

# What's Doing

APRIL 1999



The Manchester Beer Drinker's Monthly Magazine

## NEW BAR IN BOLTON

Last month Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries opened one of their Varsity bars on Churchgate in Bolton. The bar is of the split-level, bare boards and basic furniture genre, with an emphasis on food during the day and plenty of room for vertical drinking at night. W&D already have nine other Varsitys - in Liverpool, Preston, the Midlands and Wales - and they're going to open more.

The Bolton Varsity is built on the site of the Boars Head, the Grade II listed building which Greenalls abandoned a few years ago. The minimalist decor of the new bar extends to the ceiling - there isn't one. Air conditioning conduits loom overhead and it's a bit like drinking beneath one of those transporters from Moonbase Alpha.

The handpumped ales in the opening week were Banks's Bitter, Banks's Wolmore Warmer and Pedigree.





## Changes to licensing

Magistrates have been under sustained criticism for many years for the inconsistency of their decisions on matters of licensing. This was emphasised by the ridiculous conditions which some benches put on Children's Certificates. There have been some moves to shift the responsibility for liquor licensing from the courts to local authorities.

As part of a defensive response to this, the Magistrates' Association and the Justices' Clerks Society have drawn up a Good Practice Guide to licensing. This is an effort to bring errant benches into line and put the house in order. Some sections of the Guide are worrying. Section 2.26 on Applications for Consent to Alterations reads:

*'...the only parties to the application are the applicant and the justices. We RECOMMEND that where the Committee is satisfied, following a visit, with the application they should release the applicant from personal attendance at the sessions. At the sessions the chairman should indicate that following the site inspection the Committee is satisfied with the application and approval has been granted without further consideration.'*

This may mean that more alterations go through on the nod. At the moment there is no requirement that alterations (other than those requiring listed building consent) are advertised. This recommendation may encourage more ill-advised alterations to our pubs.

## Marble changes

There have been two changes to the Marble Brewery beer range. IPA has been dropped for the foreseeable future, and Liberty IPA has been reduced from 5% to 4.6%, partly to cover the loss of IPA and to give an even spread of beer strengths throughout the range.

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## Holts Corner

*Stewart Revell*

In the last week or two, Joeys have acquired another pub - the Rumworth (*below*) on Wigan Road, Bolton - but it's too early to say when it will be converted to Holts beers.

With regard to the rumours (WD last month) about Holts producing a 'Smoothflow' beer, I have spoken to someone at the brewery who knows what is going on. (Very thin on the ground, these people. Others are perhaps fearful of P45's being handed out.)

Holts have installed 'Cellar Streamers' (maybe the trade name) in a few free trade outlets to see how either the mild or DBA is received by the public when dispensed in 'smooth' form, even though it comes from a normal cask. The cellar equipment costs £500 and gives the beer a 'smooth' texture, although no extra nitrogen is added. Well, that's what I am told!

Robinsons of Stockport have been at it in many of their pubs for about twelve months using Nitrogenators - and charging an extra 10p a pint. With Holts, there is no extra charge. Sales and customer acceptance of Holts' 'smooth' will be assessed by the brewery at the end of April.

If you want to try the stuff yourself, the free trade pubs involved are





the Millgate in Failsworth, the Egerton in Salford, the Half Moon Inn and the Miners Club at Tyldesley (trying DBA and/or mild); the Old Mill at Altrincham and the Railway at Broadheath (trying DBA). I am told that at each outlet it is being made clear what's on offer and there is no attempt to mislead the public. The method of dispense is a form of 'free flow' and Holts say results so far have been 'very encouraging'.

The licensee of the Duke of Wellington at Blackley, Ian Slamon, tells me there is to be a sponsored Dray Pull around the village on 15th May, calling at the Flying Horse, the Pleasant, the Pike Fold, the Fox, Golden Lion, White Lion, Red Lion, the Grove, the Berkshire, the Lion & Lamb and Blackley Legion and finishing back at the Duke of Wellington. Many D of W customers will be taking part, but anyone who feels like joining in to give a hand would be made most welcome. On the back of the dray will be a small disco band. A trust fund may have to be set up later for the pullers! The Duke of Wellington is another Holts pub trying DBA.

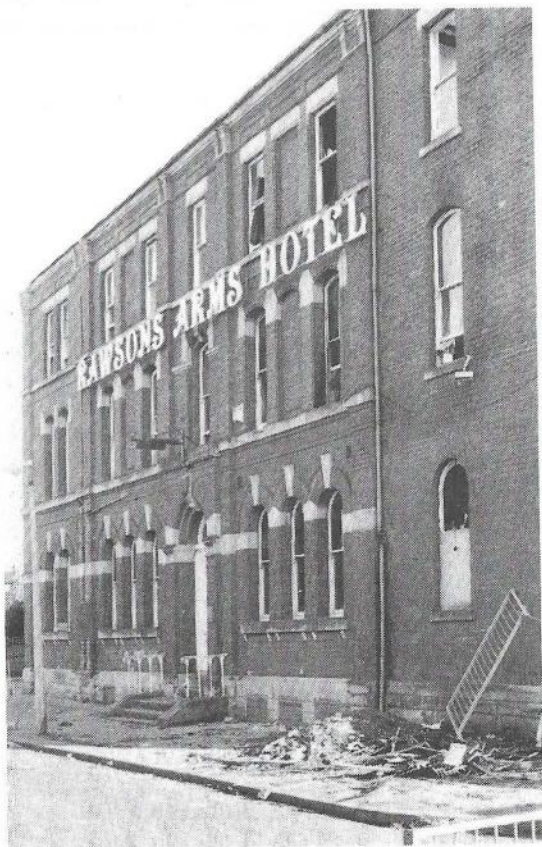
There will be a performance at the Royal Northern College of Music on 10th April, cost/donation £12, part of the brewery's fund-raising programme for Christie's Hospital.

