON THE PARK** (Bruce Bars). Now run by Camden Bars, along with other pubs formerly in the same group. Five changing real ales, e.g. Five Points, Sambrook.

**E9, ADAM & EVE** (Spirit leased). New operator from June. Six real ales, including Cornish breweries. Bottled beers, e.g. Beavertown, Camden, Five Points. New menu, sourced from 'The Cornwall Project'.

**WOODFORD GREEN (IG8), TRAVELLERS FRIEND** (Bramwell). Bought in Dec 2013 by independent operators. Real ales now include East London Brewery. Existing historic bar and 'snob screens' are expected to be retained and restored. A new garden has been created, and there are plans to reopen the function room and create a new restaurant.

## NORTH WEST

**NW6, ALLIANCE** (Greene King). Now less sports-dominated, and more gastro food. Greene King Abbot, IPA and London Glory, plus two guests.

**NW10, CHARLIES PLACE**. Renamed **METRO BAR**. Still no real ale.

## SOUTH EAST

**SE10, AMERICAN BAR & GRILL**, Unit 1, Entertainment Ave, The O2. Renamed **ALL BAR ONE** after acquisition of lease by M&B in July, apparently the largest branch in the country. Still no real ale.

**SE11, DUCHY ARMS** (Enterprise). Refurbished, now more of a gastropub. Fuller's London Pride and Seafarers.

**CHISLEHURST (BR7), BICKLEY** (Spirit lease), Chislehurst Road. Refurbished by operator Redcomb Pubs. Now six real ales, e.g. Black Sheep, Caledonian, Harviestoun, St Austell, Timothy Taylor, Wychwood. **CHISLEHURST (BR7), GORDON ARMS** (Enterprise). Now three real ales, Sharp's Doom Bar, Wells & Young Bombardier and Woodforde Wherry.

## SOUTH WEST

**SW11, BARRIO**. Renamed in April, ZÓCALO. Still no real ale.

**SW11, JACKSONS**. Was Napier Arms, One Two Six, Artisan & Vine. Renamed **BAR 366** in January, a sister to one in SW18. Still no real ale.

**SW19, TRAFALGAR** (independent). Refurbished by new lessees affiliated to the Hope at Carshalton. Downton Quadhop, Surrey Hills Shere Drop and 2-4 constantly changing guests, e.g. By the Horns, Clarence & Fredericks, with a dark beer always available. Open 4 (12 Fri-Sun)-11. **KINGSTON (KT1), BISHOP OUT OF RESIDENCE** (Young). Renamed, **BISHOP**.

**NEW MALDEN (KT3), ROYAL OAK** (Spirit). Improved range of real ales, including a guest often from a local brewery.

**SURBITON (KT6), NEW PRINCE** (Fuller). Reverted to original name, **PRINCE OF WALES**, and refurbished. Fuller's ESB, London Pride and a seasonal. Removal of 'Gales' beers extinguishes the last remnants of its former ownership.

**SURBITON (KT6), SAUCY KETTLE**. Refurbished and renamed, **COPPER KETTLE**. Still no real ale.

## WEST

**HAMPTON (TW12), COURT JESTER** (Enterprise). Renamed the **HAMPTON**. Courage Best, Sharp's Doom Bar and two changing guests.

# ORPINGTON LIBERAL CLUB

## August Bank Holiday Beer, Cider, Folk & Blues Festival

**Friday, 22 August - Saturday 23 August. 11am to 11pm**



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29 great micro brewery real ales from Locale, regional brewers and further afield; plus ciders and perries. All at £2.70 a pint. Live music and barbecue. Booking at least 48 hours in advance is essential. Entry tickets are prepayment for first two pints or equivalent food/soft drinks, there is no entry charge. £3 deposit for festival glass on arrival. Tickets can be purchased in advance over the bar (£5.40) or from [www.orpingtonliberalclub.co.uk](http://www.orpingtonliberalclub.co.uk) (£5.80)

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**T**wo larger pub sales have taken place. The pubs affected are listed below, instead of including repetitive entries in **WhatPub? Update**. Any significant changes, e.g. of name or beer policy, will be reported in the listings as they arise.

