

WHAT'S DOING

OCT
1992

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

NEW BREWS IN FARNWORTH



The Freemasons Arms on Market Street in Farnworth now sells Holts bitter (95p) - the first pint was pulled at 9.00pm on Saturday 12th September. Draught Bass (127p) is also available and it is hoped that Cains bitter will soon be on sale as a guest beer. The Freemasons, a

basic, friendly boozier, has been acquired by Maple Leaf Inns from Bass and the licensee is still Jean Lawson. Opening times are Mon-Thurs 12-4, 5.30-11; Fri-Sat 11-11; Sunday normal.

Jean's brother, Dave Lawson, now runs the Britannia on King Street, which he has taken on a 20-year lease from Whitbread. Boddingtons bitter (117p) is resident, along with a guest beer from the likes of Castle Eden, Pedigree, Flowers IPA, Taylors Landlord and Brains bitter, all at 120p. Opening times as the Freemasons.

Rotating guest beers were recently started at the Market Hotel on Brackley Street. These include Boddingtons bitter, Jennings bitter, Robinsons best bitter and Ind Coope Burton Ale. Regular beers are Walkers best bitter and mild.

The Albert on Albert Road has changed the guest beer from Lees bitter to Dobbins best bitter, whilst retaining Stones best bitter and Bass light mild. Lees is still available at the White Hart down the road.

All this activity has prompted the 1992 Good Beer Guide entry, the Victoria, to reintroduce Vaux Double Maxim, removed when the licence changed hands earlier this year. Vaux Samson and Wards Sheffield best bitter are regular beers.

With handpumped John Smiths at the Black Horse and Tetleys mild and bitter at the Clock Face, Farnworth offers real choice. As well as boasting a good selection of beers, there are many and varied take-aways, the best curry being from the Ajmeer.

Note for those joining the pub crawl on 7th October: The White Horse on Egerton Street is boarded up.

Dr & Mrs Nightingale

CLIFTON ARMS
75 NEWPORT ST., BOLTON TEL. 912738
Have Measures & Price Menus
Proudly present a
BEER
FESTIVAL
Commencing
8th OCTOBER
—1992—



PUB FESTIVALS

From 8th October the Clifton Arms in Bolton is putting on a variety of beers, including Old Hooky, Old Mill Bullion, Oak bitter, ABC bitter and Taylors Landlord.

Over in Wigan, the Beer Engine, Poolstock, is putting on 30 different beers and a large selection of pies between 1st and 4th October.

NEW HOLTS PUB FOR MANCHESTER

On 22nd September Holts got the go-ahead for a new pub on the corner of Portland Street and Princess Street in the city. They already own the site and will be spending £½ million on the building. The brewery first applied for a licence last January, but were refused because Manchester's licensing magistrates thought there were enough licences in the area already. This time they stressed the traditional nature of Holts houses and invited CAMRA along to the hearing to speak in support of the application - the magistrates were obviously impressed!

The new pub will be called the Monkey - the name of a Holts pub which years ago stood on Portland Street, next door but one to the Grey Horse.

TRAMWAY GUIDE



The free leaflet, "Real Ale Guide to Metrolink", is now available and is being distributed to each of the nearest real ale outlets to the 26 stations. It is also available at the Reception Desks of the Manchester Evening News, Deansgate, Manchester, and Tourist Information Offices in Bury, Manchester and Altrincham.

Otherwise, if you want a copy by post, send a 9"x4" SAE to Pauline Wadsworth, 39 Park Street, Farnworth, Bolton BL4 7RE.

SPIRE ALE

The Stowell Spire (WD last month) is selling Banks's bitter (113p) and Banks's mild (109p), together with keg Hansons.

Real Ale
Guide to:
METROLINK



How to use this Guide
On the inside of this leaflet you will find a Metrolink map along with a list of public houses.

THESE PUBS ARE SIMPLY THE NEAREST
REAL ALE OUTLETS TO EACH STATION
ALONG THE BURY/ALTRINCHAM LINE.

Planning a tramway pub crawl (or "TRAWL" as it has been nick-named) is easy, just follow the guide lines for using your ticket (details contained within) and select your starting point and destination. Remember when timing a visit to a particular pub, you must double the walking-time, allow time for your drink and also allow for the fact that you may just miss a tram at the station on your return. This means that an average visit will take just over half an hour (allowing 15 minutes for your drink).