### **Rawsons razed**

The Rawsons Arms Hotel (*right*) on Peel Street, Farnworth, an imposing Burtonwood edifice near to the station, has been reduced to an imposing pile of rubble.

### **New man at the tiller**

The Barge Inn (Banks's), at the side of the Bridgewater Canal in Monton, is now being run by Steve Burchell, previously of Greene King's Wrights Arms in Stockport.



## Argent Ale

*For the 25th anniversary of CAMRA North Manchester in February, a party was arranged at the Marble Arch and brewer Mark Dade brewed a special beer for the occasion. Mark McConachie follows the Marble brew...*

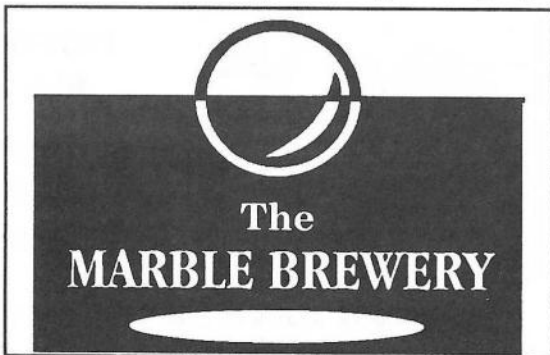
What we wanted was a light, hoppy (but not too acerbic) beer of 4.7%. It would be called Argent Ale - argent for silver, and silver for 25 years - geddit? Pete Cash, a keen home brewer, and I were invited to assist with the brew. We were only too keen to help out and duly turned up at the Marble Brewery before 9.00am on Saturday 6th February.

The first thing that struck me was the sheer volume of the ingredients. A five-barrel brew required five 25kg sacks of malt. These are hard work when you have to lift each one and empty it slowly into the mash tun. The malt was mixed with hot water and as there is no automatic mixer, once again it was down to the hard work of the 'mix man', stirring the porridge-like mixture with a large stainless steel paddle.

The next surprise for me was the time taken to sparge the mash - a full hour and a half - and over three times the amount of water used in the original mash was filtered through the mashing grains.

The next stage was the copper, which is in effect a very large boiler - tremendous when it is fully going. That takes over an hour, owing to the sheer volume of liquid in there. At every stage, brewer Mark stressed the importance of accurate measurements - volume of water, weight of malt and hops, temperature of liquids and the gravities of the brew at its various stages. When all of this is done to the letter, you can (almost) guarantee the style, colour and ABV of the resultant beer.

Two weeks later, the results of our labour were tasted at the anniversary bash and it was well received by the forty or so people who attended. The brewing day was an eye-opener and I, along with Pete Cash and CAMRA North Manchester, should like to thank Mark Dade and his assistant Colin for a wonderful day's brewing and the anniversary bash that followed.





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**including A GUEST MILD**



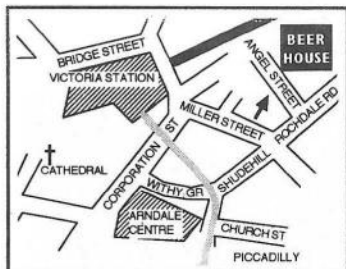
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## Hops and Hartleys

*Dave Crookell*

Hartleys XB gained a reputation in South Cumbria for being inconsistent, due to the fact that the beer was fairly lightly hopped to produce the distinctive smooth, malty taste. Unfortunately, without the preservative quality of the hops, XB had a rather limited shelf life and required skilful cellarmanship to keep it in good condition.

Matters were made worse when brewing ceased at Hartley's Ulverston brewery in November 1991 and operations were transferred to Robinsons in Stockport. Although Robinsons kept to the same recipe, they were using different equipment and, of course, a different water source, which resulted in a brew that bore little resemblance to XB. Robinsons eventually recognised the problem and decided to act. It was noted that dry hops were added to Hartleys beers in the past and after successful trials, dry hopping with compressed hops became standard practice for the production of XB from early 1998. The dry hops impart a delicate aroma to the ale and add a distinct dryness to the aftertaste, as well as improving the head retention and keeping qualities.

XB is not widely available in the Manchester area, but the Castle on Oldham Street and the Airport Hotel, Ringway, are two local outlets I am aware of where the new improved beer can be sampled. Robinsons say the decision to dry hop emphasises their commitment to XB.