In November, Stonegate Pub Co bought 78 pubs nationwide from the administrators of Bramwell Pub Co, the former Barracuda Ltd. These are the 16 affected sites in London:

EC1 Trader  
EC2 Cape  
EC3 Alice  
N1 Famous Cock Tavern  
N1 Vineyard  
N9 Lamb  
N13 Occasional Half  
N17 Elbow Room  
NW1 Pembroke  
NW6 Old Bell  
SE23 Bird in Hand  
COULSDON (CR5) Pembroke  
PURLEY (CR8) Rectory  
SIDCUP (DA14) Portrait  
SUTTON (SM1) Old Bank

W12 Green

A few Bramwell sites do not appear to have been included in the Stonegate deal, presumably because they had already been disposed. We have tracked down ownership in the following cases:

EC1 Longroom: Marylebone Leisure Group  
WOODFORD (IG8) Travellers Friend: sold to two families to run independently

N1 Nag's Head: Star lease, already has new operators

SW11 Latchmere: Renaissance Pubs  
This leaves two unaccounted for:

E1 Cape  
E4 Obelisk

In June, Mitchells & Butler bought 173 pubs from Orchid, leaving a further 49 in the hands of Orchid's administrators. A number of other Orchid pubs have also been sold or closed in the recent past.

The remaining Orchid sites in London, which continue to trade according to the administrators, include several Asian-themed pubs and restaurants:

EC2 Pacific Oriental  
EC2 Sri Thai  
EC3 Imperial City

E14 Sri Nam  
N21 Green Dragon  
CROYDON (CR0) Gypsy Moth  
KINGSTON (KT2) Norbiton & Dragon

Most of the Orchid estate in London is therefore believed to have been acquired by M&B:

EC1 Angel  
EC1 Arc  
E4 Queen Elizabeth  
E11 Bar Room Bar  
CHADWELL HEATH (RM6) Moby Dick  
CHADWELL HEATH (RM6) White Horse  
N5 Junction  
N22 Gate  
NEW BARNET (EN4) Cock & Dragon  
SE3 Royal Standard  
BEXLEY (DA5) Anchor  
CROYDON (CR0) Shirley Inn  
WEST WICKHAM (BR4) Pickhurst  
SW11 Duck  
BELMONT (SM2) Belmont  
W11 Walmer Castle  
HILLINGDON (UB10) Vine

## London LocAle scheme

The following pub has joined the London LocAle scheme since the last issue of *London Drinker*.

Finborough Arms      118 Finborough Rd, West Brompton      SW10 9ED      Portobello, Twickenham

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

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BREWED BESIDE THE THAMES



## MICROBREWERIES

I write in reply to Brian Sheridan's opinion piece, 'A First Blast of the Trumpet Against the Monstrous Regiment of Microp\*\*series'.

In very simple terms, I can't see the need for such an attack on businesses trying to find their way in these challenging economic times. In London we are fortunate to still have a substantial number and wide range of pubs to choose from when we want a pint. Brian really doesn't have to go far to find a beer from one of his favoured breweries, whether it is Fuller's, Adnam's, Bateman's, etc. Many tied and free houses across London offer such beers. For those that are comfortable in the larger chains, Wetherspoons and Nicholson's offer the best of both worlds – these mainstream beers alongside a wide selection of more unusual beers.

Me? I relish walking into both Wetherspoons or Nicholson's pubs and more specialised pubs such as any of the Craft Beer Co or Cask Pub and Kitchen, the Lyric in Soho, the Harp in Covent Garden, the Holborn Whippet, the Euston Tap etc and being faced with a choice of diverse, often new and usually interesting cask beers.

Experience tells me that these pubs (to name but a few) care about the beer they serve. I can buy (sometimes sample) a beer I've never tried before with confidence. I will often buy two halves before deciding which to return for a pint of. I've learned to recognise those breweries (and there are many) which offer the level of quality and innovation that I welcome so much.

Beer quality is rarely an issue in such pubs. Inevitably I might bump into one of the 'beer bores' Brian objects to, but hey, their knowledge and views might help inform my decision of which beer to try next. I welcome such input and knowledge (the same goes for the various blogs I regularly read; is there such a difference between a blog and the printed *London Drinker*?)

