

# WHAT'S DOING

5p

No.12, October 1976

The Newsletter of the North Manchester Branch of CAMRA

This month, members of the North Manchester branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, are taking this newsletter around pubs in the area for sale at a modest 5p. We are doing this for two reasons: first, because we need to sell it to go on printing it; and second because we believe the views we express as beer drinkers in 'What's Doing' are probably very similar to your own.

Everyone knows cases of popular local pubs that have been knocked down to make way for some 'vital' development that nobody wanted, or to be replaced by a characterless modern pub. If you used to drink Chester's mild, you'll know what happens when one of the big brewers comes into an area and starts tampering with the beer. On the surface, Greater Manchester might seem a good area for beer, but remember not so long ago Boddingtons was under threat of being swallowed up by one of the big national breweries with all the consequences that that would have had for its beers.

CAMRA was set up several years ago to oppose these unnecessary and often disastrous changes. At the local level it tries to safeguard the beers and the pubs in an area. In July of this year we devoted an issue of this newsletter to the demolition of pubs in Salford, giving it away in a number of the pubs concerned. For many people - sometimes even the licensees themselves - this was the first they had heard of the closures. Hardly anyone had previously imagined the scale of pub demo-



lition - almost 40 of the 85 real ale pubs in Salford are due to go.

To be really effective we need the interest and support of people in the area. If you want to join CAMRA, we'd be the last to stop you, but if you just want to keep in touch, to get local news and to tell us what you think, you'll find 'What's Doing' will help. You can order 6 copies by sending £1=00 to the editor; he would also like to hear your comments and views. Details of how to join CAMRA can be found inside.

Jem Callaghan

## BRIGHT IDEAS?

For the last two or three months, Wilsons have been supplying bright bitter only to pubs in the Greater Manchester area. Whether no real bitter has been available is uncertain: a rumour that fined bitter continued to be supplied - presumably from a different brewing vessel - to some 40 tenanted houses has neither been confirmed nor denied by the brewery. In any case, production difficulties at Newton Heath stopped the flow of fined bitter for a lengthy period, although the mild remained in its fined form throughout the summer.

No explanation of the production difficulties was given by Wilsons in a recent letter, but an article which appeared some weeks ago in the 'Manchester Evening News' quoted a brewery spokesman as saying; 'We have had problems with the production of fined bitter, partly due to the weather.' The problems seem now to have been overcome for fined bitter recommenced to trade round about the beginning of October.

The article in the 'Evening News', intended as much to poke fun at CAMRA members as to explain

what was happening, contained the usual woolly thinking and inaccuracies which seem to be a hallmark of the press when CAMRA is mentioned. But it did draw attention to the difficulty of distinguishing the bright beer from the real stuff on this occasion. Apparently, bitter was racked off from the top of the brewing vessels at the end of the brewing process, leaving a beer that was by definition bright and did not require cellar fining. It tasted similar to the fined beer and those without much of a palate for Wilsons would have been hard put to notice the difference. But a difference there was, however slight, and it was important, if only because this could have been the thin end of a very long wedge. Happily, the brewery is not pursuing this hybrid variety now that the production difficulties have been resolved.

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## ALL DUTTONED UP

One of the pubs on the eleven brew trip is to be smartened up. The Dutton on Park Street is situated in a declining industrial part of Strangeways. The pub, which was in the 1974 Good Beer Guide and which still sells a good pint of Hydes is in a fairly tatty condition. Renovation is obviously necessary but whether plush carpets and comfortable seats will bring business executives and the local jet set to a backwater of Manchester remains to be seen.



# SALFORD 85 CLUB

The crawls round the real ale pubs of Salford have now concluded. Nobody has actually managed to complete the entire course, but some have only to sample such delights as Holts mild in the Spread Eagle or Wilsons bitter in the Waterloo in order to qualify. Nevertheless, all the real ale pubs have been visited and the following list compiled

## BODDINGTONS (14 pubs)

Black Friar	King Street	S3
Braziers Arms	Hodson Street	S3
Church Inn	Hilton Street	S7
Derby Arms	Derby Street	S5
Duke of York	York Street	S7
Kersal Hotel	Moor Lane	S7
Kildakin	St Kildas Drive	S8
Old Ship Hotel	Chapel Street	S3
Paddock Hotel	Cross Lane	S6
Priory Arms	Gardner Street	S6
Railway Inn	Broughton Road	S6
Red Cow	Albion Street	S5
The Sun	Great Cheetham Street East	S7
Wellington Hotel	Regent Road	S5

## ROBINSONS (3 pubs)

The Star	Back Hope Street	S7
The Three Legs of Man	Greengate	S3
White Horse	Gilda Brook Road	S6

## HOLTS (11 pubs)

Bricklayers Arms	Ordsall Lane	S5
Broadway Hotel	Broadway	S5
Duke of York	Marlborough Street	S8
Eagle Inn	Collier Street	S3
Old House at Home	Whit Lane	S6
Red Lion	Bolton Road	S6
Spread Eagle	Regent Road	S5
Union Tavern	Liverpool Street	S5
Waggon and Horses	Bolton Road	S6
Wellington	Bolton Road	S6
Winston	Churchill Way	S6