Don't Drive and Drink - Get Metrolink

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Not to be missed

THE East Lancs



BEER FESTIVAL

Good food
Wine

KING GEORGE'S HALL
BLACKBURN

Live
Entertainment

FAMILY ROOM LUNCHTIMES

28 OCT ... 31 OCT

OVER **60** BEERS AND CIDERS!

| | Lunchtime | Admission | Evenings | Admission | Entertainment |
|-----|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Wed | — | | 6-11 | 50P | |
| Thu | 12-3 | FREE | 5-11 | 5-7 50P 7-11 £1-00 | DIVIN' DUCKS BLUES |
| Fri | 12-3 | FREE | 5-11 | 5-7 50P 7-11 £2-00 | THE MIRRORS 60'S-70'S |
| Sat | 12-4 | £1-00 | 6-11 | £1-50 | FRESH AIR FRED (BLUES, ROCK) |

(TIMES MAY VARY DUE TO
LICENSING RESTRICTIONS)

FREE ENTRY TO CAMRA
CARD CARRYING MEMBERS



SUPPORTING EAST LANCS HOSPICE



BURY BEER FESTIVAL

This will take place on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November at the Metropolitan (formerly Derby Hall), Market Street, Bury. The festival will be open lunchtimes and evenings, with 45 real ales, foreign beers and food available at all sessions. Entertainment on both evenings. Admission free to CAMRA members. More staff are needed, so if you can help, please ring B Lee on 061 763 1078 (day), or 0706 824407/826145 (evenings).

PARTINGTON PUBS

The King William IV has just undergone a £50,000 facelift involving external repainting, injection of a damp-proof course to prevent further damage to the internal panelling and internal redecoration and clean-up with new bar fittings. Fortunately, the structure has not been altered and it still remains by far the best pub in the village. Beers are still on handpump and the range is Marstons Pedigree and Burton bitter and Banks's mild.

Just across the road, the Greyhound is no longer boarded up and is now signed as a Vaux pub. However, as the not-so-gentle art of landlord bashing and the use of pool cues as weapons continues, our reporter has not yet ventured inside to determine what beers are available.

NEW HOLTS PUB IN LEIGH

The Tamar, 416 Wigan Road, at the junction with Nel Pan Lane, will become a Holts house in January 1993. It is now owned by Holts, but is still trading as a Peter Walker house, selling Walker best bitter (£1.20) and mild, so come January drinkers will notice a marked reduction in price.

The pub is known locally as the "Tammer" and used to be called the Bowling Green. It is an ex-GBG (1989) listed pub which has a vault, lounge, function room, car park and a splendid floodlit bowling green. With some tasteful redecoration it should soon prove to be as popular as the other Holts outlets in the area.

THE STATION

ASHTON'S PREMIER FREE HOUSE

offers a selection of
hand pumped traditional ales
in a friendly atmosphere.

GUEST BEERS

from the smaller or more distant
INDEPENDENT BREWERIES
share the bar with
Boddies, Pedigree & Chester's Mild
plus interesting bottled beers.

Superb but inexpensive
LUNCHEONS

WE'RE OPEN ALL DAY

Monday to Friday

Saturday: 11.30-3.00/7-11.00, Sunday usual hours

Conservatory, Snug or Function Room
for meetings & parties
Ring Sylvia - 330 6776

**WARRINGTON STREET
ASHTON-U-LYNE**
(NEAR BY-PASS)



Boddingtons are keeping their shareholders happy. The latest half year results show an increase in pre-tax profits of 51% on the same period last year. They are hanging on to their 20% stake in Devenish and presumably if Devenish results are poor they will point up the difference and renew the hostile bid.

A standard range of bitters is available for all BodPubCo outlets: Boddingtons, Oldham, Higsons, Old Shilling, Cains, Tetley, Theakston Best and John Smiths. If you are wondering why you have not seen these at your local Boddies pub, perhaps it is simply because the licensee is being a bit too cautious and needs some encouragement to put on an extra bitter.