When I attend CAMRA-organised beer festivals in London (such as Pig's Ear) I now see bars dedicated to some of London's thriving microbreweries, such as those based in an around Hackney. They always seem pretty busy and popular to me.

Brian doesn't name any of those microbreweries he believes fail to deliver consistently, but just a selection of those who offer a consistently good range of exciting beers includes The Cronx, Clarence and Fredericks, Kernel, Brodies, By The Horns, East London Brewing, London Fields, Redchurch, Portobello. I could go on. Perhaps doubters such as Brian could make a note of these and give them another crack of the whip when the opportunity arises...

**Simon Webster**

**Editor's note:** I will call a halt to this debate – for now anyway...

## PUB PRESERVATION – OR NOT?

I have been a member of the Campaign for Real Ale for 37 years now, and I have never felt so alienated from the organisation and what it claims to stand for. What angers me in particular is the assumption on the part of so many CAMRA activists that they have the right to dictate what other people can do with and in their own property.

One of the rights any democracy ought to hold dear is the right to do what you like with something you own, provided it does not cause harm, break the law or bring unwarranted inconvenience to your neighbours. If I own a house, or a shop, I can't knock it down and build a factory on the site, or a 20-storey block of flats, without asking for, and being granted

permission. I can't hold all-night noisy raves there, or emit noxious fumes from the premises, or cram 70 refugees into it, or use it for a host of purposes that require a special set of permissions, including turning it into a launderette, a nightclub, a fast-food takeaway, a taxi office, a doctors' surgery – or a pub.

Should I win permission for my premises to be in any one of those classes of uses, and it doesn't work out – my taxi firm can't get enough business, my launderette fails to attract sufficient customers, my takeaway goes under because I can't sell my burgers – then I can apply for planning permission to turn it into something else. Except, as far as CAMRA is concerned, if my premises were turned into a pub, and I can't get enough drinkers through the door. Then, it appears, I should have 'no right' – I quote from the June/July edition of *London Drinker* magazine – to do what I like with my own property. If I want to shut a pub because it's making less money than I would get for selling the land for housing, I'm not a sensible businessman maximising the return on my assets, as all businesses need to do in order to survive and prosper, I'm indulging in 'cynical vandalism' – the June/July edition of *London Drinker* magazine, again.

I'm totally in favour of the idea that every business has 'stakeholders' who range beyond the entrepreneurs, the workers and the shareholders involved, and include the business's customers, its neighbours and even the surrounding community. But this attempt to impose the 'dictatorship of the community' by opposing attempts to shut pubs and failing to respect property owners' rights is hugely wrong and deeply depressing. It needs to be shouted loudly: just because somewhere is currently used as a pub, that gives nobody rights over how it should be used in the future. You cannot tell me what I can do with my property, if that use is legal. The whole idea of 'Assets of Community Value', as introduced by the Localism Act 2011, and the way it can place in limbo someone's attempt to sell something they own perfectly legally, is an appalling and almost always pointless infringement on the right of someone to enjoy their property – and, arguably, breaks Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The 'all pubs must remain open as pubs for ever' stand CAMRA seems to have adopted is not just an infringement on property owners' rights, it is an infringement that does not ultimately benefit the community in the way it claims to. It punishes the property owner, which is bad enough. But it also privileges the poorly run pub, the unviable pub, the pub that really needs to close at the expense of the well-run pub, the pub that is truly benefiting the community.

While no one apart from the most rabid teetotaler would argue against the idea that pubs provide a welcome service within their community, the idea that every building currently a pub must remain a pub at all costs, or the community is damaged, is a nonsensical one. If a pub isn't working, it should shut. Trying to keep pubs that aren't working open will only damage those that are working, by pulling customers away from viable pubs and into ultimately unviable ones. If I own a pub and I want to shut it, then I should have the right to shut it. If you think the community needs a pub, needs the service my pub was providing, open one yourself.

**Martyn Cornell**

**Editor's note:** I should make it clear that Martyn is a well known beer writer and not a thwarted property developer with an axe to grind.

