

WHAT'S DOING



NOV
1984

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE



THE MANCHESTER AMBER NECTAR SHOW

The first Manchester Beer Festival for five years will be held in the Barnes Wallis Building of UMIST from Nov 22 to Nov 24. There will be beers from all over the country, including:

Archers, Batemans, Burton Bridge, Camerons, Courage, Greene King, Hardy & Hansons, Fullers, Hoskins, Hereward, Victoria, Woodforde, Bathams, Davenports, Holdens, Oak, Simpkins, Belhaven, Big Lamp, Greenmantle, Leith, Shepherd Neame, Strathalbyn, Brakspears, Eldridge Pope, Felinfoel, Gales, Hall & Woodhouse, Ringwood, Lees, Marstons, Sair Inn and Taylors.

In addition, there will be Wilkins Farmhouse Somerset ciders and perrys, together with other esoteric ciders. A selection of wines and soft drinks will also be on sale.

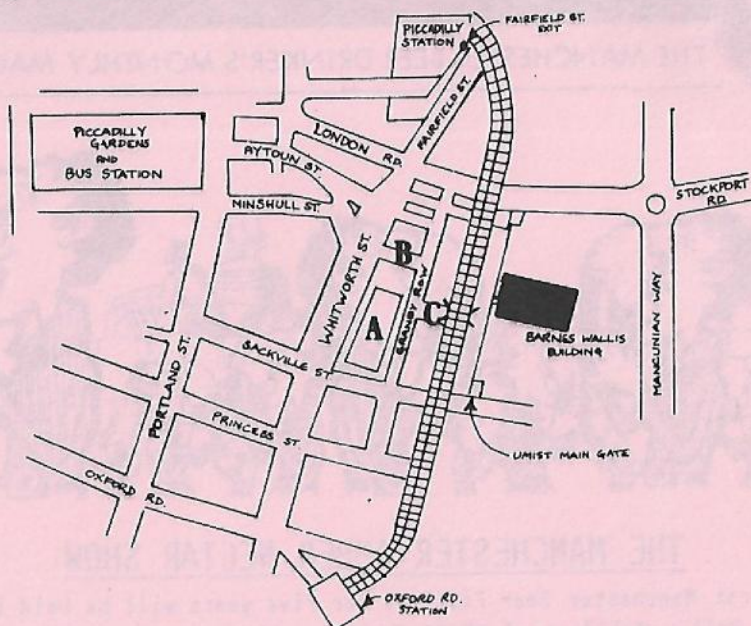
Stirring entertainment, from jazz to brass bands, will help the merriment along, and a range of souvenir products and special CAMRA items can be purchased. For those who seek enlightenment there are various static displays and for those who need encouragement there are tremendous incentive offers which will result in nobody leaving the hall without having become a CAMRA member.

Hot and cold snacks are available at all sessions. The official opening will be at 7pm on Thursday 22nd Nov. Sessions are:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Thursday 22 November | 5.30pm - 10.30pm | Admission 50p |
| Friday 23rd November | 11.30am - 3.00pm | Admission Free |
| | 5.30pm - 11.00pm | Admission 50p up to 7pm |
| | | 7pm-11pm £1.00 |

Saturday 24th November

AS FRIDAY



From Piccadilly, turn down Aytoun Street to junction with Whitworth Street. You will see a large building clad in yellowish stone facing you. This is the original UMIST building (A). The street to the left is Coburg Street (B). Walk to the end, across Granby Row and a walkway (C) under the railway viaduct leads directly to the Barnes Wallis building.

Ken Birch

BODDY NOT SO BEAUTIFUL

An article in the Morning Advertiser on 28th September clearly showed that Manchester's favourite brewery had at last woken up to the fact that all was not well at Strangeways. If they'd read their What's Doings they'd have known this ages ago. Since their well-deserved success in the 1970's the brewery has become increasingly insular, unwilling to accept or even listen to any criticism. Even the appointment of a PR agency was largely a one-way whitewashing exercise. No wonder that the realisation may have come too late.

Worried brewery asks its employees: Where have all our customers gone?

BODDINGTON'S, the Manchester-based independent brewery, has sent out a pep-talk circular to all managers and employees asking bluntly: "Where has the customer gone?"

The brewery says it is not faring very well in 1984. "We have sold nearly 17,000 fewer barrels of our own beer than in 1983, despite the good weather this summer," says the circular.

As long ago as 1975 the first issue of What's Doing voiced misgivings about the brewery's policy on handpumps and rebuilding. Despite this, 24 Boddingtons pubs in Greater Manchester were included in the 1976 national Good Beer Guide. In the same years the horrors of Boddification were mentioned for the first time in connection with the Three Arrows and tee shirts, belts and sew-on patches appeared in the pubs. What's Doing was still criticising tasteless conversions and the replacement of handpumps with electric pumps.