## **BEER HOUSE FESTIVAL**

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## Wigan and District

*Dave White*

The **Hare & Hounds**, Upholland Road, Billinge, has featured in the January and February columns of WD. First of all, an ex-licensee of the **Rose & Crown** at Orrell was going to take over the pub; then he wasn't. Well, I can now report that he is now in charge of the H & H after all. (I don't know the new landlord's name, alas). Tetley mild rejoins the bitter - the same Tetley mild that a previous licensee said there was no call for - and the guest beer policy should soon be restored. Food will also be available. On a recent visit to the Hare & Hounds, the quality of the ale had improved and the place was busier than it has been for some time. As for the **Rose & Crown**, not so long ago this Church Street local was selling Holts bitter as a guest beer, alongside Tetley mild and bitter.

Two Good Beer Guide listed pubs have dropped cask-conditioned mild. Thwaites mild at the **Millstone**, Wigan Lane, Swinley, had been relegated to a solitary handpump at the far end of the bar, assuring the demise of this rather inconsistent product. Cask Thwaites bitter remains, for now, anyway. The **Springfield Hotel**, near Wigan Athletic football ground still sells Tetley bitter; but Springfield is not the drinking area it once was, with only a couple of pubs worth a visit. (The Belle Vue, an Enterprise Inn on nearby Woodhouse Lane, has gone keg.) As both the Millstone and the Springfield Hotel now sell just one real ale each, they are ineligible for consideration for the 2000 GBG, under Wigan CAMRA branch rules.

The **Norley Hall**, a Vaux pub on the forlorn estate of the same name,





is closed and boarded up. The **Platt Bridge Inn**, Walthew Lane, Platt Bridge (*pictured*), is also closed and boarded up, and a 'for sale' sign hangs over this Tetley pub. It's a brave man indeed who would have ventured into these pubs, and for a pint of keg, at that. Down the road at Lower Ince, the metal shutters have been removed from the exterior of the **Shepherds Arms**, Warrington Road, though this Enterprise Inn had not reopened at the time of writing. Over in Hindley, work at the **Minstrel** appears to have ground to a halt. The Manchester Road free house has now been closed for over two years. It's not all gloom and doom, though, as the **Stocks Tavern** at Alder Lane, Parbold, has reopened.

News in brief: Elaine and Nigel gave up at the **Crown Hotel**, Wigan Road, New Springs, after only a few weeks, but are still at the **Swan & Railway** in the town centre. I gather that cask Burtonwood bitter did not long survive the move. My trusty informant tells me that J D Wetherspoon might be branching out in Pemberton, near the crossroads by the Old White Swan.

Swings and roundabouts on the club circuit. An acceptable pint of Tetley bitter is to be had at the **St James Social Centre**, Gantley Road, Orrell. Unfortunately, this is offset by the news that the Gidlow Sports and Show Bar on Gidlow Lane has gone over to nitrokeg. The tasty and distinctive Beech Hill Bitter is but a fond memory.

## PUBS REQUIRED

### IN THE WHAT'S DOING AREA

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*If you have a pub in mind that may suit, please give us a ring, and we will have a close look at it. If we buy your pub you will be well rewarded. It will also help if you know who is selling it.*

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## Letters

### Wetherspoons

Sir - I must agree with Peter Alexander (WD March). Wetherspoons have indeed lost their way, not just in Middleton but in several other towns.

Many times I have wandered expectantly into a Wetherspoons pub only to find cheap offers on dull cask ales or keg beers. Some of the guest ales advertised were not available. When a beer goes off, wouldn't it be a good idea to turn the pumpclip round? I once went into the Moon Under Water on Deansgate to find a guest clip attached to a handpump dispensing John Smiths smooth!

*Steve Smith*

### Chill Factor Two

Sir - Regarding the Cask Marque initiative, what concerns me is the criteria used for awarding marks for serving temperature. As I understand it, full marks (five) are awarded for beers served at up to 57°F (14°C), three marks are awarded for between 57°F and 59°F (15°C) and no marks for above 59°F. Surely there should be a minimum recommended serving temperature - say 56°F (13°C) with marks deducted accordingly for beer served too cold.

*Dave Crookell*

### Beinlos at 20,000 feet

Sir - On a recent flight from Heathrow to Manchester I was amazed to find 'the world's favourite airline' offering cans of London Pride to wash down the in-flight sandwich. While canned Pride is a poor substitute for the real thing, it is far better than the canned Courage light ale and Kronenbourg that is usually available on BA.

They still have a long way to go to compete with Lufthansa, who offer frequent servings of bottled German beers on their flights. In fact, in years gone by, Lufthansa used to serve beer from a wooden barrel on the stewardess's trolley into half litre steins!

*Paul Roberts*

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### Bury alterations

The Two Tubs (Thwaites), opposite Bury Parish Church has been extended, but still retains its traditional character. The vault and the room at the front are virtually unchanged, whilst another room has been created next to the corridor and the back room opened out. The kitchen has been relocated and there is now a side entrance to the pub on Castle Street. The beers are Thwaites Best Bitter (sadly the pub has lost its cask mild) and their seasonal beer.