MARSTONS (4 pubs)		
Albert Park Inn	Duke Street	S7
Brown Bull	Chapel Street	S3
King William IV	Springfield Lane	S3
Spinners Arms	Oldfield Road	S5
LEES (1 pub)		
The Welcome	Ordsall Lane	S5
BASS CHARRINGTON (1 pub)		
Albert	Regent Road	S5
TETLEY (6 pubs)		
Albion	Ordsall Lane	S5
Flying Horse	Greengate	S3
Hyde Park Corner	Adelphi Street	S3
Peeping Tom	Regent Road	S5
Prince of Wales	Oldfield Road	S5
Punch Bowl	Chapel Street	S3
GREENALL WHITLEY (17 pubs)		
Beehive	Holland Street	S6
Black Horse	The Crescent	S5
Borough Inn	Regent Road	S5
Church Inn	Ford Street	S3
Dover	Fenney Street	S7
Gas Tavern	Regent Road	S5
Greyhound	Woden Street	S5
Grey Mare	Eccles New Road	S5
Grove	Regent Road	S5
Kings Arms	Bloom Street	S3
Old Veteran	Eccles New Road	S5
Palatine	Edward Street	S7
Papermakers	Back Roman Road	S7
Railway	Cross Lane	S5
St James	Markendale Street	S5
Star	Regent Road	S5
Unicorn	Broughton Road	S6
WILSONS (28 pubs)		
Bridge Inn	Strawberry Road	S6
Chequerboard	Tatton Street	S5
Church	Ford Lane	S6
Clowes	Trafford Road	S5



Corporation	Cross Lane	S5
Crown	Blackfriars Street	S3
Derby	Derby Street	S5
Druids Arms	Liverpool Street	S5
Falcon	Cross Lane	S5
Feathers	Laundry Street	S6
Globe	Bury Street	S3
Globe	Regent Road	S5
Grapes	Eccles New Road	S5
Grove	Eccles New Road	S5
Kings Arms	Oldfield Road	S5
Lord Nelson	Chapel Street	S3
Old Shears	Greengate	S3
Original	Lower Broughton Road	S7
Osborne	Eccles New Road	S5
Oxford	Bexley Square	S3
Post Office	Hilton Street	S7
Railway	Oldfield Road	S5
Red Lion	Chapel Street	S3
Waterloo	Greengate	S3
Wellington	Cross Lane	S5
Wellington	New Bailey Street	S3
Windsor Bridge	Broad Street	S6
Windsor Castle	Windsor	S5

Any news concerning the pubs of Salford would be welcome.

## HOLTS RUMOUR UNTRUE

Holts drinkers will have noticed that the draught beers have been a darker colour recently, the bitter looking more like the mild and the mild like Guinness. This is probably due to a change in the quality of the barley (something which also happened with Boddingtons this summer) and not, as has been suggested, due to the presence of an additional dead rat in the fermenting vessel.

# IN MEMORIAM

Somewhere between the statements of brewers about retaining the character of pubs and the eventual changes that take place in the pubs themselves, between the promise and the actuality, there lies a burial ground for good intentions. Only in June of this year, we heard Mr. Tann, the second brewer at Thwaites, assure us that where changes were made they would always be tasteful ones. Now, less than two months after the departure of Mary and Percy from the Lord Nelson at Ringley, the pub seems to be undergoing the kind of changes that will permanently destroy its character as a traditional village local.

The new licensees can hardly be blamed for not taking over the furnishings and decorations which helped to give the Nelson its appeal; nor can they yet be criticised for the rather bleak atmosphere which results from the somewhat bare walls. What they cannot be excused is the monstrosity that appears in the snug and which makes its presence felt everywhere through external loudspeakers - quite the most gaudy and ugly jukebox to be found, I should think, anywhere, an eyesore, which literally destroys the pub's former atmosphere. It's about as incongruous as the Queen arriving for the State Opening of Parliament on the back of a Kawasaki 1200, and if the new licensees have started as they mean to continue the pub's future looks bleak. The statement in last month's 'What's Doing' that a change of venue for branch meetings from the Lord Nelson might be indicated seems to be borne out by what has happened.

A suggestion has been made that Thwaites make the installation of a jukebox a condition of a new tenancy. It is proposed that a letter be written from the branch deploring this for the Lord Nelson in particular, and as policy for Thwaites pubs in general.

Jem Callaghan



# ANNIVERSARY

Exactly one year ago today (approximately) the first issue of What's Doing burst forth upon an unsuspecting world. Today, twelve issues later, it is a year old. It has been described as the most influential publication since Das Kapital Letter; has sold more copies than the Authorized Version of the Bible, Dr Spock and Jaws put together, has been translated into 126 different languages, sold in 150 different countries and has become a definitive work on drinking beer in North Manchester, especially Salford. At this very moment, the editor is negotiating the film rights with an international consortium whose members are rumoured to include Nahum Zefferelli, W G Grace, and Jorgen Jorgensson. It would not be an overstatement to state that What's Doing has given Europe more pleasure than Donny Osmond, the Great Depression and Durex Black Shadow put together.

We have come a long way in our first year. Spelling has improved and we don't use phrases like 'a phoenix rising from the ashes' any more. The editor has received his first solicitor's letter, and is learning to distinguish between fact and what breweries/town councils/ his friends' friends tell him. From writing to fill space, we now find that we have enough news every month to make an issue informative and interesting to more than just a few branch members. As a result of our articles on Salford, and the beginning of the Salford 100 Club we were able to reach a wider public through local papers and Radio Manchester. We printed news that local drinkers and sometimes even the licensees didn't know as well as reports of talks given by brewery representatives at branch meetings and pub crawls, which have been useful and appreciated.

Our involvement in local issues, which at times seemed to have little relevance to the national campaign caused a cynicism over the direction Camra was taking, and has shown itself in a spate of articles critical of the organisation. We have now exhausted this as a topic of interest, but on balance we feel that our comments have had some positive effect.



We have at the beginning of our second year a newsletter of proven worth and influence. We need to exploit this position. The internal Camra squabble has died a death and rightly so. We need in future to concentrate on providing local news and a focus for discussion. We should concentrate on publishing articles of quality which have a wide interest so that we can take What's Doing to a larger public. To do this we need the support of branch members and local drinkers equally. Send your views to the editor, name and address on the back page.