By 1977 Boddingtons were making the front page with a report on the desecration of the Three Arrows and on 28th February the brewery suffered its first strike. Nevertheless, profits were up and beer sales had increased by 25%, as evidenced by the popularity of Boddies pubs everywhere. Mind you, Boddies bitter was the same price as Holts then, 24p a pint. The first serious indictment of Boddingtons beer appeared in What's Doing January 1978, when the beer was described as "gold coloured tasteless water" and "a shadow of its former self". Not really a glowing tribute to a brewery celebrating its bicentenary. A 2p a pint increase later in the year led to a further criticism of the value for money and the deterioration in quality.

In June 1978 the Morning Advertiser confronted Boddingtons with What's Doing's serious criticisms, which they dismissed as the biased carplings of a minority. What's Doing restated that it was not conducting a vendetta against Boddingtons but was merely concerned that the brewery should maintain its excellent reputation in the future. Boddingtons were still producing strong ale at Christmas. It was sold in 36 pubs at around 34p a pint. In 1979 there were still 24 Greater Manchester Boddies pubs in the Good Beer Guide.

Boddington's new brewery, and the quality of beer in the free trade came in for some stick and on 12th April the brewing of ordinary mild ceased. In December 1979 Boddingtons started their first poster advertising campaign, but there were only 21 Greater Manchester Boddies pubs in the 1980 Good Beer Guide. By now we had 16 oz cans of bitter as well as Bodkans.

For some reason WD gave Boddies very little flak during 1980. Mind you, they wouldn't have taken any notice, because they didn't see the report in the December issue about the Ducie Arms being knocked down. 1981 wasn't a bad year. Boddies mild, which won First Prize at the 1980 Brewex, was showing increased sales and handpumps were no longer being ripped out indiscriminately. There were still 20 pubs in the Good Beer Guide.

1982 was a vintage year, beginning as it did with the news of the takeover of Oldham Brewery. All the old fears were paraded in WD, yet real beer started appearing in OB pubs for the first time in years and Ewart Boddington was still emphasising the values of traditional beer. In September Boddies made the front page again when they opened their first tank beer pub - the Brook Tavern in Oldham. The same issue carried a report on the poor quality of OB beers and there was subsequent criticism of the decline in quality of Boddies bitter. In December the ROB branch published their leaflet "Does Anybody Care About OB?" and correspondence in WD continued to mourn the continuing decline in quality of a once great bitter - Boddingtons. Boddies were still not really talking to CAMRA.

Only 15 Greater Manchester Boddies pubs appeared in the 1983 GBG and at that year's CAMRA AGM a National Campaign began against

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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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

Manchester's favourite brewer. Nobody in Manchester was interested in being Brewery Liaison Officer for a brewery which wouldn't talk to anyone and Kevin Buckley was drafted in from Liverpool. All of this seemed to have little influence on the men at Strangeways. One or two OB pubs started selling cask beer but opinion was still critical. A report that Boddies had changed the character of their bitter to mimic the more commonly accepted "natural" bitters was followed by a most disastrous Christmas brew with hundreds of barrels of undrinkable beer being sent back to the brewery.

The 1984 GBG contained only 7 Boddies pubs in Greater Manchester and this year has seen continued criticism of the brewery with two surveys in Manchester. Why is it that it has taken Boddies so long to realise that they are no longer on the up and up? Their reputation was well deserved - good beer served well by well-trained licensees in excellently-run pubs. In trying to run with the big boys they've lost much of what made them respected throughout the country. It's not too late - concentration on quality and service can make Boddies great again. Most important of all, a local brewery should be in touch with its customers. If Boddingtons had listened to today's customers rather than basking in the bouquets of yesteryear this apparent crisis may have been avoided.

Roger Hall

WHAT'S DOING

HALF MOON

The new Half Moon free house on Elliot Street, Tyldesley, is due to open on Wednesday 7th November. Mine host is CAMRA member David Rowlinson and beers at the opening are expected to be Boddingtons bitter, mild, OB bitter and Sam Smiths OBB (all handpumps). We wish David well in his new venture.

GRAPES JUICE

Yates's Grapes, Oldham Street, Manchester (WD last month) will be selling real ale after all - and it's Holts! Let us pray that Yates manage to make a go of it this time.

STAR TURN

The Star and Garter, Fairfield Street, Manchester, has been refurbished by Whitbread in an extremely unhorrific manner. The pub retains a traditional vault and best room and even a lobby. Cask conditioned beers on sale are Trophy and Chesters bitter and the pub has reverted from "Chesters" to "Whitbread" livery.

PLANNING

Inn Design Services have applied for planning permission to extend the Old House at Home, Barton Road, Withington. Pennine Joke plan to alter the outside of the Horse and Jockey in Chorlton Green conservation area and to introduce an off licence.

LAST PHASE

It looks like the Half Moon on Holland Street, Miles Platting, has waned to nothing. This archetypal Gungesmeaters which, even after it had been tarted up, made Yates's look like Versailles, is boarded up like many other Wilsons pubs.

NEW FREE HOUSE

The King William IV has reopened on Stamford Street, Ashton under Lyne. Greenalls Original Bitter is on sale through handpumps and cask John Smiths is reportedly on its way.