## Out and about

Grognard

I hear that Whitbread are raising their prices by 6p a pint. It's not really a surprise; the suits running that nasty company always did have a thirst for excessive profit. So it's one more reason for passing by on the other side when spying one of their plastic eateries.

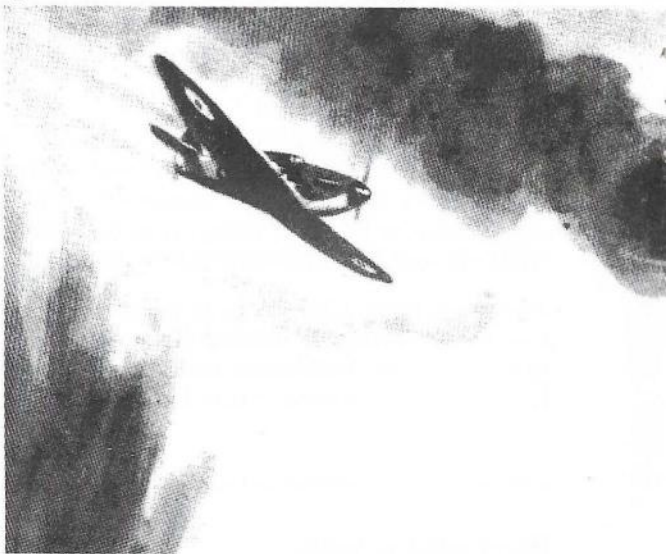
More cheerful news at Wetherspoons. The Up Steps in Oldham is playing host to a promotion of Spitfire bitter, 4.3% and 99p a pint. Obviously the Shepherd Neame Brewery are intending to launch this as a national brand. Since their home market in Kent is shrinking due to the lorry-loads of French fizz rolling off the ferries, then I wish them *bonne chance*. After all, if Boddingtons, Worthingtons and John Smiths can market their bland borings via gondolas on the Rochdale Canal, fluffy kitten pullovers and a gormless cardboard cutout, then Shepherd Neame should make giant strides into the market, of quality counts for anything. And why waste money employing Jack Dee when beer punters can make up their own minds?

Anyway, at Up Steps the well-hopped brew has been going down like a flash-flood over Niagara Falls and the first batch, supposed to last a week, was gone in three days. However - and this is a big however - I'm becoming seriously annoyed with Wetherspoons over their big heads. When they served beer in lined glasses they allowed for a deep, frothy head. Now those glasses are shelved (for dubious reasons) they still serve beer with... a deep, frothy head, which takes up at least 5% of the pint's volume.

I always demand a top-up, so they don't usually try it on with me any more, but most irritating

it is to watch simpletons accepting a pint with a clergyman's collar for decoration. The law is on your side - demand a full pint. A thick head is merely a cosmetic device, and to hell with it. If Spitfire was served Southern style it would have no head at all, while traditional Manchester style would be a very narrow, creamy top, no thicker than a matchstick.

Perhaps it was after a pint of Spitfire that the German Chancellor





recently accused Britain of being obsessed with World War Two. Well, I don't suppose we'd mind if they named some of their brews suitably, such as Me109 Bock, Dornier Dunkel, Heinkel lager (perhaps not) or even Focke-Wulf Weisse Beer - try saying that one quickly.

One final thought about Spitfire. Have you ever wondered where the name comes from? Well, I think it was originally Spanish. Sir Francis Drake on his circumnavigation of the world captured a fat treasure ship whose nickname was *Cacafuego*. This was politely translated as Spitfire because *Caca* is a somewhat stronger verb than spit.

Sticking to Yorkshire Street, this month I must mention Greg's Discount again. Thwaites' Daniels Hammer (5.2%) and Lancashire Brown (5%) at 99p a bottle, Theakstons Old Peculier (5.7%) at £2.50 for four bottles (about two pints' worth) and, most interesting, some six-bottle packs of Pete's Wicked Winter Ale (4.8%) all the way from St Paul, USA. A worthwhile addition to one's beer range, with hints of raspberry and nutmeg and only £2.50.

Also on the street is the curiously named Kelly's Boulevard Café! This does two brews at £1 per pint, but unless you relish nitroed Tetley and Carlsberg lager, don't get too excited. It's really the name which

intrigues me. Is this an example of cross-theming; the juxtaposition of two unrelated terms?

Just think of the possibilities. In a year or two we might witness the opening of Madame Cresson's Licensed Killarney Post Office, or Tojo's Trattoria. See if you can think of some before the PR weasels of

Wetbeds come up with their own ideas for this exciting new trend.

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*Contributors to this issue:* Mark McConachie, Rob Magee, Steve Smith, Dave Crookell, Paul Roberts, Roger Hall, Dave White, Michael Lynn, Pete Cash, Alan Gall.



## Over the Hills

*Countryman*

### Holcombe and the Rammy Mile

The journey begins at Holcombe Brook and the **Hare & Hounds**, a Scottish Courage outlet below Holcombe Hill. The pub is now a 'Steak and Ale' concept and so the accent is on family dining, but it does have its good points when it comes to the choice of real ales. One or two Ushers beers are available, a rotating guest (the delightful Batemans Salem Porter on my visit) and regulars Theakstons Best Bitter and XB.

