

WHAT'S DOING



JULY
1984

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

ARCH RIVALS DUKE AND CROWN

Yet another local CAMRA member is to open a free house in Manchester. John Worthington has bought the Marble Arch on Rochdale Road from Wilsons and is to reopen the pub later this month. Quite a few alterations are taking place, including the moving of the bar, making the Marble Arch into a one-room pub. There will be a bar billiards table but no electronic noise.



The beers on sale will be Holts mild and bitter, Taylors Golden Best, Landlord and Ram Tam, and a guest beer, which to start off with will be Godsons Black Horse (or GBH, as it is affectionately known in London). Westons farmhouse rough cider will also be on sale.

The emergence of free houses (even with a partial tie) like the Duke of York and the Crown and Anchor with licensees who believe in traditional beer has been a shot in the arm for the real ale cause in Manchester and their success has encouraged the big brewers to serve cask conditioned beer in their own houses. Their attraction has been the quality and value of the beer. Let us hope that the Marble Arch can share in this success and that the pub itself will be as attractive as the beers it will serve.

GHOULY HOST SURVEY

A survey of 8 city centre Pennine Host pubs was both encouraging and disappointing. Two of the pubs are to be developed as "English Ale Houses". The Ducie Bridge was devastated about 10 years ago when the interior was ripped out and filled with second-rate mock-Tudor and a false roof. Almost any change would be an improvement. The Crown on Blackfriars Street, despite a proliferation of Brewer's Tudor, still retains considerable character, which may well be enhanced if money is carefully spent.

All but one of the 8 pubs served cask beer and this one - the Brunswick, Piccadilly - was due to go on to cask by the end of June. The Crown and Kettle and the Pen and Wig served cask bitter and keg mild. The most disturbing thing, however, was the use of blanket pressure on beer. This is something which has not previously been encountered in Wilsons houses. The mild in Seftons was advertised as cask conditioned and served in exactly the same way as the bitter through free flow electric pumps, but was stored under CO² pressure which destroyed the taste. The bitter in Nicklebys was cold and we suspect under pressure.

Prices in the pubs varied from 64p-70p for bitter - not necessarily uncompetitive in the city centre where people may select on criteria other than price. Nicklebys (70p) didn't seem to drag the punters in, whilst Seftons (also 70p) was quite full - perhaps the customers like the video-jukebox.

Whilst applauding Pennine Host's selection of pubs for improvement, we unreservedly condemn the use of blanket pressure on beer which gives a completely erroneous idea of what cask beer is like.

Roger Hall

WHAT'S DOING

SALFORD GAIN

Salford gained a real ale pub last month with the conversion of the Duchy Inn, Brindleheath, to traditional beer. The remarkable thing is that the beer is now handpumped Greenalls - not a brewery oft associated with the promotion of amber nectar in this neck of the woods.

NEW ROAD

South Lancs CAMRA's new comprehensive amber nectar guide is out this month. It covers Wigan, Leigh, Ashton, Newton, Atherton, etc, districts, and contains information on the brewers and the towns. There is a selection of old pub photographs dating from the years when G Orwell was taking an interest in the pie eaters. Well worth 65p + large stamped, addressed envelope from Dave Fairhurst, 99 Stratton Drive, Platt Bridge, near Wigan.

SPORTING ALE (1)

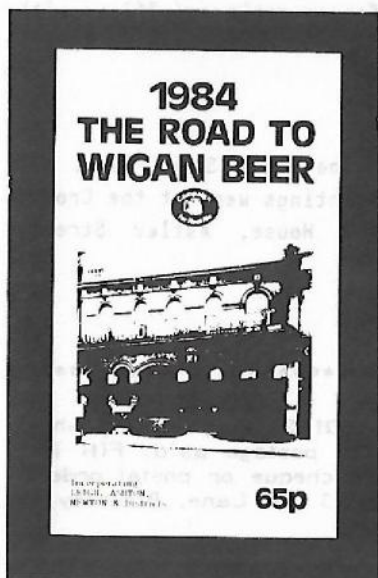
Hydes brewery are taking their tentative steps into sports sponsorship by providing the Hydes Anvil Cup and sponsorship for the Moss Side Community Relations Cricket Tournament. Good to see a brewery serving the local community in more ways than one.

SPORTING ALE (2)

The Albion, Burnage, is to be the host pub for a sports quiz complete with closedcircuit TV on 2nd July. The event is a joint effort between Hydes and Bulmers Cider. Perhaps it's worth trying to persuade them to put in the real stuff.

BASS BEHAVIOUR

The Bridge Inn, Ewood Bridge, Rossendale, criticised in recent months for selling keg 4X mild through the Toby Light pump, has now ceased to be a Bass tied house, and whilst having gone through a much needed modernisation, has now emerged as a free house. This is a misleading term, as all the products on sale are from Scottish & Newcastle. Hand-pumps have been installed to sell Scotch Bitter and IPA, both at 65p!



The glass from the old pub doors, which read "Ewood Bridge & Station Hotel", have been saved and are now framed inside the pub. The James Kenyon windows have also survived.

It does seem rather strange that Bass appear very keen to sell this sort of tied house while at the same time they are equally keen to finance other "free" houses and put money in to secure the trade. Presumably they could secure the same amount of trade by investing in their tied houses - is it just a game of big company internal politics?

