

WHAT'S DOING

AUG
1984

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

POSH HOLTS



The Melville, Barton Road, Stretford, has been redecorated and refurnished. The internal structure hasn't been altered, although, like everywhere else, the revolving door has had to go. The main lounge has a new carpet, new tables and chairs and, to complete the effect, the wallpaper has been changed for the first time since 1936. The vault has been redecorated throughout and the area behind the bar is to be done up soon. Hot meals are served in the upstairs bar Monday-Friday, 12-2, and there are the usual snacks downstairs. Weather permitting, outdoor barbecues are planned on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Any bets against the Melville being one of Trafford & Hulme branch's entries for the 1985 GBG?

NEW PUB

The Marble Arch opens this month and next month another CAMRA member will be opening his own pub. David Rowlinson, in partnership with Paul Lane, has purchased, and obtained a licence for, a 200-year old building in Elliot Street, Tyldesley. Originally a wine and spirit wholesaler's and retailer's premises, the building has ideal cellars and work in under way to provide a main room, vault and two "snugs". The frontage is scheduled to be D of E listed in 1986 and the new owners have chosen a name in accord with the age of the building - the Half Moon Inn. The beers on sale will be Boddingtons and Oldham Brewery, together with regular guest beers. The date of opening will be announced in next month's What's Doing.

PUB PRESERVATION

Positive action is always more constructive than carping criticism. The decision, therefore, of the Pub Preservation Group to give awards for renovation, refurbishment and for the building of new pubs was most welcome. The first doubts set in when the Lass o'Gowrie was nominated for an award. An innovation to be applauded certainly, but Pub Preservation? - not by any stretch of the imagination. The pub was merely an upmarket House of Horrors bereft of authenticity and any genuine feeling for the building itself. Doubtless an aberration - other choices would surely be more suitable, wouldn't they? The new Denmark in Moss Side was also highly praised. A pretty enough building on the outside, but does it achieve Bogbrush's elusive "pubness" on the inside? - very doubtful.

If it's to achieve its purpose then the Pub Preservation Group has got to be a bit more careful about the pubs it picks. I can't help feeling that there's a bias towards pub exteriors which stems from the rural background of some of the members. Their silly criteria preclude from consideration pubs which have been preserved such as the Friendship in Prestwich (Holts) and the Unicorn in Manchester (Bass). If they insist on giving awards to trendy pub wreckers it will undo all the good work that's been done and encourage the wilder excesses of Whitbread, Pennine Hosts, Greenalls and Robinsons, who've recently jumped on the bandwagon. By all means encourage pub preservation, but let's try and get it right.

Roger Hall



Your heritage. Protect it.



Join CAMRA
and help
keep traditional
British beer and pubs alive

WHAT'S DOING

FREE TRADE

The opening of the Marble Arch, Rochdale Road, Manchester, has been delayed and the pub will not be serving Timothy Taylor's beers. But first the good news. During building work the original tiled ceiling of the pub was discovered and it is the exposing of this excellent and well preserved example of Victorian craftsmanship which has caused the delay. And now the bad news. At a late stage in discussions with Taylors, John Worthington was told that they would not supply him with Landlord. Tony Howlett from Taylors explained to What's Doing that this decision had been made because another Manchester licensee with two outlets selling Landlord had felt that the competition might seriously affect his own sales of Landlord. If this was the case then he might be forced to withdraw the beer from sale. Taylors considered that the Duke of York and Crown and Anchor were such substantial accounts that they could not afford to risk losing them. Consequently they would not supply Landlord to the Marble Arch.

Although other Taylors beers would be available, John Worthington decided to take none of them but to look for alternative brews. And so central Manchester will offer more choice for real ale drinkers, but it is sad to reflect that the "free trade" is not perhaps as free as you might imagine.

P.S. You can drink Landlord in the Coach and Horses on London Road.

WILSONS FEELING CHUFFED

As part of their 150th anniversary celebrations, Wilsons Brewery are running a "steam special" every Wednesday between Manchester Victoria and the brewery sidings at Newton Heath, followed by a brewery visit. Steam buffs can witness the departure from Victoria at 11.30am of the ex-LNWR 0-6-2 tank engine with observation car in tow. Passengers are exclusively from "the trade" until 29th August, the last trip, for which interested persons may write to Wilsons and a lucky 25 names will be drawn from the hat for that final ride.