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## HYDE AND CHIC

According to our assistant Regional Organiser, Dave Easton, the White Gates is having problems with its new bar. This new plush bar, part of the £40,000 facelift, is served by free flow electric pumps. These pumps are shunned by those who frequent this Hyde hostelry; they prefer to cart hand-pumped beer up from the old bar. Whether this is a genuine preference or a manifestation of trendy affectation, it raises serious doubts about the wisdom of those who spent £33,914 on renovating the pub.

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### Two new pubs

Licences for two new public houses were provisionally granted at the Licensing Sessions on Tuesday.

A Holt's "house" at the junction of West Park Street/Taylorson Street in the Ordsall redevelopment area, is hoped to be completed within the next year. The other, in the Ordsall District Centre, is a Boddington's "house".

M/c Evening News

# LAGER - WORTH A SECOND SIP?

Not long ago keg beer was the antithesis of real ale and the central target for attack by CAMRA and like-minded people. Nowadays the main 'threat' to traditional drinking habits must surely be the incursion of British so-called lager.

It would be easy to dismiss lager as weak, tasteless, over-chilled, over-gassed and over-priced (which much of the stuff on offer undoubtedly is) but this is gross over-simplification. Let us therefore take a closer look at lager and perhaps discover why Skol, Harp, Heineken et al., are so offensive to the average CAMRA member. I will draw comparisons from time to time with another British 'lager', Grün-halle.

## Definition.

In German, 'lager' means 'storehouse' and an essential feature of 'lager-bier' is that it is stored for up to six months to develop flavour and condition. The term is not confined to the very pale beers but includes any made by the method given below, including the dark Munich lager.

## Malt.

Made from 6-rowed barley, as opposed to English 2-rowed barley, and more lightly roasted, lager malt has a high nitrogen content and is very pale. (Gh does use lager malt)

## Hops.

Seedless continental hops are added in about half the quantities normal for British ale.

## Sugar and Adjuncts.

Forbidden by law in Germany, no such protection is afforded the British consumer. Gh does not use sugar but sometimes wheat flour is added.

## Water.

Normally very soft with no dissolved salts. Lager beers are less acidic than ale.



### Strength.

Original gravity about 1060. Compare this with Grünhalle (1037) Skol, Harp and Heineken (1033) and Carlsberg (1030). Comparison with British ale, for example Fuller's ESB (1056) and Holt's bitter (1039) shows that proper strength lager is far from being a weak beer.

### Mashing.

The high nitrogen malts require 'decoction' mashing. Instead of the steady 150 F of the British infusion mash, the goods are mixed at a lower temperature. Portions of liquor are run off, boiled and returned to the bulk, so producing a gradual rise in temperature. (Gh does not employ a decoction mash but a 'programmed infusion' mash.)

### Yeast and Fermentation.

A special pure yeast, *Saccharomyces Carlsbergensis*, ferments slowly from the bottom of the vat at low temperatures. (Gh uses a low temperature bottom fermenter, but not *S. Carlsbergensis*.)

### Lagering.

The beer is stored for several months at a low temperature whilst a secondary fermentation occurs. This compares with only 5 to 10 days conditioning for British ale. (Gh is normally lagered for 3 to 4 weeks but this can be reduced on occasion to as little as one day!)

### Serving.

Lager is best drunk cool with fairly high carbonation. I must confess complete ignorance as to traditional serving methods. Recent letters to 'What's Brewing' (July and August) distinguish between naturally conditioned and keg lager and make a plea for more information.

### Real Lager?

Apparently all U.K. lager is keg in the fullest sense, yet I have made natural lager by the above method which is just as enjoyable as many real ales, and as close to Skol etc., as Boddington's is to Watney's Red. Should not CAMRA campaign for full strength natural lagers to be available and for some of the worst offenders currently on the market to be prevented from using the description 'lager' on the grounds of gross misrepresentation?



# THE ULVERSTON TRIP

Here follow two accounts of the branch excursion to Ulverston. The first is by Duncan Roberts, who deserves a Duke of Edinburgh's award for driving us back, and the second is by Roger Hall, who also deserves something. Roger's piece should be read to the tune of 'Hiawatha'.

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Members of CAMRA North Manchester branch are reminded that on the infamous trip to Lunesdale (and beyond) there was one unfortunate soul who remained remarkably (i.e. totally) sober all day.

You will in all probability remember quite well the quiet and uneventful trip up to the fair county town, through Lancashire's rolling countryside, and how we almost left behind our host and his wife. Memories of the first two pubs visited in Lancaster, alongside the expanse of mud known as the River Lune, and the following trip to Ulverston will also be reasonably clear, but on arrival at this beer drinker's Mecca memories may begin to become a little vague. Mine are remarkably clear.

The bus had been left in a cattle dock by the canal (this I considered to be tempting fate) and surprisingly most of the party found their way back without too much difficulty and without falling into the pile of shit which is a feature of most cattle docks.

So it was time to leave for Lancaster with only a minor delay for late comers. John Worthington had given way to temptation and I had to drive back. It may be worth noting at this point that the gearbox had the luxury of synchromesh on third and top gears: this however was more than compensated for by second gear, the finding of which was more difficult than trying to locate a copy of 'The Guardian' after ten o' clock on a Wednesday morning.

The first incident worth reporting occurred shortly after I had reduced speed immediately prior to a steep de-



scent, when I noticed a somewhat harrassed looking figure frantically running alongside the bus. I had never considered Paul Roberts to be a particularly active individual, but this altered my opinion of him.

The next incident was however somewhat more spectacular and long term in its effects. Good progress was being made when a youth in outlandish clothing stuck his head into the cab and whispered, 'Would you mind pulling in please, driver? I think I am going to be ....' his words being cut off by a fountain of beery vomit (a tomato skin was also found on the cab floor) which inundated the fuse box and the back of my seat. This gave John and I an hour's merry entertainment mopping up and picking out the big bits when we got to Lancaster.