Turn left outside the Hare & Hounds and go up the steep Lumb Carr Road to Holcombe village. Here is the **Shoulder of Mutton**, a Vaux outlet (*below*) selling the all-too-rare Wards Best Bitter, the honey-flavoured Waggle Dance and Taylors Landlord. The pub has an opened-out lounge, a split-level dining room and another room called the Sarcophagus, possibly once a vault and now a television room. From the surrounding roads and paths there are commanding views towards Bury and Manchester and the more energetic may wish to climb up to the Peel Monument at the top of Holcombe Hill for even better views.

Turn right outside the Shoulder of Mutton and head down towards Ramsbottom via Chapel Lane, Rawson Rake, Tanners Street and Carr Lane. Here is the **Rose & Crown**, a busy Thwaites pub serving a decent pint of their best bitter. In Ramsbottom town centre there is the **Grant Arms**, which sells Theakstons Best Bitter and looks more like a commercial hotel than a pub.





Outside the Grant Arms sits the imposing 'Tilted Vase' sculpture, a metal monstrosity which pisses copious quantities of water into a grid below. Aside from this, Rammy has some interesting little shops, so it's worthwhile lingering for a time.

There are several pubs along the main road between Ramsbottom and Holcombe Brook - the 'Rammy Mile'. Across the road from the Grant Arms is the **Clarence**, an opened-out Whitbread outlet with simultaneous large screen television and juke box, obviously catering for the younger end of the market. The beer is Boddingtons bitter. The next pub is the **Grey Mare**, selling Thwaites Best Bitter.

Next stop is the **Major** and although it's another Whitbread pub with the standard Boddingtons bitter, this is a comfortable place: pleasant furnishings, piped music, subdued lighting, separate lounge and vault, and an emphasis on lunchtime meals.

The **Old Dun Horse** at the corner of Dundee Lane is Rammy's most ornate pub by far. It has a 'Bury Brewery Company' window and inside there are splendid tiling and large, high-ceilinged rooms. Down the lobby and behind the bar is a small room with a decorative frieze and old pictures of the area. Thwaites Best Bitter is the real ale.

Another Thwaites pub beckons, this time the more basic **Masons Arms**. Although Best Bitter and mild appear on handpump, the latter seemed to emanate from a keg smooth dispenser. Funny how all Thwaites pubs in this area are converting to keg mild, when cask mild was once more popular than the bitter.

The next pub along is the lively **Fusilier**. It's a Whitbread house, but as well as Boddingtons bitter it sells Hartleys XB and Thwaites Best Bitter - a guest beer, but hardly a stranger to the area. Close by is the last pub on the crawl, the **Brook**. This is another Vaux acquisition, recently refurbished with some neat and tidy touches and offering Wards Best Bitter and the stronger Winter Tipple - 6% and a hefty £1.95 a pint, but some of the proceeds go to helping the homeless. The inventive lunchtime menu includes 'whole red snapper' and 'mallard breast' at around £4.95 each.

A short walk from the Brook brings you back to the Hare & Hounds. Other pubs to note in Ramsbottom are those down Bridge Street and around the railway station. They include the **Royal Oak** (Thwaites Best Bitter), the **Railway** (Boddingtons bitter) and, on Peel Brow, the **Good Samaritan** (ex-Wilsons and now serving Lees bitter).

Public transport in the area includes the popular East Lancashire Railway, whose steam-hauled trains operate on certain days and at weekends. There are regular bus services from Bury, including the 90 from Manchester, and the 273 runs between Bolton and Burnley.

## Hawkshead

*Dave Crookell*

The village of Hawkshead is situated at the junction of the old routes between the Windermere ferries and the Coniston valley, and between Ambleside and Newby Bridge. Now by-passed and pedestrianised, the village is a cluster of whitewashed houses, squares and courtyards linked by flagged and cobbled alleyways, many of which have been covered over. Dominating the main square is the Market Hall and as befits a market town, there have been several inns. Four now remain, each selling real ale and food.

In the centre of the village and with a reputation for fine cuisine is the **Queens Head**. This was once considered to be a Hartleys 'flagship' pub, and it now offers Robinsons Best Bitter, Frederics and Hartleys XB. The building has a mock half-timbered frontage with hanging flower baskets; inside there are low ceilings with exposed beams, oak wall panelling and a real fire.

Overlooking the main square is the **Kings Arms**, a traditional Lakeland inn with Tetleys bitter, Greenalls Original and Bluebird Bitter. On Main Street is the **Red Lion**, originally a coaching inn and claimed to be the oldest in the village. It has Ruddles Best Bitter, John Smiths bitter and a guest, usually from the Courage range. Also on Main Street, but nearer to the main car park and visitor centre, is the **Sun Inn**, once owned by Case's Brewery of Barrow. This is more of a drinker's pub than the other three, with a flagged floor and the only pool table in the village. Beers here are John Smiths and Ruddles bitter, County and Theakstons XB.



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## S&N go for traditional pubs

Scottish Courage have announced a plan to open almost a hundred 'traditional pubs', apparently on the J D Wetherspoon theme - smart surroundings, traditional beers and free from noise. Bass have already established their 'Goose' chain and other breweries seem to be coming round to the idea - before long we may have a selection of noise free real ale emporia in all towns.