HELLO SAILOR

The new licensee of the Butchers Arms (Ithwaites), Pendlebury, from 9th July will be Geoff Bridge of Walkden. A former engineer/officer with Manchester Liners, Mr Bridge will be making his first venture in the licensed trade.

ORIGINAL

Greenalls Original Bitter has appeared at the White Swan, Ince, and the Hand and Heart, Hindley. Other recent sightings were at the Crown, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury, and the Chapel House, Astley Street, Dukinfield.

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WHAT'S DOING

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JOIN CAMRA

To join **CAMRA** send £7 to Membership, **CAMRA**, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 3BW

LAGER HITS 40%

Two recent company reports make disturbing reading for beer drinkers. Whitbread's lager sales now account for 40% of total beer sales, compared with 33% a year ago. In the same period Bass's lager sales have increased from 40% to 44% of their total beer sales. This may come as a shock to those of us who thought lager sales would level out at 30% nationally. What on earth is the use of CAMRA succeeding in ensuring that a greater proportion of beer is real ale if, in fact, we are losing the greater battle? It is something of a Pyrrhic victory to see cask conditioned beer in all our pubs if lager outsells all beer. Is it not time to show people once again how they are being conned by the big brewers into drinking ersatz, overpriced fizz which boosts their profits more and more each year?

LION'S SHARE

The Red Lion on Church Road, Gatley, now sells Whitbread Trophy bitter alongside Chesters mild and bitter on handpump.

WILSONS SHUT LIST

The Grove on Norbury Street (off Wellington Road South), Stockport, is closed, boarded up and advertised for sale. Yet another ex-Wilsons outlet joins the closure list. The Warren Bulkeley closed recently and the Bee Hive also remains shut. A few years ago, two other Wilsons pubs in Stockport closed: the unique Wellington (one entrance high up on Wellington Road South and the other way down in Mersey Square) and the Touchstone. The former was closed for a long period before being acquired by Burtonwood Brewery and the latter was demolished to make way for Debenhams.

Recent and not-so-recent Wilsons closures include:

- Bay Horse, Thomas Street, Manchester 4
- Bee Hive, St Petersgate, Stockport
- Dancing Weasel, Great Ancoats Street, Manchester 4
- Grenadier, Oldham Street, Manchester 4
- Lord Nelson, Chapel Street, Salford 3
- Travellers Call, Ashton Old Road, Beswick, Manchester 11
- Waterloo, Greengate, Salford 3
- White House, Great Ancoats Street, Manchester 1

THREE CROWNS REOPENS

The Three Crowns (Whitbread) on Blackfriars Road, Salford 3, has been completely modernised and, as is their wont, Whitbread have placed some bizarre objects inside the pub. It has been renamed Buskers and is thus laid out with street lights and animated buskers in a glass case. Handpumped Chesters mild and bitter are on sale

FIZZ FALTERS

The relaxation of the Bass fizz stranglehold on Saddleworth continues. The King William IV at Greenfield now sells draught Bass and Toby

Extra Light via handpumps. Situated close to some of the finest walking country in the area, and on the main Manchester bus route, the pub is a splendid place of refreshment for thirsty real ale drinkers after a good day out.



AMBER NECTAR SHOW

The annual Newton Show is on Saturday 11th August at Selwyn Jones Lower School, Crow Lane, Newton-le-Willows. (on 39 bus route from Manchester) The beer tent is licensed for the lunchtime/afternoon session and there will be around 18 different real ales and traditional cider. The beers may include Oak, Davenports, Greene King Abbott, Adnams and the usual regulars. Final details next month

GUIDE CORRECTION

The Trafford & Hulme real ale supplement in last month's WD omitted the Platford on Stretford Road, Hulme, which sells Chesters traditional bitter on handpump, and the Royal Oak, Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton, which sells draught Bass (electric).

PITHS TAKE

Readers of last month's WD will recall the introduction of keg John Smiths at the Horse and Jockey, Edenfield, to replace the cask Thwaites. The pub formerly had a wall board advertising Thwaites but it became detached from the wall during the winter and in mid June it walked a quarter of a mile to a more suitable location. However, this was not before the sign had been altered to read: "Horse and Jockey - John Smiths". The more suitable location was atop the public conveniences! Who says the public don't know what they're drinking?

LOSING HIS BOTTLE

Phil Tepper (740 4860) wishes to sell his collection of 90 bottles of beer from the 1970's. They're all full, different and, most likely, undrinkable. A snip, Phil says, at £9.

ROBINSONS APPOINT P.R. MAN - OFFICIAL!

Remember John Hutchinson, Patagonian refugee and former apologist for Bass and whatever Pennine Hosts used to be called? Well, he's surfaced again, churning out the blurb for Robinsons, no less. Why do they feel defensive? Is it perhaps because they're wrecking their pubs and want some good publicity to counteract the bad press they'll undoubtedly get every time they desecrate a traditional public house? Let's wait and see, shall we?

TROUGH NEWS

Ruddles bitter is now available at the Trough House Hotel, Manchester Road, Audenshaw, on handpump. But you have to have a meal - the hotel only has a restaurant licence.

BIGGER PUB

Bass have applied for permission to extend the Buxton Inn at Gee Cross, Hyde, into two adjacent cottages.