The Lancaster stop was ostensibly for a meal only and consequently brief. Our sights were set on the metropolis of Garstang where a good time could be had. The journey was however broken to visit the winner of the Thwaites prize for the pub with the most clinical cellar. The place reminded me of a dentist's surgery, and the noise of the pumps added to this impression.

At last Garstang was reached and a bus load of ale artisans descended on the unsuspecting locals (pun intended) intent on getting severely aled up. (I got severely poorly drinking sweet lemonade.)

All good things come to an end and the euphoric celebrants of the pagan mass to the gods of Robinsons, Matthew Brown and Yates and Jackson made their way back to the bus; with the exception of Phil Beckett, who at the hour of reckoning miscalculated and was abandoned to the none too tender mercies of Ribble Motor Services on a Sunday morning.

So to the happy sound of inebriate voices singing of sex, food and ale I drove back down the A6 towards home; a journey marred only by one emergency near Chorley when someone wanted to be sick, (he almost made it to the door this time) and which delivered everybody almost to their doorsteps (except, that is, for Phil and a few people from Irlam whom John fell out with on the way back.)

How much did you remember?



In September off they went then  
All those drinking folk from CAMRA,  
Off from Salford and from Swinton,  
And from Eccles and from Bolton,  
All the members set off northwards  
On a pilgrimage to Hartleys  
To the land of lakes and mountains  
To Ulverston in Cumbria.  
So at 8 O'clock one morning  
In the bus of John Worthington,  
Duncan Roberts and Jim Davies  
They set off from Sheepfoot Lane  
Down to Greengate 'neath the arches  
On to Eccles, then to Swinton -  
They collected all the members.  
John, the owner, he was driving  
Up the A6 he was driving  
Right through Chorley to Lancaster.  
They met Keith and Jenny Greenhalgh  
From the Lunesdale branch of CAMRA.  
To the Wagon they did take them  
At ten thirty in the morning  
Where they drank their pints of Hartleys,  
To the Carpenters they took them  
Where they drank their fill of Mitchells.  
In this pub there was discussion  
As to what they were to do then  
Duncan Roberts would not drive back  
From Ulverston in the darkness,  
Down the narrow twisting lanes there  
He said it would be dangerous.  
They supped up and left Lancaster  
And once more they set off northwards,  
Slowly up the hill at Lindale,  
And at last they reached Nirvana,  
That's the town that houses Hartleys.  
While John with his bus was wrestling  
As he parked it in a compound  
In the Swan they all went drinking  
Where they served delicious Hartleys.  
In the Union, by the brewery,  
Hope and Anchor, and the Farmers,  
They all did drink this northern brew.  
They sang folk songs with the landlord  
At the pub - the Hope and Anchor -  
This man said he'd started CAMRA,  
He was on the Daily Mirror,  
Brought down relics from the attic,  
Showed them articles he'd written  
For the newspaper, the Mirror,  
Which had started folks a-thinking  
Of the beer that they were drinking,  
Of the pressure and the brightness,  
Of the Whitbreads and the Watneys,  
Of the beer that's not like Hartleys.

So at half past three they left then  
This time Duncan he was driving  
To Lancaster he was driving  
And a passenger came to him,  
(He was not a CAMRA member,)  
He said, 'Can you stop the bus now?'  
And on Duncan he was sick then  
On the driver he did vomit  
He came lurching down the bus then,  
Spewing vomit through his fingers,  
But they went on to Lancaster.  
The Blue Anchor they did visit  
On the advice of Keith Greenhalgh,  
Where nourishment could be taken  
Ere they opened to sell Mitchells.  
Yates and Jacksons, this was sampled  
In the White Cross near the bus park  
Then they left again for Garstang  
Stopping off at the New Holly,  
Drinking Thwaites and touring cellar,  
Which was cleaner than a theatre  
Where they operate on people,  
So the beer was clean and germ free  
But it didn't taste like Percy's.  
In Garstang they drank Robinsons,  
Matthew Brown and Yates and Jacksons,  
They left there at half eleven  
Heading back towards Manchester.  
They left Phil behind in Garstang -  
Poor Phil Beckett he was stranded  
In old god-forsaken Garstang  
All the night until the morning,  
While back home the revellers went.  
They sang songs with vulgar verses  
'Bout the vicar's wife and Dinah  
'Bout the chemists and the seagulls  
And 'bout some place that's called Mobil.  
Then there was an altercation  
Which did seem to mar th'enjoyment  
Of this day trip out to Hartleys -  
Bill in Irlam wanted dropping  
John, the owner, said he wouldn't  
And this kicked off the slanging match.  
It was sad that this should happen  
But let's hope that it's forgotten,  
Recollecting all the good things  
That on this day did happen too.  
Our thanks to Pete and Bill and Ken  
Who ran the trip and sang so well.  
Our thanks go too to Keith and Jenny  
For looking after us so well  
In Lancaster and Ulverston.



# HANDPUMPED TETLEY'S

The following is a list of Tetley's outlets in North Manchester still delivering beer through beer engines. Additional information is sought so that the list can become definitive.