## Ale and Energy

Alan Gall

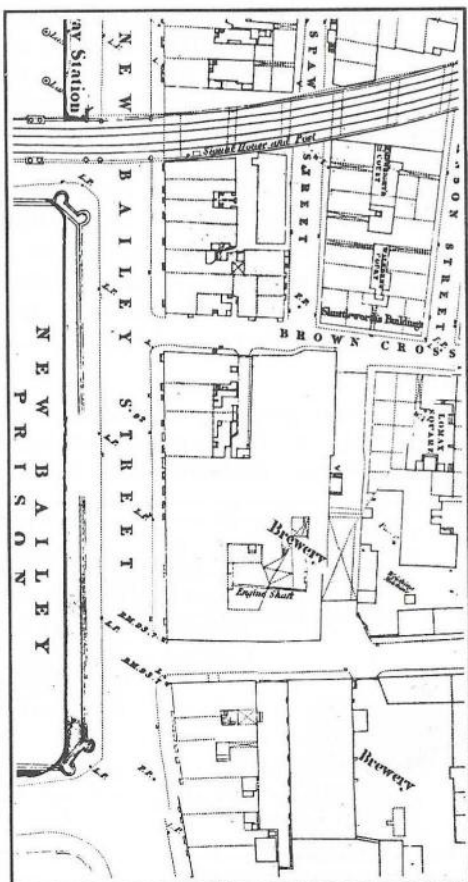
In 1978 Len McMullen, landlord of the Wellington Inn on Regent Road, Salford, discovered a bundle of yellowing papers, receipts from a variety of local suppliers, tucked away under the eaves of the old building. Among the collection was a receipt dated September 1850 from Benjamin Joule, a well established Salford brewer.

Now what have the erg, the calorie and the foot-poundal got in common? They are all units of energy which have generally been replaced by the Joule under the metric SI system. The unit is named in honour of James Prescott Joule, son of the Benjamin Joule who supplied the Wellington with beer at 10d a gallon in 1850.

The Joule family came from Youlgreave, near Bakewell in Derbyshire and J P Joule's grandfather, William, and his great uncle Francis both became brewers. Francis moved south-west to Stone, where he acquired an inn with a brewhouse in 1758. His company, John Joule & Sons Ltd, survived until 1968, when it was taken over by Bass Charrington and Joule's Stone Ales ceased to be brewed in about 1972.

William Joule is first listed at New Bridge Street, Salford, in the 1788 directory. Accounts from the Ring o'Bells, Didsbury, show that the pub served beer from Joule's brewery in 1791, when two barrels of strong beer cost three pounds and sixteen shillings. New Bridge Street was renamed New Bailey Street shortly before Salford's new prison opened for customers in April 1790. The 5ft:1 mile Ordnance Survey map of Manchester and Salford, published in 1851, shows Joule's brewery (right) and the prison layout in some detail - areas such as Male Misdemeanant Wards, Female Felon Cells, the Governor's Office and the Manure Pit.

When William died in 1799 his son Benjamin had just turned fifteen years of age and the



business later became Benjamin Joule & Son, probably shortly after the birth of Benjamin's first child, Benjamin St John Baptist Joule. A year later, in 1818, James Prescott Joule was born in a house adjoining the brewery.

William Joule had two other sons, William and James, and about 1823 they moved to a small brewery at Ardwick Bridge, next to a dyeworks on the banks of the River Medlock. They remained there until about 1836, when James is listed on his own at the brewery with a house at Ardwick Place.

The Benjamin Joule receipt, part of which is reproduced below, carries the warning 'Barrels to be returned when empty being never sold'. By the 1840s the brewery on New Bailey Street had about 13,000 barrels in use and sometimes a few went missing. This happened in June 1840, when Joule supplied the Three Horse Shoes in the Old Shambles, Manchester. The landlord of the pub, William Brierley, was a tenant of Sir Oswald Mosley and when Brierley got into arrears with his rent, the bailiffs seized four barrels, two of them empty and two containing porter. These were subsequently sold, despite a warning by Joule's solicitor to the auctioneer that the matter would be taken further. And taken further it was - to the Lancashire Assizes at Liverpool. Joule won the case but lost on appeal.

The brewery provided a good income and Benjamin Joule was able to employ private tutors to educate his two sons. The family wealth also allowed James Prescott Joule to devote himself to a life of scientific

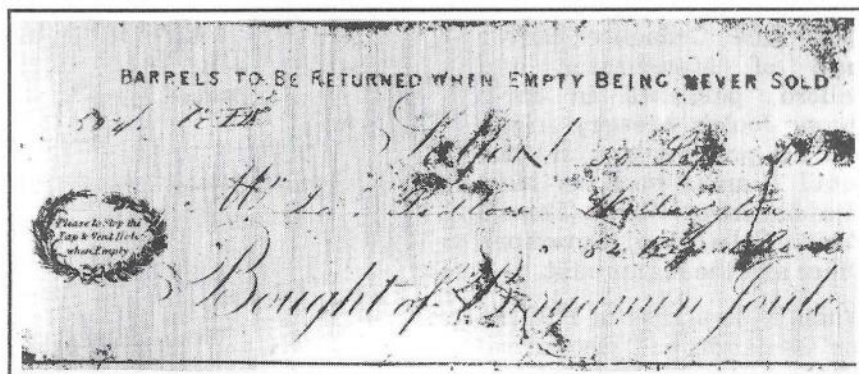
**Ale and Porter Stores,  
No. 74, MILL STREET, MACCLESFIELD.**

