WHAT'S DOING



NOV 1992

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

OLD NELSON FIGHTS ON



The recent demise of the Tallow Tub on Chapel Street, Salford, was not the end of pub heritage destruction in Salford. Regular readers (see July 1991 WD) will be aware that a Department of Transport road widening scheme threatens another historic Chapel Street pub, Ye Olde Nelson, an inclusion in this year's Good Beer Guide.

Planning permission for the road widening scheme was given by Salford Planning Committee before they were fully aware of the strength of feeling about the pub. The Nelson Action Group (NAG) proposed an alternative road widening scheme which saves the pub, but the Chairman of the Planning Committee has stated that they do not propose to change things because adequate footways and traffic lanes will not squeeze into the space available.

The Nelson Action Group is continuing the campaign; a petition is to be circulated at the pub and lobbying postcards, asking the planners to reconsider, are being distributed via What's Doing. This is an important lobbying tool so please sign the card and send it off to the Chair of the Planning Committee.

Paul Mason

TAP & SPILE FOR BURY

The 25th Tap & Spile opened in Bury on Friday October 16th. This is the old Rose & Crown on Manchester Old Road, a regular Good Beer Guide entry.

Refurbishment has been promised for several years, but in the Brent Walker days the cash never seemed to be available. It is now part of the Pubmaster Group, which has splashed out the cash for the job. A railway theme has been adopted, mainly LMS based, but the excellent London Underground map has been retained. Some discreet drinkers' corners have been created, and the pub's old name makes an unusual contribution to the decor.

It still sells beer - several beers, in fact. There are eight hand-pumps; three currently dispense regular beers. The rest serve a changing range of guest ales. On the opening day the Black Sheep Brewery products were in evidence. No doubt there will be more excellent brews to follow.

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).



PRESTWICH, WHITEFIELD, UNSWORTH NEWS

Sadly the area continues to lose good, established and well respected tenants because of "long lease" problems and other changes in the policies of the breweries. Peter and Jenny Gibbs recently gave up their tenancy at the Commercial (Tetley), Bury Old Road, and have taken another pub in the Colne area. Just a few months ago we saw the departure from the Church Inn (John Smiths), Church Lane, of good tenants for similar reasons.

If you call in the Parkside (Boddingtons) one night and then pop next door to the Commercial, don't think you are seeing double if you are served by the same person! Since Peter and Jenny departed, John and Eileen Martin, tenants at the Parkside, have been running both pubs. You can even get a pint of bitter at the Parkside, along with the Theakstons and Boddies.

Down the road, the Woodthorpe Hotel (Holts), which was Sir Edward Holt's old home on Bury New Road, is surrounded by scaffolding as it



undergoes major restoration work. This includes extensive roof repairs, the cleaning of the exterior stone and brickwork and repointing. (See cracked stonework (left) on the extension built in 1889.) Interior refurbishment is also planned. Is the Woodthorpe to be Holts' second pub/restaurant, as was rumoured two years ago?

Outside the Red King, up in Whitefield, a large banner proclaims Boddingtons mild and bitter at £1 per pint (the mild is keg), but only on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Over the road, the New Grove (Holts, naturally) has no banner and offers traditional mild at 85p a pint and bitter (stronger than Boddies) at 89p a pint. These prices apply seven days a week! It is understood that the New Grove, which is now managed since Lesley Mitchell's 22-year tenancy ended earlier this year, is on the list for refurbishment.

The Eagle & Child (Holts again!) on Higher Lane is also awaiting its turn for a "tidy up". This will include the removal of a wall to create a much larger L-shaped lounge.

Over at the Beehive (Whitbread), the Moorhouses Premier Bitter from Burnley has established itself as a permanent guest beer. And the

locals don't want to lose it! Neither do they want to lose mine hosts John and Maureen Hannan who have been popular tenants there for thirteen years. Unfortunately there is an element of uncertainty about their future at the pub, although they have no desire to leave. Let's hope they don't have to!

Up in Unsworth at the Bay Horse (guess whose beer!) the decorators are expected any day now. The work is to include the re-upholstering of the seating and new curtains.

