

WHAT'S DOING

SEPT
1984

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

THROUGH THE MARBLE ARCH

Manchester's newest free house, the Marble Arch, Rochdale Road, opened on 8th August selling a variety of real ales from near and far. In the first fortnight the best seller has been Holts bitter, followed by Jennings bitter and "Marble Arch" (Winkles) bitter. The first guest beer, Hoxton Heavy, sold out in 3½ days. Mild sales, unfortunately, have been disappointing and either the Jennings mild or the Holts mild will go; the good news is that this will be replaced permanently by Taylors Landlord. At the time of going to press the guest beer was



Morrells Varsity; Moorhouses Pendle Witch and Archers of Swindon were due and Brakspears Special, Wadworths 6X, Simpkins and Gibbs Bishops Tipple are promised.

ROBINSONS IN NORTH MANCHESTER AND SALFORD

Although pubs in the north of the city have been gutted and revamped, the general economic climate makes them less susceptible to the kind of revamping which Robinsons have carried out in the gin and Jaguar belt to the south. There are only 10 Robinsons pubs in the North Manchester branch area and none of them would seem to be candidates for Robinsonisation. The Brown Cow and the White Horse in Eccles were both rebuilt when the M602 was constructed and have not been significantly altered since. The Pied Piper in Little Hulton and the Ark Royal off Rochdale Road are 1960's pubs and are not vulnerable.

Across the road from the Ark Royal stands the Milan Inn which contains some excellent wood panelling. Minor alterations have been carried out recently without altering the essential character. Even Robinsons are unlikely to be insensitive enough to remove or paint over the panelling. The Pleasant in Blackley is a simple mid-19th century beerhouse. Better use could be made of the land surrounding the building but its location makes it an unlikely potential Mecca for Hooray Henriettas and the cravat brigade.

In Swinton the White Lion is a late 18th century building of some character. The external appearance is marred by an enormous hoarding on the front of the pub and the interior was ruined about 20 years ago when it was gutted and extended. There have been some recent attempts at improvement but the building could do with a considerable amount of investment to attempt to restore the lost character.

The Three Legs of Man in Greengate is something of an enigma. It certainly needs improvement but exactly how can this be achieved? The pub has always exuded an aura of dowdiness. Still in Salford, the Star on the Cliff is probably the only pub in the area to have remained unaltered. One particularly attractive feature is the tiny bar. It is difficult to see how this former beerhouse could be improved without ruining its unique character.

One pub which does need to be altered is the Castle on Oldham Street. The back room is virtually unused and could be brought into use by moving the main bar into the centre of the pub and enlarging the vault. This would not affect either the high ceiling of the back room or the tiled front of the pub. Whether Robinsons will spend money in a declining area of Central Manchester remains to be seen.

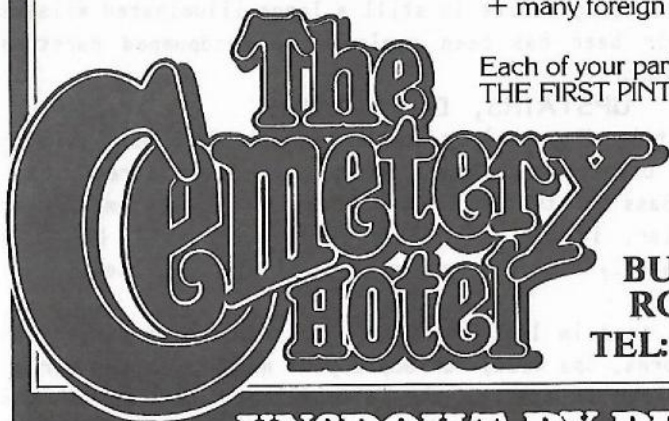
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WHAT'S DOING

PROMISE FULFILLED!

At long last OB have got around to converting one of their houses to real ale - promised last December! The Angel in Lees, near Oldham, now serves cask OB mild and bitter through handpumps, in addition to the Boddies bitter (which did arrive on time). At last some irrigation in this real ale desert!

TRAVELLERS CAN CALL AGAIN

During August renovation work and alterations took place at the Travellers Call, Ashton Old Road (close to the junction with Grey Mare Lane), Openshaw. This former Wilsons pub is due to re-open this month. The cask beer range had not been decided at the time of writing, but Boddies and Tetleys were being considered. The new proprietors are Mr and Mrs Healey, and we wish them luck in their new venture. The Travellers Call is the first free house along the whole stretch of Ashton Old Road - could the boarded-up Malcolm (near New Smithfield Market) be the next?