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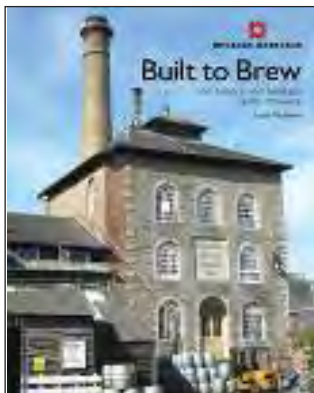
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## BUILT TO BREW

We are very aware of the loss of our cultural and architectural heritage as regards pubs but what about breweries? Visit a brewery these days and it is most likely – and perfectly understandably – to be an anonymous industrial unit. As this splendid book shows, this was not always the case.



Published by English Heritage and written by architectural historian Lynn Pearson in conjunction with the Brewery History Society, it covers the development, design and planning of breweries in the UK plus their equipment and power sources. Special mention is made of brewery architects. You will find a wealth of ceramics, copper and steam in the large number of amazing photographs. Burton on Trent is given special attention and other buildings such as maltings and staff accommodation are also covered. There are very useful reference sections, including the always handy list of cask sizes, plus an extensive bibliography for those who wish to know more.

I thought that I knew a reasonable amount about this subject but this book has expanded my knowledge considerably. For example it mentions two breweries that existed near to where I grew up that I knew nothing of. There has to be an element of sadness when you see pictures of breweries that you have actually visited and have now gone but at least they have this book as their memorial. More encouragingly, the book ends with coverage of what use those former breweries that have survived are currently put to.

This is not just a technical reference book; it is a highly readable account of

how over history our beer has been provided and the people and buildings that have played their part. I recommend it without reservation.

**Tony Hedger**

ISBN 978-1-84802-103-7; Cover price £25.00; 264 pages; 24 X 19 cm.

English Heritage is delighted to offer readers of *London Drinker* a 20% discount and free post and packing (UK only) on the new book *Built to Brew: The history and heritage of the brewery* by Lynn Pearson (rrp £25.00). Please telephone 01235 465577 or email [direct.orders@marston.co.uk](mailto:direct.orders@marston.co.uk) and quote reference number 7220140021 to take advantage of this offer and get your copy for £20.00. Offer expires 31 December 2014.

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## BREW BRITANNIA

If you pick up a book and, in a few pages, are easily drawn in, then the chances are that, for your tastes at least, you have an eminently readable book in your hands. This was my experience with *Brew Britannia* by Jessica Boak and Ray Bailey, a pair perhaps best known for their blogging but also the authors of many written articles.

The book, subtitled *'The Strange Rebirth of British Beer'*, seeks to take the reader along the road starting with the spreading beer deserts of the 1950s and ending with the (largely urban) phenomenon of pubs offering huge selections of beers of numerous varieties, all coming from a post-war high number of breweries.

It is very much the story of a consumer revolt and, for me, one of the most interesting sections is that which deals with the founding and the instrumental role played by the Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood. In the 1950s beer and brewing seemed to be in a terminal decline. Boak and Bailey set out how SPBW came into existence, its key players and, albeit for a short time, the key role the organisation played in fermenting the drinkers' revolt.

From there on, the story becomes more familiar. The growth of CAMRA is covered in some detail. Indeed, the organisation and its achievements and yes, failures crop up throughout the book as it is impossible to separate what CAMRA did from the wider beer scene.



Love it or loath it, as some of the book's contributors do, CAMRA is an important ever-present.

But this is not a book about CAMRA. It addresses people, events and developments that the authors consider to have played a key role in beer's rebirth. Whether it is David Bruce and the Firkin pubs, the birth of micro-brewing, the development of golden ales, the use of American hops and indeed other perhaps wilder ingredients, the coming of gastropubs, SIBA, Thornbridge, Dave Wickett, Brew Dog and the cult of craft beer and craft beer bars, it is all in the mix. Personally, it was fascinating to recount the part played by Patrick Fitzpatrick of the short-lived Godson's Brewery and the Monty Python involvement in Penrhos.

Yes, it is all there. Whether you agree with the road they follow or the conclusion they reach, that is up to you. That is the point of books: to stimulate your little grey cells. It is their view of how beer came back from the brink and it is very readable for that.