Britons Protection	Great Bridgewater St.	Manchester 2
Circus Tavern	Portland Street	Manchester 1
King	Oldham Street	Manchester 1
Coach and Horses	London Road	Manchester 1
Moulders Arms	Heyrod Street	Manchester 1
Cross Keys	Jersey Street	Manchester 4
Smiths Arms	Sherratt Street	Manchester 4
Albion	Ordsall Lane	Salford 5
Peeping Tom	Regent Road	Salford 5
Prince of Wales	Oldfield Road	Salford 5
Hyde Park Corner	Silk Street	Salford 3
Flying Horse	Greengate	Salford 3
Football	Swinton Hall Road	Swinton
New Cross	Swinton Hall Road	Swinton
Bell	Manchester Road East	Walkden
Dun Mare	Salford Road	Walkden
White Horse	Liverpool Road	Irlam
Market	Brachley Street	Farnworth
Saddle	King Street	Farnworth
Clock Face	Old Hall Street	Farnworth
Sweet Green Tavern	Crook Street	Bolton
Ainsworth Arms	Halliwel Lane	Bolton *
Gypsy's Tent	Deansgate	Bolton *
Duke of Wellington	St. John's Road	Bolton *
Three Crowns	Lower Leigh Road	Westhoughton *
Clifton Arms	Newport Street	Bolton *
Howcroft Inn	Pool Street	Bolton *
Spread Eagle	Hulme Street	Bolton *
Cross Guns	Bolton Road	Westhoughton *

\* = Walkers bitter.



# BREWS TEN

Our roving reporter tells of a new crawl to rival the famous eleven brew trip of Shudehill, Strangeways and Greengate. In order to get a wide selection of beer without walking too far it is necessary to stray outside our territory. Sadly only ten brews are possible because, although a Lees pub is included, there are no Burtonwood or Scottish and Newcastle pubs in the area.

The crawl passes the following pubs, not all of which need to be visited.

Red Admiral	Hulme Walk	Robinsons	*
Grants Arms Hotel	Royce Road	Boddingtons	
Junction Hotel	Rolls Crescent	Hydes	*
Albert	Erskine Street	Greenalls	
Three Legs of Man	Stretford Road	Wilsons	
Talbot	Stretford Road	Wilsons	
The Mancunian	Royce Road	Marstons	
Hope Inn	Chester Road	Hydes	
Pomona Palace	Cornbrook Road	Marstons	*
Cornbrook	Chester Road	Tetleys	
Greyhound	Woden Street	Greenalls	*
Bricklayers	Ordsall Lane	Holts	*
Welcome	Ordsall Lane	Lees	*
Albion	Ordsall Lane	Tetleys	*
Derby	Derby Street	Wilsons	*
Derby	Derby Street	Boddingtons	*
Wellington	Regent Road	Boddingtons	
Grove Regent Road	Regent Road	Greenalls	
Spread Eagle	Regent Road	Holts	
Albert	Regent Road	Bass Charr'n	*

\* Recommended for ten brews trip



The crawl starts in Hulme in a new Robinsons pub, built on what used to be Stretford Road, at the junction of Cavendish Street and Boundary Lane. A footbridge over the new road brings you out on Royce Road, so called in memory of Sir Henry, whose name is further immortalised by a Whitbread pub in the area. Turning right, you'll soon come to the Grants Arms, a plain brick Boddingtons pub. In the other direction along Royce Road on the corner of Rolls Crescent is the Junction, a large Hydes pub.

Make your way down Rolls Crescent and across Chorlton Road to where Stretford Road emerges from the new development.

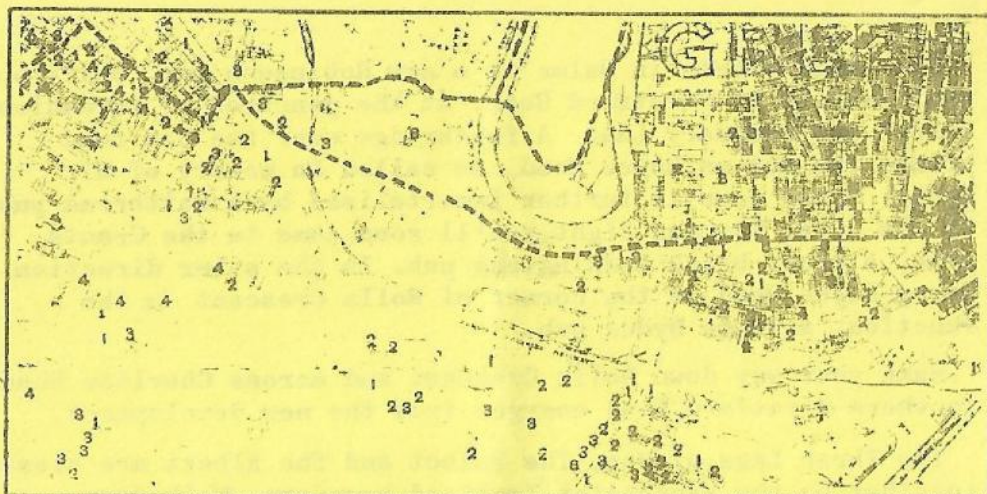
The Three Legs of Man, The Talbot and The Albert are close together on the Manchester/Trafford boundary. Walk down Chorlton Road towards Hulme Church, turn left into Royce Road and the Mancunian is on the right. A short walk through or round St. George's Park will bring you out at Cornbrook and the Hope, The Pomona and The Cornbrook.

The route now leaves Manchester by way of a footbridge into Salford. Walk down Ellesmere Street and then turn left into Hulme Hall Road. At the side of the bus depot is the Mark Addy bridge, named after a Salford publican who rescued countless people from a watery end in the Irwell. The footbridge brings you out on Woden Street which runs into Ord-sall Lane. The Greyhound, The Bricklayers, The Welcome and The Albion are easily seen. The 'Big' Derby and The 'Little' Derby are best approached by following the continuation of Woden Street across Oldfield Road. As they are the only buildings left standing on Derby Street, they are readily found. The Grove, or the Doll's House as it is known locally, and the Wellington are at the bottom of Derby Street on the A57 and the Spread Eagle and the Albert are on the same side of the road 100 yards away towards Cross Lane.