The Liquid Assets Division of the Boddingtons Group is operating a guest beer club for a selection of BodPubCo outlets. The outlets are:

Greater Manchester

Black Lion, Stockport
Commercial, Hadfield
Crown Inn, Heaton Norris
Grapes, Heaton Norris
Hare & Hounds, Abbey Hey
Railway, Clayton Bridge
Spinners, Hadfield
Abbey Inn, Oldham
Lamb Inn, Dukinfield
Bulls Head, High Lane
Crown Inn, Bredbury
Farmers Boy, Oldham
Greyhound, Edgeley
Oddfellows, Openshaw
Robin Hood, Oldham
Star Inn, Ashton under Lyne
Sun Mill Inn, Chadderton
Farmers Arms, Swinton

Cheshire

Wagon & Horses, Bollington
Ash Tree, Butley
Farmers Arms, Wilmslow
Church House, Higher Sutton
Tatton Arms, Altrincham
Cock & Pheasant, Bollington

Boars Head, Higher Poynton
Chapel House, Mobberley
Railway, Heatley
Wickstead Arms, Nantwich

Lancashire

Musketeer, Leigh
Victoria, Walton le Dale
Kings Arms, Fleetwood
New Inn, Morecambe
Legh Arms, Tarleton
Plough, Galgate
Coach & Horses, Freckleton
Yew Tree, Ormskirk

Merseyside

Grapes, Knight Street, L1
Bunbury Arms, Stoak
Excelsior, Dale Street, L12
Poste House, Cumberland St, L1
Lord Napier, Rock Ferry
Bulls Head, St Helens
Brunel, Liverpool 6
Cheshire Cheese, Wallasey
Post Office, Great Newton St, L3
Spiral Staircase, Old Hall St, L3
Phoenix, St Helens

And the guest beers available are: Cains FA, Lion Brewery bitter, Theakston XB and Old Peculier, Eldridge Pope Thomas Hardy and Royal

Oak, McEwan's 80/-, Youngers No.3, Everards Beacon bitter, Tiger best and Old Original, Adnams bitter.

Again, if you want to sample these beers, have a word with the licensee. If you don't ask, you don't get.

The company has recently gained a few pubs and lost a few. About six pubs in North and East Manchester, including the Mile House, Cheetham, and the Apollo, Miles Platting, have been sold to Paramount Inns and a similar number has been gained with the acquisition of Playmaster Leisure, mainly in the South Manchester and Cheshire area.

When it comes to refurbishing their pubs, although there are occasional horror stories, the general policy seems to be a sensible one of going with the grain; recognising the style of the pub for what it is and its place within the local community and making the most of it.

FREE FALL

As the recession deepens the threat to the survival of public houses increases. It is not only marginal establishments in run-down inner city areas which face closure, but well run, thriving premises in all parts of the country. As beer sales continue to fall so ancillary sales fall, particularly in those pubs where food plays a significant part. Costs, however, continue to rise and margins are squeezed. Licensees who have taken long term leases and free house owners are finding it increasingly difficult to service fairly modest loans as revenues fall. In the present climate, an independent pub, once closed, may never reopen.

Bass, Allied, Courage, Grand Met, BodPubCo and the rest will still be here as we move out of recession but what about those pubs which we cherish? Our independent pubs may be eccentric and idiosyncratic but they are a valuable asset, providing as they do both choice and quality. They are too important to lose. Their demise would seriously dent the real ale cause and set progress back a decade. To survive, these pubs need to be busy and that depends on regular custom. Help to secure the future and drink in an independent pub whenever you can.

GOOD BEER GUIDE 1993

CAMRA's 20th Annual Guide is launched this month, containing details of 5,000 pubs serving good quality ale. The guide is available to members for £5 or at £7.99 in bookshops - an incentive to join 36,000 other lovers of good beer by becoming a member of CAMRA.

LETTERS



CASTLE & FALCON

Sir - I write to put the record straight regarding the Castle & Falcon, Bradshaw Street, Manchester, as it was mentioned in the September edition of What's Doing by Leo King.

To answer the question asked by Mr King, the Castle & Falcon is no longer owned by Burtonwood Brewery. It was the subject of a compulsory purchase order and is now owned by the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive.