BURTON ALE

Ind Coope Burton Ale is now available at the White Horse, Irlam, to complement the Tetley bitter. This fine ale from the brewing capital of Burton on Trent has an og of 1047.5 and is the strongest draught bitter on sale in the area.



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
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.

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

* Organise an excursion & we'll provide *
a room & food if you wish.

2 WARRINGTON ST., ASHTON-U-LYNE. 061-330 6776

TADDY

Sinclairs in central Manchester is now selling traditional Sam Smiths Taddy Bitter.

LAKE INN

Tameside MBC have allocated two sites at Stamford Park Lake, Stalybridge, for either public houses or licensed restaurants/wine bars. Planning is only at the outline stage so it'll be some time before the pub/restaurants are built.

NO BASS

The long-established draught Bass at the Royal Oak (Whitbread) in Chorlton cum Hardy was withdrawn some time ago and replaced by a handpump to serve Trophy bitter. However, like the Feathers, also in Chorlton, the Trophy was not in demand and it was taken off. The licensee will try to reinstate the Bass and we hope he succeeds; apart from providing a real ale choice, it also sold well.

PACKING IN

Manchester's oldest pub, Wilson's Pack Horse on Oldham Road, is closed again. The closure is only temporary and the pub will reopen as soon as a new tenant can be found.

MORE REAL JOHN SMITHS

The Crown in Hulme is the latest gain to the real ale cause. A decent pint of the real stuff is now to be had there, and the pub appears to be undergoing redecoration to make it more attractive to the good people of the area.

HANDICAP

The Racecourse Hotel, Salford, reopened on 14th September complete with gas lamps and other bric a brac from the Greenalls instant tasteful pack-the-kids-in department. Beer prices were hoisted but unfortunately the besuited infant toppers could stand it for only nine days. The pub exploded in what looked like a scene from the Crazy Horse Saloon in mid-nineteenth century Tombstone. This sort of thing doesn't seem to happen in proper pubs. Wonder why?

MODERNISATION

The Robin Hood (Boddingtons), Barton Road, Stretford, is still slowly but surely being modernised and redecorated. Electric pumps are still evident at the bar - whether handpumps will replace them remains to be seen. Bitter sells for a modest 59p a pint. The Victoria (Hydes), Wilmslow Road, Withington, is also slowly but surely taking shape. The former off licence is practically completed and is now in use as a drinking area. The former vault and room are being modernised and both now appear to be one large room. The long lobby now houses part of the bar and the usual box-type illuminated pumps have been installed all round the bar. The real ale is as good as ever.



ANOTHER RECORD OKTOBERFEST

The 1984 Oktoberfest ended on Sunday 7th October with record attendances, despite having worse weather than the last few years. 7,000,000 visitors (6.6m in 1983) drank over 5m litres (4.6m) and consumed over 660,000 chickens (558,000) as well as 67 oxen (59).

The price of the ale had gone up less than 2% on last year and the measures were noticeably better, after earlier warnings to Festwirte serving short measures. For the first time in the history of the Oktoberfest (this year was the 150th) a Festwirt (Bierhalle landlord) lost his licence. Richard Süssmeier (above) had to hand over his beer hall to an official of the Paulanerbräu Brewery for employing 23 Yugoslavians without work permits. On a sour note, container beer made its first appearance, with Hacker-Pschorrbräu using a mini-tank outside one of its serving hatches. All other Hacker-Pschorr serving hatches and all the other breweries were using the usual wooden barrel gravity dispense. The 1985 Oktoberfest opens at 1200 on Saturday 21 September and finishes on Sunday 6th October.

DRABS DARTS CHALLENGE

The darts players of the Brigadier, Firsway, Sale, who modestly regard themselves as the best in the game, challenge any other darts players from Holts pubs to make them eat their words. Any takers should contact landlord Derek Fenwick on 973 8598 to arrange the match.

Contributors: Paul Roberts, Roger Hall, Keith Egerton, Dave Hale, Jim Davies, David Rowlinson, Leo King