Not all the pubs mentioned can be given unqualified approval as the quality of the beer is not consistently good in all of them. There are two pubs where the beer tastes of, in one case metal polish, and in the other vinegar. We leave it to the discerning drinker to decide which.

Anybody coming across a Burtonwood, Scottish and Newcastle or Thwaites house in the immediate locality (or for that matter a Hook Norton, Lorimers or Castletown house) should let the editor know so that the crawl can be extended.





## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

An 1892 map of Salford showing the position of all licensed premises in the city at that time has recently come into the hands of the Local History Library. It was discovered at the back of a drawer in the City Architects Department. The map is a one-off which was commissioned by the Sanitation Committee of the County Borough of Salford to show the distribution of licenses in the four 'Sanitation Areas'; Greengate, Regent Road, Broughton and Pendleton.

The licenses are in six groups, 1 to 6 on the map; Licensed Victuallers (hotels), beer on premises, beer and wine on, beer off, 'sweets' (only two, both in Pendleton, and so far unidentified) and 'other licenses'. A table based on the four areas gives the total number of licenses of each type in each division, along with population and number of houses.

A full size photographic copy of the map has been made and lovingly restored by Neil Richardson. The section printed here is half actual size. The lower dotted line runs along Chapel Street and The Crescent separating Greengate from Regent Road. The cluster of numbers in the lower centre is on Ordsall Lane. 12 pubs on 100 yards of road, with another 12 just off it, no wonder the public health people were worried.



# BRANCH MEETING

The branch meeting at the Papermakers Arms on Wednesday 15 October was marked by a visit from Mr John Edwards, who is the brewer in charge of the bottling plant at Greenall Whitley's Warrington brewery. His account of the company's rationalisation in the late 1960's was a somewhat depressing reminder of what we have lost. The Wrekin brewery, Chester Northgate, Groves of Salford, St. Helens' brewery and Magees of Bolton were all closed as a result of policy formed then and production was concentrated on the site at Warrington, largely because of its geographical position, since the company may be able to use land reclaimed from the Mersey for future expansion. However, in the early seventies, (about the same time as CAMRA became influential,) a decision was made to keep cask beer and production facilities for casks as well as for tank and keg beers were updated. Greenalls brewery now produces between thirty-five and forty-five per cent of its total barrelage in cask beer, according to the time of year, and has built a new cooperage shop during the last three years.

Mr Edwards said firmly that the company policy was to continue to brew cask-conditioned beer, but also gave a long list of the difficulties involved in doing so which does not augur well for future availability. He claimed that new pubs could rarely be built with the large cellarage needed to store casks until the beer is ready for use, so bright beer is being supplied to most of these. He also foresaw difficulties with the impending weights and measures legislation which will demand an accurate measurement of barrel content - virtually impossible to achieve with wooden casks - and said that it would be extremely expensive to replace these with metal barrels, though presumably there would be the same problem in replacing draught beer with keg. Another inconvenience he pointed out was the number of complaints of short measure received, together with the shortage of coopers (though why the company should have built a new cooperage in this case is not clear) and the fact that popular demand is increasingly for lager and keg, particularly in hot weather. All this does not really explain why it is



company policy not to feature real ale in the pubs which do sell it, especially since the brewery at Wem, which produces only cask-conditioned beer is among the most profitable in the country. The general impression was that Greenall Whitley were willing to brew real ale but too cautious or too nervous to promote its sale. It now appears to be up to us to convince them that there is a market for what can be a very good product, as the quality of both the mild and the bitter in the Papermakers proved. Our thanks are due to Mr Edwards for giving us some interesting information on company policy and production methods and for standing up bravely to a barrage of questions.

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## TRAVELLERS FARE

In this white-hot technological age of the High Speed Train you would expect British Rail Catering to have come a long way since the tea trolley rattling down the corridors of the Manchester Central - St Pancras (stopping) train. But not so. According to this month's Modern Railways the tea trolley is back on Britain's first 125mph train. But there is a difference. (I bet you if they brought back hanging the rope would be plastic). You don't get tea or coffee these days, you get 'Maxpax', plastic cups containing a powdered deposit which is reconstituted into tea, coffee, soup, etc with hot water. Now this hot water is, believe it or not, dispensed 'like keg beer' from a container under the trolley by CO2 pressure.



# PUB OF THE MONTH

Windmill Hotel, 690 Bolton Road, Pendlebury.

The Windmill is easy to find since it stands at the junction of Bolton Road (the main A666) and Station Road, Pendlebury. It is in its own way a National landmark, being one of the picking up points for northbound coaches, so the fact that you are on your way to Scotland is no excuse for not calling in. As the Tartan menace encroaches, we expect to see a sign saying 'Last Real Ale before the Border'.

The pub is so far the only Sam Smith's outlet in our area to serve cask-conditioned beer again, although the Malt Shovel in Altrincham has the distinction of being the first of their houses in Greater Manchester to convert back to real ale.

Before the changeover early this summer, the Windmill had already been tastefully renovated and it has a large, comfortable lounge with quiet piped music. It is still possible to find a secluded corner since the room is not uncompromisingly rectangular as with so many modernised pubs. The vault on the other side of the central bar is bright and smart.

Beer engines are used to dispense the 4X mild and Old Brewery bitter, which are consistently good now that the initial teething troubles are over. The pub is well worth a visit for those seeking a quiet evening's relaxation.

Recommendations for future pubs of the month should be sent to the editor.



# WORLD OF BOOKS



Major W. Peer Groves, M.A., B.Sc., J.P.,  
Legion d'honneur, Member of Imperial  
Russian Order of Vladimir, Member of  
Order of Stanislaus, Member of Order of  
Rising Sun of Japan Director, 1908-1946  
Chairman, 1932-1946

From time to time there surfaces a best selling book to show us once and for all that Adolf Hitler is alive and well and living in Argentina, that God was a Martian or that the earth will hurtle into outer space fairly soon unless we all jump up and down at the same time.