Glenn Worth

CASTLEFIELD NEWS

The White Lion on Liverpool Road continues to expand its range of cask ales. On a recent visit, Boddingtons bitter, Castle Eden, Marstons Pedigree, Flowers Original and OB bitter were all sampled and all were in excellent condition. Timothy Taylor Landlord is due on next. The pub has recently been redecorated and a large collection of prints of Victorian Manchester now adds interest.

NEW DIDSBURY PUB?

Bass have applied to convert offices at 139 Barlow Moor Road into a public house.

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LETTERS



BODDINGTONS

Sir - Your correspondent "Sausage Man" points out that the canned "draughtflow" Boddingtons claims only to contain the <u>flavour</u> of the beer (his emphasis). Having recently taken part in a tasting trial for another publication, I can assure him that it fails even in this limited objective.

Rhys P Jones

PS: If "Sausage Man" thinks CAMRA in Greater Manchester is unkind to his employers (Whitbread), he ought to read "Mersey Drinker"!

HARE & HOUNDS

Sir - I read the King's Ale article (WD Sept) with great interest as Mr King was talking about my stomping ground for the past twenty years. Yes, it is a disgrace that a plethora of drinking emporiums are now lying dormant.

However, your ace reporter appears to have made a glaring omission, in that one fine alehouse is still open in this otherwise devastated area - the Hare & Hounds on Shudehill!

I have frequented all the establishments mentioned in the article over the years but they are not what you would call locals' pubs (perhaps the reason for their demise?). The Hare & Hounds is a pub in the old tradition, where the punters (a cosmopolitan crowd indeed) can enjoy a well kept pint of Tetley bitter in a friendly atmosphere, and you are still able to hold a conversation as there is only discreet background music, which makes a refreshing change.

So I suggest that the next time you are in the area, pop in for a decent pint and a proper pub meal (pork pies, toasties and pickled eggs) and see what you are missing!

D Jay

ANORAKNOPHOBIA

Sir - Why all these slurs against train spotters in your organ? In my experience, such chaps should be encouraged in CAMRA circles. Drinkers of real ale tend to fall into two categories: those who drink and those who drink a lot. Most train spotters are in the first category, moderating their intake so they have time to pursue other interests. (We don't have many of the second category as they tend to fall off platforms or touch high voltage wires to see if they are working.)

So lay off the train spotters. Remember, next time you are on a

strange station platform, long after closing time and with unexplained curry stains on your tie, it will be the train spotter in the group who can tell you where you are, what time the train is due and, if necessary, who you are and where you live.

Thomas the Tank Engine

AN ECCLES CRAWL

15 White Horse

Peter Barnes

It is possible to walk across Eccles and sample up to 36 different beers. In early October an intrepid group of CAMRA members visited 15 pubs, trekking from west to east, with the aim of maximising the number of beers tasted. (A taste can be a pint, a half or a mouthful of somebody else's in the party.)

The July WD list of pubs and beers provided the framework but inevitably there were many changes. We started at the Swinging Bridge (actually just outside Eccles, but necessary to take in the Directors bitter). The drinking order is as follows:

1	Swinging Bridge	John Smith bitter, Directors bitter
2	Barton Inn	Hydes Anvil Bitter, Chesters bitter and mild
3	Dutton*	Boddingtons mild, bitter, Old Shilling
4	Spinners Arms	Forshaws bitter (Burtonwood mild, bitter are
		keg)
5	Oddfellows	Greenalls mild, bitter; Stones bitter
6	Black Boy	Banks's mild, bitter (Pedigree expected soon)
7	Diamond XX	Tetley mild, bitter
8	Dog & Partridge	Greenalls Original (not available on visit)
9	Church	Websters Green Label mild, Yorkshire bitter;
		Ruddles bitter
10	Ship Canal	Wiłsons mild, bitter
11	Crown & Volunteer*	Holts mild, bitter
12	Albert Edward	Sam Smiths Old Brewery Bitter
13	Duke of York	Chesters mild, bitter; Thwaites bitter; Taylors
		Landlord
14	Town Hall	Vaux Samson, Double Maxim, Extra Special, Dark
		MILO

*The three Boddingtons beers can alternatively be sampled at the Red Lion, the Ellesmere or the Golden Lion. The Holts beers, of course, can be sampled at any of the ten Holts pubs en route.