Published by Aurum Press at £12.99. For details go to [www.aurumpress.co.uk](http://www.aurumpress.co.uk)  
**John Cryne**

**The Oxford English Dictionary defines real ale as:**

**"Cask-conditioned beer that is served traditionally, without additional gas pressure".**



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## THE PRICE OF A PINT

I read Roger Cleaver's letter about the Tap East (June/July issue) an hour or two after visiting this pub. Of the three 'house' beers, one was indeed a mild; I actually tried the Tap East Pale Ale which cost £3.30 a pint and I imagine the mild was probably the same price. I suspect he was offered a sample of a 'craft' beer which would inevitably cost more than a draught beer brewed on the premises. I've visited Tap East quite a few times and always found the staff very helpful. I really don't think it's of any value to anyone to dismiss a pub on a one-off visit simply because everything isn't to one's liking, as Roger has done.

**Roger Jacobson**

I do not know what Roger Cleaver was offered in Tap East, E20, and neither did the staff when I last called in. Their own beers start at about £3.30 (stronger beers of, say, 6.0% may be £4.00) which seems to me to be good value.

**Hugh Smith**

One good reason why pubs are closing, you can't afford to drink in them when you get charged £2.90 for half a pint of Truman's Runner and £3.00 for half a pint of Timothy Taylor's Landlord. Perhaps I was

being treated to the tourist pint when I recently visited the Golden Heart in Commercial Street E1. One I will be avoiding in future.

**Alan Turner**

This time last year, my GBG local charged £3.60 a pint – which was a trifle expensive for here (Walthamstow).

Now, thanks to the greedy, stupid pubco who control the beer-supplies, Enterprise Inns – though anything less resembling enterprise would be hard to detect – it has gone up for the second time in a year, whilst beer duty has dropped. Now it is £4.10 a pint. How to lose custom in one easy lesson. Meanwhile, what are Wetherspoon's charging? Quite.

**Greg Tingey**

On 21 June, the *Times* published a supplement entitled '50 best pubs for summer'. This included a price for one of the pints available in each. The mean was £3.36; the cheapest, £2.90, for Hook Norton Bitter in Oxfordshire; the most expensive, £4.00 for Otter bitter in Devon and for Goddards in the isle of Wight. The mode was £3.50. I suggest that London is not as expensive as some

CAMRA members make out.

**Richard Larkin**

## DIMPLES

I am sorry that Tony Hedger does not approve of dimple beer mugs, though he is entitled to stick to the conical ones if he wishes. Hardly worthy of comment, I would have thought. "*Dimpled mugs are reported (my italics) to cost three times more than straights.*" Has he evidence to back this statement? Wherever possible I have always requested a dimpled mug when drinking bitter, as firstly the beer looks better in it (they were designed to show off the sparkle in a clear beer) and secondly, those of us with arthritic hands can get a better grip. Also one's hand does not warm the contents. At the age of 75 it is good to learn that I am regarded as 'retro'!

**Patrick Ward**

**Editor's note:** it is not a question of approval but of personal choice and I acknowledge Mr Ward's comment about dimple glasses being easier to hold. I took my source article at face value because it was only a last thought and not a major campaigning point. As I said, I don't care what style of beer glass young people use so long as they are drinking beer.

## OBITUARIES

### JULIAN HOUGH

I am sad to report the passing of Julian Hough, from the Derby Branch of CAMRA and until recently a member of the campaign's National Executive. He was two days short of his 55th birthday. Julian had stood down from CAMRA's National Executive because of his illness but still made a truly heroic last appearance at the recent National AGM and Members' Weekend at Scarborough. It was typical of the man. He was a genial, hard-working campaigner, the sort that is the backbone of our campaign.



Julian, pictured with former CAMRA Chief executive Mike Benner (left) outside 10 Downing Street

Colin Valentine, CAMRA's National Chairman, described Julian as a dedicated member of the campaign and highlighted his eight years service on the National Executive. Colin spoke for us all

when he said that his thoughts are with his wife Gillian (formerly Williams), step-daughter Jeanette and other family and friends at this difficult time.

A celebration of Julian's life was held on 12 June, at which all those attending were asked to wear bright colours. Anyone wanting to make a gesture in Julian's memory is invited to donate to the Oesophageal Patients Association.

### BOB JONES, CBE

While Julian's passing was expected – not that that makes it any easier – everyone in CAMRA was deeply shocked to learn of the death of Bob Jones, who died in his sleep on 1 July, aged 59.