**WILLIAM HANKES** begs to inform his Friends and the Inhabitants of Macclesfield, and its Vicinity, that he is appointed AGENT to Mr. BENJAMIN JOULE, ALE and PORTER BREWER, Salford, Manchester.

W. H. takes this opportunity of returning his sincere thanks to his friends for all past favours, and begs to inform them, that, for the accommodation of private Families, he has continually on hand a Stock of Ale and Porter, in casks of 9 gallons each, at the following prices:—

X Ale 1s per gallon. Porter 1s 2d per gallon.  
XX Ale 1s 6d per gal. Brown stout 1s 6d per gal.  
XXX Ale 2s per gallon. Double brown stout 2s per gallon.

74, Mill Street, Macclesfield, Oct. 10, 1839.





research, indulging his almost fanatical interest in precise measurements. It is said that when he was on his honeymoon, visiting a scenic waterfall, he took the opportunity to measure the temperature difference between the top and the bottom. James' scientific endeavours prevented any serious long term involvement with the running of the brewery and his brother must also have had other interests, because when Benjamin Joule senior retired in about 1854, he closed down the business.

A puzzling feature of the brewery's demise is why it was not sold as a going concern. By the time that the buildings and tied houses were put up for auction in October 1855, the brewing equipment had already been removed and part of the site put to other uses. Moreover, the sales document specifically stated that whilst the buildings were suitable for manufacturing, they were not to be used for brewing. A number of the pubs offered for sale did not, in fact, leave the Joule family until considerably later. Licensing records for 1872-73 show that 'Dr Joule' was then the owner of the Albert, New Bailey Street, and the Old Kings Head, Chapel Street, Salford.

The Rams Head & Fleece on Bloom Street, Manchester, appeared on the 1855 auction list. It later passed to Walker & Homfrays Salford Brewery, then to Wilsons with the merger of the two companies in 1949. As well as changes of ownership, the pub's name went through various transformations: the Fleece, the Kingston Hotel and finally Paddy's Goose, which can still be seen near Chorlton Street bus station.

From 1855 to 1864 T & R Smith are listed as brewers at New Bailey Street and, for a short period around 1865, Edmund Crompton Batt. But did they brew there? By 1869 the premises were almost certainly being used as stores only - by agents representing Ind Coope of Burton and Robert Manders & Co of Dublin. The area was eventually redeveloped and the buildings opposite Salford Station now cover the site.



*During April 12th - 15th a display of material relating to the scientific life of James Prescott Joule (above) can be seen at Salford University. This forms part of a series of events celebrating 125 years since the formation of the Institute of Physics (as the Physical Society). The Institute is also compiling a list of 125 pubs which are connected with physics. Any suggestions?*

## Brewers and PubCos

In January *The Publican* magazine published a survey of all the country's pub operating companies with more than one pub. The following list is based on the survey and shows the number of outlets owned by each company. The survey found 313 companies with 42,670 pubs. In addition, there were 15,675 individually owned premises, giving a total of some 58,345 pubs in the U.K.