MORE GREENALLS, TO BOOT

The Wellington, Worsley Road, Patricroft, is selling Greenalls Original bitter.

ENTREPRENEUR'S CORNER

The Bolton Arms (ex-S&N), New Bridge Street, Manchester, is still for sale, licensed and free from brewer's tie. Across the river in

Salford, the Waterloo (ex-Wilsons) on Greengate and the Bridge (Greenalls) on Regent Road are for sale free from tie. Some time ago the Bridge caught the Salford disease and nearly burned down but was saved and now awaits a further saviour in the Bence/Worthington mould. Back in Manchester, the Dolphin (Marstons), Clowes Street, off Hyde Road, is up for sale.

BRIDGE BOOZE

Hardly had the ink dried on last month's WD than the Bridge Inn, Ewood Bridge, added Youngers No 3 and Tetley (Warrington) mild and bitter (all handpumped) to the Youngers Scotch and IPA already available. The food on Sunday - Friday lunchtimes also seems to be gaining a good reputation; just wait for the tourists flocking up the road from the reopened Ewood Bridge & Edenfield Station next year!

CHAPEL GREENALLS

First the good news: Greenalls Original Bitter is on sale at the Chapel House, Astley Street, Dukinfield. Now the bad news: It may be withdrawn, or has been withdrawn, through lack of sales. It seems Greenalls' promotional material for their new beer leaves something to be desired.



**THE
STATION**

**You'll find us
at the end of
Warrington St
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
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**We are renowned for our superb luncheons
(hot & cold buffet plus tasty 'brown-dish' meals)**

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a room & food if you wish.**

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*if the weather's nice,
enjoy a pint in the
beer garden!*

CHESTERS

Handpumped Chesters bitter has replaced Castle Eden at the Golden Lion, Clifton, and is reported to be more popular than Castle Eden was. Now manager John Aspin, who took over the Lion earlier this year, and cellarman Gary Brookes are hoping to persuade Whitbread to replace the fizzy Trophy with the "real" stuff!

NEW BAR FOR BOLTON

Bolton's latest pub opened in mid July in what was formerly part of the premises of Crompton's Mule on Spa Road, opposite the Nevada. The new pub is a combination of the original Crompton's Mule, which was a bistro with a restaurant only licence, and a modern upmarket trendy pub, of a type which Whitbread and Pennine Joke have been failing to create for some time. The main difference is that music is not provided by electronic and computerised gimmickry with co-ordinated lights, but by a pianist playing a grand piano. Unfortunately, this must be rather expensive as the Bass Cask Bitter with the new flashy pump clip is sold for 80p a pint in overalls Bavarian glasses. However, there is a happy hour from 5.30 to 6.30, when the beer is a respectable 60p. As you might have expected, the name has changed - to "Hawthorns Piano Bar and Bistro" - just the place to impress the boss's secretary (or his wife)!

ALMONDS

After having been closed for around three years, Burtonwood's Royal Hotel in Golborne reopened on 10 July, loudly proclaiming the resurrected Almonds ales on the exterior. As well as Almond's best bitter, the Royal also sells Tetley bitter, Youngers IPA and No 3 and Burtonwood mild. "Almonds", as it turned out, despite the ballyhoo, was disappointing; it resembled Burtonwood bitter without the after-taste. One might have expected the brewery to produce something rather more distinctive to revive the old name. Even so, the range of ales in the Royal (all hand pulled) is excellent, giving a bonus to a rather dreary area on the Wigan/Leigh front and we wish the management at the Royal every success for the future.

Burtonwood are expected to open two more "Almond" pubs in the near future. One is in Wigan (location unknown) and the other is the Globe on Regent Road, Salford, which has been closed for some weeks.

BODDIES AND FOOTY

Boddingtons have opened their first tied house in Radcliffe in the former premises of Radcliffe Borough F.C. Social Club. Naturally enough, the name chosen for their pub is - the Footballers.