Although he played a prominent part in the leadership of CAMRA, serving on its National Executive for many years, Bob's primary achievement was in local government politics. Truly local; he represented Blakenhall Ward on Wolverhampton Council for 33 years, commuting by Midland Metro and still living a mile away from where he was born. Bob also served on the West Midlands Police Authority from 1986 until it was abolished in 2012, chairing it for the last five years. He also chaired the national representative body for police authorities and was appointed

CBE in 2010 for his services to policing. Finally, he became the first Police and Crime Commissioner for the West Midlands.

Many moving tributes were paid by fellow local politicians on both sides of the divide and the flags outside Wolverhampton Civic Centre were flown at half-mast in tribute.

Bob was the essential consensus politician where both local politics and CAMRA were concerned, but he certainly had his own definite views as evidenced by many vigorous speeches at CAMRA Members' Conferences over the years. His wise counsel helped many National Executive colleagues and various committees and working groups. As CAMRA's National Chairman, Colin Valentine, commented, "*Bob Jones did something that no one has done by serving for 18 years on CAMRA's National Executive. The remarkable thing was that he was just as passionate when he stood down in 2012 as he was when he was elected in 1994.*" He will be greatly missed.

A celebration of Bob's life was held at Wolverhampton Civic Hall followed by a private family funeral on 23 July; his CAMRA friends were asked not to wear suits but to come in their CAMRA T-shirts.



# Idle moments

Well hello again – and how are you? No, don't bother to write in and tell me; I shan't sympathise. There is a limit to polite chat, you know.

How about this from Lillian Dickson:

*Life is like a coin. You can spend it any way you wish, but you can only spend it once.*

Anyway, here we are, the sun is shining as I type this and by the time you read it the schools will be on holiday and we should be getting an easier drive to work. Not that I'll care next year.

Let's have some number puzzles:

1. 3 S of QE the S
2. 3 H of an O
3. 3 M on the B
4. 3 R (RW and A)
5. 3 is the AN of L
6. 3 is the N in ENP in ATF
7. 3 HR in Y
8. 3 W on a MC (or O)
9. 3 S to the W
10. 3 M is the L of a R in B

Now it's 5BY4 time – but this time it isn't. I've got a little conundrum for you instead. I was sitting in the little room of contemplation one morning when a word came into my head from a song that had got stuck there – an out of season Christmas carol, as it happens. Then this word got changed to another by changing just the initial letter – made the carol a bit silly but it started a chain of thought. What I got was a chain of five words of five letters which were all the same except for the initial letter and the funny thing was that these words started with the first five consonants of the alphabet AND what is more, no other consonant worked with the remaining letters. So here is the puzzle – what are the five words in the list below? I've given you a bit of a clue for each:

B ? ? ? ? – an adjective and a verb

C ? ? ? ? – a noun and verb

D ? ? ? ? – a verb

F ? ? ? ? – a noun and verb

G ? ? ? ? – a past participle

Of course, once you get one of them right it will instantly solve the lot. Now, to finish off with let's have Inconsequential Knowledge:

1. What was Charles Dickens' first novel?
2. Which of William Shakespeare's plays was the first to be performed?
3. But which (according to the Oxford Shakespeare Chronology) was the first play that Shakespeare wrote?
4. The World's longest suspension bridge has a clear span of 1991 metres (1.237 miles). Where in the World is it? (Just the Country will do.)
5. By contrast, the UK's longest span bridge is the Humber Bridge at 1410 metres (0.876 mile). Where does it rank in the list of the World's longest span bridges?
6. And what is the longest suspension bridge in America (North or South) – and where does it rank?
7. The World's longest tunnel used for transport services is on the Guangzhou Metro system (line 3) in China. How long is it? (I'll allow up to 2 miles either way.)
8. The World's longest tunnel of any type is the Delaware Aqueduct (drilled through solid rock), completed in 1945 and providing New York City's main water supply. How long is this one? (Let's say plus/minus 5 miles on this one.)
9. The first seaside pleasure pier to be built in Britain is still in use. Where is it and in what year was it opened?
10. The London Eye, at 443 feet, was the World's tallest Ferris wheel from 1999 until 2006. There have subsequently been

three Ferris wheels credited with being the World's tallest. The current tallest at 550 feet opened on 31st March 2014. Where is it?