Allied Domecq Retail, Staffs	3,500	Eldridge Pope plc, Dorset	185	CCT Group, London	55
Unique Pub Co Ltd, Oxon	2,600	Young & Co Brewery, London	183	Heron & Brearley, Isle of Man	54
Bass Leisure Retail, B'ham	2,530	Old English Pub Co, Herts	175	Mill House Inns, Bucks	53
S&N Retail, Northampton	1,910	J W Lees, Manchester	174	Davy & Co, London	51
Enterprise Inns, W Midlands	1,823	County Estate Managmt, Lond.	173	J T Davies & Sons Ltd, Surrey	51
Whitbread Pub Partnerships	1,714	Albion Pub Contracts, Hants	160	Conquest Inns Ltd, Middlesex	49
Whitbread Inns, Beds	1,700	Everards Brewery, Leics	153	Gray & Sons, Essex	49
Pubmaster, Cleveland	1,550	St Austell Brewery, Cornwall	145	Elgood & Sons, Cambs	46
Punch Taverns, Staffs	1,455	McMullen & Sons, Herts	133	Jersey Brewery, Jersey	46
Inn Partnership, Cheshire	1,240	Morrells, Oxfordshire	130	Tudor Inns & Taverns, Kent	46
Intreprenuer PubCo, Bucks	1,200	Joseph Holt, Manchester	127	Ambishus Pub Co, Northants	45
Greene King plc, Suffolk	1,136	Commer Group, N Yorkshire	125	Eagle Taverns Ltd, Paisley	44
Wolverhampton & Dudley	1,007	Marpletime Ltd, Leicestershire	123	Harvey & Son Ltd, E Sussex	43
Marstons, Staffordshire	928	Pennant Inns, London	120	Kingdom Taverns, Kirkcaldy	41
S&N Enterprises, Edinburgh	880	Jennings Brs, Cumbria	115	White Rose Inns, Leeds	41
Wellington Pub Co, London	843	George Gale & Co Ltd, Hants	113	Corporate Catering Co, Surrey	40
Greenalls Pubs & Restaurants	830	Heavitree Brewing, Devon	112	Crowded House Pub Co, Beds	40
Avebury Taverns, Bucks	700	Scorpio Inns Ltd, Devon	111	Real Leisure plc, London	39
Ushers of Trowbridge, Wilts	574	Tom Cobleigh, Northants	104	Hook Norton Brewery, Oxon	38
Mansfield Brewery, Notts	523	Brakspear & Sons, Oxon	104	Luminar Leisure, Bedfordshire	37
Burtonwood Brewery, Ches.	520	Regent Inns plc, London	99	Heritage Pub Co Ltd, Derbys	36
Phoenix Inns, Bucks	500	Adnams & Co, Suffolk	97	Guernsey Brewery, Guernsey	35
Century Inns, Cleveland	490	Belhaven Brewery, E Lothian	96	Hobgoblins Ltd, Oxon	34
Inn Business, Bucks	490	Mitchells of Lancaster	94	Inns & Leisure Ltd, Lancashire	33
Vaux Group, Sunderland	476	Arkells, Wiltshire	94	Thorley Taverns Ltd, Kent	33
Morland Brewery, Oxon	419	Burns Leisure plc, Wiltshire	93	Slug & Lettuce Group, London	32
Frederic Robinson, Cheshire	413	Caledonian Heritable, Edin.	87	Honeycombe Leisure, Lancs	32
Thwaites, Lancashire	381	Yates Wine Lodges, Lancashire	87	Wizard Inns Ltd, Hertfordshire	31
Shepherd Neame, Kent	365	Felinfoel Brewery, Llanelli	83	Countryside Taverns Ltd, Beds	31
J D Wetherspoon, Herts	300	Stanford Pub Co, Northants	68	Devonshire Pub Co Ltd, Lancs	30
Pub Estate Company, Lancs	281	Ridleys Brewery, Essex	66	Maclay Group plc, Alloa	30
Alehouse Co Ltd, Hampshire	250	Elizabeth Holdings, Suffolk	63	Randalls Vautier Ltd, Jersey	30
Charles Wells Ltd, Beds	253	Taverna Inns Ltd, Nottingham	62	Sir John Fitzgerald, Newcastle	28
Hardys & Hansons, Notts	241	Hydes Anvil, Manchester	61	MacLennan Inns, Norfolk	27
Wadworth & Co, Wiltshire	230	Palmer's, Dorset	60	Lionheart Inns Ltd, Exeter	27
Fuller Smith & Turner, London	217	James Williams, Pembroke	60	Po Na Na, London	26
Paramount, Chester	210	SFI Group, Surrey	59	Peninsula Inns Ltd, Devon	25
Hall & Woodhouse, Dorset	206	Batemans, Lincolnshire	59	Law Property, Glasgow	24
Sam Smiths, N Yorkshire	200	King & Barnes, W Sussex	57	Timothy Taylor, W Yorkshire	24
S A Brain & Co Ltd, Cardiff	188	Wharfedale Tavs. Ltd, N Yorks	57	Booze Inn Co, Bristol	24
				Old Monk Company, London	23
				Famous Pub Company, Enfield	22
				Dorbiere Ltd, Manchester	22
				First Leisure Corp, Leicester	21
				Wessex Taverns, Northumb.	21
				Baldwin, London	21
				Target Developments, York	20
				Tavern Holdings, Bristol	20
				Big Beat Group, Glasgow	20
				Exhibition Hotels, N Yorks	20
				Holdens Brewery, W Midlands	20
				McGowan Irish Bars, London	19
				Merlin Inns, Surrey	19
				Oak Inns, Liverpool	19
				Retail Leisure, Manchester	19
				Tom Hoskins plc, Northants	19
				Inventive Leisure, Manchester	18
				Original Pub Holdings, E Sussex	18



RW Randall, Guernsey	18	Stange & Co Ltd, Liverpool	8	Cross Keys Pub Co, Northants	4
Barter Inns, London	17	Tup Inns Ltd, London	8	Dean Entertainments, Kirkcaldy	4
Hancock Inns Ltd, Kent	17	Ascot Inns, Berkshire	7	Do Drop Inns, Bucks	4
Kingstown/ Mitre Taverns, Hull	17	Buccaneer Holdings, Gloucs.	7	East Central Promotions, Lond.	4
RW Cairns, Glasgow	17	Clark (HB) & Co, Yorkshire	7	European Leisure, Leics	4
Tynemill Ltd, Leicestershire	17	Cockerel Inns, Hampshire	7	Exmoor Inns, North Devon	4
Oakcombe Ltd, Birmingham	16	El Desperado Ltd, Leicester	7	Good Pub Co Ltd, