WHAT'S DOING



DEC 1991

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

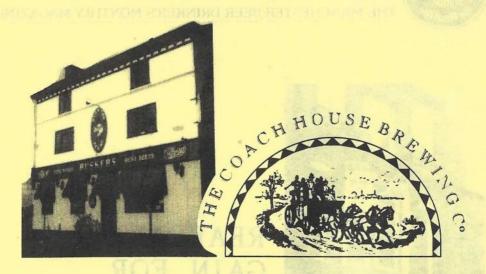


REAL ALE GAIN FOR CITY CENTRE

One of central Manchester's long-standing keg pubs has gone over to real ale. The Old Nags Head on Jacksons Row now sells Greenalls bitter, Original and Stones.

NEW BREWS

The Warrington-based Coach House Brewing Company now has outlets in the North East, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Shropshire and Lincolnshire and in February a major London wholesaler will be making "Innkeepers Special Reserve" their beer of the month. BodPubCo's "Liquid Assets" group is now taking Coach House and Greenalls will be putting the beers in more of their own pubs.



Coachmans bitter is now on sale at Buskers on Blackfriars Road in Salford for 99p a pint, alongside Buskers Best Bitter (1.04p).

The Thomas McGuinness Brewing Company opens on Monday 9th December, based at the newly-renovated Cask & Feather (ex-Junction), 1 Oldham Road, Rochdale. It has a five-barrel brewing system, with a weekly maximum output of seventy barrels. The beer will be on sale at the Cask & Feather and Mr McGuinness's two other pubs - Whittingtons on Oldham Road and Gullivers on Drake Street. It will also be available to the free trade. Initially, there will be three bitters with og's of 1038, 1042 and 1060, and a stout, a porter and a lager may be produced at a later date.

PLANNING NEWS

There has been another planning application for a pub on Princess Street, Manchester (see WD last month). This time Tetleys want to open premises in Lancaster House, on the corner of Whitworth Street.

THE CLITHEROE KID

John Worthington, the man who put the Marble Arch on the map, opens his new pub this month. The Pendle Hotel is in Chatburn, about half a mile from Clitheroe, so it is a bit further out of Manchester city centre than the Marble.

The Pendle is a Victorian, stone-built pub which in recent years has operated as a keg S&N "free house"; before that it was a Whitbread (ex-Duttons) free house. The plastic beams and other sixties-style tat are now being removed and John has set the reopening date at Friday 13th December.

Regular beers will be: Hydes bitter and mild, Fullers London Pride, Oak best bitter and porter, Moorhouses Pendle Witch, together with regular guest brews. There will also be a specially-brewed house beer.

For the Christmas period there will be a beer festival, with ales from Adnams, Banks & Taylor, Bateman, Big End, Eldridge Pope, Exmoor, Hardy Hanson, Holdens, Marston Moor, Mauldons, Shepherd Neame, Wadworth, Youngs and others.

There is a restaurant attached, so traditional English meals and, of course, Asian specialities, will be served. The Pendle Hotel also has en suite accommodation — readers contemplating an extended visit should phone John Worthington on Clitheroe 41234 after 13th December.

Kendlegate Wine Cellars Ltd.

164 Northgate Rd, Edgeley. Tel: 477 3939

OVER 70 DIFFERENT BOTTLED BEERS

Why not try something different for Xmas?

Hours: Dec 23rd 11-3, 24th 9-12 Closed Dec 25th to Jan 1st inclusive Jan 2nd, 3rd, 4th 11-3. Closed Jan 5th Jan 6th Back to normal hours: 8-5.30 Mon-Fri, 11-3 Sat Closed Sunday & Bank Holidays

Note: We operate under the Wholesale Licensing Regulations, therefore minimum purchase is 24 bottles beer or 12 bottles wine/spirits, which can all be different

TRAFFORD & HULME NEWS

Kilverts, formerly the Woodcourt, on Brooklands Road, is again available for lease only a year or two after becoming a free house. Trade did not live up to expectations and financial difficulties arose. Kilverts is not to be taken on by the faint-hearted - the rent is rumoured to be around £6,000 per month.