NOVEMBER 1984
5th edition

REAL ALE in BURY



INCLUDING RAMSBOTTOM, TOTTINGTON, RADCLIFFE,
WHITEFIELD AND PRESTWICH

BURY

| | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|----------|
| Arthur Inn | Bolton Road | Elton | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Bay Horse | Parr Lane | Unsworth | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Bird in Hand | Manchester Road | Blackford Bridge | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Black Bull | Ainsworth Road | Starling | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Black Bull | The Rock | Centre | Chesters | B(H) |
| Blue Bell | Bury New Road | Sunnybank | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Brewers Arms | Bell Lane | Freetown | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Brickcroft | Brook Street | Freetown | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Bridge Inn | Bridge Street | Freetown | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Bridge Inn | Manchester Road | Blackford Bridge | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Brunswick | Moorgate | Centre | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Church Inn | Spring Street | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Church Inn | Bell Lane | Freetown | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| *Clarence | Silver Street | Centre | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Claybank | Rochdale Road | Centre | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Cricketers | Walmersley Road | Limefield | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Crown | Rochdale Road | Centre | Chesters | B(H) |
| Derby Arms | Bolton Road | Elton | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Dukes (Old Duke) | Brandlesholme Road | Brandlesholme | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Dusty Miller | Croston Road | Woodhill | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Elton View | Eagley Drive | Elton | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Fairfield | Rochdale Old Rd | Fairfield | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Flying Shuttle | Clerke Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Garsdale | Woodhill Road | Woodhill | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| *George | Market Street | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| | | | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| *Globe | Tottington Road | Woolfold | Chesters | B(H) |
| Hare & Hounds | Bolton Street | Centre | Wilsons | B(H) |
| Help Me Thro' | Croston Road | Woodhill | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Hollins Bush | Hollins Lane | Hollins | Lees | GBM,B(E) |
| Jolly Waggoner | Manchester Old Rd | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| *Knowsley | Knowsley Street | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| | | | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| Lamb | Tottington Road | Woolfold | Duttons | B(H) |
| Lord Raglan | Walmersley Old Rd | Nangreaves | McEwans 80/- | (H) |
| | | | Youngers No 3 | (H) |
| Nags Head | Barlow Street | Centre | Thwaites | BM,B(H) |
| Napier | Bolton Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| New Inn | Walmersley Road | Walmersley | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| New Inn | Bell Lane | Freetown | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Old Blue Bell | Bell Lane | Freetown | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Old White Horse | Church Street | Ainsworth | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Pleasant View | Tottington Road | Woolfold | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Queen Anne | Hollins Lane | Unsworth | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Roach Bank | Croft Lane | Hollins | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Robin Hood | Rochdale Road | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Rose & Crown | Cockey Moor Rd | Starling | Castle Eden | (H) |
| | | | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| Rose & Crown | Manchester Old Rd | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Royal Huntsman | Market Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Sir Robert Peel | Sunnybank Road | Sunnybank | Boddingtons | M,B(E) |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| Spotted Cow | Bell Lane | Freetown | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Star Inn | Bridge Street | Freetown | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Sundial | Walmersley Road | Bury General | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Swan | Tottington Road | Woolfold | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Swan & Cemetery | Manchester Road | Redvales | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Trafalgar | Manchester Old Rd | Centre | Burtonwood | M,B(H) |
| Turf | Wash Lane | Wash Lane | Matthew Brown | M,B,JP(H) |
| Two Tubs | The Wylde | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Waggonmakers | Tottington Road | Woolfold | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Waterloo | Manchester Road | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| *Wellington | Bolton Road | Barracks | Castle Eden | (H) |
| White Boar | Radcliffe Road | Redvales | Thwaites | BM,B(E) |
| White Lion | Bolton Street | Centre | Duttons | B(H) |

RAMSBOTTOM

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|--------|
| Eagle & Child | Whalley Road | Shuttleworth | Wilsons | M,B(E) |
| Footballers | Higher Summerseat | Summerseat | Chesters | B(H) |
| Fusilier | Bolton Road West | Hazelhurst | Chesters | M,B(H) |
| Good Samaritan | Peel Brow | Centre | Wilsons | B(H) |
| Grey Mare | Bolton Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Hamers | Higher Summerseat | Summerseat | Matthew Brown | M,B(E) |
| Hare & Hounds | Bolton Road | Holcombe Brook | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Major | Bolton Road West | Centre | Cask Trophy | (H) |

| | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|--------|
| Masons | Bolton Road West | Dundee Lane | Chesters | B(H) |
| Old Dun Horse | Bolton Road West | Dundee Lane | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Pack Horse | Whalley Road | Shuttleworth | Duttons | B(H) |
| Railway | Bridge Street | Centre | Boddingtons | M,B(H) |
| Red Lion | Bolton Road | Hawkshaw | Boddingtons | B(E) |
| Royal Oak | Bridge Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Shoulder of Mutton | Holcombe Road | Holcombe Village | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Waggon & Horses | Bolton Road | Hawkshaw | Duttons | B(H) |

TOTTINGTON

| | | | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------|-------------|---------|
| Bulls Head | Holcombe Road | Greenmount | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Dungeon | Turton Road | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Hark to Towler | Market Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Nailors Green | Brandlesholme Rd | Greenmount | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Pack Horse | Watling Street | Affetside | Hydes | BM,B(E) |
| Printers | Turton Road | Centre | Wilsons | M,B(H) |
| Robin Hood | Market Street | Centre | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| White Horse | Hall Street | Walshaw | Thwaites | M,B(H) |