Robinsons mild, bitter.

NOW&THEN

No.69

ANTELOPE

by Rob Magee

257 Manchester Street Oldham

In 1831 James Tetlow took over the Sir David public house on Manchester Street. Two years later he renamed it the Antelope then, from 1835, it was the Antelope & Gibraltar. James isn't listed in the 1841 directory, but two years later he was back in business, having opened a beerhouse on the next corner to his old pub. He called the beerhouse the Antelope & Gibraltar, so it seems he took his old pub sign with him when he moved. James ran the beerhouse until about 1849, then his wife took over until about 1863. Two years later 'Gibraltar' was dropped from the name.

After the Tetlows, the Antelope saw a series of tenants and a survey of 1886 records that the owner was George Newton of Newton Place, Lees. Taylor Lees, whose family had a brewery business in Oldham, bought the Antelope and took the licence in 1890, but three years later he sold it to Wilsons Brewery. A survey of 1894 noted there were three drinking rooms and three bedrooms, but no bathroom, no accommodation for travellers and no stabling for horses. The building was in fair condition and the back door opened on to an entry which led to Tetlow Street. The yard was shared with some cottages and the gents' urinal was next to the back door.





The vault was to the right of the front door, then there was the bar and the tap room next right. On the other side of the lobby were a bar parlour, a kitchen and a scullery. Not long after the survey, major alterations took place. A side entrance was made from Tetlow Street and new toilets were built in a separate yard. The adjacent cottages were pulled down and replaced by a new scullery and wash house. The tenant of the new-look Antelope, James Brown, applied for a wine licence in 1899 but he was refused and it remained a beerhouse until it closed.

The last tenant, Frank Beardsall, was also the longest serving licensee. He was there from 1936 until the licence lapsed on 10th February 1955. All that is left now is the signpost for Tetlow Street - named after the man who opened the Antelope & Gibraltar beerhouse a century and a half ago.

The photograph of the Antelope's vault customers was taken about 1949. The man in the centre, Mr Carne, is the father of Jimmy Carne, a local boxer.

CROWN & ANCHOR

Holts have got the planning permission to extend the Crown & Anchor, Cateaton Street, Manchester, into the shop next door. The pub is now shifting two-and-a-half times as much beer as it did when it was owned by Whitbread. Not surprising, is it?

MONKEY BUSINESS

Last month's item on the successful licence application for Holts' new Manchester pub has aroused considerable interest. The building on the corner of Portland Street and Princess Street which the brewery will be converting was, many years ago, a beerhouse called the Queens Arms (see photo below). The name chosen for the new pub, the Old Monkey, comes from another beerhouse down the street which Holts used to run. This building can still be seen, next door but one to the Grey Horse, but it is too small for the brewery's idea of a pub these days!

At that crucial licensing meeting, one of the witnesses called by Holts' legal representative to give evidence was Ronald Bentley. He is a lifelong Holts fan, being connected with the Bentley family which ran the Coach & Horses, Whitefield, for forty years. Ronald explained how he used to have to trek to the Eagle for his pint of Holts and, more recently, to the Crown & Cushion and Crown & Anchor. He is a civil servant in government offices in Piccadilly and so the Old Monkey is going to be very handy for him.

Under cross examination by the police representative he was asked why





he could not drink at good traditional pubs such as Paddy's Goose(!), the Circus, the Grey Horse and others. He replied that first and foremost he did not like the beer at these other pubs. Also, the beer was more expensive and a lot of city centre pubs are plastic palaces where he would not drink. Ronald was supported by fellow civil servant Ian Brooke. Together with CAMRA's evidence, and a growing enlightenment among licensing magistrates, aided by CAMRA's national campaigning on licensing issues, it helped to win the day.

VAUX CORNER

Little Jack Horners on Wellington Street, Stockport, is now selling a full range of Vaux products despite the Wilsons signs.

ANCOATS ALTERATIONS

Somebody called Whitbread Pub Partnerships has applied for planning permission to carry out internal alterations to the Edinburgh Castle in Ancoats.