So there we have it. To those of you still reading, have a good summer. Next time I shall be pushing Twickenham Beer Festival.

**Andy Pirson**

## IDLE MOMENTS – THE ANSWERS

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

### NUMBER PUZZLES:

#### June 2014

1. 3 Times a Lady (by the Commodores)
2. 1179 Points Scored for England by Jonny Wilkinson
3. 4 Points for a Try in Rugby League
4. 2 Quavers in a Crochet
5. 4 Horn Concertos by Mozart
6. 7920 Inches in a Furlong
7. 4 Balls in a Game of Croquet
8. 192 is AA in Hexadecimal
9. 3 Points for a Drop Goal
10. 5 Percent Value Added Tax on Electricity (for Domestic Use)

#### 5BY4:

##### (Weeks at No. 1)

1. (Everything I Do) I Do It For You [Bryan Adams] – 16
2. It's Now or Never [Elvis Presley] – 8
3. Another Brick in the Wall [Pink Floyd] – 5
4. Bohemian Rhapsody [Queen] – 9
5. With a Little Help From My Friends [Joe Cocker] – 1
6. I Will Always Love You [Whitney Houston] – 10
7. Cathy's Clown [Everly Brothers] – 7
8. The Young Ones [Cliff Richard & The Shadows] – 6
9. Imagine [John Lennon] – 4
10. Love Is All Around [Wet Wet Wet] – 15

### GENERAL KNOWLEDGE:

#### June 2014

1. It was Horatio (later) Lord Nelson who married Frances (Fanny) Nisbet on 11th March 1787 on the Island of Nevis.
2. The father of Goneril, Regan and Cordelia was King Lear.
3. Ann Darrow was the lead female character in the early 1930s film King Kong and she was (of course) played by Fay Wray.
4. What was unusual about the duet between Jim Reeves and Patsy Cline of the song "I Fall to Pieces" was that it was assembled from separate recordings after both had died.
5. Isaac Newton's quotation "... standing on the shoulders of giants" is first attributed to John of Salisbury, writing in his "Metalogicon" in the twelfth century (actually 1159).
6. The name of Henry Ford's son was Edsel (after whom the unsuccessful model of car was named in 1958).
7. The author of *An die Freude* (Ode to Joy), used as the text for the final movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony was the poet Friedrich von Schiller.
8. The first Rugby (Union) player to represent England while playing his club rugby for a French club was Maurice Colclough and the club was Angoulême.
9. Jerome K. Jerome's middle name was Klapka.
10. The given name of Mrs. Beeton, author of the eponymous Book of Household Management, was Isabella.



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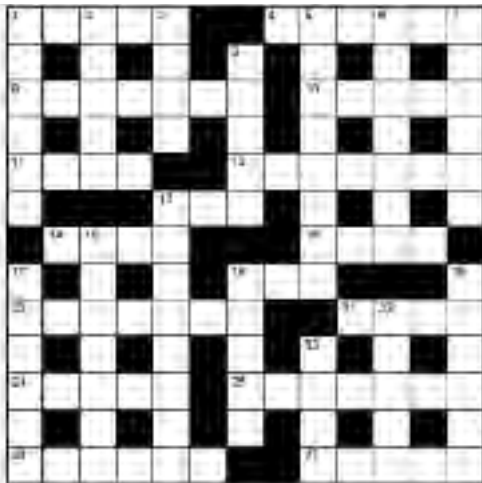
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All correct entries received by first post on 17 September will be entered into a draw for the prize.

The prize winner will be announced in the December *London Drinker*. The solution will be given in the October 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.

## JUNE'S SOLUTION



## £20 PRIZE TO BE WON

### ACROSS

- Country origins of importance to all local yokels. [5]
- Sailors' clipped language is meaningless. [6]
- One may hold drink but still fall over. [7]
- Young family member tossing coins. [5]
- Shock retreat is crazy. [4]
- Incident is in old Greek poem. [7]
- Fliers go back a long way. [3]
- Volunteers football team to run along the ground. [4]
- Are you no good? Step on it! [4]
- See into the steelyard. [3]
- Trials following gold trading. [7]
- Piece of old Manx cat. [4]
- Hit man is clean. [5]
- It's clear it's a bad first answer. [7]
- Unpleasant character in time makes mistakes. [6]
- Sadie's confused thinking. [5]

### DOWN

- Very keen on camping. [6]
- Allow poster on major road junction. [5]
- Where you might discover Young's top beer. [4]
- In this book you'll find rays bite, unfortunately. [8]
- Creature put right in the middle of a French picture. [7]
- Red and angry when it's up. [6]
- No way the Queen's in command. [5]
- One may provide a light, sad song after car races. [8]
- He checks car height. [7]
- What you may see if you have more than one. [6]
- Try South Africa initially. [5]
- Teachers without a head make bloomers. [6]
- Beat up badly before school. [5]
- Wine from bodega's tiny cellar. [4]

Winner of the prize for the April Crossword:

Kelvin Brewster, Kintbury, Berkshire.

Other correct entries were received from:

D.Abbey, Dave Ainsworth, Ted Alleyway, Tony Alpe, David Anderson, Pat Andrews, Robert Ball, L.Bamford, John Barker, Rob Barker, Sandra Barnes, Annie Benrad, Brian Bickerstaff, Ivor Biggun, William Blake, C.Bloom, John Bowler, Norah Brady, Jeremy Brinkworth, Mark Broadhead, Mrs Liz Buck, John Butler, Peter Charles, Avirup Chaudhuri, Peter Curson, J.H.Daly, Colin Davies, Michael Davis, John Dodd, Glynn Downton, Tom Drane, Wendy Easthill, C.J.Ellis, Joe & Lynne Ellis, Elvis Evans, Mike Farrelly, D.Fleming, Dudley Freeman, Sally Fullerton, W.G.Fullick, Geoff Gentry, Marion Goodall, Paul Gray, J.E.Green, Alan Greer, R.Gregory, Caroline Guthrie, Stuart Guthrie & Ashley Pondabog, B.Hall, John Hammond, "Shropshire" Dave Hardy, Peter Haynes, John Heath, Lucy Hickford, Graham Hill, William Hill, David Holt, David Hough, John Howarth, Chris James, Carol Jenkins, Claire Jenkins, David Jiggins, Mike Joyce, Roger Knight, Mick Lancaster, Pete Large, Terry Lavell, Tony Lean, Julie Lee, Tony Lennon, Rosemary Lever, Andy Lindburn, Mike Lloyd, Gerald Lopatis, Donald MacAuley, Miss Hyacinth McCambridge, Pat Maginn, Tony Martin, Dylan Mason, Jan Mondrzejewski, M.J.Moran, B.J.Morrell, Roy Morris, M.T.Morse, Al Mountain, Dave Murphy, Brian Myhill, Cora Nappel, Mark Nichols, Andrzej Niemiro, Mick Norman, Gerald Noley, M.Ognjenovic, Michael Oliver, Nigel Parsons, Miss G.Patterson, Alan Pennington, Mark Pilkington, Robert Pleasants, Ms G.Pote, C.Pottins, Barrie Powell, Jeanette Powell, Derek Pryce, James Rawle, N.Roe, Paul Rogers, Richard Rogers, Alex Ryan, John Savage, Mary Scanlan, Pete Simmonds, Ruth Smith, Ian Sneesby, Michael Stiff, Ian Symes, Bill Thackray, Colin Thew, Mark Thompson, Jennie Till-Watts, Tilly Jo & Richard, John Treeby, E.Wallhouse, Trevor Watkins, Martin Weedon, Nigel Wheatley, Janet Wight, Colin Wing, David Woodward, Peter Wright & the Missus, Yukchan Yeung, Paul Young.

There were also 4 incorrect and one incomplete entries.



2009 - 2014

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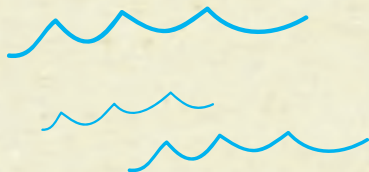




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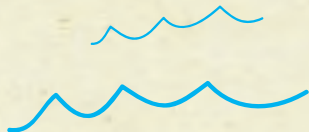


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