RADCLIFFE

| | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------|
| Bridge Inn | Dumers Lane | A6053 | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| Bulls Head | Bury New Road | Brightmet A58 | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Colliers | Water Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Footballers | Colshaw Close E | Radcliffe Boro' FC | Boddingtons | B(H) |
| Hare & Hounds | Ringley Road | Outwood | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Masons | Sion Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Morning Star | Thomas Street | Centre | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| New Inn | Ainsworth Road | Black Lane | Bass Cask, 4X | (E) |
| Old Cross | Eton Hill Road | Radcliffe Hall | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Papermakers | Church Street East | Centre | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Queens | Bradley Lane | Bradley Fold | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Rams (Rams Head) | Stand Lane | Centre | Wilsons | B(H) |

| | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|----------|
| Railway | Ainsworth Road | Black Lane | Chesters | M(H) |
| Royal Oak | Water Street | Centre | Duttons | B(H) |
| Staff of Life | Cross Lane | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Swan & Railway | Cross Lane | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| | | | Chesters | B(H) |
| Turf | Bolton Road | A665 | Thwaites | M,B(E) |
| Wellington | Stopes Road | off A665 | Thwaites | M,B(H) |
| Wellington | Stand Lane | Centre | Stones B, Bass | 4X (H) |
| Wilton Arms | Coronation Road | Bolton Road Estate | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Woolpack | Stand Lane | Centre | Tetley | M,B(H/A) |

WHITEFIELD

| | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|----------|
| *Albert | Albert Road | Hillock Estate | Castle Eden | (H) |
| Beehive | Bury New Road | Besses o'th'Barn | Duttons | B(H) |
| Bulls Head | Bury New Road | Centre | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| Church Inn | Bury New Road | Centre | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Coach & Horses | Bury Old Road | Besses o'th'Barn | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Derby | Bury New Road | Centre | Duttons | B(H) |
| Eagle & Child | Higher Lane | Stand | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Elizabethan | Ribble Drive | Hillock Estate | Willsons | M,B(H) |
| Frigate | Thatch Leach Lane | Besses o'th'Barn | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Goats Gate | Radcliffe New Road | Chapelfield | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Junction | Bury New Road | Besses o'th'Barn | Tetley | M,B(H) |
| Lord Clive | Mersey Drive | Hillock Estate | Lees | GBM,B(E) |
| Masons | Bury New Road | Centre | Castle Eden | (H) |
| | | | Cask Trophy | (H) |
| New Grove | Bury New Road | Centre | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Parkfield | Park Lane | Stand | Castle Eden | (H) |
| | | | Duttons | B(H) |
| Red King | Bury New Road | Centre | Boddingtons | M,B(H) |
| Welcome | Bury Old Road | Besses o'th'Barn | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Wheatsheaf | Bury New Road | Centre | Robinsons | M,BB(H) |

PRESTWICH

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Barley Malt | Bury New Road | Centre | Chesters | B(H) |
| Commercial | Bury Old Road | Heaton Park | Tetley | M,B(H) |
| Farmers Arms | Simister Lane | Simister | Lees | GBM,B(H) |
| Foresters | Bury New Road | Centre | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Friendship | Scholes Lane | Hilton Park | Holts | M,B(H) |
| George | Bury New Road | Sedgley Park | Boddingtons | M,B(E) |
| Ostrich | Bury Old Road | Heaton Park | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Parkside | Bury Old Road | Heaton Park | Boddingtons | M,B(E) |
| Plough | Hilton Lane | Rainsough | Willsons | M,B(H) |
| Railway & Naturalist | Bury New Road | Centre | Willsons | M,B(H) |
| Red Lion | Bury New Road | Centre | Holts | M,B(E) |
| Royal Oak | Whitaker Lane | Heaton Park | Hydes | BM,B(E) |
| Same Yet | Simister Lane | Simister | Lees | GBM,B(E) |
| Staff of Life | Hilton Lane | Rainsough | Marstons Mercian | M,BB(H) |
| Turf Tavern | Bury Old Road | Heaton Park | Cask Trophy, Chesters | M,B: Thwaites B(H) |
| White Horse | Bury New Road | Centre | Holts | M,B(H) |
| Woodthorpe | Bury Old Road | Heaton Park | Holts | M,B(E) |

KEY: (H)=handpump (E)=electric pump (A)=air pressure pump. B=bitter
M=mild BB=best bitter BM=best mild JP=John Peel GBM=GB mild *=cask beers
listed not always available

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 EKU
+ many foreign & bottled beers

Each of your party receives
THE FIRST PINT ON THE HOUSE!

**The
Cemetery
Hotel**

**BURY ROAD
ROCHDALE
TEL: (0706) 43214**

UNSPOILT BY PROGRESS

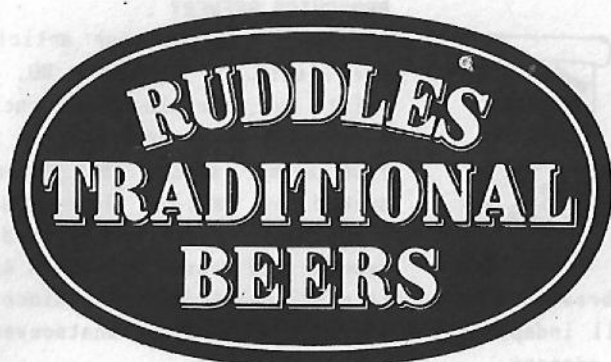


Spanking, it seems, has been superseded as the principal recreation of tavern keepers. The new pastime is that old party favourite - charades - and is usually played after hours with carefully selected customers. The first essential is to weed out policemen, customs officers, junior executives of transport undertakings and other unreliable people. Two teams are then formed and a selection of pub names, breweries and brewery towns selected by the mine host are mimed alternately by the teams.