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GUEST BEERS

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WARRINGTON STREET ASHTON-U-LYNE





BEINLOS IN BAYERN

The world recession, the strong Mark, the weak Dollar and bad weather ensured that no records were broken at this year's Oktoberfest. A 10% drop in the number of visitors meant that fewer than six million attended this year — well down on the record 7.2 million of the late eighties.

Beer consumption was down by half a million litres to 4,700,000, despite a modest 2.35% increase in price over 1991. Spokesman for the Oktoberfest landlords, Willy Heide of the Pschorr Braurus, who was celebrating his 57th Oktoberfest, said it was one of the friendliest of recent years, with fewer foreigners. He summed up the situation quite well with his comment — it was 100% atmosphere from 90% attendance. Fewer foreigners meant an up-market movement in the music, with



two operatic tunes - Sierra Madre and the Slaves' Chorus - topping the Oktoberfest hit parade.

Another plus from the lack of customers was the better than usual measures - almost 90% of a litre in some cases! However, with the new exchange rate everything is 20% more expensive to us in Sterling Territory - over £2 a pint equivalent! Helmut Schlesinger has a lot to answer for!

PEN & WIG

As this issue was going to press, painters were putting the finishing touches to the Pen & Wig, New Bailey Street, Salford, so the pub will reopen soon.

MANCHESTER GUEST ALES

There have been some changes to the range of beers at the Crown & Anchor on Hilton Street. Fullers has been withdrawn and Hartleys XB and Thwaites bitter have been added, the bitter proving most popular. Taylors Landlord, FLowers IPA, Chesters and Boddingtons are retained. Pompey Royal may well turn up over Christmas. An American, additivefree, bottled beer named Rolling Stock is now available. This is a new one for the contributor. Has anybody got any background information?

The White House on Great Ancoats Street has been selling Oak Best Bitter for a couple of months. The pub may again introduce regular guest beers. Pop in and check for yourself.

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.

ASIAN CORNER EXTRA SPECIAL - BIRTHDAY RETROSPECT

Compiled by Al o'Matey

This column first appeared in September 1981. Since then some forty odd outlets have been reviewed, some several times. Some are now shut, others have changed their name or moved premises, but many are still going strong. Most are in Manchester but outlets as far flung as London, Austria, India and even Eccles have featured.

Date	Name	Address	Reviewer Notes
Sep 81	Curry Centre	Tootal Rd, SALFORD	Tarka Dhal 1
Dec 81	Lahore	Union Street	Tarka Dhal 2
Jan 82	Taj Mahal	Innsbruck, AUSTRIA	Papa Dum
Apr 82	Bradford Curry Guide	Bradford, YORKSHIRE	N. M/cr CAMRA 3
May 82	Khan Tandoori	Middleton Road	Corrie Ander
Aug 82	Woo Sang & Lee Hong	George Street	Dim Sum
Sep 82	Piccadilly	London Road	Al O'Matey
Oct 82	Chinese Cookery	(GENERAL REVIEW)	Sue My
Nov 82	Lahore	Union Street	Tarka Dhal
Nov 82	Shalimar	Back Turner Street	Tarka Dhal
Nov 82	Yaqub	Back Turner Street	Tarka Dhal 4
Nov 82	This & That	Soap Street	Tarka Dhal
Dec 82	Lahore	Union Street	Al O'Matey 5
Jul 83	Shah	Cateaton Street	Al O'Matey
Aug 83	Ulan Bator (Mongolian)	Back China Lane	Dan Sak 6
Feb 84	Chuni's Chaat House	Wilmslow Road	Al O'Matey 1,7
Mar 84	Kathmandu	Sackville Street	Corrie Ander
Jan 85	Assam Gourmet	Bloom Street	Asa Fetida 1
May 85	Chinese Dragon	Portland Street	ANON
Aug 85	Shapla Tandoori	Liverpool Rd, ECCLES	ANON 8
Nov 85	Koreana	King Street West	Kim Chi
Dec 85	Al-Mamoor	DIDSBURY	ANON
Jan 86	Bhel Puri Houses (1&2)	Drummond St, LONDON	Al O'Matey 9
Jan 86	Ravi Shankar's	Drummond St, LONDON	Al O'Matey 10
May 86	Heng Loy Fat	Princess Street	Sue Mei
Feb 87	Kabana	Thomas Street	Tarka Dhal &
Feb 87	Kashmir	Tib Street	Dave Glass
Feb 87	Lahore	Union Street	11
Feb 87	Mehran	Newton Street	11
Feb 87	Shalimar	Back Turner Street	11
Feb 87	This & That	Soap Street	11
Feb 87	Yaqub	Back Turner Street	11
May 87	Bangalore Station	INDIA	Tarka Dhal
Jun 87	Madras Mail Train	INDIA	Tarka Dhal
Jul 87	Hyderabad Train	INDIA	Tarka Dhal