FOOT MAN DIES

Joe Gaskell, long serving landlord of the Holts Arms (Foot o' Causeway), Billinge, died suddenly last month. Joe was a CAMRA member in the early days and many South Lancs meetings in 1974 and 1975 were held at the "Foot". The 1985 Good Beer Guide will contain the pubs's 12th consecutive appearance - a fitting tribute to his well kept beer. Joe was 66 years old.

IRLAM & CADISHEAD NEWS

The White Horse (Tetley bitter) is this area's entry in the 1985 Good Beer Guide. If Irlam and Cadishead were allowed two entries, the White Lion (Wilsons mild and bitter) would be in as well. Because of the nature of the bitter, the three otherwise excellent Boddingtons outlets were considered only briefly. In 1976 the Greater Manchester area



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*You'll find us
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next to
the by-pass*

**Our range of hand pumped real ales include
Marstons Pedigree, Merrie Monk, Mercian Mild,
Owd Rodger (when it's cold), Boddingtons Bitter.**

**Recent Guest Beers have included
Ruddles County, Oldham Bitter, Old Peculier**

**We are renowned for our superb luncheons
(hot & cold buffet plus tasty 'brown-dish' meals)**

All served in a Victorian setting.

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enjoy a pint in the
beer garden!* * **Organise an excursion & we'll provide ***
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of CAMRA selected 25 Boddingtons pubs for the guide. In 1984 there were only 7.

PRICE CHECK

Handpumped draught Bass at the George (Higsons) in central Stockport will cost you 80p a pint. At the two Bass outlets in central Manchester - Crown, Cooper Street, and Unicorn, Church Street - the same beer (both handpumps) costs 69p and 67p respectively, a saving of 11p-13p. Obviously, it is the proprietary beer for the Bass pubs and hence the lower price. One can understand a pub selling a different beer at a little higher-than-usual price, but this is really paying for choice. Incidentally, the Higsons bitter sells for a more down-to-earth price of 66p a pint. Draught Bass has an o.g. of 1044, Higsons bitter is 1038 and the local Robinsons best bitter is 1042 (just two points below the Bass) and sells for around 66p a pint - similar to Higsons. NB To refresh your minds - and your taste buds - Holts bitter at o.g. 1039 sells for a modest 55p-57p a pint!

FRONT HOUSE HOPE

The "Front House" in Springhead (Railway and Commercial, Oldham Brewery), is shortly to be renovated and will receive cask beer. This will certainly be Boddingtons, but may include Oldham beers too. Watch this space...

BYE BYE BASS

Bass is no longer sold at the Seven Oaks, Nicholas Street, Manchester. The old handpump which dispensed it for many years has vanished. The pub now sells only traditional Chesters bitter.

Cask Bass has been taken out of the Silver Birch, Birchwood Centre, near Warrington. This was a pricey and indifferent pint at the best of times. Things haven't been too good at the Birch of late. On a recent visit there were no bitter, mild, lager, crisps or Guinness - just Toby Light and cider! Thankfully(?) cask Greenalls is available nearby at the Farmers Arms, Fearnhead, and the Noggin, Risley.

PUB OF THE MONTH

The Trafford and Hulme branch selection for July is the Rope & Anchor (Boddingtons), Dunham Massey, Altrincham. This large, multi-roomed pub was built in the 1880's as the station hotel (the station having long since closed), and was the HQ of the local fire brigade during WW2. The present tenants, Norman and Kate Frederickson, took over in November 1981 and have since, with the help of friendly staff and assistance from the brewery, transformed the Rope into a thriving local with outside drinking areas and children's facilities at week-ends. For those who remember the pub of old, gone are the "fly-catcher" lights, the heat-reflecting paint on the radiators, the drawing pins holding up the wallpaper and the dust keeping the

REAL ALE in STOCKPORT



ADSWOOD/DAVENPORT/HEAVILEY*****

Adswood Hotel	Adswood Lane West	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Blossoms	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B,OT(H)
Cross Keys	Adswood Road	Hydes	M,B(E)
Crown	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Dog and Partridge	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Duke of York	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Jolly Sailor	Bramhall Lane	Wilsons	B(H)
Puss in Boots	Nangreave Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Travellers Call	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Wembley Hotel	Adswood Road	Wilsons	M,B(E)

BRINNINGTON/BREDBURY/WOODLEY*****

Cheshire Cat	Brinnington Rd, Brinnington	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Farmers Arms	Brinnington Rd, Brinnington	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Horsfield Arms	Ashton Road, Brinnington	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Jack and Jill	Brinnington Rd, Brinnington	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Crown	Stockport Road, Bredbury	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Greyhound	Bents Lane, Bredbury	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Rising Sun	Stockport Road, Bredbury	Wilsons	M,B(H)

Sportsman	Bents Lane, Bredbury	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Travellers Call	Stockport Road, Bredbury	Lees	M,B(E)
Boot and Clogger	Stockport Road, Woodley	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Lowes Arms	Stockport Road, Woodley	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Navigation	Stockport Road, Woodley	Robinsons	M,B(E)

BRAMHALL/WOODFORD*****

Bromale	West Park Rd, Bramhall	Bass	Toby, Stones (H)
Davenport Arms	Chester Road, Woodford	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Ladybrook	Fir Road, Bramhall	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Victoria	Ack Lane, Bramhall	Boddingtons	M,B(E)

CHEADLE/GATLEY/CHEADLE HULME*****

Church Inn	Church Rd, Cheadle Hulme	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Conway	Turves Rd, Cheadle Hulme	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Crown	High Street, Cheadle	Hydes	M,B(E)
Griffin	Wilmslow Rd, Heald Green	Holts	M,B(E)
Heald Green Hotel	Finney La, Heald Green	Chesters	M,B(H)
Hesketh	Hulme Hall Rd, Cheadle Hulme	Wilsons	B(H)
High Grove	Silverdale Rd, Gatley	Hydes	M,B(E)
Horse and Farrier	Gatley Road, Gatley	Hydes M,B(E):Anvil Strong(G)	
Junction	Station Rd, Cheadle Hulme	Holts	M,B(H)
Malt Shovel	Councillor La, Cheadle	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Old Star Inn	High Street, Cheadle	Hydes	M,B(E)
Prince of Wales	The Green, Gatley	Hydes	M,B(E)
Printers Arms	Stockport Road, Cheadle	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Queens Arms	Stockport Road, Cheadle	Robinsons	M,Ord B(H)
Railway	Manchester Road, Cheadle	Boddingtons	M,B(H)
Red Lion	Church Road, Gatley	Chesters	M,B(H)
Red Lion	Stockport Road, Cheadle	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Royal Oak	Stockport Road, Cheadle	Robinsons	M,B,OT(H)
Smithy	Grove La, Cheadle Hulme	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Vine Inn	High Street, Cheadle	Wilsons	M,B(H)
White Hart	Gatley Road, Cheadle	Boddingtons	M,B(E)

EDGELEY/SHAW HEATH/CHEADLE HEATH*****

Alexandra Hotel	Northgate Rd, Edgeley	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(H)
Armoury	Greek Street	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
Bluebell	Shaw Heath	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Bulkeley Arms	Northgate Rd, Edgeley	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Church Inn	Moseley Street	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
Farmers Arms	Stockport Rd, Cheadle Heath	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Florist Hotel	Shaw Heath	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Gardeners Arms	Northgate Rd, Edgeley	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Grapes Hotel	Castle Street, Edgeley	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Greyhound	Bowden Street, Edgeley	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Hollywood Hotel	Bloom Street, Edgeley	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Jolly Crofter	Castle Street	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Pineapple	Castle Street	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Plough Inn	Shaw Heath	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Prince Albert	Castle Street	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Royal Oak	Grenville Street, Edgeley	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Sir Robert Peel	Castle Street	Greenalls	M,B(H)
Swan	Shaw Heath	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Windsor Castle	Castle Street	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Ye Olde Vic	Shaw Heath	Everard Tiger, Tetley M,B, Wilsons	B(H)

HAZEL GROVE/HIGH LANE*****

Anchor	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Bird in Hand	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Bulls Head	Buxton Road	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Bulls Head	London Road	Wilsons	B(H)
Cock Hotel	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Dog & Partridge	Buxton Road	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Grapes	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Grove	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Horse & Jockey	London Road	Wilsons	B(H)
Horseshoe	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(H)

Red Lion	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Rising Sun	London Road	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Robin Hood	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Royal Oak	Buxton Road	Burtonwood	M,B(H)
Royal Oak	Commercial Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Three Tuns	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(H)
White Hart	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(H)
Woodman	London Road	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)

THE HEATONS & REDDISH*****

Chapel House	Manchester Rd, Heaton Chapel	Chesters	B(H)
George & Dragon	Manchester Rd, Heaton Chapel	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Crown	Didsbury Rd, Heaton Mersey	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Dog & Partridge	Didsbury Rd, Heaton Mersey	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Griffin	Didsbury Rd, Heaton Mersey	Holts	M,B(H)
Moss Rose	Didsbury Rd, Heaton Mersey	Hydes	M,B(E)
Crown	Heaton Moor Rd, Heaton Moor	Boddingtons	M,B(H)
Moor Top	Heaton Moor Rd, Heaton Moor	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Plough	Heaton Moor Rd, Heaton Moor	Tetley	B(H)
Ash Hotel	Manchester Rd, Heaton Norris	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Bridge Inn	Georges Rd, Heaton Norris	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Grapes	Old Rd, Heaton Norris	Boddingtons	M,B(H)
Navigation	Lancashire Hill, Heaton Norris	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Nicholsons Arms	Penny La, Heaton Norris	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Nip Inn	Penny La, Heaton Norris	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Nursery Inn	Green La, Heaton Norris	Hydes	M,B(E)
Silver Jubilee	Belmont Way, Heaton Norris	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
Three Crowns	Manchester Rd, Heaton Norris	Boddingtons	B(E)
Carousel	Reddish Road, Reddish	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Grey Horse	Broadstone Rd, Reddish	Boddingtons	B(E)
Houldsworth	Houldsworth St, Reddish	Chesters	M,B,Trophy(H)
Railway	Gorton Road, Reddish	Chesters	M,B(H)
Union	Broadstone Rd, Reddish	Robinsons	M,B(E)

OFFERTON/OFFERTON FOLD*****

Drakes	Marple Road	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Emigration Inn	Hall Street	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Fingerpost	Dialstone Lane	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Gardeners Arms	Little Street	Boddingtons	B(E)
Strawberry Gardens	Offerton Lane	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Thatched House	Churchgate	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Victoria	Hall Street	Greenalls	M,B(E)
White House	Hemphaw Lane	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Wrights Arms	Marple Road	Wilsons	M,B(H)

MARPLE/ROMILEY/COMPSTALL/MELLOR/STRINES*****

Andrew Arms	George St, Compstall	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Bowling Green	Stockport Rd, Marple	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Bulls Head	Market Street, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Cow and Calf	School Brow, Romiley	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Crown	Hawk Green, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Devonshire	Longhurst La, Mellor	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Foresters Arms	Sandy Lane, Greave	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Friendship	Stockport Rd, Romiley	Robinsons	M,B(E)
George	Compstall Rd, Compstall	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Hare & Hounds	Millbrow, Mellor	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Hare & Hounds	Otterspool, Marple	Wilsons	B(H)
Hatters Arms	Church Lane, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Jolly Sailor	Stockport Road, Marple	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Lane Ends	Glossop Rd, Marple Bridge	Tetley	M,B(E)
Magnums	Stockport Road, Romiley	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Midland	Town St, Marple Bridge	Chesters	B(H)
Navigation	Stockport Road, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Northumberland	Compstall Rd, Compstall	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Oddfellows	Longhurst Lane, Mellor	Greenalls	M,B(E)
Otterspool	Cross Lane, Marple	Chesters	B(H)
Pineapple	Market Street, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Railway	Stockport Road, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(E)

Railway	Stockport Road, Romiley	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Ring o' Bells	Church Lane, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Romiley Arms	Stockport Road, Romiley	Chesters	B(H)
Romper	Ridge Road, Marple	Rutland B, Theakston B, Rudd.	County(H)
Royal Oak	Strines Road, Strines	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Royal Oak	Longhurst Lane, Mellor	Robinsons,	M,B(E)
Royal Scot	Town Street, Marple	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Sportsman	Strines Road, Strines	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Spread Eagle	Hatherlow, Romiley	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Spring Gardens	Compstall Rd, Compstall	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Travellers Call	Glossop Rd, Marple Bridge	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Windsor Castle	Glossop Rd, Marple Bridge	Robinsons	M,B(E)

STOCKPORT (CENTRAL AREA)*****

Arden Arms	Millgate	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Bakers Vaults	Market Place	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Big Lamp	Middle Hillgate	Chesters	M,B(H)
Black Lion	Middle Hillgate	Boddingtons	B(H)
Boars Head	Market Place	Sam Smiths	OB(B)(H)
Bowling Green	Charles Street	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Bridge Inn	Chestergate	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Brinnington Inn	Great Portwood Street	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(H)
Buck and Dog	Bridge Street	Boddingtons	M,B(H)
Bulls Head	Market Place	Robinsons	M,B,OT(H)
Castlefield	Bridge Street Brow	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Coach and Horses	Mersey Street	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Comfortable Gill	King Street	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Crown	Heaton Lane	Boddingtons	M,B(H)
Crown	Higher Hillgate	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Egerton Arms	St Petersgate	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Flying Dutchman	Higher Hillgate	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
George	Wellington Road South	Higsons	M,B,Bass(H)
Gladstone	Lower Hillgate	Tetley	B(H)
Golden Lion	Middle Hillgate	Burtonwood	M,B(H)
Imperial	St Petersgate	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Kings Arms	Great Portwood Street	Boddingtons	M,B(E)
Kings Head	Tiviot Dale	Boddingtons	B(H)
Little Jack Horner	Wellington Street	Wilsons	B(H)
Magnet	Wellington Road North	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Manchester Arms	Wellington Road South	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Midland	Wellington Road North	Chesters	M,B(H)
Midway	New Bridge Lane	Bodd B(E):Thw M,B(E):Tet M,B(H):Ped(H)	
Mister Chips	Chestergate	Wilsons	B(H)
Nelson Ale House	Wellington Road South	Wilsons	M,B(H)
New Inn	Wellington Road South	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Old King	Great Portwood Street	Bass	4X,Cask B(E)
Park Hotel	New Bridge Lane	Wilsons	M,B(Air)
Pineapple	Heaton Lane	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Queens Hotel	Warren Street	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Railway	Avenue Street	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Railway	Wellington Road North	Greenalls	M,B(E)
Rams Head	Higher Hillgate	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Red Bull	Middle Hillgate	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Rifle Volunteer	Carrington Road	Wilsons	M,B(E)
Royal Mortar	Higher Hillgate	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Royal Oak	High Street	Robinsons	M,B(H):OT(G)
Spread Eagle	Lower Hillgate	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Stanley Arms	New Bridge Lane	Wilsons	M,B(H)
Star and Garter	Higher Hillgate	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
Stockport Arms	St Petersgate	Greenalls	M,B(E)
Swan with Two Necks	Princes Street	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Three Tuns	Great Egerton Street	Robinsons	M,B(H)
Tiviot Hotel	Tiviot Dale	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
Unity Inn	Wellington Road South	Robinsons	M,B(E):OT(G)
Waterloo	Waterloo Road	Robinsons	M,B(E)
Wheatshaf	Higher Hillgate	Wilsons	M,B(E)
White Lion	Great Underbank	Chesters	B(H)

curtains together. The Rope and Anchor is no longer known as the "Ice Box" and you are now assured of a warm welcome. Why not come along on Thursday 26th July from 8pm and find out for yourself?