NEW MILLS NEWS

This Robinsons-dominated area has recently seen an addition to the choice of cask ales. There is a real ale gain at the Waltzing Weasel, Hayfield Road, Birch Vale. This pub attracts mainly the car trade due to its somewhat isolated position, but a visit is rewarded by hand-pumped Marstons bitter and Pedigree, Youngers No 3 and Ruddles County in comfortable surroundings at not too inflated prices.

At the opposite end of New Mills the Squirrel, Buxton Road, Newtown, has reopened. No apparent changes have been made to the inside of this sturdy local, but although there is still a large illuminated Wilsons sign outside, their beer has been replaced by handpumped Marstons mild, bitter and Pedigree.

UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS

Draught Bass (electric dispense) is now on sale at 70p a pint in both bars of Upstairs, Downstairs, Chapel Walks, off Cross Street, Manchester. As the Bass is the only cask conditioned occupant in an otherwise keg cellar, it was originally served very cold, but this problem has been largely overcome by providing it with a jacket.

BOLTON

Readers shocked to read in last month's WD that Bass cask bitter was available at Hawthorns, Spa Road, for 80p a pint need no longer worry. The beer is no longer on sale as the suitability of the cellar has proved less than amenable to cask beer. Presumably the onset of winter will change this.

The Jolly Miller on Chorley Old Road, a Pennine Joke pub built in

1979, has undergone its first transformation and ended up as a "Barnabys" identikit establishment. Cask Wilsons mild and bitter have remained.

BODDY BUILDING

Boddingtons aren't closing all their pubs. They have plans to extend the Hare and Hounds at Werneth Low, Hyde, and to change the two adjoining cottages into a restaurant with accommodation for the licensee above. The car park will also be enlarged for the upmarket punters who will come to this fairly remote pub.

DRABS

Holts bitter (59p a pint) is now on sale in the King William IV free house on Springfield Lane, Salford.

WIGAN NEWS

Ind Coope Burton Bitter is on sale at the recently redecorated Raven Hotel, Wallgate. This is Burton's first venture into the Wigan area. Around the corner in Millgate, the Ship is to be Burtonwood's next "Almonds" transformation.

OPEN HOUSES

Pennine Host are certainly lashing out the readies in an all-out effort to give us the pubs that they think we deserve. The Open House theme (mirrors, plastic greenery, chromium pipework and more plastic greenery) has hit the Oldham area with a vengeance. The Black Horse,

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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

Ripponden Road, Watersheddings (near the rugby ground), is now Turpins Open House. Real ale has been retained - a seemingly standard 64p for mild and 66p for bitter - together with the vault. But the lounge...! By the time this WD hits the streets another drinkers' nightmare will have materialised; the Chadderton Arms, Broadway, is to become Franklyns. One cannot help thinking that this pandering to the fickle "young trade" will yet again rebound on Wilsons.

HYDEAWAY REOPENS

The Red Lion (late Hydeaway) on the corner of Manchester Road, Hyde, reopened on 8th August as a "free house". Robinsons best mild and bitter and Hartleys mild and bitter are served through handpumps. The pub has been altered to make a small lounge and kitchen facing the bar, a snug and a games room for pool and darts.

CHIP SHOP CHOP

Matthew Brown have purchased the former chip shop on Huddersfield Road, Waterhead, Oldham, abutting their Shepherds Boy. It is now being more permanently attached to the pub and the work is expected to be completed by mid October. As Matthew Brown now own Theakstons, it is hoped that cask Old Peculier will accompany the Lion mild and bitter currently on sale from handpumps. It is promised that the alterations will not change the character of the pub, and the public bar is to stay. We shall see.

KEEP TAKING THE PILS

In addition to the draught Bass, the Wellington, Shambles Square, Manchester, now sells real German bottled Pils. Warsteiner Pils sells at 78p per $\frac{1}{3}$ litre bottle. It is the original Warsteiner as sold in Germany and all the advertising material is still in the native language. Posters displayed in the pub describe the Pils as "Eine Königin unter den Bieren" and "Eines der besten Bieren unserer Zeit". It is served in authentic Warsteiner .41 litre glasses. Meanwhile, John Smiths pubs are selling Hänniger Pils from Frankfurt. Although this is a special import version (the label's been translated into English) it is still brewed according to the Reinheitsgebot.

WEAKER AND CHEAPER

Old Bank Street bitter at the Old Bank Street Brewhouse, Manchester, was until recently selling at 67p a pint (og 1042). Lunchtime drinkers complained that this was too strong, so the gravity has been reduced to 1036 at 64p a pint. This is now much more on a par with the Lass o'Gowrie, which sells its LOG 35 at 65p.

TURN FOR THE WORSE

The Craven Heifer on Burnley Road, Rawtenstall, was auctioned by Wilsons recently and is now a free house. This rather small pub has seen little change, except for the removal of the handpumps and the

introduction of fizzy John Smiths. If the quality of the bottled Guinness is anything to go by, it's happen as well cask beer isn't sold.

ORIGINAL

Greenalls Original Bitter is now available in the Bridgewater, Scot Lane, Wigan, and appears to be selling quite well. It's a pity the same can't be said of the White Swan, Warrington Road, Lower Ince. A recent visit revealed that an entire barrel of the stuff had gone off without so much as a pint pulled! In both these pubs, a handpump and large red clip stood out among the electric taps and both had "Original" beer mats. Greenalls might do well to plug this fine ale on billboards or TV and send the "Greenall Whitley Land" male models out to pasture with Fred and the bulls.

Another new Original outlet is the Rams Head, Louton St Lukes.

CLEANING THE IRWELL

The Irwell Castle on Great Clowes Street, Salford, is one of the latest Wilsons pubs to get the renovation treatment. Let's hope they also improve the mild so that customers won't complain and be asked, "What are you drinking it for, then?"



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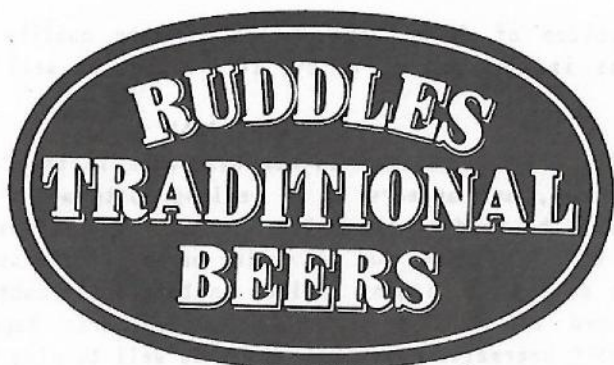
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* Guest Basis Only C = County B = Rutland Bitter

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**"RUDDLING
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JOHN SMITHS

John Smiths cask conditioned bitter has arrived at the Angel, on Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne. The handpumped beer was introduced at the end of July and is reported to be selling well. The pub displays a fine tiled frontage from the days of Shaws Brewery, and is worth visiting.

LOOK - WE'VE GOT A BRASSERIE!

Oldham town centre has lost a pub and gained a brasserie. (No - we don't know either!) The Greaves Arms closed for three months, during which time £140,000 was spent on modifications, and reopened early last month. As with most recent re-vamps, the accent is on food rather than on drinks. The OB beers remain keg with Boddies bitter as the only real ale available.

MORE NEWS FROM WIGAN

The Belle Vue, Woodhouse Lane, Wigan, reopened last month after a brief period of closure. Whitbread have converted a pleasant but undistinguished pub into an attractive split-level interior, similar to Burtonwood's job on the Keepers further down the road. Cask Trophy (64p) now stands alongside Castle Eden Ale (67p)

The Turnkey Cellars, King Street, has replaced McEwan's 70/- with 80/-, a rather curious swap as Youngers IPA, an identical brew, is the only other cask ale in the pub. To confuse the toper even more, the Turnkey advertises Boddingtons beer outside! The discerning drinker really ought to try the 80/-, it being 4p cheaper than the IPA.

ON THE RIGHT LINES

The Railway and Commercial (Front House) at Springhead now has hand-pumped Oldham mild and bitter to accompany the Boddingtons bitter which arrived some months ago. However, the threatened "improvements" have not yet materialised owing to a host of complaints from local residents. What do they know that we don't? Will this become another Boddingtons cocktail bar, like the Greaves?

LEES IN ASHTON

The Seven Stars, Ashton-under-Lyne, reopens as a J W Lees pub on September 21st. Until recently it was a free house selling Boddingtons

SCANDALOUS

Whitbread have given the nasty treatment to another of their Bolton pubs. The Painters, a rather run-down boozier, has been transformed into a dark, noisy disco with prices to match. There are no raised areas, except behind the bar so that bar-proppers can get a better view of the scantily-clad barmaids. Service seems to be restricted to when the barmaids aren't bashing tambourines and dancing around behind the bar. Apart from this, the only conceivable reason for visiting the pub is if you want to drink Guinness bottled by Morlands of Abingdon!

BETTER CEMETERY

Rochdale's best known free house, the Good Beer Guide listed Cemetery on Bury Road, has a new manager. Adrian Bell, who was a cellarman at the pub a few years ago, has assumed command. There has been a distinct improvement in the standard of the beers available. Whilst the range is still extensive, the accent is now on quality rather than quantity. We wish him well.

BRINSOP BROADENS

The Brinsop Arms, Westhoughton, has introduced Robinsons best bitter, Theakstons best bitter and XB and Jennings bitter. Matthew Brown mild and bitter have been dropped from the range.

SHUT

The Union, a Burtonwood house on Princess Street in central Manchester is closed and boarded up.

The Ancoats, Great Ancoats Street, which Greenalls acquired from Wilsons in a pub swap, is up for sale with a licence and free from tie. Not that Wilsons would have done any better - the Dancing Weasel opposite and the White House down the road are still shut.

The Waggon & Horses (Greenalls), Albert Road, Farnworth, is shut and boarded up.

NO BODDIES?

Manchester's favourite brewer suffered a set back in mid July when employees went on strike in protest at the sacking of two colleagues who'd spent too long in the pub. Wonder whose beer they were drinking?

GREENALLS

Greenalls have been moving into pastures new recently by supplying the Canine Club in Accrington and Coal Clough House in Burnley. These are the first two Greenalls outlets in East Lancashire; needless to say, both sell bright beer.

BURY BEER FESTIVAL

The fifth real ale extravaganza is to be held at the Derby Hall, Market Street, Bury, on the weekend Friday-Saturday 19th-20th October. Licensed sessions will be 11.30-3.00 and 5.00-11.00 on both days.

Admission charges (free to card carrying CAMRA members, of course) will be 30p lunchtimes, 50p evenings before 7pm and 70p thereafter.

Around 30 real ales from 20 countrywide breweries will be featured, together with cider and wines. Good food (hot and cold) will be available throughout the festival. Entertainment, including brass and folk, will be provided at all sessions. A special festival tee-shirt will be on sale. Further details of beers, etc, next month.

Contributors: Steve Lawton, Roger Hall, Dave Hale, Don Chattwood, Leo King, Dave White, Ken Linkman, Karl Greenall, Adrian Cunningham, Paul Roberts, the Whinging Sartorial Scot, Stewart Revell, Philip Levison,



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SKYE'S THE LIMIT

REAL ALE IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS OF SCOTLAND



'Big Al' delivers Alice round Inverness

Not so many years ago real ale north of Perth was rare. Recently, however, the growth of traditional beer in this former beer desert has been quite phenomenal. In Inverness the Alice Brewery, which opened in Spring 1983, now sells traditional beer in over 25 outlets in the area, some of which is even delivered by a horse-drawn dray. In other tourist areas like Aviemore, Oban and Fort William cask conditioned beer is widely available and usually in good condition. In less

well trodden areas, however, real ale, where it does exist, is less likely to be well kept. Locals seem to exist on a diet of whisky and the ubiquitous Tennents lager.

At the Misty Isle Hotel at Dunvegan, Isle of Skye, the locals referred to the handpumped Strathalbyn bitter as "cats' piss". With my sheltered urban upbringing I did not have the benefit of their experience but the beer was certainly sour and unpalatable and unlikely to encourage any converts to the real ale cause. In Uig, the tiny ferry terminal in Skye, the handpumped Heriot 80/- remained untouched by the locals in the Bakur Bar, who were all drinking keg. Consequently the beer was not at its best.

In fairness, an excellent pint of Strathalbyn bitter could be obtained at the Tongadale Hotel in Portree - the main town of Skye. The Tongadale is also more like a pub than either of the other bars or indeed many of the bars and hotels in which the Scots tend to assemble. There was no evidence of real ale in the Western Isles but, to be realistic, only Stornoway on Lewis is large enough to warrant



the costly trip to the outer Hebrides.

At Kinloch Rannoch in Northern Perthshire I was enticed into the Dunalastair Hotel which proudly advertised "Real Ale". Most of this was bottled and unreal. The only thing approaching traditional beer was Greenmantle, brewed by Bass at Tennents Brewery and served via a beer engine from converted 11 gallon kegs. Its realness was confirmed by the fact that the beer was rancid.

In Scotland, as in England, the growth of real ale has resulted in as many difficulties as successes. Traditional beer badly kept and badly served by ignorant bar staff and shunned by locals can only do harm to CAMRA.

Sidney Sporrán

HAMMERSTEIN HITS BACK

Sir - Rarely have I read such arrant twaddle as Roger Hall's article (August WD) on the CAMRA Pub Preservation Awards. For the benefit of your readers may I, as a member of the Pub Preservation Group, provide a few facts.

Fact 1 Both the Lass o'Gowrie and the Denmark were considered for the Awards because they were nominated - by their



brewers or architects. Any pub properly nominated will receive consideration.

Fact 2 Neither pub won an Award, so it's difficult to see what Mr Hall is bleating about. The PPG cannot be blamed for the quality of entries submitted to it.

Fact 3 Neither the Friendship nor the Unicorn has been nominated by anyone for an Award, so it is pointless to mention them in this context.

Fact 4 Roger says the PPG's criteria for the Awards are "silly", but does not explain why. Nor does he substantiate his "feeling" that there is a bias towards pub exteriors.

Fact 5 Roger comments on the PPG members' rural background. Four out of the five Award judges in fact live in towns or cities - Telford, Peterborough, Liverpool and Lancaster. I will have to own up and have to admit to living in a village - hardly a crime - but in my defence I will argue that I was born, brought up and educated in towns.

Fact 6 No Awards have been given to "trendy pub wreckers", unless that is how Roger Hall normally describes Thwaites and Sam Smiths.

Fact 7 PPG will be delighted to receive nominations for next year's Awards from any of your readers. Details of how to nominate pubs will be found in "What's Brewing" in the next few months.

I trust that in future you will see fit to publish fewer of Hall's ill-informed outpourings, and instead devote more column inches to the estimable Rose Bush.

Peter Lerner



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TEDIOUS TAFFY

Sir - Rupert Periwinkle can be assured that the dearth of Snoot Magna news is indeed not due to the lethargy of the branch; it is due, Sir, solely to your disinclination to print items emanating from this quarter. More than once contributions which I have seen and know to be equal in quality and relevance to anything else that gets into the paper have gone unpublished and, on inquiry being made, have been dismissed as "illiterate" or "bloody awful"; I fail to comprehend an editorial policy that dismisses well-written real ale news as "bloody awful" yet gives free rein to the scurrilous claptrap. You may be interested to know that the revival in June of "Opening Times" was prompted largely by your own capricious editorial policy; mindful of the need to protect the good name of CAMRA, we chose not to emphasise this aspect at the time of the launch; however, now that Rupert has stepped into the gutter, it is right to set the record straight. Finally, if it's internecine strife you're after, perusal of August "Periwinkle" leads to the conclusion that South Manchester is not the branch in which to seek it. Certainly we have disagreements (most healthy organisations do), but at least we don't chuck four letter words around in the pages of What's Doing.

The Welsh Wizard

NOW AND THEN - SOUTH ON THE A6

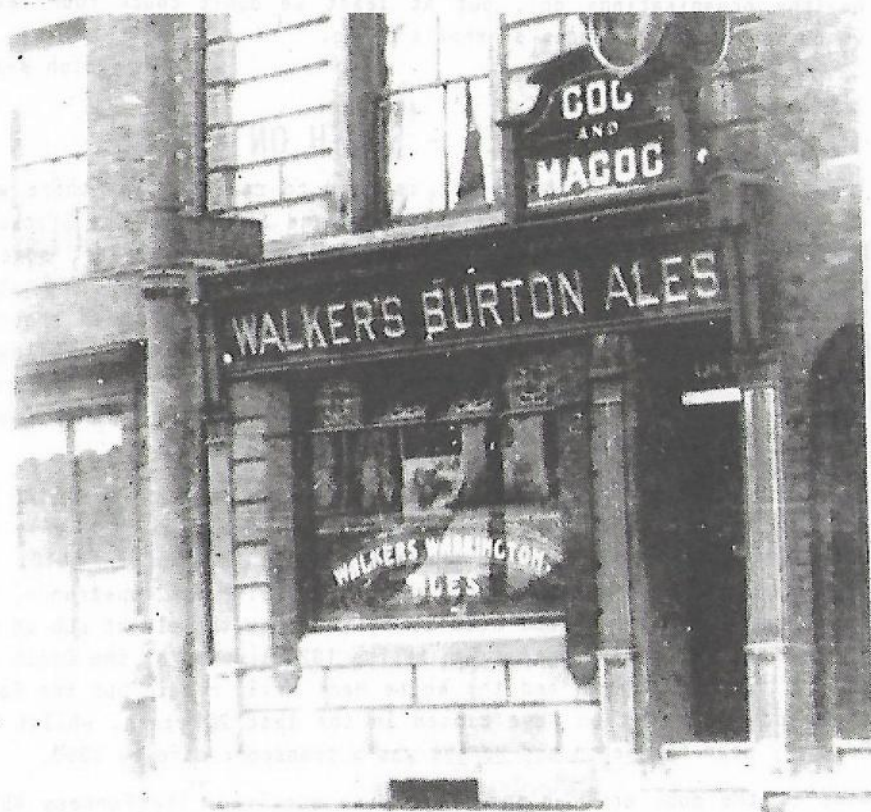
Travelling down the A6 today, it is hard to realise that there were at one time almost 50 pubs between Portland Street and the Stockport boundary. The beer was from 18 or more different breweries, some of which, like Chesters, Wilsons, Hydes and Boddingtons, are still familiar names. Most of the brews have disappeared or been absorbed by other breweries - Taylors of Pollard Street, Groves & Whitnall, Manchester Brewery Company, Watson, Woodhead & Wagstaffe, Walker & Homfray, Stopford, Kays, Threlfalls, Hardys, Empress, Yates Castle Brewery, Daniel Clifton, Cronshaws and Samuel Allsopp.

As late as 1963 there were still 39 pubs on this stretch of the A6 and most of the closures have been since then. On Piccadilly only the Waterloo Hotel has closed - surrendering its licence in 1910. The Imperial and the Brunswick still survive. Despite its appearance, the Coach and Horses on London Road is by no means the oldest pub on the road. There were 5 licensed prior to the 1820 licence of the Coach and Horses. The Bulls Head and the White Hart still remain but the Robin Hood and the Red Lion have closed in the last 20 years, whilst the Feathers near the Coach and Horses was a transport cafe by 1963.

None of the pubs on Downing Street have survived. The Furness Abbey

and the Minshull Arms had disappeared by 1963 and the Gog and Magog and the Royal Oak since then. On Ardwick Green both the Church Inn (1858) and the George and Dragon (licensed 100 years earlier) remain. Stockport Road in Chorlton on Medlock and Longsight has lost 10 pubs and gained three new ones (including 2 rebuilds) in the last 20 years. In Levenshulme, however, no pubs have been lost.

PUB	ADDRESS	BREWERY c1900	FIRST LICENCE
Waterloo Hotel	8 Piccadilly		1847 surrendered 1910
Imperial Hotel *	28 Piccadilly	Manchester Brewery	1859
Brunswick Hotel *	97 Piccadilly	Allsopp	1840
Coach & Horses *	8 London Road		1820
Feathers	16 London Road	Daniel Clifton	1784 demolished
White Hart *	38 London Road	Manchester Brewery	1773 now Nip & Tipple
Robin Hood	53 London Road	Manchester Brewery	1743 demolished
Bulls Head *	84 London Road	Manchester Brewery	1753
Red Lion	89 London Road	Cronshaw	1773 demolished
Carlton	129 London Road	Manchester Brewery	1856 closed 1923
Gog & Magog	6 Downing Street	Groves & Whitnall	demolished
Royal Oak	7 Downing Street	Manchester Brewery	demolished
Furness Abbey	50 Downing Street	Yates Castle Bry	1858 demolished



Minshull Arms	72 Downing Street	Groves & Whitnall	1763	demolished
George & Dragon	28 Ardwick Green S	Manchester Brewery	1758	
Church Inn *	45 Ardwick Green N	Walker & Homfray	1858	
Empire Inn	11 Stockport Road	Groves & Whitnall	1853	demolished
Polygon Inn	29 Stockport Road		1863	demolished
Shakespeare	67 Stockport Road		1773	demolished
The George	115 Stockport Road			demolished
Devonshire Hotel *	137 Stockport Road			Now The Circus
Cricketers Inn	179 Stockport Road	Wilsons	1866	demolished
Star Inn	209 Stockport Road	Walker & Homfray	1830	demolished
Sir Charles Napier	316 Stockport Road	Kays	1855	demolished
Wellington	360 Stockport Road	Threlfalls	1854	now the Gold Cup
Westmorland Hotel	305 Stockport Road	Walker & Homfray		demolished
Plymouth Inn	317 Stockport Road	Boddingtons		demolished
Grove House	378 Stockport Road	Openshaw		closed 1924
Alma Inn	406 Stockport Road	J W Lees	1855	closed 1917
Victoria	421 Stockport Road	Groves & Whitnall		rebuilt as New Victoria
Ducie Arms	424 Stockport Road	Threlfalls	1866	
Waggon & Horses *	440 Stockport Road	Wilsons		
Church Inn	525 Stockport Road	Hardys		
Longsight Tavern	529 Stockport Road	Boddingtons		demolished
Coach & Horses	547 Stockport Road	Hydes		demolished
Spring Bank Inn	579 Stockport Road	Empress		
Bay Horse *	548 Stockport Road	Boddingtons		rebuilt
Crown Inn *	601 Stockport Road	Wilsons		
Midway House	703 Stockport Road	Walker & Homfray		
Victoria Inn *	709 Stockport Road	Taylor, Pollard St		
Farmers Arms *	812 Stockport Road	Broadbent		
Union Inn *	845 Stockport Road			
Pack Horse *	861 Stockport Road	Watson, Woodhead & Wagstaffe		
Church Inn	874 Stockport Road	Groves & Whitnall		
Railway Hotel	936 Stockport Road	Chesters		
Levenshulme Hotel	* 959 Stockport Road	Stopford		
Wheatshaf	1065 Stockport Road	Groves & Whitnall		

* real ale

There are two further pubs on the A6. The Cock and Bull, a 1978 Tetley pub, and the Lancaster, the actual address of which was 2 Plymouth Grove West. This was once a Manchester Brewery pub.

Of the 25 pubs remaining on the A6 in South Manchester, 15 sell real ale.

(The photo of the Gog & Magog in 1912 is reproduced, with permission, from "The Old Pubs of Chorlton on Medlock" by Bob Potts)



Branch Diary

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

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

Sat/Sun 8/9 Sept Weekend Away in Newcastle

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

Tues 2 Oct 8pm, Branch Meeting, Cemetery (free), Bury Road, Rochdale

Tues 16 Oct 8pm Committee Meeting. The first to be held in a Pullman carriage? At the Yew Tree, Oldham Road, Bursil, Rochdale
Fri/Sat 19/20 Oct Bury Beer Festival. See elsewhere in this issue.
Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) or 061 775 3351 ext 248

HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Tues 4 Sept 8.30 Branch Committee Meeting, Red Lion, Hyde (Hartleys & Robinsons)
Tues 11 Sept 8.30 Branch Meeting, Crown, Market St, Hyde (Robinsons)
Mon 17 Sept, Robinsons Meeting, Manchester Arms, Stockport
Wed 19 Sept Trip to Wilsons Brewery
Contact Tom Lord 061 427 7099

NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed 5 Sept Chapel Street Crawl. 7pm Old Ship, 8pm Brown Bull -
Sat 8 Sept Wigan Crawl. Train from Manchester Victoria 7.10 (via Swinton), Bolton 7.37. Meet Park, Hope Street, 8pm
Wed 12 Sept 8pm Spread Eagle, Regent Road, Salford
Wed 19 Sept 8pm Dean Brook, Newton Heath
Contact Roger Hall 740 7937

TRAFFORD & HULME

Thurs 6 Sept 8pm Committee/Social, All welcome. Britons Protection, Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester
Thurs 13 Sept 8pm Chorlton Checkout. Starts from Royal Oak, Barlow Moor Road
Thurs 20 Sept 8pm. Branch Meeting, Old Roebuck, Victoria Street, Altrincham
Thurs 4 Oct 8pm Committee/Social. All welcome. Falkners, Stamford New Rd, Altrincham
Contact David Shelton 061 795 2113

MACCLESFIELD

Thurs 13 Sept Pub Crawl 8.45 Beehive, 9.30 Bridgewater, 10.00 Puss in Boots
Mon 24 Sept Branch Meeting Meridian, Bollington

SOUTH MANCHESTER

Sat 1 Sept Trip to Keighley and Worth Valley Railway. 8.52am train from Manchester Victoria
Tues 4 Sept Open Committee Meeting, 8pm, Gateway, Kingsway, East Didsbury
Thurs 13 Sept, Branch Meeting, 8pm, Florist, Shaw Heath, Stockport. Selection of pubs for Greater Manchester Good Beer Guide
Monday 17th September Special Meeting open to all branches and interested parties to discuss Robinsons modernisation policies, 8pm, Manchester Arms, Wellington Road South, Stockport
Thurs 27 Sept. Pub of the Month, Duke of Edinburgh, Mill Street, Bradford/Clayton
Tues 2 Oct Open Committee Meeting, 8pm, Swan with two Necks, Princes Street, Stockport Shopping Precinct.
Weds 10 Oct, Visit to Higsons Brewery by public transport. Details from B Pryme 061 225 6606
Thurs 11 Oct Branch Meeting, 8pm, Gateway, East Didsbury.
Contact Sue Sproson 061 225 4058

ALL BRANCHES

Greater Manchester Regional Branches Meeting, Wednesday 26th September 8pm **PROMPT**, Crown & Anchor, Hilton Street, Manchester. (organising branch: High Peak - contact Tom Lord 061 427 7099)
Special Meeting to discuss Robinsons modernisation policies. 8pm, Manchester Arms, Wellington Road South, Stockport, **Monday 17th September.**



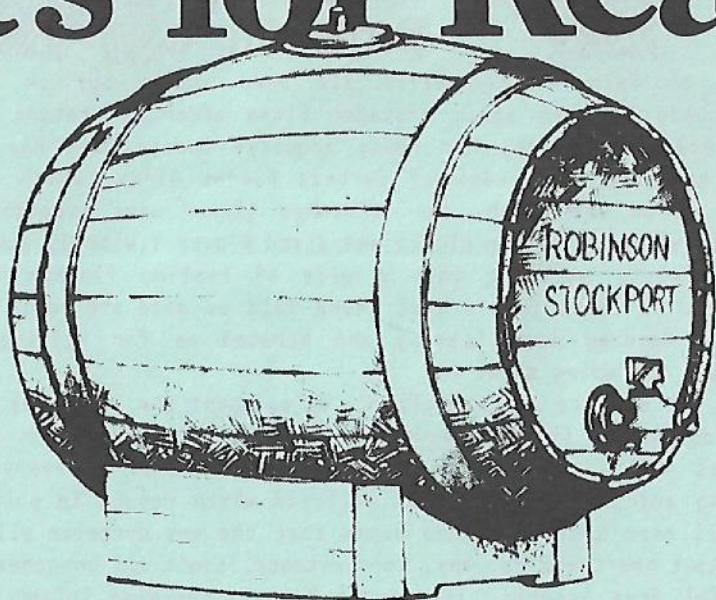
Enough of fairy tales. We've all been shaken out of our smug complacency by born again crusader Fiona after her return from the South Atlantic. Zorab, her newly acquired spouse, met his sad end after sampling some cans of Cerveza Buenos Aires, which had been washed up on the beach. The fermented liquor went straight to his head, he stripped to his pinkie and dived A over T with $2\frac{1}{2}$ somersaults and 2 twists straight into a pile of rusting flotsam from the Belgrano. At least that's what Fiona told us when she burst into the Rat and Handbag last Tuesday and berated us for sitting on our backsides and doing sweet FA.

Anyway, it had the desired effect. We've spent the last week crawling round dozens of licensed hovels doing grass roots surveys. Tish has objected to 74 planning applications and written to every brewery pointing out the crassness of policies which result in pubs up for sale all over Grotley. Fiona hopes that the new dynamism will spread throughout the Campaign. Why, for instance, can't all branches produce wonderful free inserts, like Snoot Magna's "Opening Tripe", full of rivetting recycled news and lengthy pub crawls with built in votes.

Even those doyens of the Campaign - DOGSHIT - did not escape her vitriolic tongue. "Haven't Mrs Prune, Peter Hammerstein, Bogbrush and Barry Wombourne nothing better to do than show each other slides of the Smock and Straw and talk interminably about setting up exhibitions to enable the middle class to patronise the hoi polloi?" Ophelia Hampton was deputed to write to Mrs Prune, asking them to meet in Slumley once again to recorrect their perspectives. Despite the unfortunate collapse of the hostelry in which they met, the last Slumley DOGSHIT meeting was a wild success. I've no idea why some of us should have received missives from Mr Hammerstein suggesting that we might insert our crania in the anal orifices of deceased ursine creatures.

Fiona was quite incensed at her letter, sounded off about people using the Campaign as a springboard for their own nefarious careers, and despite our remonstrations that this was one thing which could not be hung round the necks of the DOGSHIT people she resigned on the spot and disappeared as suddenly as she'd arrived only five days earlier. Its upsetting to see the Campaign fall apart in this way. We obviously need a new common objective to campaign for - real dominoes, cask Fosters, Britannia footstools, coal fires - so that solidarity can once more be achieved.

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.

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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.**