Several other pubs have also bitten the dust. The Greyhound at Partington, the Spinners and Caught on the Hop in Hulme, and the Bulls Head in Cornbrook are all boarded up, whilst John Smith's Crown in Hulme has been demolished.



Hydes Anvil Strong is not being brewed this year. Demand was very low last year and there was a considerable quantity of unsold beer left. This does not yet mean the death of the beer, as the position will be reviewed again next year.

Handpumps have replaced electric pumps at the King Billy in Partington, which also sees the welcome reintroduction of Pedigree. This beer has been tried a number of times before but has always been withdrawn owing to lack of demand. The refurbishments at the Star in Cheadle should be completed by Christmas and extensive alterations are due to start at the Horse & Farrier in Gatley early in 1992.

METROLINK NEWS

CAMRA is no advocate of private transport. Indeed, where a railway station is within a reasonable distance of a pub, the Good Beer Guide takes note of this fact with an appropriate symbol. (There may only be a train every three hours and the pub may have a ten-minute bus service, but this is quietly ignored.)

In urban areas more useful information is provided as metro/underground stations are also noted (another symbol - see entries for London, Glasgow and Newcastle).

In anticipation of Manchester's Super Tram system opening in the near future, branches' submissions for the 1992 Good Beer Guide noted the Metrolink stations where necessary. These were duly shown on the proofs of the Guide.

Imagine one's surprise when the final edition of the Good Beer Guide made no mention of Metrolink stations. Shortly afterwards Greater Manchester Metro Ltd announced that its Super Tram network would not now open until February instead of the planned date in November. The Good Beer Guide would suggest that Metrolink will not open at all in 1992. Is it possible that CAMRA's HQ in faraway St Albans knows something that Greater Manchester PTE does not? Or are mischievous Wiganers at work, suppressing news of Manchester's new system as it will not reach their neck of the woods until the next century, if at all?

WHAT'S DOING contributions should be sent to the editor c/o 88 Ringley Road, Stoneclough, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 9ET. News, articles, letters, etc, must arrive by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Send cheque/PO for £2.40, together with your name and address, to Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester M9 2PW, for 6 issues. Cheques made out to "What's Doing".

BACK NUMBERS: 15p per copy. Send stamped addressed envelope to Roger Hall, address above.

To join CAMRA send £10 to Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 3BW.

WHAT'S DOING ADVERTISING: Enquiries to the editor, address above. Full page £25, $\frac{2}{4}$ page £20, $\frac{1}{2}$ page £15, $\frac{1}{4}$ page £7.50. Discount on bookings for 6 months or longer.

WIGAN & DISTRICT

Dave White

The refurbishment of Wigan's pubs continues apace. The MARKET TAVERN, Mesnes Street, is about to reopen anytime now and appears to have picked up the sobriquet STEPPES along the way - very industrial Lancashire! Peering into the darkness recently, I was unable to see much of the interior of the Tavern, though the handpumps on the bar sported pumpclips for Theakstons best bitter and XB and Youngers IPA, which is pretty much what the pub was selling before its closure.

The PAGEFIELD HOTEL, Park Road, is also being gutted. The exterior of this Edwardian ex-Magees pub really is a joy to behold, though the place itself was a bit of a dead-hole, serving tank Greenalls ales for donkey's years. Will cask conditioned beer return? Will the pub's revolving door emerge unscathed? Watch this space...



Meanwhile in Poolstock, the BEER ENGINE on Poolstock Lane is also being opened out. The snooker tables are to be consigned to the history books and a restaurant is planned. One feature that will remain unchanged is the plethora of guest ales, much loved by the ageing hierarchy of Wigan CAMRA branch. However, we aren't there all the time and the Beer Engine is well worth a visit.

The FLAMINGO HOTEL, Scholes, is restored to all its glory. Stones bitter is now on sale alongside the Greenall-Tetley bitter and mild, all in cask form again. Elsewhere in Greenall Whitley land, alas, the QUEENS ARMS at the Saddle, Newtown, is closed and boarded up.