## Red Revolution

The latest such volume suggests that Czar Nicholas and family were not executed during the Russian Revolution, but spirited away to Canada by the British Secret Service on orders from the King.

## Russian Imperial Stout.

All good absorbing stuff to while away a bus ride to Lancaster you may say, but what has it got to do with real ale? Well, not much, but then Our Man on the Spot was Major William Peer Groves of the British Secret Service, Director (and later Chairman) of Groves and Whitnalls brewery, Salford, and great grandson of the founder of the brewery. Neither the full story of William's adventures in the Dirty Tricks department of H.M. Government nor the fate of the Romanovs will ever be known, but thanks to this book we all know how Greenall Whitley got the recipe for Vladivar Vodka.



# WHERE HAVE ALL THE HANDPUMPS GONE?

Greenall Whitley seem to have completed the replacement of beer engines with electric diaphragm pumps at least in the North Manchester area. Only the Smithfield Vaults remains selling mild on handpumps and even here there are problems of getting them repaired and the brewery is less than helpful. Certainly in Salford not a handpump remains unless you count the unused ones in 'Owd Charlie's' local, The Salisbury on Trafford Road.

Very often the installation of electric pumps is a half-way house to introducing bright beer. Several houses which previously sold cask conditioned beer on handpumps continued to sell real ale when electric pumps were put in but have since begun to serve bright beer. Accurate description of beer at the point of dispense - draught, bright, keg etc could go some way to arrest this trend.

That, however, despite CAMRA's efforts seems a long way off. Meanwhile one wonders how Greenalls square their policy of removing beer engines with the image which their marketing men try to promote, placing as it does such emphasis on tradition. Any argument based on the possibility of legislation requiring metering of beer lacks credibility when you think of the reintroduction of hand pumps by Sam Smiths in this area and by Watneys, Courage and others in the south east. So why, Greenall Whitley, have you taken the handpumps out of all your pubs?

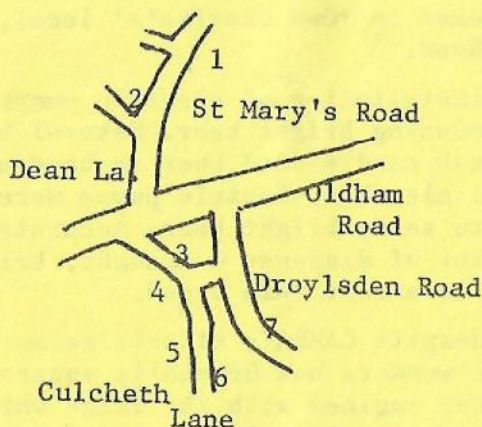
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## SAM SMITHS

Two more of Sam Smiths pubs are going back to real ale. They are the Brownhills and the Roebuck in Rochdale.

# PUB CRAWL

Following the success of the Salford 85 club, pub crawls are to continue on a monthly basis. They will not be confined to our area although it is hoped to cover North Manchester during the next six months. Suggestions for future crawls would be welcome.



1 Dean Brook Inn	St Mary's Road	Marstons
2 Railway	Dean Lane	Holts
3 New Crown Inn	Old Church Street	Marstons
4 White Lion	Old Church Street	Tetley
5 Newton House	Culcheth Lane	Marstons
6 Culcheth Gates	Culcheth Lane	Wilsons
7 Robin Hood Inn	Droylsden Road	Marstons

NEWTON HEATH. WEDNESDAY 3rd. NOVEMBER.

Newton Heath has suffered from the progress of demolition as much as any other area of Manchester and Salford. Many pubs have disappeared along with the houses and shops but enough remain to make the area worth visiting. Because of a brewery takeover Newton Heath and Failsworth were Marston's strong-



holds. Although the last twelve months have seen the closure of The Foresters Arms and The Manor Inn on Oldham Road and the Burns Cottage on Dean Lane, (where I understand Frank Eastwood of the Whitegates was once the licensee,) there are still a considerable number of Marston's outlets in the locality.

The crawl will start at The Dean Brook Inn at 7.00 p.m. or can be joined in The Railway at 7.30 or The New Crown at 8 o'clock. The pubs have not been checked out so we don't know whether the ale is drinkable or even real.

The other part of Newton Heath near Monsall Brewery will be kept in storage until Wilsons stop selling quasi-real beer, because, apart from the odd Lees, Tetley's or Boddington's pub, the area is saturated with newly Wilsonified outlets.

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## MEDIA SCENE

As mentioned last month, the branch has a 'CAMRA News' spot on Radio Manchester's 'The Week Ahead'. The programme is broadcast at 7.30 pm on Fridays and repeated at 12.30 pm on Saturdays.

A new independent newspaper, 'The Salford Champion', is carrying a series of articles on Salford pubs by Roger Hall and Neil Richardson. And if that isn't enough to make you rush out and buy a copy, the newspaper is also a welcome alternative to the 'Reporter' and the 'Evening News'.

# VISIT TO AUTOMATED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING ESTAB- LISHMENT

On October 12th., about 40 patrons of the Football Hotel, Swinton, paid a visit to Tetley's Warrington brewery. Unfortunately, Allied Brewers seem to be more concerned with impressing visitors with their generosity than with giving them genuine information about the brewery.

The bar or hospitality room served as much free beer as people could drink. The brewery is evidently so proud of its beer that it could only dispense pressurised bright beer. Real ale was not to be seen. We were also supplied with trashy P.R. booklets and taken on a tour of the brewery by programmed dolly birds who wouldn't know a hop from a jump or a firkin from a fuggle. Back to the bar and more free maltade. Luckily hospitality ceased at half past nine and we were able to get back to the Football for a decent drink.