When the games started it was, by all accounts, good clean fun with just the odd smuttiness. More recently, however, things have become a bit naughtier. I think it all began with Fanny Featheringstonehaugh's imaginative interpretation of the Briton's Protection followed by mimes for the Help me Thro', the Bird in Hand, the Rams Head and the Cheshire Ring, all of which defy description. Despite an excess of histrionic zeal, neither the Arden Arms nor the Mort Arms were guessed by the teams, whilst Cox's Bar, the Lower Turk's Head and the Three Legs of Man were simplicity itself.

If pub names were embarrassing, then the brewery section proved to be disgraceful. Wrexham and Oldham were, I suppose, fair enough, but the trouble began in one particular hostelry when the ladies' team tried to outdo the men's team who had just mimed "Boddingtons". Their strange ways had included much cavorting with peculiar equipment, including nuns' habits, sub-aqua suits and leather underwear. As he handed the ladies team the slip with the word "Jennings" thereupon, the smirking tavern keeper almost broke his neck in his indecent haste to clamber over the bar.

The ensuing gossip has ensured the close attention of Uncle Plod to AT's and has, I think, signalled the death knell of charades in Grotley hostelryes. Whatever next?



WHERE TO FIND THE BEST

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| THE COACH & HORSES, MANCHESTER. 1. | (B) |
| THE WALTZING WEASEL, BIRCH VALE. | (C) |
| THE LITTLE MILL, ROWARTH. | (C) |
| THE ROMPER INN, MARPLE. | (C & B) |
| THE CEMETERY, ROCHDALE. | (C) |
| THE CHURCH HOUSE, BOLLINGTON. | (C) |
| POYNTON FOLK CLUB, POYNTON. | (C) |
| THE FLOATING LIGHT, DOBCROSS. | (C) |
| THE BUFFET BAR, STALYBRIDGE STATION. | (C) |
| THE STATION, ASHTON-U-LYNE. | (C) * |

* Guest Basis Only C = County B = Rutland Bitter

Why not add your name to the list?

TRADE ENQUIRIES TO

J.A.COOPER AND SON (GLOSSOP) LTD
58 SURREY STREET
GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE
TEL: GLOSSOP 2596 or 64906



**"RUDDLING
GOOD
BEER..."**





BROUGHTON BREWERY

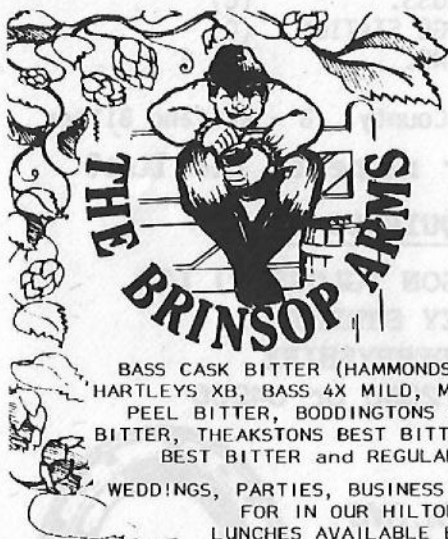
Sir - Concerning your article "Skye's the Limit" in September WD, I wish to point out certain inaccuracies which caused Broughton Brewery some annoyance. Your author states that Greenmantle is brewed by Bass at Tennent's Brewery. Broughton Brewery was formed by David Younger and James Collins in August 1979

and has been brewing Greenmantle cask conditioned beer since May 1980. We are a small independent brewery with no links whatsoever with any other brewing company.

The second point I would take issue with is the implication that our beer is not traditional. Yes our beer is sold from nine not eleven gallon kegs but it is conditioned in the keg and fined, dispense being from a Grundy head on top of the extractor and leading off to a hand pull beer engine.

It is unfortunate that the author found the beer in bad condition and I agree with the sentiments of his last sentence but would point out that poor beer will cause more harm to ourselves than CAMRA.

F W A Smith, Head Brewer, Broughton Brewery Ltd



THE BRINSOP ARMS

584-592 CHORLEY RD
WESTHOUGHTON
nr BOLTON
0942 812007

**A BAR FULL OF
HANDPUMPS
SERVING:**

BASS CASK BITTER (HAMMONDS), DRAUGHT BASS,
HARTLEYS XB, BASS 4X MILD, MATTHEW BROWN JOHN
PEEL BITTER, BODDINGTONS BITTER, JENNINGS
BITTER, THEAKSTONS BEST BITTER & XB, ROBINSONS
BEST BITTER and REGULAR GUEST BEERS

WEDDINGS, PARTIES, BUSINESS MEETINGS CATERED
FOR IN OUR HILTON SUITE
LUNCHES AVAILABLE EVERY DAY
THE FREEHOUSE FULL OF FINE TRADITIONAL ALES
AND STOCKED HIGH WITH WHOLESOME FOOD



FILLED BAKED POTATOES OUR SPECIALITY



TEGS UNITED

Sir - British Beermat Collectors are in Manchester on 8th December for a meeting-cum-pub crawl. It starts at the Unicorn, then on to the Crown & Anchor for opening, across town to the Wheat-sheaf, on to the Marble Arch and then a dash for last orders at the Harp & Shamrock. The crawl reconvenes at the Jolly Angler at 5.30. All are welcome;

plenty of mats will be available. Further details from me at 4 Beech Road, Leyland, Lancashire PR5 2WS.