I would like to point out that while the popular ex-tenants, Sam and Norma Heaney, have opened the New Castle & Falcon on Dantzic Street as a members club, the membership is free and many of the old faces that were seen at the old Castle & Falcon abound here and Burtonwood bitter and James Forshaws bitter are available in very pleasant surroundings with a great atmosphere.

I hope I have clarified the position and that your readers can take comfort in the fact that while the Castle & Falcon is no more, an equally good watering hole is only around the corner.

A Quinn,
Burtonwood Brewery

PUB PRESERVATION AND OTHER THINGS

Sir - I do not think S J Hayward is a breath of fresh air (July, Aug, Sept WD). I think he is an arrogant sod who is intolerant of any point of view which does not coincide with his own.

He pays lip service to pub preservation but then goes on to exhibit the same superficial and short-sighted attitudes that we find in many breweries. It is ridiculous to condemn a pub for all time because it serves dodgy beer. The beer can be changed overnight, but you cannot recreate an interior like the one the Tallow Tub had. Some breweries understand this and make an effort to smarten pubs up without destroying our heritage. (Sam Smiths' Coach & Horses on Eccles New Road is a good example in a keg pub!) Joseph Holt happen to own some of the most distinctive and best-preserved pubs in Manchester but until CAMRA started to make a fuss they did not fully appreciate the qualities of their estate. They were intent on destroying multi-room layouts, losing irreplaceable features and gradually eroding the character of their houses.

I do not agree with Mr Hayward's assertion that CAMRA is here simply to defend beer standards. There is enough energy and expertise within CAMRA to campaign simultaneously for traditional standards and greater consumer choice in both beer and pub matters. In fact, there is a feeling that CAMRA's pub campaigning is just beginning to bite and reach public consciousness in the way that beer campaigning did 21 years ago. You are behind the times, Mr Hayward!

With regard to Good Beer Guide selection, I do not agree with all the pubs chosen but at least I feel as though I have participated in the process and influenced the result to some extent. Why doesn't Mr Hayward come to Good Beer Guide selection meetings or, alternatively, if he is such an expert on the local beer scene, why doesn't he get off his arse and produce a local beer guide himself?

And finally, CAMRA is not, as he suggests, completely discredited in Greater Manchester. Campaigning activity, membership levels and media coverage have all recently been increasing at a rate unsurpassed since the early years of the Campaign.

Peter Barnes

AND WHILE WE ARE ON THE SUBJECT...

Sir - To allow S J Hayward to moans looks like carelessness, particularly when his remarks are full of unconstructive criticism and unsubstantiated denigration. Exclusion of famous pubs too numerous to mention - like as if! I would like to issue a challenge to the carping Mr Hayward to allow him to fill that aching gap in the boozer's bookshelf.

Task:- Compile a list of entries for the Good Beer Guide 1993 for North Manchester and Salford.

Constraints:- 27 pubs to be listed in Metropolitan Salford and North Manchester (Metropolitan Manchester north of the A6 and west of the Medlock). Beer guide to be current from October 1992 to December 1993.

Doubtless, Mr Hayward's choices will be applauded by the Skol-drinking, narrow minded, frustrated architects who, hitherto, have poured scorn and derision on other people's suggestions in what they imagine is the exercise of democracy. Perhaps we can then expect fulsome apologies to the great and the good who've been left out?

Roger Hall

P.S. Would you exercise your blue pencil over "almost unique" which, to my mind, is similar to "nearly pregnant" or "practically a virgin" in confusing dichotomies and continuous variables.

REAL ALE GUIDE TO THE TRAMWAYS

Sir - From a real train spotter and real ale drinker I congratulate the anorak-clad individual(s) (duffle bag as well, I hope) who took the time to compile that guide to the tramway things. It is going to be a most useful document.

Mr Offiz Trolley (WD Sept) ought to praise the guide for what it is intended to be and he himself write a guide on what he suggests.

Mr Danny Boyle (WD Sept) is possibly just miffed that his brainchild ended up in Dai Woodham's scrapyard in '48 and that none of the original trams have been saved and restored for enthusiasts' specials.

Bill Raisten

AND AGAIN

Sir - I am forced to put pen to paper in order to lend my support to Mr Trolley, Mr Boyle and Mr Hayward, who are in accord in condemning the Metrolink Guide. What a total waste of beer drinking time! Has the dimwit who wrote this guide not heard of Eccles? What a great pity that he spent so much time and shoe leather researching and writing the guide and distributing 20,000 copies (paid for by Metrolink), when all this can only lead to a greater awareness of CAMRA, a possible hundred or so new members and a fair degree of conversational material!

Yes, I agree! It's much better just to sit in Eccles and wear the seats out of your pants aimlessly considering where the Campaign can go from here.

A Pathy

MANCHESTER'S FAVOURITE BEER

Sir - As a Whitbread employee and a loyal Boddingtons drinker, I feel I am in a position to complain on behalf of my colleagues about the constant digs my company receives from the contributors to your magazine.

Bodds bitter is one of the best and most distinctive, traditionally brewed beers in the country and a fine session ale. It is brewed locally and has the potential to become the best-selling cask bitter in the land. As such, your organisation should support Whitbreads in the promotion of this product and encourage them not to churn out bland, expensive keg beers.

For any brewer to survive in the current economic and political climate, it must conform to the "grab it while you can" attitude instilled into this nation in recent times, and unfortunately consider

short term profits as a priority. In such a position it has to promote its products as best it can. Whitbread's marketing of the draught flow cans of Bodds bitter (which, incidentally, is claimed only to contain the flavour of cask beer) has been very successful and without the production of beer for canning, the Strangeways Brewery would be nowhere near as secure as it is at the moment.

It would be nice, I am sure, to live in a world where politics and money did not interfere with beer drinking, but selling ale is a very competitive business.

I would be interested to know if the writers of "What's Doing" apply the same ethics and principles to their careers and private lives as they would like to see used in the production of British beers.

Perhaps they should spend less time writing about tram trips and curry eating sessions and give more thought as to how they could really increase the availability of real ales.

"Sausage Man"

REAL ALE GUIDE TO GREATER MANCHESTER BUSES

Sir - Your Real Ale Guide to Metrolink has inspired me to write a companion guide to Real Ale and GM Buses. It goes like this...

1 Consult a local good beer guide and decide where to go.

2 Get on a GM bus heading in that direction and buy a Day Saver ticket.

3 If you see an interesting pub on the way, get off and have a drink.

4 Get on another bus, not necessarily going in the same direction, as, after consulting the beer guide again, you may fancy trying somewhere else.

5 GM buses go all over Greater Manchester so the only limitations are the county borders, licensing hours (again, consult the guide) and your drinking capacity.

As you can see, my GM Bus'n'Beer Guide is simplicity itself, but there is a bit of a problem with step 1 - there isn't a local good beer guide. Maybe Greater Manchester CAMRA members could get round to writing one when they have finished their Train Spotter's Guide to Metrolink?

Ian Allan

SAINSBURY'S ALE

Sir - Following the success of Real Ale Near Tram Stops, I'm doing a guide to boozers near Sainsbury's, so when you drop the missus off to do the shopping you can bob in for a jar or two. So far I've got the

Three Arrows at Heaton Park, the White Horse in Prestwich and the Wellington in Ordsall. Any more suggestions would be handy.

Andrew Beret

HOLTS CORNER

Stewart Revell

Holts have 102 pubs (excluding the four recent acquisitions from Tetley) and the latest figures show that only fifteen are tenanted, the other 87 being managed. The tenanted ones, where the price of a pint can be a little over the 89p (bitter) of a managed house, are:

BLACK DOG, Belmont

COACH & HORSES, Whitefield

CRICKETERS, Swinton

CROSS YATES, Rochdale

CROWN & VOLUNTEER, Eccles

EAGLE, Salford

GOLDEN CROSS, Eccles

GROVE, Clayton

*KINGS ARMS, Hollinwood

NEW GROVE, Whitefield

OLD CROSS, Radcliffe

OSTRICH, Prestwich

STANLEY, Patricroft

UNION, Salford

WHITE HORSE, Prestwich

*The Kings Arms on Manchester Road, Hollinwood, is due to come down in the next eighteen months or so and Holts are looking for a replacement site. If you know of a suitable site in the Chadderton/Hollinwood area, let me know and I'll pass it on.