Lots of news from Ashton-in-Makerfield, most of it bad, unfortunately. The GOLDEN BALL, Wigan Road, Bryn, is currently shut (Greenalls)...the landlord of the RAMS HEAD, Bolton Road, Stubshaw Cross, has moved on after Tetley tripled the rent...the CROSS KEYS, a Burtonwood house on Golborne Road, has recently been renovated, but trade is still said to be quiet, even with bitter going for 89p a pint, while the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Heath Road (still Burtonwood) has also been blitzed and has introduced "turns" on Sunday nights. What are you waiting for?

Finally, news from Appley Bridge. Tetley are said to be restoring the tap room to the RAILWAY HOTEL, Appley Lane North, but the LOCOMOTION, a cheerless keg Bass emporium by the railway station, has closed its doors. Just down the track, the Gathurst station bar is flourishing, following its conversion to traditional ale. Food for thought?

BEECH ALE

The Beech on Beech Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, has stopped selling Cains bitter. Taylors Landlord is still on sale.

POOR CIRCULATION

There aren't many left now, and this month's news from Wigan predicts the loss of another one. But you can still see them if you know where to look. So what have the following pubs got in common?

Cock Robin (Hydes), Sale; Legh Arms (Holts), Sale; Crown (Robinsons), Davenport; Old Star (Hydes), Cheadle.

The answer is, revolving doors. Another pub to add to the list is the Old Cock (Bass), Stretford, a large, unaltered keg pub which also still has most of its internal walls.

CLUB NEWS

The Castle & Falcon Club has opened on Dantzic Street and sells Burtonwood real ale. The licensee is the former landlord of the Castle & Falcon on nearby Bradshaw Street.

Barrfield Bowling Club, Irlams o'th'Height, is selling Boddingtons bitter at 96p a pint.

Les Français do not adore Le Piat d'Or — they have never heard of it. At least, not until oiks swanning over La Manche on Duty Free day trips started asking for it around Calais and Boulogne. Now it is available, at a modest FF70.00 a throw, for the indiscriminate with leather palates. The same has yet to happen with Real Ale to any great extent, though I was told several times that it can be found.

The usual scenario is that a brassed-off UK publican tries a "French Fields" removal to the land of garlic, taking his degustatory preferences along for the ride. After three or four beerless months, he imports some from the UK, via old contacts or one of the new agencies, and sets a cask and some carefully chosen bottles on the counter. After drinking most of it himself for a few months, he kicks the experiment into touch, but stories of "a Real Ale bar just off the N1 outside Boulogne" persist.

I picked up one such story from a Dutch lorry driver whilst staying in Cadillac. This time, the bar was "in a big hotel on the left just as you go into Cherbourg". It might have been true, but the brassed-off UK publican had gone back to Blighty in 1987, taking his Real Ale with him. The nearest Madame Ruffure could offer was a venerable bottle of warmish White Shield, abandoned by the long-departed publican. I snatched it out of her hands and Madame gave me a pitying look, declining to charge me for it.

I also keep hearing that there are a few UK-style pubs in Paris selling beer. A much-travelled sales rep tells me that it is all keg and goes over the bar at £3 a pint and with a 2" foam collar. Finally, there are accounts of "real" lager being on sale in and around Lille and St Omer. Well, maybe — but where beer is concerned, the French really haven't a clue.

They have three problems. The first is that most of France is so hot for so much of the year that temperature control would be a major problem were anyone to start selling the real thing. The second is that slutching-grade wine can be had for 50p a litre and at a maximum of £1 a litre, so weaker beer could not compete on an alcohol-for-francs basis. The third problem is that, whatever you might have read to the contrary, the French are not connoisseurs where drinks are concerned.

Good, bottled wine costs the same in France as in the UK these days and so, on cost grounds, is no longer popular. Instead, the locals buy

it draught or crudely bottled from retail outlets supplied by the local chateaux. If you know which one to go for, you can get paralytic on tolerable vin plonque for less than a quid. To the ordinary French person, alcohol is all about inebriation and outside the wine growing regions, wine appreciation is for the toffs in Paris.

The nearest the French get to beer is a fluid called biere a la pression, flogged off at about £3.20 a litre from gothic dispensers mounted on the bar. It is a bit like sugary keg lager and the bar owners generally do not know exactly what it is. If you ask, the baffled bar person will tell you, "It's beer." Under pressure, the most knowledgeable will add, "I think they made it out of wheat." Which is as helpful as describing champagne as a drink made from grape juice.

In order to try to make the biere a la pression taste of something, the French are much given to lobbing dollops of fruit cordial into it. I thought one chap was getting stuck into a pint of creme de menthe, but it was just his beer with a cupful of lime cordial. Strawberry cordial turns French beer red, blackcurrant makes it Vimto-coloured, whilst banana makes it look like a long-forgotten urine sample.

The French also have an unusually severe alcoholism problem, thanks to the practice of serving wine with meals even to kids — and this only started dying out in the 1980s. One chap I spoke to recalls staggering back to school half pissed after every lunch break; when I spoke to him in 1991 I put him at about 36 years of age. France holds the record for youthful alcoholics; one toddler (aged 8) died of an alcohol related disease (cirrhosis of the liver) after helping out in his uncle's bar for two years. It turned out that he had access to the barrels in the cellar and had been on a pint or three per day from the age of 6!

Which is why they might just start looking at beer in the near future as a weaker alternative to wine. They are drinking rather more perry in one area than was the case and French government statistics show wine consumption dropping as "beer" (and perry) consumption rises. Who knows, in a few years time, if the trend continues, you might be able to sit outside a pavement cafe in Biarritz with a pint of Sam Smiths!

GOING GREEN

Woodies in Cheetham is now called the Shamrock Isle.

HOLTS IN THE "FREE TRADE"

Not long ago, Holts' "free trade" accounts were restricted to a handful of free houses and clubs. Now, thanks to the "guest beer" rules forced on the big brewers, Joe's finest can be had in an increasing number of outlets...

Astley & Tyldesley Miners Club Atherton & Tyldesley Botanical Gardens Association Bridge, Wigan Road, Westhoughton Bowling Green, Stockport Beerhouse, Angel St, Manchester Boundary, Audenshaw Colliers, Tyldesley Crown, Deansgate, Manchester Cheadle & Gatley Conservative Club Church Inn. Pendleton Crescent, Salford Church, Wilbutts Lane, Rochdale Edington Arms, Hindley Green Gem's Free House, Wigan

Gardeners Arms, Northgate Road, Stockport George, Cadishead Half Moon, Elliott Street, Tyldesley House That Jack Built, Bury New Road, Higher Broughton Higher Blackley British Legion Higher Broughton Conservative Club Hillgate, Pot Hill, Ashton Kings Arms, Bloom St, Salford Levenshulme Catholic Club Little John, Lever St, Bolton Lord Lyon, Claremont Road, M/c14 Moorside Social Club, Swinton



Mallard, Langley, Middleton
New Inn, Bell Lane, Bury
New Inn, Ashton
Prestwich Church Institute
Park, Stockport
Post Office Club, Manchester
Prestwich Liberal Club
Rostron Arms, Edenfield
Royal Oak, Boothstown
Rising Sun, Stockport Road,
Bredbury
Royal Oak, Stockport





Sett, Hollins Road, Oldham Swinton Catholic Club Seahawk, Bold Street, M/cr 15 Salford Arms, Chapel St, Salford Stamford Arms, Ashton Strawberry Duck, Ashton New Rd, Manchester Stretford Royal British Legion Traditionals, Wigan Tiger Moth, Irlam Top Derby, Rochdale Road, Manchester Woolpack, Stand Lane, Radcliffe Withington Bowling Club White House, Great Ancoats St. Manchester Witchwood, Ashton Yates's Wine Lodge, Urmston

There is a possibility that Stretford British Legion will be replacing Holts with Tetleys because of some financial inducement that Holts can't (or, indeed, won't) match.

Stewart Revell

LETTERS



EAST MANCHESTER PUBS

Sir - I write as a member of the CAMRA branch criticised by Roger Hall (WD Nov) for trying to save pubs in East Manchester, including the Shakespeare in Bradford.

Roger commits the classic error of viewing an individual pub in isolation, rather than in its local context. Our objection is not to the demolition of the Shakespeare on its own, but to a scheme which threatens four local pubs and would leave nowhere to drink between Ashton New Road and the River Medlock. This has also to be seen in the context of further schemes which, between them, threaten up to 20 East Manchester locals.

Roger may be right in seeing the Shakespeare as one of the weakest of the threatened pubs, but he should know that a "realistic" campaign has to push for everything it wants, in the hope of eventually getting some of what it wants.

The Eastlands Stadium scheme will add to the already accelerating destruction of pubs in East Manchester. It does nothing to meet local people's needs and aspirations, and is not even internally well thought out. (For instance, a facility of the scale envisaged requires a mass transit link - yet as I write the Passenger Transport Executive propose to close Park Station a quarter of a mile up the road!) There seem to me to be valid grounds for objection.

Roger's idea of realism may be to cry into his beer while chronicling the death of East Manchester drinking; some of us out here still reckon we ought to be doing something about it.

Rhys P Jones

BREWERS AND PUBLICANS

Sir - The article "Save the Publican" in last month's WD reminded me of a cutting from the Eccles Journal, part of which reads, "Are there any bona fide publicans nowadays? The old fashioned publican is almost as extinct as the dodo, and where he is to be found it is only where he owns a house which has not yet been put up to auction to be scrambled for by the big brewers." The article is entitled "Tied Houses, The Brewers' Catspaws" and the newspaper is dated January 20th 1890. So the recent well-publicised treatment of licensees by their

employers is just the latest episode in the big brewer monopoly problem that has been with us for well over a century. The 1890 writer states that, "In Lancashire, fully 80% of the houses are tied; in Burnley it is stated that there are only 12 free houses, and in St Helens only 2...the men who manage these tied houses...are the slaves of the brewery companies, and are simply a class of servants employed by the brewers to sell their productions. They are no more publicans in the old acceptation of the term than the brewers' draymen. A person put in to manage a tied house is absolutely bound to purchase from the brewery every drop of liquor he sells, or to leave at a moment's notice."

The writer cites the case of a man who was employed by a Liverpool brewer. "The ale sent to him was bad, he could not dispose of it, and offered his customers another article, but very soon an injunction was served upon him by the brewer, and the 'publican' found he had 'tied' himself so fast that he was obliged to sell whatever the brewer required him." Not a lot has changed, has it?

Alan Taylor

CAMRA INCOMPETENCE

Sir - As a keen supporter of CAMRA I decided to become a life member in May of this year. I am still waiting to receive my membership card and "What's Brewing", despite the fact that I paid my fees in early June and have phoned and written several times. All I have received is a letter encouraging me to re-join at a reduced fee! Perhaps CAMRA should concentrate on keeping members who have already paid their fees happy, as they are usually the ones who encourage new members to join.

A L Sibson



BEERMAT MEETING

The Christmas meeting of the BBCS (British Beermat Collectors Society) takes place on Saturday 14th December, 12 o'clock start, at the Marble Arch, Rochdale Road, Manchester. All beermat collectors are welcome, members or non-members of the BBCS.

ANOTHER HOLTS OUTLET

The Grosvenor (Whitbread) on Great Clowes Street, Salford, is selling Holts at 88p a pint.

NOW&THEN

by Rob Magee

No.60

BLACK HORSE

20 Manchester Road Werneth, Oldham

The Black Horse will close on 12th February after over 137 years. It was opened as a beerhouse in early 1854, but in the August of that year the licensee, Thomas Gorton, was granted a full licence. The address was originally given as "Oldham Road", by 1858 it was Manchester Road and six years later the pub was recorded as No.20 Manchester Road.

John German was the next licensee and he moved from the Kings Arms, Manchester Road, to take over the Black Horse in 1874. By 1885 the owner of the pub was recorded as William Heathcote, a Manchester brewer, and John German was his tenant. Mr German was also a brewer of "Old Style Brewed Ginger Beer", which he sold in earthenware bottles. I have one of these bottles and unfortunately the address printed on it is simply "Oldham" - whether he brewed his ginger beer at the Black Horse or somewhere else after he left in 1887 is not clear.

William Houghton was the Black Horse's next tenant. He had kept the Red Lion in the Market Place for four years and must have decided he'd had enough of the town centre life. Three years later his wife, Ellen,



took over and she stayed until 1897. In 1894 a survey found that the Black Horse had five drinking rooms, two bedrooms and stabling for two horses in an open yard. There was no bathroom and no accommodation for travellers, but the building was in good repair and very clean. By then the owners were brewers Beaumont & Heathcote, who were taken over by Kay's Atlas Brewery of Ardwick in 1896.

Thomas Thorpe was Kay's first tenant and he stayed until 1915. The Black Horse had been little altered since it opened, apart from having had an extension built in 1875, and the pub remained much the same until Robinson's Brewery acquired Kay's. Plans for major alterations were approved in October 1930, when Arthur Mullineux was licensee, and he had to put up with the mess!

Today the Black Horse is pretty much the same as it was in the 1930s, tiles and all! A wall between the bar parlour and the smoke room has been removed and new ladies' toilets were built in 1987. Maureen Bamford took over the licence in August last year and she hopes to stay in the trade when the Black Horse closes. Good luck to her.

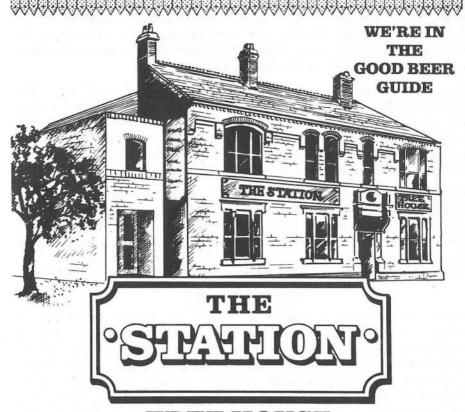
CURRY CORNER

Bolton's best Asian restaurant, Shimul's on St George's Road, is seeing some changes. The old opening hours, 6pm to 2am, will be replaced by 12noon-midnight, as the boss has had enough of some of his late night clientele. A new, more conventional menu will be introduced to attract the lunchtime trade, although Shimul's excellent special dishes will remain. The restaurant is being transformed, inside and out, and doubtless the prices will go up to pay for it all! Shimul's is, of course, open during the alterations, so now's your last chance to work your way through the old menu, at the old prices.

CADISHEAD GUESTS

Boddies bitter is now a guest beer at the much improved Lion (Tetley). This appears to be a tit-for-tat response to the nearby Coach & Horses (BodPubCo), where Tetleys bitter is a guest brew. More imagination has been exercised at the George (Whitbread), where Holts bitter has proved very popular.

Contributors to this issue: Dave White, D Busman, Rob Magee, Roger Hall, Bill Collier, John Hutchinson, Alan T Gardner, Roger Wood, Keith Egerton, Stewart Revell



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NEXT TO BY-PASS

rupert

It is with a sense of both excitement and trepidation that I have been reading a contraband copy of Drab's Marketing Strategy for the 90's, "Towards 2001". I was well aware that with the young and dynamic Perry Drab at the helm, the Grotley Brewery was destined for great things in the decade to come. Yet the breadth of vision and clarity of goals is, nevertheless, both awe-inspiring and breathtaking in its con-ception of Drab's future role in the world economy. We have all long been aware of Perry's commitment as a European after all, it was he who exchanged his Reliant Robin for a Trabant to celebrate German unity. His plans for the future direction of the company endorse this view.

As we enter the single European Market in 1992, Drabs is poised become a Eurobeer sans knocking pareil. Heineken. Carlsberg, Löwenbräu, Stella Artois et al into a cocked hat. It is with mixed emotions that many of us will see favourite amber nectar on display throughout the Continent. Yes, it will certainly be delightful to quaff a foaming stein in Düsseldorf or a thirstquenching demi in Toulouse, but to those of us who flinched when first our intrepid ale purveyors set dray outside Grotley, it may well anathema to share our beloved. esoteric brew with hoi polloi from Wopley, Frogley Dagoland.