ALMONDS ALE

The Royal, Burtonwood's only Golborne pub, has been closed for two years, but this month it reopens as a J B Almond house, selling Almonds bitter. Burtonwood are resurrecting the name of the Standish brewery taken over in the 1960's and Almond's bitter, brewed at Burtonwood, will be a new beer. Other Burtonwood houses are expected to be selling Almonds in the near future, one not a million miles from Manchester.

LEIGH NEWS

Greenalls George and Dragon, Leigh, reopened last month after six weeks' closure for substantial refurbishment. Greenalls claim to have tried to retain the atmosphere of this old inn (built 1790) but sadly the cosy tap room has gone. On the plus side, however, handpumps have been installed - perhaps indicative of changing management attitudes, as such a move would have been unthinkable a few years ago.



THE BRINSOP ARMS

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BODDINGTONS, BASS BEST MILD, JOHN PEEL
BITTER, MATTHEW BROWN MILD
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THE FREEHOUSE FULL OF FINE TRADITIONAL ALES
AND STOCKED HIGH WITH WHOLESOME FOOD



FILLED BAKED POTATOES OUR SPECIALITY

UNITED LOSE AT HOME

Manchester United FC are finally ejecting the fizzy Greenall Whitley products from the bars at Old Trafford - but they are replacing them with fizzy John Smiths beerade from Yorkshire. What a shame that Manchester's first division representative cannot find a local brewer of repute to provide quality first division cask-conditioned beers to serve at the club. Who knows, such a move might improve the players' performance, too!



ASHTON CANAL FESTIVAL

The Tameside Canals Festival may have become the Ashton Canal Festival, but it is on the same site (in Dukinfield), and there will be a CAMRA beer tent. So, on the weekend of 13th to 15th July, while you admire the listed mill chimney and the ruined mills, you will be able to drink the following beers (your enthusiasm, one hopes, not dampened by the distance to the toilets):

Marstons Pedigree, Moorhouses Pendle Witch, Failsworth Bitter, Wem Bitter, Oldham Mild and Bitter, Saxon Cross, Vaux Sampson, Sunderland Bitter, Lorimer and Clark 70/-, Wards Bitter and Darleys Chairman's Fine Dark Ale. In addition, there will be two barrels of mystery beer. A suitable prize will be given to the first correct guess drawn out on the Sunday afternoon. Opening hours are:

Friday 7.30 to 11.00pm. Saturday 12.00 to 4.30pm and 7.00pm to 11.00pm
Sunday 12.00 to 4.00pm

SHUT

The Gerrard Arms, a remote pub along Bolton Road, Aspull, has been closed for some weeks now, although at the time of writing it is not boarded up. This Boddingtons house was in the Good Beer Guide in the 1970's. Meanwhile, down the road in Wigan, the Swan and Railway on Wallgate was damaged by fire recently. This former GBG pub has been boarded up for nearly two years now, although Thwaites had shown an interest in it. It is not known whether the fire has changed all that.

ABOUT ASHTON

The Red Lion, Stamford Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, has reopened as Kavanagh Taverns selling handpulled Thwaites Best Mild and Bitter and

Wilsons Mild and Bitter. Beware the Thwaites Light Mild on free flow electric pumps - it's keg. Meanwhile, over the road the King William IV (ex-Tetley handpumped beer) remains shut and is still up for sale.

DRABS

Work has started at Holts Newmarket, Pendlebury (1985 GBG entry), on the first renovation work for 80 years. The bar is to be completely rebuilt, new windows fitted and the vault door closed off to eliminate draughts from the street. The main room will remain unaltered but a new public room is to be opened behind the bar in part of the former living quarters.

Contributors: Brian Gleave, Roger Hall, Dave White, Dave Hale, Keith Egerton, Leo King, Pete Cash, George Glass, Don Chattwood, Bill Collier



SOUTH MANCHESTER GUIDE

Sir - I have noticed two losses to the above guide as published in April WD. The Dolphin, Clowes Street, Belle Vue (Marstons) has been closed for some time, although lights upstairs indicate that someone is still living there. The Imperial, Birch Street (Wilsons), was closed and boarded up when I was in the vicinity in May.

George Glass

MILD MATTERS

Sir - Alastair Walker's contribution in last month's WD about Banks's Brewery and their concern over acquiring premises in Manchester was very interesting. However, his statement about Manchester's first mild-only outlet was wrong. The Oxnoble on Liverpool Road, Knott Mill, Manchester 3, was a mild-only Chesters house until the early 1960's.

Totty's (officially the Duke of Brunswick) in Hulme (now demolished) sold only draught Tetleys (Leeds) bitter from four handpumps on its tiny bar, and the Grants Arms (Boddingtons) sold only bitter (that is, before Oldham fizzy mild came along).

Leo King

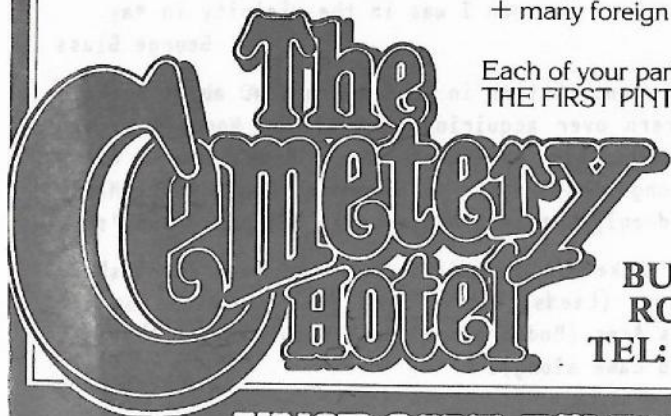
Have a pint on the House..

For a night to remember
in a cosy, unspoilt traditional pub,
The Cemetery is unbeatable.

Bring a party and we can provide you
with a private room - bar sports as
required, food to your liking -
and even the Ale of your choice - within reason!

Our selection of handpumped beers is
Boddington's Bitter • Ruddles County •
Theakstons Old Peculier & XB • Vaux Samson •
Everards Tiger • Taylors Landlord
Porter and Best Dark Mild
& 3 guest beers & 2 Lagers
PLUS - the worlds strongest Ale EKV
+ many foreign & bottled beers

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THE FIRST PINT ON THE HOUSE!



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UNSPOILT BY PROGRESS



The atmosphere was one of eerie and somewhat despondent unease in the back room of the Rat and Handbag. The lack of joviality and bonhomie was due in part to our somewhat depleted numbers and in part to the fact that our topics of conversation were necessarily restricted to those which were neither embarrassing nor too close to home. Bunty was still behind bars, Fiona had married a Bosnian acrobat and gone gold prospecting in South Georgia and Billy Cosh had suffered a belated puberty and begun to eschew hostelryes for the delights of womankind. Captain Busman had, in debearding himself, lost both his strength and his marbles and was last seen in the desert looking for 5 wise virgins and a Daimler bus.

The once noble Robin was too busy to come to the Rat and Handbag. When he wasn't sticking pins in waxen effigies of the De Verres and Charlie Bass, he was pouring pseudonymous vitriol over Mr Nestfeather's very wonderful book of definitive Drabiana. Beinlos was himself in the Fatherland.

If, then, our conversation was stilted and desultory it is quite understandable. Few topics could hold our interest for long. The re-emergence of the born again boy wonder Ward, whether Humphrey Dumpty would appear in time to scupper the Mark 3 Grotley Vademecum for Connoisseurs of the Hop were discussed with little interest or enthusiasm.

The prospect of shareholders and directors of Midnight Taverns tearing each other's throats out over the spoils of trade amused us for a while. Tish was delighted, particularly as she'd predicted exactly this course of events and we were agreed that it was a good thing that the money grubbing opportunists had shed the common name.

One thing did puzzle us. Why had the very wonderful, engaging and characterful Nellie Tweed resigned from the boss group? Why had this not been reported in What's Brewing, even though they'd had time to scrub his name off? What has he done? Is the hand of Plod about to fall upon his shoulder? We should be told. We finished our halves of

almost stagnant Gollocks 6X and left before closing time, sober, reflective and less than happy with the way things had turned out. As we were leaving Fanny Featheringstoneough expressed the hope that Grotley branch would recover and that he wouldn't be mugged by a pansy basher on the way home.

STRANGE PUB NAMES No 4 RAILWAY AND NATURALIST

The railways, coinciding as they did with the introduction of the beerhouse, have left their names on hundreds of pubs throughout the country. Combined names such as the Swan and Railway are not uncommon but perhaps the most unusual and picturesque name is the Railway and Naturalist in Prestwich. The mid-nineteenth century was an age of great interest in subjects such as Botany and Natural History and groups of devotees would meet in local pubs. Prestwich was no exception and in 1850 the Botanists' Society met regularly in the Ostrich until one Sunday morning in November they were caught drinking out of hours. The licensee was fined and the Botanists moved to a recently built pub on Bury New Road. Inevitably the pub became known as the Naturalists Inn.

During the 1870's the railway to Radcliffe was built and the labourers drank and lodged at the Naturalists Inn. As railways were a growth industry it was not unnatural for the name to be incorporated in the name of the pub. Sadly, the connection with the Botanical Society came to an end during the First World War when the Society, along with many others, folded up, but the name lives on. The traditional layout of the pub was altered many years ago but traditional Wilsons beer is still on sale.

Roger Hall



Branch Diary

SOUTH MANCHESTER

- Tues 3 July Open Committee Meeting, 8pm, Gateway, Kingsway, E Didsbury
- Thurs 12 July Branch meeting, 8pm, Coach & Horses, London Rd, Manchester City Centre.
Guest speaker from Taylors Brewery
- Fri 13th July Heaton Norris Crawl. 7pm Bridge Inn (Georges Rd, next to B&Q). 8pm SilverJubilee, Belmont Way
- Thurs 26 July Pub of the Month with Trafford & Hulme
- Thurs 7 Aug Open Committee meeting, 8pm, Swan with 2 Necks, Princes St, Stockport shopping precinct.
- Thurs 9 Aug Branch meeting, 8pm, Gateway, E Didsbury
- Contact Sue Sproson 061 225 4058

SOUTH LANCASHIRE

Wed 11 July, Branch meeting, Railway, Twist Lane, Leigh 8pm
Sat 11 Aug. Beer tent at Newton Show (see elsewhere in this issue)
Contact Brian Gleave Atherton 892965 (h): 876200 (w)

NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed 11 July Committee/Social Union, Liverpool Street, Salford 8pm
Wed 18 July Branch Meeting, White Lion, Liverpool Road, Eccles. 8pm
Fri 20th July Opening of Marble Arch, Rochdale Road, Manchester.
Contact Roger Hall 740 7937

BOLTON

6th July Halliwell Road Crawl. Ainsworth 7pm. Stragglers meet at Peel at 9pm
11 July Deferred Burtonwood Brewery trip. Contact Bert Kerks for details (389918)
18 July Meeting at Derby Arms (Whitbread) 8.30
22 July "Sunday Scramble" along Bury Road. Meet the Hare & Hounds (Walkers) 12pm. The Bowling Green (Wilsons) 1pm.
8 Aug Meeting at Peel (Higher Bridge Street) 8.30pm
Aug 12 Alternative Grouse Shoot. Sunday British Rail trip to Scarborough. Please bring shotguns and bucket & spade. Contact Bert Kerks for times (389918)
22 Aug Meeting at Queen Anne, Deane Rd (now "Sinclairs") 8.30pm. Lounge suits preferred.

HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Tues 3 July 8.30 Social at the Cheshire Ring Hotel, Manchester Rd, Hyde (wide range of real ales)
Thurs 5 July 8.30 Committee Meeting, The Hatters, Marple (Robinsons)
Wed 11 July 8.30 Branch meeting at Cheshire Ring Hotel, Hyde
Fri 13-Sun 15 July Ashton Canal Festival CAMRA Beer Tent. (See elsewhere)
Contact Tom Lord 061 427 7099

TRAFFORD & HULME

Thurs 5 July 8pm, Committee/Social at Stretford Cricket Club, Lesley Rd, Stretford
Thur 19 July 8pm, Branch Meeting, Melville, Barton Rd, Stretford
Thur 26 July 8.30 Pub of the Month. Social and presentation at the Rope & Anchor, Dunham, Details from branch contact
Thur 2 Aug 8pm Committee/Social at Barrington, Stamford Rd, Altrincham
Contact Dave Shelton 061 795 2113 (h) 061 224 7341 x54 (w)

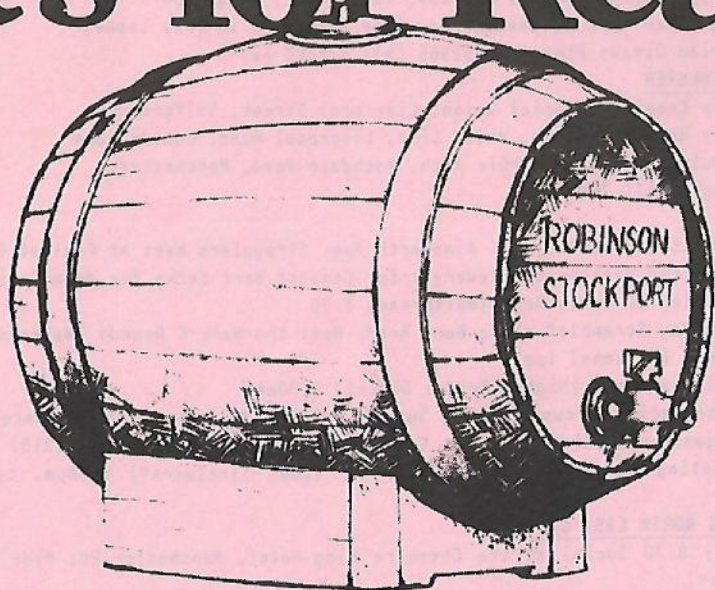
ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Tue 3 July 8pm Branch meeting Healey (Robinsons), Shawclough Rd, Rochdale
Tues 17 July 8pm Committee meeting, Merrie Monk (Free), College Rd, Rochdale
Tues 7 Aug 8pm Branch Meeting, Swan (Bass), The Square, Dobcross
Tues 21 Aug 8pm, Committee meeting, Kings Arms (Holts), Manchester Rd, Hollinwood
Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) 061 775 3351 x248 (w)

MACCLESFIELD

Thurs 12 July Pub Crawl 8.45 Travellers Rest: 9.30 Sun: 10.00pm Millstone
Mon 23 July Branch meeting, Prince of Wales, Roe Street, Macclesfield

It's for Real



We at Robinson's think that what matters most about beer is its flavour. That's why we are still brewing beer the same way that we did a hundred years ago. Natural ingredients, the same time-honoured brewing ways, even on the same site - not many can say that!

And you can buy at least one, usually two and sometimes more of the traditional ales listed here in any Robinson's pub within 100 miles of Stockport. Not many can make that sort of claim either.

Now you can have Real Ale at home for parties or just for your own enjoyment. Available in Firkins and Pints*, complete with tap, stillage and detailed instructions. You can order from any Robinson's On or Off-Licence or Unicorn Wine Shops.

Old Tom Ale
Best Bitter Ale
Best Mild Ale



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There are deposits on the casks, stillages and taps, returnable in full when you bring them back. You can borrow glasses, paying only for those you break or fail to return providing you also make appropriate purchases of items to fill them.

We strongly recommend that you place your order as soon as possible for Christmas or New Year use.

It's Robinson's . . . for Real.

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you are buying Traditional Draught Beer
~at its very best.**