All managed houses sell beer at the same price, no matter where they are, so the Cheadle Hulme sells bitter at 89p per pint, the same as a local in Eccles. (Some of the national breweries don't have this simple price structure, each of their pubs charging "what the market will stand".)

In November it is customary for Holts to increase the price of a pint by around 2p. At under £1 a pint, Holts remains very competitive compared with even local breweries, let alone the nationals.

Work is expected to start soon on the Morning Star at Wardley, its first major refurbishment since the 1890s, when Holts built the pub.

OPEN AND CLOSED

Last month the Tallow Tub was demolished and the site cleared. Other Salford pubs continue to close. The latest are the Kings Arms, Whit Lane, and the Pen & Wig, New Bailey Street. However, rebuilding work seems to be going on at the Pen & Wig. In Lower Broughton, the Irwell Castle has been sold. In Manchester, it seems pub ventures are still being considered. An application has been made to convert an empty warehouse on Canal Street into a pub.

THE MARBLE ARCH

REGULAR DRAUGHT BEERS

OAK
WOBBLY
BOB

MARSTONS
PEDIGREE

DOBBINS
CHINESE
PALE ALE

BOTTLED BEERS

RADEGAST HARTCLIFFE MORT SUBITE
PRIZE WINNING ORGANIC BELGIUM
CZECH BEER BEER FRUIT LAMBICS

OCTOBER

GUEST BEERS

CHAMPION BEERS OF BRITAIN FESTIVAL

All the winners and
placed beers from CAMRA's
1992 Contest:-
From October 4th

EVENTS

Weds 30th Sept: Moose Molloy
& Velma (Jazz)
Thurs 1st: Harvey's Rabbit
Rock & Folk
Tues 6th: Slurred Word
Comedy, poetry & music
Thurs 8th: Fish on a Stick
Thurs 15th: Victor Brox *
The Legend Lives
Tues 20th: Slurred Word
Weds 21st Sons of the Desert
Laurel & Hardy Night
All welcome - free
Sat 24: Da-Mipherry
- folk sounds
* to be confirmed

MARBLE ARCH
73 Rochdale Road, M4 4HY
061 832 5914

WORLD BEERS (off licence)
189 Manchester Road,
Chorlton M20
061 881 9206

BOOK REVIEW

Paul Roberts

THE GOOD BEER GUIDE TO BELGIUM & HOLLAND by Tim Webb (Alma Books £8.99)

This encyclopaedia on Belgian and Dutch beers was published at the beginning of September. For all those who appreciate the variety of foreign beers, even if only buying in Tesco or Safeway, it will be an essential purchase. Be warned, however - excessive reading does lead to extreme thirst!

The book begins with a quote from Jan de Bruyn, the landlord of the "t'Brugs Beertje" in Brugge: "Life is too short and the liver too brittle to bother oneself with second rate drink". If this very true observation were heeded by Mancunians, the pubs here would be deserted!

A couple of paragraphs on language quite rightly point out that attempts to speak French in the Flemish North of Belgium can be quite detrimental to health! A lengthy section on travel covers all ferry crossings and air connections. It is a little unfair on North Sea Ferries, failing to point out that a five-course evening meal and hot and cold breakfasts are included in the fare. With a detailed section on local food and general tourist information, page 35 sees the start of the real guide.

The entries are listed alphabetically and towns are listed under their relevant provinces - consult the maps at the end of the book to discover which province a town belongs to. Recommended pubs are described in considerable detail, but there is no mention of how many draught beers, let alone which ones, are served. In Gent, the "t'Dreupelkot" is listed - but it does not serve any beer, only 100+ genevers (gins). How does a pub with no beer appear in a Good Beer Guide?

The section which deals with the beers themselves contains quite informative descriptions of brewing styles, followed by a listing of all the breweries and their beers, with the ABV and a star rating.

A small "trivia" section includes examples of Belgian and Dutch jokes - the two countries regard each other with mutual contempt!

Overall, the book is entertaining as well as informative. Although most of my locals in Belgium are listed, I was a little surprised to find that "de Pul" in Antwerp, where over ten years ago I was first introduced to the more exotic Belgian brews from the pub's range of 150+ on offer, was not included. Would-be visitors should bear in mind the immense variety of beers on offer at supermarkets and beer wholesalers at about 50p a bottle. The current 50 litre per person import

limit is increased to 110 litres from January 1st 1993, so it is worth taking the car across. With 60 and 120-hour returns at bargain prices in January and February, the savings on the beer more than pay for the ferry fare and fuel. But remember that one bottle of strong Belgian beer is more than the Belgium or UK drink/driving limit - so don't be tempted to sample the purchase on the way home!

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OLD GARRATT

The Old Garratt on the corner of Princess Street and Granby Row in the city centre has been refurbished by BodPubCo, again! The exterior has been re-modelled, the bar moved to a central position and the drinking space divided up into pseudo-snug areas, very much like the old pub interiors the breweries have been ripping out for years - when will they learn?

The new licensees, Gary and Debbie Mee-Perrone, opened for business on 2nd September serving Boddingtons bitter (122p), Cains bitter (126p) and one guest beer.

The pub is open for drinking all permitted hours except between 3pm and 7pm on Saturday afternoons, and for food 12noon - 2pm Monday-Friday only.

When Gary, a New Yorker, first visited the area he noticed a pub called New York, New York and naturally felt compelled to try it out, but was refused admission. He now knows why!

Kendlegate Wine Cellars Ltd.

164 Northgate Rd, Edgeley. Tel: 477 3939

Wide range of Belgian & Continental Beers.

Cask beers to order, glass hire, delivery service.

Timmermans, Leifmans, Orval, Chimay, Duvel, Hoegarden, Rodenbach, Kwak, Westmalle, St Sixtus, Pinkus, and more. Worthington White Shield, Imperial Russian Stout, Taddy Porter

Westons Scrumpy & Vintage Ciders.

Wide Selection of Wines £2 - £20

Parties & Functions supplied.

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

Open: 8am-5.30pm Monday - Friday; 11am-3pm Saturday

Closed Sunday and Bank Holiday Weekends

Telephone orders accepted on a COD basis

rupert

Welcome to the train spotters' and snipers' monthly bugle. Has it taken the best part of 17 years and 204 issues for us to realise that your average What's Doing reader is an anocached list ticker? Well, I never! Something which does concern me more is the trend towards inaccuracies in this exalted journal. The Maris Piper did not "shut in 1887" but was burned to the ground in 1886 by Arbuthnot Fortescue when he discovered his fiancée Catriona Desiree Kerrs-Pink in flagrante delicto with the then landlord and music hall comedian Spud Murphy. Furthermore, many potato derived hostelry names have survived to this very day. Admittedly the last Pentland Crown and Dr McIntosh disappeared before the last war and the Majestic and the Home Guard were destroyed in the blitz, but there are still several King Edwards and Dukes of York, not to mention the dozens of New Inns which can be seen in virtually every part of this conurbation. I am reliably informed by the Golden Wonder Book of Vegetable Pub Names that the King Edward name derived from the potato and not the cigar. One other interesting fact can be gleaned - the Albert Edward derives from the habit of impecunious Victorians who, forced to pawn their gold watches, replaced them with flat King Edward potatoes on the end of their gold chains or Alberts. The

technique of piercing the potato to take the chain is reflected in the terminology of body-piercing aficionados today. This habit is immortalised in the lines of a Marie Lloyd song,

"My man's called Albert Edward and he plays the music halls, I meet him outside the pawnbroker's and kisses him under the balls".

Which brings us to the Jersey Lily, reputedly named after Lillie Langtry, an inamorata of King Edward (the monarch). This, unhappily, is also incorrect. In 1862 the then landlady of the tavern, Lily White, contracted a rare psychosomatic disorder known as Ground Apple Syndrome in which the individual, believing himself to be a potato, takes on the characteristics of the vegetable. Her skin became brown and she slept in a tub of peat in the yard. In 1865 she gouged out her eyes with a potato peeler and the following year died of tuberculosis. She was buried in the New Cemetery but fears of cropping led to her exhumation and subsequent cremation. In the interests of accuracy and scholarship I will deal with pubs named after cabbages (Greyhound) and cauliflowers (White Heart) on a later occasion, but until then, Mr Nestfeather, get your facts right.

* * * * *



Branch Diary

REGION

Tues 6 Oct 8pm, Castle, Oldham St, Great North Western Beer Festival
Tues 13 Oct 7.30, Castle, Ale of Two Cities (2)
Wed 14 Oct 8pm, Regional Meeting, Kings Arms, Helmshore Walk
Mon 26 Oct 8pm, Castle, CAMRA AGM Organising Meeting
Fri 6 - Sun 8th Nov, Bury Beer Festival.
Tues 17 Nov 8pm, Castle, Brewery Action Group.

NORTH MANCHESTER

Mon 5 Oct 7pm, Crown & Cushion, Corporation Street, Real Ale Guide to Metrolink Meeting.
Wed 7 Oct, Farnworth Crawl: Albert 7.30, White Horse 8.30, Market 9.30, Clock Face to finish.
Wed 21 Oct, Branch Meeting, Queens Arms, Honey St, Cheetham, 8pm
Wed 28 Oct, trip to Preston Brewery. Ring Pauline Wadsworth for details, 0204 73749.
Wed 4 Nov, Committee & Social, Pleasant, Blackley, 8pm.
Wed 11 Nov, Salford Crawl. Hyde Park Corner 7pm, Old Nelson 7.30pm, Peel Park 8pm, Salford Arms 9pm.
Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Thur 1 Oct 8pm, Bury Beerex Organising Meeting, Napier, Bolton Street, Bury. All welcome.
Tue 6 Oct 8pm, Branch Meeting, Waggon Inn (Burtonwood), Milnrow
Tue 13 Oct 8pm, Social, Church Inn (free), St Mary's Road, Prestwich
Tues 20 Oct 8pm, Committee meeting, Dog & Duck (Banks's), St Domingo Street, Oldham
Sat 17 Oct, trip by train to Wakefield Beer Festival - phone contact for details.
Thurs 22 Oct 8.30pm, Bury Beer Festival Meeting, Napier, Bolton St, Bury. All welcome.
Tues 3 Nov 8pm, Branch Meeting, Bay Horse (Holts), Parr Lane, Unsworth
Contact: Graham Mason 061 665 3032

TRAFFORD & HULME

Thur 1 Oct, Committee Meeting, Britons Protection, followed by survey of Peveril, Tommy Ducks and City Road Inn.
Sat 3 Oct, Holly Bush Vintage Weekend, Little Legh.
Thur 8 Oct, survey night. 8pm Railway, Hale, followed by Cheshire Midland, Tatton, Bakers, Grapes.
Thurs 15 Oct, AGM, Orange Tree, Altrincham, 8pm.
Thur 22 Oct, Chorlton Survey. 8pm Southern, followed by Feathers,

Royal Oak, Lloyds, Horse & Jockey, Trevor, Beech.

Thur 29 Oct, Social wander. 8pm Star & Garter, Fairfield Street, followed by Bulls Head, Waldorf, Portland Bar, Grey Horse, Circus, Seven Oaks.

Sat 31 Oct, Tyldesley Crawl.

Thurs 5 Nov, Committee meeting/bonfire, Quarry Bank, Timperley.

Contact: Allan Glover 061 962 9890 (h), 061 872 2373 (w)

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

There are around 130 CAMRA members in the North Manchester area who have not yet plucked up enough courage to join the branch at one of their weekly meetings. Is this because:

A They have no sense?

B They tremble at the thought of Rupert?

C They feel that to pay their subs is campaign enough?

The most likely reason, in my opinion, is that we are not the most welcoming bunch of drunks!

I would like to attempt to remedy that situation. If any such members would like me to organise a social event where all new members would be made especially welcome, please give me a ring on 0204 73749. I promise to gag the most outspoken louts in our branch and ensure that they act as humanoids for one evening at least! We need all the campaigning help we can get.

Pauline Wadsworth, Membership Secretary, North Manchester.

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.

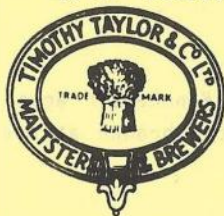
WHAT'S DOING ADVERTISING: Enquiries to the editor, address above. Full page £25, $\frac{3}{4}$ page £20, $\frac{1}{2}$ page £15, $\frac{1}{4}$ page £7.50. Discount on bookings for 6 months or longer.

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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 |

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