Drabs have made few concessions to local tastes and Regional



prejudices. The names Drabs Bitter and Drabs Mild are used consistently except in Portugal, where drabs is a dialect slang word for unnatural relationships with farm animals, and Denmark, where Mayeld is a midden on the Faroe Islands. In Krautley, Drabs were fortunate enough to inherit a home brew bierkeller in a suburb of Munich which was granted Elector licence by the Bavaria Luitpold the Incontinent 936 AD. Consequently they will be present on the Theresienwiesen with a large beer tent for the 1992 Oktoberfest. Early trials of de-ratting to comply with the Reinheitsgebot have been promising.

Drabs have not sold out to Efrem Brobdingnag but decided to build on strengths. Their expansionist vision will surely steal march on rivals like Boringsod, whose myopia seems to extend no further than Pondley. I, for one. forward to Drabs - the Euro Designer Drink of the 90's. Prost!



| ADDRESS | |
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| I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and ag | jree |
| to abide by the Memorandum and Articles Association. I enclose a cheque for £10 (£1) | of |
| overseas). | 4 11 |



WIGAN

Wed 4th Dec 8.30, Branch Meeting, Orwell, Wallgate, Wigan
Wed 11th Dec 8.30, Wigan Beer Festival Meeting, Silverwell Hotel,
Darlington Street East, Wigan

Wed 18th Dec, Xmas Social. (T.B.A)

Sat 28th Dec, Manchester Pub Crawl. Commence Crown & Anchor, Cateaton Street, 7.30 (Holts)

Contact: Brian Gleave, Atherton 876200 (w), 840658 (h)

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 3rd Dec 8pm, Branch Meeting, Junction, Green Lane, Middleton Junction, Oldham. NB No speaker on trading standards, etc - postponed. Sun 8th Dec 12.30pm, Social, Farmers Arms, Simister Lane, Simister, Prestwich

Tues 10th Dec 8pm, Committee meeting, Dog & Partridge, Middleton Road, Royton, Oldham

Tues 17th Dec 8pm, Xmas Social, Hunt Lane Tavern, Hunt Lane, Chadderton. Oldham. All welcome

Tues 7th Jan 8pm, Branch Meeting, Tap & Spile, Hope Street, Rochdale. Contact: B Lee 061 766 6601 (w), 0706 824407 (h)

NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed 4 Dec, Weaste & Seedley: Swan, Eccles New Road, 7pm. Royal 8pm, Old Veteran 9pm. Ashley Brook Birthday Party 9.30pm.

Tues 10 Dec, Regional Meeting, Britons Protection, Great Bridgewater Street, Manchester, 8pm

Wed 11 Dec, Committee & Social. Meet Park Inn, Swinton, 7.30.

Wed 18 Dec, Branch Christmas Social, Crescent 8pm

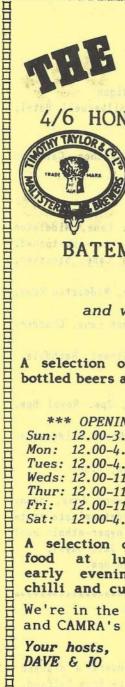
Sat 28 Dec, Traditional Crawl & Curry. Derby Brewery Arms, noon. Queens Arms 12.30, Crown & Cushion 1pm, Then via indeterminate route to Jolly Angler, Ducie Street, 3 to 4pm, ending in hyper-ethnic meal at Usman Cafe, Lena Street (NB: Now closes earlier on Saturdays).

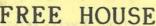
Wed 8 Jan, Committee & Social, Crumpsall 7.30, Egerton 8pm.

Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

CLASS DIFFERENCES

Banks's have applied for planning permission to convert a disused school on Palatine Road, Didsbury, into a pub. A far cry from Salford, where disused pubs become churches.







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BATEMANS & TIMOTHY TAYLORS

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A selection of Continental bottled beers also available

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Sun: 12.00-3.00 7.00-10.30 Mon: 12.00-4.00 7,00-11,00

Tues: 12.00-4.00 7.00-11.00

Weds: 12.00-11.00 Thur: 12.00-11.00

Fri: 12.00-11.00

Sat: 12.00-4.00 7.00-11.00

A selection of hot & cold food at lunchtime and early evening, including chilli and curry.

We're in the Good Beer Guide and CAMRA's Good Food Guide

Your hosts, DAVE & JO