GRAPES FROM THE ASHES

The Grapes (Yates's Wine Lodge at the Great Ancoats Street end of Oldham Street, affectionately known as the "Yacht Club") was badly damaged by fire early in 1983. Rebuilding is now well advanced and is expected to be completed later in September, with a grand reopening probably early in October. Cask beers will be on sale, but we don't know which.

At the other end of Oldham Street, Yates's Merchants Bar which not so long ago boasted seven different cask beers is down to one. Only Boddingtons survives, now sold through an electric pump, at 68p a pint. Whatever happened to Yates's reputation for value for money? Has this killed the trade?

NEW BREW

John Smiths cask conditioned bitter has ventured into Greater Manchester. The Canterbury Arms on Canterbury Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, is now selling it on handpumps. The landlord assures our reporter that no gas is used.



THE BRINSOP ARMS

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JIM HARDY & ANDY BARTON
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A BAR FULL OF HANDPUMPS SERVING

HAMMONDS, DRAUGHT BASS, HARTLEYS
BODDINGTONS, BASS BEST MILD, JOHN PEEL
BITTER, MATTHEW BROWN MILD
*** FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE ***

THE FREEHOUSE FULL OF FINE TRADITIONAL ALES
AND STOCKED HIGH WITH WHOLESOME FOOD

FILLED BAKED POTATOES OUR SPECIALITY



SADDLEWORTH SOJOURN

Devotees of Yorkshire's favourite lunatic broth, Theakstons Old Peculier, will doubtless be delighted to know that it has returned to the Rams Head at Denshaw, where it is once again served on gravity. The beer joins the Youngers Scotch bitter, IPA and No 3, which replaced the Theakstons brews at the end of 1983.

Elsewhere in Saddleworth, the newly reorganised Yorkshire arm of Britain's largest brewer continues to make the news. Apart from plastering the fronts of their houses with plastic barrels, Bass are increasing the availability of cask beer in their pubs in the area. The Commercial (Top House) in Springhead is now selling Tower Cask Bitter (otherwise known as Brew 10, Hammonds, Cask Bitter, etc, etc) as well as Stones Best Bitter and Toby Extra Light, which were introduced earlier this year. However, the new beer is not dispensed by handpump as are the other two; it has an electric pump with a plastic, keg-type bar mounting - point of sale material will announce that the beer is cask conditioned.

Meanwhile, over in Dobcross, the Navigation, Wool Road, has just received Tower Cask Bitter. This is served by handpump and is currently selling well. The only problem is that many regulars like keg beers, which may inhibit plans to extend the range of cask products!

RAVEN FACELIFT

The Raven Hotel, Wallgate, Wigan, has had a minor facelift. Although not resembling a "House of Horrors", the juke box is louder and a Bormann-esque bouncer keeps the riff-raff out; the notice on the door appeals for "smart dress, please". No matter - it isn't so hard to get in, really, and the Walkers Best Bitter and Mild are still in excellent nick.



NEWTON SHOW ALE

The range of ales for Newton-le-Willows Show (Saturday 11th August, from 11.30am) is as follows: Lees Moonraker and bitter, Burtonwood mild, bitter and CASK TOP HAT (for the first time outside the brewery), Oak Best, Old Oak, Oak Double Dragon, Davenport's, Greene King Abbot, Eldridge Pope Royal Oak, Adnams bitter, Taylors Landlord and

Ram Tam, Bulmers sweet and dry cider. Get there early - the place fills up after 1.00pm.

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Bring a party and we can provide you
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Everards Tiger • Taylors Landlord
Porter and Best Dark Mild
& 3 guest beers & 2 Lagers
PLUS - the worlds strongest Ale EKK
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UNSPOILT BY PROGRESS

FALLING STAR

The Chesters bitter and the beer engine that went with it have disappeared from the Star on Greengate, Salford.

RISING STAR

The Star and Garter, Fairfield Street, Manchester, has been smartened up somewhat. Traditional Chesters bitter and Trophy bitter are on sale; unfortunately the mild is tank beer.

LION GARDEN

In the somewhat unlikely setting of Blackley village there is now a pub with a beer garden. Reg Greening, landlord of Ye Golden Lion (Holts), has made enterprising use of the disused bowling green. Among the things growing in the garden are rabbits, geese and goats. There is a sand-pit for the kiddies, and provision is also made for those who like a quiet see-saw with their pint.

CHORLTON TAKE-OUTS

Alan's Wines & Spirits on Manchester Road (opposite Chorlton Baths) now offers Ruddles County at 74p a pint, Marstons Pedigree at 62p and Tetley Burton Ale at 59p. Our local man on the spot says the shop has been tastefully modernised and is extremely wonderful. It is also the only outlet for What's Doing in the area.

T'SMOKE

Readers of July What's Brewing will have noted the purchase by Thwaites of their first London pub - the George IV in Islington. Re-opening is scheduled for the first week in October and the pub (Previously Ind Coope) is to be managed by Mike Hyslop, at present mine host at the Two Tubs, Bury. Mike has been a popular figure at the Tubs since taking over in April 1983 and we wish him well in Thwaites' new venture.

FULL NELSON?

The future of the Nelson Vaults on Oldham Road, Manchester, seems more secure. The pub, which was closed for a time last year, is to be refurbished by Wilsons.

IMPRESSIVE ARRAY

The Coach and Horses on London Road, Manchester, has added another brewery's products to its range of traditional beers - Burtonwood. Real ale now comprises Boddingtons bitter, Burtonwood mild and bitter, Ruddles bitter, Taylors Landlord, Tetleys mild and bitter and Winkles Saxon Cross bitter - all are handpumped.



BOLTON GAINS

Pennine Hosts have altered the Queen Anne on Junction Road, Deane, Bolton. The pub, now known as Sinclair's, has been completely revamped with the bar moved to the opposite side of the pub, walls painted pink and white and assorted plants dotted about the room. Wilsons Original mild and bitter are on sale at 62p and 64p.

Meanwhile, at the top of Junction Road, Tetley have done up the Vulcan in a similar manner, but with the added attraction of doughnuts and ice cream made on the premises. Handpumped Tetley mild and bitter are available. Both Sinclair's and the Vulcan are real ale gains for Bolton.

RIP OFF

What's Doing isn't the only pub magazine on sale in pubs. Look out for The Taverner Year Book 1984. It's a snip at 30p. The content, artwork, layout and literary erudition make Mr Nestfeather seem like Shakespeare, Leonardo da Vinci and Dr Johnson rolled into one. The "editor" says that they've visited all the pubs mentioned (in the adverts, that is), as we suppose they must have to get the licensees' readies in their sweaty paws. They actually accuse another pub magazine of stealing their original artwork - but who'd want to pinch the cock-eyed product of a scramble-brained monkey in a Letraset shop?

Contributors: Roger Hall, Des Nogalski, Leo King, Dave Hale, Dave White, Don Chattwood, Adrian Cunningham, Brian Gleave, Roger Bullock, Mick Rottenbury, Peter Wightman, George Glass, Mike Goode, Rob Dunford

CLUB TOGETHER FOR REAL ALE



The **SUCCESS STORY** of **REAL ALE**

After a decade of hard campaigning, CAMRA has proved that **MILLIONS OF BEER DRINKERS** want a **CHOICE** of beers, including traditional cask-conditioned beers (**REAL ALES** as they are widely known).

Now most pubs offer Real Ale. Landlords have found it easy enough to serve the beer in excellent condition. Their reward is new regulars, higher sales and **CUSTOMERS WHO REALLY ENJOY THE PINT THEY ARE DRINKING.**



All over the country **CLUBS** are discovering that their members welcome the return of **Real Ale**



But, far too many clubs offer no choice: only a range of similar-tasting processed beers and lagers, with Real Ale just a fond memory.

Don't Despair there is no reason why your club can't join the hundreds of others which have profited from re-introducing cask-conditioned ales in the last few years.

GET REAL ALE INTO YOUR CLUB



Are you sitting comfortably? Then I'll begin. Once upon a time Elric the little elf was skipping through the woods when he saw in a sylvan glade a tiny thatched cottage. Although the cottage had evidently not been occupied for some time, a hand written sign over the door still proudly announced "Mrs Tiggywinkle's Fairy Cake Shop". "Wouldn't it be nice," thought Elric, "to buy the cottage and sell cakes and gingerbread men to all the fairies in the forest." No sooner said than done. Elric bought the shop and went to the cake factory to see young Joylon Baker of Master Bakers Tart and Fairy Cake Company. "Of course we'll sell you cakes," said young Joylon so Elric set about spring cleaning the cottage, tidying the garden and making it much like it was when Mrs Tiggywinkle sold cakes there many years ago.

After a lot of hard work, Elric asked young Joylon to send him some cakes and tarts. "Oh, sorry, we can't do that," said Joylon. "Why not?" said Elric. "You promised me I could buy your cakes." "Well, it's very difficult, you know," said Joylon, "but we sell lots and lots of Master Baker's Honey Tarts to the Hobgoblin Cake Shop Chain which has branches throughout Fairyland. The chief Hobgoblin wants his shops to be the only ones to sell our Honey Tarts and he's told us that we mustn't sell any of our tarts to Mrs Tiggywinkle's Cake Shop. If we do then he won't buy any more of our cakes, tarts, gingerbread men or chocolate mice ever again. The Hobgoblin Cake Shop Chain buys such a lot from us that we've had to say, 'Certainly Mr Hobgoblin. Three bags full, Mr Hobgoblin.' So that's how it is. I'm very sorry, Elric."

Elric looked pensive. "You know," he murmured, "I knew the chief Hobgoblin when he was a young sprite. A gay blade he was to be sure. How things have changed! At one time I would have done almost anything for him but now, sadly, if he was on fire I wouldn't even piss on him."

* * * * *

The ongoing dearth of Snoot Magna news in What's Doing is not, so it seems, a result of the lethargy of the Whingeing Sartorial Scot, the Welsh dynamo et al but because Snoot Magna is resurrecting the late magazine Opening Tripe and they're all beavering away writing news for this. Will this herald a new bout of internecine strife? Watch this space.



CRY FROM THE WILDERNESS

Sir - We had a beer festival here this week! I rushed along with my tongue hanging out, eager to sample some real amber nectar, of which I have been starved for so long! Yes, you've guessed it! My hopes were in vain; Watneys Red Barrel, Ben Trumans, Stag, Websters and (God forbid) John Smiths!!! Whilst appreciating the

efforts of the manager, I felt obliged to question his selection. However, the matter was out of his hands. Being a Manchester bloke, he'd obviously contacted Boddingtons, but they weren't interested. He'd even requested Wilsons via the Watney empire, to no avail. If this is true, then the thousands of beer drinking "pommies" out here are being discriminated against, and it's not flippin' fair! Come on you breweries, expand your export trade; we'll gladly pay a pound a pint! There's a vast market out here waiting to be tapped. Think about it!

Keep on rockin', Dave Arnold, Cape Town, South Africa

GUIDE CORRECTIONS

Sir - One or two omissions from the otherwise excellent new Wigan beer guide, which buyers may like to note:

Bucks Head, Warrington Road, Abram. Tetley M,B(H)

Concert Inn, Bolton Road, Atherton. Burtonwood M,B(E)

The John Bull Chophouse in Wigan town centre usually sells Thwaites bitter, in very short supply, on Fridays and Saturdays. Beware fake handpumps and ask for "draught".

Dave White

THAT LIST

Sir - I would like to commend What's Doing for being brave enough to print the list of Pennine Joke managed houses in May's issue. I'm sure everybody except myself thought this was a complete waste of space. However, I must say how much I've enjoyed going round all the pubs listed during my fortnight's annual holiday, especially the ones in South Yorkshire and Humberside, not to mention the ones which I discovered didn't sell real ale. I never thought it was possible to

have so many identikit pubs with plastic this and that and I almost became of the opinion that most of the pubs would have been much more attractive had they not been so obviously and wantonly internally vandalised.