Alan I Gardner

AMBER NECTAR CHOICE

Sir - At the recent Sheffield Beer Festival I spotted a number of well known persons from the Manchester area. Perhaps your readers would be interested to hear that the favourite beer selected by our Red Rose colleagues was Oak Bitter. Unfortunately this was the only beer that we were unable to obtain. The Periwinkle Arms attracted an abnormal number of votes in the Best Pub in Sheffield competition. Unfortunately these votes were declared void as this particular establishment does not fall within the Sheffield Branch boundaries. Any chance of renegotiating these boundaries in the near future?

Mike Hensman, Sheffield & District CAMRA

ARCH AGGRAVATION

Sir - On our recent annual pilgrimage from the western desert to your beer drinkers' mecca, we were dismayed to find that the Union, one of our favourite hostelrys, was closed. Seeking solace in the newly-opened Marble Arch, we were horrified to see that there was no bar billiards table but that there was a juke box and also a fruit machine. There was nowhere to escape from the noise in the one-room pub. It is very sad that this otherwise excellent venture should be spoilt by an all-pervading juke box. We can only hope that the landlord changes his mind or that the local beanch brings pressure to bear upon him to remove this incongruous intrusion.

John Trethowan, Nigel Prendiville, Truro

WE HAVEN'T A CLUE PLUS THE SQUARE ROOT OF TWO EQUALS HALF THE CUBE ROOT OF SOD ALL

Sir - The new proposals for Good Beer Guide allocations are very very clever. They take into account the population of each county, the number of pubs, the number of visitors to the area and the distance between pubs. Brilliant! All the data is independently derived and due weight can now be given to tourist areas, densely or sparsely populated areas and places with lots of pubs. Great, we'll all be

happy, won't we? Ah, but hang on a minute. Are the complex number crunching manipulations based on the number of real ale pubs? No, they're not. They're based on total pubs from national rating statistics. And would this make any difference? Only a tremendous amount. Even within Greater Manchester the proportion of real ale pubs varies from less than 50% in some towns to over 90% in others. It is likely that nationally the variation will be as great. Real ale pubs in some parts of the country will be under-represented. I don't think that this is what we wanted. By all means encourage the inclusion of pubs in comparative beer deserts, but don't use high falutin' statistics based on false premises to produce seemingly factual allocations.

The fact that there are no complete figures for real ale pubs in the country is no excuse for using figures for all pubs (I can think of some places where this would result in an allocation bigger than the total number of real ale pubs!) Surely one of the functions of CAMRA is to monitor real ale pubs so that we know how many we've got. Only when this is done can we accept that the allocations are soundly based. The present allocations are spurious and therefore completely useless. Misconstrued mathematics is no substitute for accurate basic data on real ale outlets.

Roger Hall

LISTED BUILDINGS

The following pubs in City of Manchester are all Grade II listed buildings:

| | |
|--|---|
| Paddy's Goose , Bloom Street | Derby Brewery Arms , Cheetham Hill |
| Oscars , Cooper Street | Nicklebys , Dale St Rd. |
| Sawyers Arms , Deansgate | Vine Inn , Kennedy Street |
| City Arms , Kennedy Street | Sinclairs , Old Shambles |
| Wellington , Old Shambles | St Vincent , Oldham Road |
| Crown & Kettle , Oldham Road | City , Oldham Street |
| Midland , Peter Street | Brunswick , Piccadilly |
| Union , Princes Street | Red Lion , Wilmslow Rd, Withington |
| Old Cock , Wilmslow Rd, Didsbury | Didsbury , Wilmslow Rd Didsbury |
| Red Lion , Wilmslow Road, Ringway | |

A motley collection. Some of the omissions are as surprising as some of the inclusions. Why are the Bulls Head, London Road, and the George & Dragon not included? And what about the Old Pack Horse, the Abercrombie, the Crown and Anchor, the Coach & Horses, the Lower Turks Head, the White Lion and even the Marble Arch? There are numerous pubs over 150 years old which merit listed building status to protect them. Only one listed pub - the Manchester Arms on Long Millgate - has been demolished so there must be some value in the system.



Branch Diary

SOUTH MANCHESTER

Fri 2 Nov Visit to Bradford Pub Preservation Exhibition. Pick up 10.30 am Stockport Station approach (A6 side). Details from J Clarke (061 477 1973)
 Tues 6th Nov Open Committee Meeting, 8pm, Gateway, Kingsway, E Didsbury
 Thurs 8 Nov Branch meeting, 8pm, New Inn, Wellington Rd South, Stockport. Possible speaker from Wilsons Brewery
 Fri 9 Nov Abbey Hey Crawl. 7pm Waggon & Horses, Hyde Road (note change of venue). 9pm Prince of Wales, Abbey Hey Lane. Maps to be distributed at November meeting.
 Thurs 29 Nov Pub of the Month, Ye Olde Vic, Edgeley, Stockport
 Tues 4 Dec Open Committee Meeting, 8pm, Swan with 2 Necks, Princes Street, Stockport Shopping Precinct.
 Thurs 13 Dec Branch Meeting/Xmas Social, 8pm, Gateway, E Didsbury
 Contact Sue Sproson 061 225 4058

MACCLESFIELD

Thurs 8 Nov Pub Crawl 8pm Chestergate, 8.45 Bate Hall, 9.15 Bears Head, 9.45 White Lion.
 Mon 26th Nov Branch Meeting, Castle 8pm.

NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed Nov 7 Ordsall Crawl. 7pm Wellington, Regent Rd, 8pm Druids, Liverpool St
 Weds Nov 14 Waggon & Horses, Irlams o'th'Height 7.30; Britannia 8.30
 Wed Nov 21 Setting up of Greater Manchester Beer Festival, 7pm Barnes Wallis Building, UMIST, followed by Social
 Thurs Nov 22 to Sat Nov 24 **GREATER MANCHESTER BEER FESTIVAL**
 Sun Nov 25 Clearing up after GMBF
 Wed Dec 5th Winton & Monton Crawl. Egerton 7pm, Monton Green 9pm
 Wed, Dec 12 Committee Meeting, Eagle, Collier St, Salford 8pm
 Wd 19 Dec Branch Meeting, White Swan, Swinton
 Contact Roger Hall 740 7937

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 6 Nov 8pm Branch Meeting Welcome (Holts), Bury Old Rd, Whitefield
 Tues 20 Nov 8pm, Committee Meeting, Royal Oak (Hydes), Whittaker La, Heaton Park
 Tues 4 Dec 8pm Branch Meeting, Angel (Lees), Shaw Rd, Royton
 Tues 11 Dec 7.30 **GRAND XMAS SOCIAL**, Cemetery (free), Bury Rd, Rochdale
 Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) or 061 775 3351 xt248

TRAFFORD & HULME

Thurs 1 Nov 8pm Committee/Social at Stretford Cricket Club, Lesley Rd, off Urmston Lane
 Thurs 8 Nov Trip to Cemetery, Rochdale. Details from Branch Contact
 Thurs 15 Nov 8pm Branch Meeting, Cheshire Midland, Hale
 Thurs 29 Nov Northwich Trip. Details from Branch Contact
 Thurs 6 Dec 8pm Committee/Social at Old Roebuck, Altrincham
 Contact David Shelton 061 224 7341 x54(w) 061 795 2113 (h)

BOLTON

Sun 4 Nov Social at Horseshoe, etc, Little Lever 12.00
 Thurs 8 Nov Branch AGM, York Hotel 8pm Newport St. **WOULD ALL MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND**
 Wed 14 Nov Social, Lodge Bank Tavern, Bridgeman St 8pm. Moonraker available.
 Wed 5 Dec Branch Meeting 8pm Falcon, Kay Street
 Fri 14 Dec Christmas Social, Lodge Bank Tavern

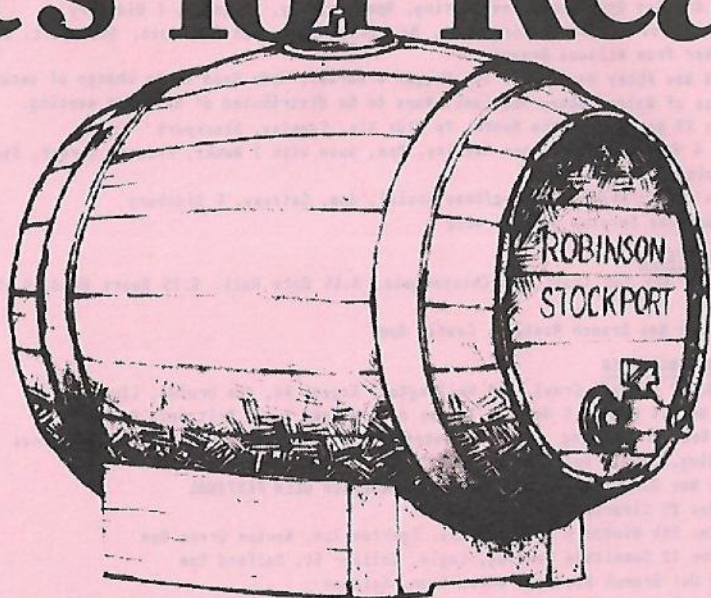
REGIONAL MEETING

Nov 28 8pm prompt. Millstone, Thomas Street, Manchester

REGIONAL SOCIAL

Thur 6 Dec Brinsop Arms, Chorley Road (A6). Just off M61 Junction 3 (Horwich/Blackrod) Christmas Bonanza. Most beers at **50p** a pint. Usual range (see advert) plus extras. Food available. Further information from Branch Contacts or Bert Kerks on Bolton 388172.

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.**