It seems rather a naive P.R. exercise to take people on a peremptory tour and let them get as drunk as they want in the hope that they'll return with a glowing impression of the brewery.



# 1977 GOOD BEER GUIDE

Forms have been completed for the following pubs as possible extras for the guide.

Eccles:	Old Bulls Head, Packet House.
Bolton:	Falcon, Bowling Green, Sread Eagle, Howcroft.
Westhoughton:	Duke of Wellington.
Pendlebury:	Windmill.
Irlam:	White Horse.
Boothstown:	King William.
Salford:	Feathers, Bee Hive.

According to Dave Easton, Michael Hardman is likely to treat our ideas with more sympathy than previously, so we may see more pubs and the elimination of comments, at least in our area.

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## WHAT'S SCREWING

From a fairly reliable source I hear that a CAMRA branch in the Midlands has sacked one of its committee for getting drunk and trying to pull another committee member's wife at a branch function. As Traditional English Pub behaviour, this sort of thing should be encouraged. It would do wonders for the Membership Campaign. We could have inter-branch getting drunk and wife swapping. Just imagine, seven or eight pints of Boddingtons and off home with another woman, for what good it would do you (or her). Mind you, once this side of CAMRA's activities is taken up by 'What's Brewing' interest may wilt. To judge by recent boring issues it looks likely that the paper could even make copulation sound dull.

# BAD BEER GUIDE

Since the last meeting, branch members have been served with sour or vinegary beer in the following pubs:

Hope Inn	Chester Rd	Hydes	Bitter	29.9.76
The Derby Hotel	Derby St	Wilsons	Mild	29.9.76
* King William IV	Springfield La.	Marstons	Bitter	5.10.76
Moulders Arms	Heyrod St	Tetleys	Mild	6.10.76
River Inn	Palmerston St.	GW	Mild	6.10.76
* New Inn	Yealand Conyers	Hartleys	XB	9.10.76
Unicorn	Ambleside	Hartleys	XB	9.10.76
Windsor Castle	Windsor (Salford)	Wilsons	Bitter	9.10.76
Horseshoe	Little Lever	Hydes	Bitter	14.10.76

\*=in 1976 Good Beer Guide

Entries are requested for this feature. Dates should be given and at least two witnesses are required

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## BEER FESTIVAL

The South Manchester branch are holding a beer festival at Wythenshawe Forum on Saturday and Sunday 27th. and 28th. November. Apart from local brews, the organisers hope to have Bass, Jennings, Batemans, Taylors, Theakstons, Thwaites and Sam Smiths available.



# BRANCH COMMITTEE

- CHAIRMAN Jem Callaghan, 30 Stafford Road,  
Ellesmere Park, Eccles, M30 9HW  
736 5843 ext 7364 (work)  
789 3808 (home)
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Swinton  
794 5143
- EVENTS ORGANISER Les Kilsby, 112 Winslow Road, Bolton  
Westhoughton 812884

# 1977 GOOD BEER GUIDE

## A PREVIEW

### ECCLES MAGNA

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Adolf Hitler

Newt Street (off A57)

A basic upper middle class pub

♂ ♀ with no beer

### NETHER ECCLES

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Fatted Mouse

Pseud Lane (Next to abattoir)

Puke o • H ♀ G

A cosy local with a ballet dancing landlord

♂ ♀ ♀

### DARCY ECCLES

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Lord Snooty

Molestrangler Crescent

Kamikaze o • o • o • G

A basic drinking pub with interesting collection of photographs under the bar

♂ ♀ ♀

### LITTLE ECCLES

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Person and Scythe

Snog Street

Vomit o • E

Crème de Menthe G

An expensive account retreat with topless barmaids in the vault

♂ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀

### EVEN LITTLER ECCLES

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Prunesdale Arms

Anthrax Street (near oil rig)

Flatulence o • o H

Meths o o G

A basic pub for the unemployed. Ceiling festooned with snuffboxes

### ECCLES ON THE WATER

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Grotty Hardman

Trend Avenue

Nausea o • o ♀ W

Cider G

A lively pub. Ask for Nausea Old Rabbits Blood from the bucket by name

♂ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀

### ECCLES PARVA

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Fajry Bluto

Pratt Road

Spew o • G

Watney Red K

Popular with transvestites and paedophiles

♂ ♀

### HIGHER ECCLES

11-3;5.30-10.30 (11 F,S)

Railway and Barrister

Volcano Side (near

Marxist Cemetery)

Pigswill o H

A faithful reconstruction of a working class pub for executives complete with vinyl sawdust and no facilities



THE NEXT BRANCH  
MEETING WILL BE  
IN THE THREE  
CROWNS, LITTLE  
LEVER, AT 8.00pm  
ON WEDNESDAY 17  
NOVEMBER

# Protect your pint

Many of Britain's brewers — especially the bigger ones — have been stripping the country of its choice and quality of beer over the past 10 or 15 years. Thousands of brews have vanished and many of those which have remained have been ruined beyond recognition. Fortunately, something is now being done to protect the beer drinker's interests.

CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, was set up in 1971 to stop the slide from traditional beer in traditional pubs. Since then, it has saved hundreds — maybe thousands — of pubs from the plight of processed and pressurised beer and has sparked off an interest in beer drinking which has never been known before.

Members get What's Brewing sent to them by post every month. Everyone can take an active part in the Campaign, by attending branch meetings, which are held throughout the country. Branches organise the Campaign at local level and some of them organise beer exhibitions and trips to breweries.



**If you are already a member—get a friend to join**

**To the Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 3BW.**

I wish to become a member of CAMRA and I enclose £2 as my annual membership subscription (£3 for overseas members.) I agree to abide by the rules of the Campaign.

*PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS*

Name .....

Full postal address .....

..... Signature .....