I have another week's holiday coming up in September. Perhaps What's Doing could arrange for another suitable list of pubs to be printed - say countrywide Whitbread Beefeater Restaurants, or some other chain of pubs which convinces the customer that what they provide is what the customer wants.

Rose Bush

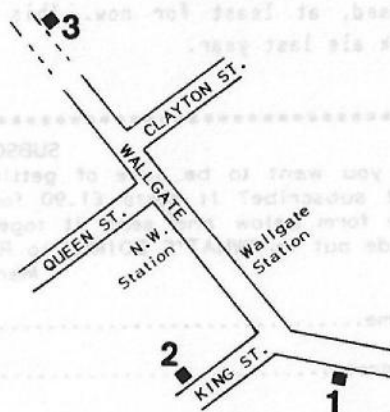
WALLGATE PUB CRAWL 1982

- 1 Raven (Walker)
- 2 Turnkey (Boddingtons)
- 3 Swan & Railway (Tetley)
- 4 Wheatsheaf (Greenalls)
- 5 Grapes (Burtonwood)
- 6 Buck i'th' Vine (Burtonwood)
- 7 Seven Stars (Greenalls)



WALLGATE PUB CRAWL 1984

- 1 Raven (Walker)
- 2 Turnkey (Youngers)
- 3 Seven Stars (Thwaites)



The above maps give a good idea of how one of the most "crawlable" areas of Wigan town centre has declined in just two years. The

latest casualty of the Ring Road plan was Greenall's excellent Wheatsheaf Hotel, which closed down last month. A start on the Ring Road will probably be made in the autumn. Another threatened pub, the Derby Arms (keg free house), has already closed and by the time this WD is on sale the New Star Inn, another Wallgate pub (keg Tetley), will have probably closed. The one glimmer of hope on Wallgate is that the Swan and Railway has been sold and it is rumoured that Thwaites are the



purchasers. In the meantime Wallgate, all of a sudden, has become the driest part of town. Another town centre pub, the Alvar Hotel, has closed, at least for now. This Youngers house flirted briefly with cask ale last year.

Dave White

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you want to be sure of getting **WHAT'S DOING** every month, why not subscribe? It costs £1.90 for six issues, postage paid. Fill in the form below and send it together with a cheque or postal order made out to "**WHAT'S DOING**" to Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester

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WHAT'S DOING

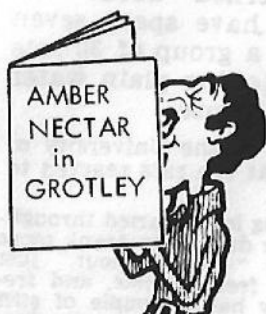
WHAT'S DOING is edited by Neil Richardson, 375 Chorley Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 2AY

COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS THE 20th OF THIS MONTH

JOIN CAMRA

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

Real Ale Guides



The following publications are available from Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester. The guides are updated from time to time so if you know of any changes please contact the relevant branch - see Branch Diary.

REAL ALE IN SOUTH MANCHESTER - Gorton, Openshaw, Clayton, Didsbury, etc. 10p+sae

REAL ALE IN STOCKPORT - Hazel Grove, Cheadle, Heaton Mersey, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SALFORD - Swinton, Eccles, Irlam, Worsley 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ROCHDALE - Heywood, Littleborough, Middleton, etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ROSSENDALE - Bacup, Haslingden, Helmshore, Rawtenstall etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN TRAFFORD & HULME - Altrincham, Sale, Urmston, 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN CENTRAL MANCHESTER - A comprehensive guide to real ale outlets within 1 mile of St Peter's Square. Map, illustrated 60p + sae

REAL ALE IN OLDHAM - Failsworth, Royton, Chadderton, Shaw, Saddleworth 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN BURY - Ramsbottom, Radcliffe, Tottington, Whitefield, Prestwich, 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN MANCHESTER NORTH - city centre, Ancoats, Collyhurst, Newton Heath, Moston, Blackley, Cheetham, etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN CENTRAL AND NORTH CHESHIRE - Warrington, Widnes, Runcorn, Lymm, Frodsham, Northwich, Middlewich & Winsford 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ST HELENS - Sutton, Peasley Cross, Thatton Heath, Moss Nook, Eccleston, Parr, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN GREATER GROTLEY - Slumley, Smarmford & Slutch, Poshton & Pseudley. 10p + s.a.e.