Dec	88	Sanam	Wilmslow Road	Keema Nan
Mar	89	Shere Khan	Wilmslow Road	Keema Nan
Apr	89	Shezan	Wilmslow Road	Keema Nan
May	89	Palza Cafe	Upper Brook Street	Keema Nan
Sep	89	Tandoori Kitchen	Wilmslow Road	Keema Nan
Jun	91	Food For Thought	Lever Street	Tarka Dhal
Oct	91	Usman	Lena Street	Murghi Massala
Dec	91	Shimul's	St George's Rd, BOLT	ON ANON
Jun	92	Yadgar	High Street	Murghi Massala
Aug	92	MANCHESTER'S CAFE SOCIET	Y - a review by Dan S	ack & Annie Seed
Sept	92	New Shalimar	Back Turner Street	Al O'Matey
Sept	92	Moonlight	Great Ancoats St	Peshawari Nan

NOTES: 1 Closed. 2 Closed - premises now occupied by Yaqub. 3 39 listings in limited edition produced for CAMRA AGM in Bradford. 4 Now moved to Union Street. 5 After extensive refurbishment. 6 Was always hard to find; not known whether still trading. 7 Vegetarian only. 8 Shows picture of Duncan Busman enjoying his meal. 9 South Indian Vegetarian. 10 Vegetarian Novelty Dishes, eg "Indian Pizza"!

BEERMAT COLLECTORS

The British Beermat Collectors' Society's annual Christmas meeting will be held at the Marble Arch, Rochdale Road, Manchester, on Saturday 12th December at 12 noon. All members and non members are welcome to attend. (A buffet lunch at £2.50 per head will be available.)



SALFORD CLOSURES

Inner city problems spread even further outwards. The Racecourse, a residential hotel in Kersal, is now closed and vandalism has been witnessed in leafy Swinton, where one incident has resulted in a murder enquiry. Local opinion suggests that some of the closures in the Pendleton area are not entirely unrelated to large men offering protection.

Contributors to this issue: Roger Hall, Stewart Revell, Glenn Worth, Rob Magee, Paul Roberts, Peter Barnes, Alan T Gardner, Barbara Lee, Duncan Busman, Paul Mason.



REGION

Mon 2nd Nov 8pm, Tramway Guide Meeting, Crown & Cushion, Corporation Street, Manchester

5th to 7th Nov: Bury Beer Festival

15th Nov: Ale of Two Cities (2nd Edition), Beer House, noon.

17th Nov: Brewery Action Group, Castle, Oldham Street, 8pm

13 Dec: Great North Western Beer & Cider Festival, Howcroft, Bolton, noon.

NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed 4 Nov 8pm. Membership Social, Pleasant, corner Chapel Lane & Crab Lane, Blackley

Wed 11 Nov, Salford Crawl: Hyde Park Corner, Silk Street, 7pm; Peel Park 7.30; Ye Olde Nelson 8pm; Salford Arms 9pm

Wed 18 Nov, Branch Meeting, Kings Arms, Bloom Street, Salford, 8pm Wed 25 Nov, City Centre Prices Survey. Wheatsheaf, Oak Street (by Craft Village) 7pm onwards

Wed 2 Dec, Eccles Crawl. Top House, Church Street 7pm; Bulls Head 8pm; Crown & Volunteer 9pm. Finish Lamb, Regent Street Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 3 Nov 8pm, Branch Meeting, Bay Horse (Holts), Parr Lane, Unsworth Tues 10 Nov 8pm, Social at Unicorn (BodPubCo), Pass Street, Werneth, Oldham

Mon 16 Nov: Trip to Clarks Brewery, Wakefield. Phone branch contact for details.