GREATER MANCHESTER GOOD BEER GUIDE - A selective guide to about 1,000 pubs in Greater Manchester - Bury, Stockport, Oldham, Salford, Wigan, Trafford, Bolton, Rochdale, Leigh, Timeside, etc 64pp £1.00 + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN BURY METRO - A 20-page guide to Whitefield, Ramsbottom, etc, with maps, illustrated, brewery history, etc. 50p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN N.W. DERBYSHIRE - Buxton, Glossop, New Mills, Whalley Bridge, Disley, Chapel-en-le-Frith, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN HIGH PEAK & N.E. CHESHIRE (TAMESIDE) - Marple, Hyde, Denton, Ashton, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

AMERICAN researchers, concerned about the rising incidence of alcoholism, have spent seven years studying the behaviour of a group of 30 rats which could choose between drinking plain water or aniseed-flavoured alcohol like ouzo.

To their surprise, the scientists at the University of California, in Los Angeles, found that the rats reacted to the free booze just like human beings.

Over the years, 10 per cent of the rats became alcoholics, a quarter were strict teetotalers, and the rest were moderate social drinkers.

drinking levels varied throughout the day. They drank more at the "cocktail hour," just before feeding time, and frequently had a couple of stiff drinks before going to sleep at night.

Hard cases

And just like people, their

And the hard cases had a nip or two to get themselves going in the morning.



Branch Diary

NORTH MANCHESTER

Weds 1 Aug Clifton Crawl. 7pm Robin Hood, 8pm Windmill

Weds 8th Aug Meeting in Manchester's newest amber nectar emporium: Marble Arch, Rochdale Road, 8pm.

Weds 15 Aug Branch Meeting, White Swan, Swinton 8pm

Fri 17 Aug Trip to Liverpool. Trains from Victoria at 6.35 or 7.35. Meet at Villiers on Eliot Street, Scousely

Wed 22 Aug Bolton (and possibly Leigh). George, Great Moor Street 7.30. Alma, Bradshawgate 9pm (leaving time).

Wed 29 Aug Old House at Home, Whit Lane, Charlestown. 8pm. Last say on allocations for Greater Manchester Good Beer Guide - all branches.

Sat 8 Sept Trip to Wigan - details next month.

Contact Roger Hall 740 7937

SOUTH MANCHESTER

Tues 7 Aug Open Committee Meeting, 8pm, Swan with 2 Necks, Princes Street, Stockport Shopping Precinct

Thurs 9 Aug Branch Meeting 8pm, Gateway, Kingsway, East Didsbury

Sat 11 Aug visit to Macclesfield & Bollington. Main party catch 10.39 Piccadilly, 10.47 Stockport

Fri 17 Aug Hyde Road crawl. Waggon & Horses (A6) 7pm, Rock 8.30, Travellers Call 9pm

Thurs 23 Aug Pub of the Month, Station, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury Village

Sat 1st Sept Trip to Keighley & Worth Valley Railway. 8.52am train from Manchester Victoria

Tues 4 Sept Open Committee meeting, 8pm Gateway, E Didsbury

Thurs 13 Sept Branch Meeting, 8pm, Florist, Shaw Heath, Stockport

Contact Sue Sproson 061 225 4058

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 7 Aug 8pm Branch Meeting Swan (Bass), The Square, Dobcross

Tues 21 Aug 8pm Committee Meeting, Kings Arms (Holts), Manchester Rd, Hollinwood

Sat/Sun 8/9 Sept Weekend away to Newcastle-on-Tyne

Tues 4 Sept 8pm Branch Meeting, Napier (Thwaites), Bolton Street, Bury

Tues 18 Sept 8pm Committee Meeting, Masons Arms (Thwaites), Sion Street, Radcliffe

Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) or 061 775 3351 x248

MACCLESFIELD

Thur 2 Aug Pub Crawl: 8.45 Franklin, 9.30 Waters Green, 10pm Royal Oak, Pickford St

Fri/Sat 10/11 Aug 4th Beer Festival at the Nags Head Stables, Waters Green, Macclesfield. Beers from West Midlands + Timothy Taylors and Hartleys

Mon 20 Aug Branch Meeting, Leathers Smithy, Langley

BOLTON

Wed 8 Aug Meeting at Peel, Higher Bridge Street (Greenalls) 8.30pm

Sun 12 Aug Alternative Grouse Shoot. British Rail Trip to Scarborough. Please bring shotgun and bucket and spade. Contact Bert Kerks (388172) for times.

Wed 22 Aug Social at Queen Anne, Deane Road (now "Sinclairs") 8.30pm. Lounge suits preferred

Sun 2 Sept Westhoughton Pub Crawl. Assemble at Four Gates at High Noon. Thence to Brinsop, Poacher, Green Barn, Ridgeway

Wed 5 Sept Meeting at Church Inn, Farnworth (Thwaites) 8.30

Wed 12 Sept York (Burtonwood) "Football" Social 7.30pm. Rattles optional

Sun 23 Sept Sunday Social at the Millstone, Adlington (Tetleys). Assemble at 12.

HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Tues 7th Aug Quiz Evening, Stamford Arms, Stalybridge (Burtonwood) 8.30

Thurs 9 Aug Committee Meeting, Kavanagh Tavern (Red Lion), Stamford St, Ashton-under-Lyne (Free house - Wilsons Original bitter, mild and Thwaites best mild and bitter)

Tues 14 Aug Branch Meeting, Grapes, Glossop (Boddingtons)

Tues 28 Aug, Robinsons Meeting, Astley Arms, Dukinfield (Robinsons)

Contact Tom Lord 061 427 7099

TRAFFORD AND HULME

Thurs 2 Aug 8pm Committee/Social, Barrington, Stamford Road, Altrincham (All welcome)

Thurs 9 Aug 8pm. City Crawl. Start from White Lion, Liverpool Road, Manchester. Details from branch contact

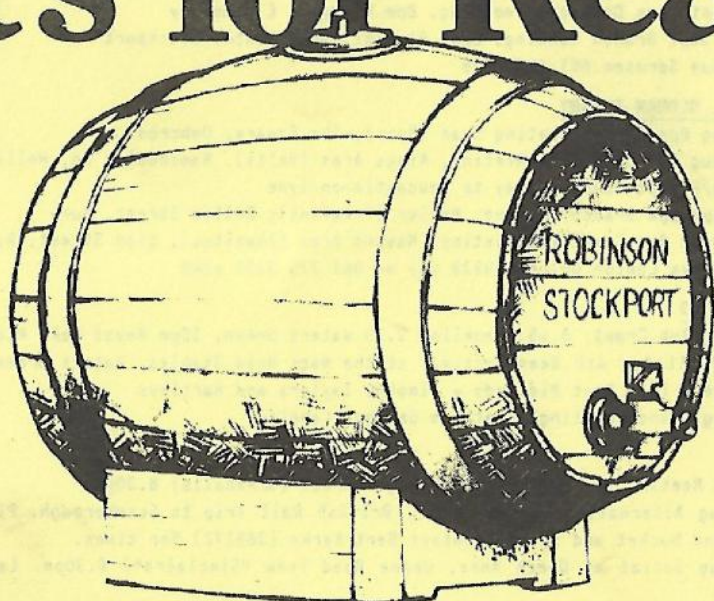
Sat 11 Aug The Tyldesley Crawl. Details from branch contact

Thurs 16 Aug 8pm Branch Meeting, Old Bank Street Brew House, Old Bank Street, off Cross Street, Manchester city centre

Thurs 6 Sept 8pm Committee/Social, All welcome, venue in next month's issue

Contact David Shelton 061 795 2113

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 Pins*, 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



Always available from Unicorn Wine, Lower Hillgate, Stockport, (just by the Brewery) 061-480 6571. And it's the cheapest way of buying beer. A little more trouble perhaps but we think you will agree with us that it is worth it.

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.

**When you buy any of these Robinson's Ales,
you are buying Traditional Draught Beer
-at its very best.**