Tue 17th Nov 8pm, Committee Meeting, Prince Albert (Robinsons), Oldham Road, Rochdale.

Tue 1 Dec 8pm, Branch Meeting, Blue Bell (Robinsons), Market Street, Shaw.

Tue 8 Dec 8pm, Committee Meeting, Lord Raglan (free), Nangreaves, Bury Tue 15 Dec 8pm: Advance Notice: Christmas Social, Flying Horse, Market Square, Rochdale

Contact: Graham Mason 061 665 3032

TRAFFORD & HULME

Thur 5 Nov 8pm: Bonfire Night Committee Meeting at the Quarry Bank, Timperley

Thur 12 Nov 8pm, Jolly Angler & White House, Manchester Thur 19 Nov 8pm, Pub of the Year, Orange Tree, Altrincham Thur 26 Nov 8pm, Cornbrook Survey. Starting at the Cornbrook, then Hope at 8.45 and Pomona 9.30.

Fri to Sun 27 to 29th Nov: Cheese Butty Crawl & Weekend Trip to Batemans Country, including visit to brewery. Details from contact or Keith Egerton

Thur 3 Dec 8pm, Committee Meeting, Crown, Deansgate. Commercial 9pm, Kings Arms 10pm

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

rupert

WANTED - DEAD OR ALIVE

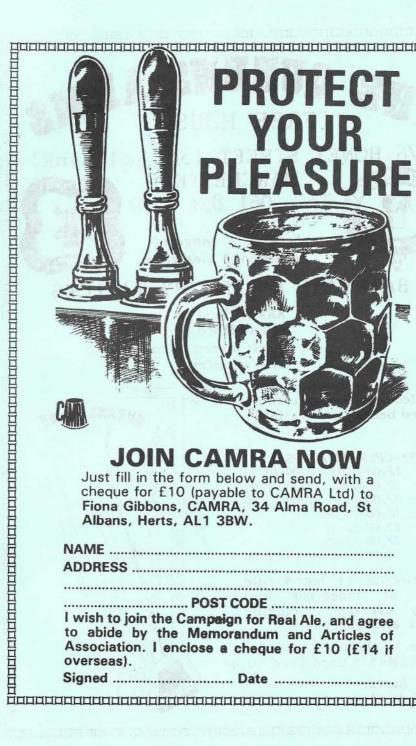


It has come to my attention that the above person has been upsetting lovely tavernkeepers and beer factory factotums by writing scurrilous articles in a notorious local newsletter. Why not win What's Doing's wonderful prize of a gallon of real ale to be selected from the following:—

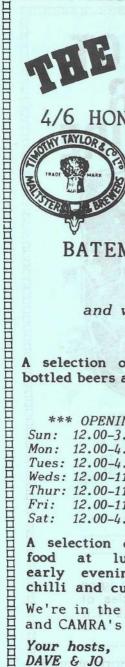
Websters Yorkshire Bitter Stones er, that's it. All you have to do is walk up to him, pour a pint down his trousers and exclaim: "Aren't you Rhys Jones?" The incident should be authenticated by a person of stature such as the President of the Board of Trade, a Royal Duchess or an ex-Minister of Fun.

* * * * *

The assembly of DOGSHIT worthrecent at a symposium showed changes from days of yore. Gone were such familiars as Mr Hammerstein, the Zimbabwe-Talbots, Seamus Spud, televisual Bogbrush divorcé and Lunesdale Prunes and in their place a of bunch jejune parvenus whose sobriety was matched by their demeanour. Many of the assembled throng were capable of unaided perambulation after several hours of meaningful intercourse and gathering place, Flaccid Arms, did not collapse in a smouldering heap upon their departure. Sad it is that DOGSHIT is a shadow of its former self, when obfuscated aficionados bilaterally were anacathartic and their clothes bore witness to retromingency. Hostelries quivered and selfdestructed upon their departure. Oh, brave new world.



ADDITESS	Sing Arter in some
	POST CODE
I wish to join the	e Campaign for Real Ale, and agree
to abide by th	ne Memorandum and Articles of
Association, 1	enclose a cheque for £10 (£14 if
overseas).	A
Signed	Data



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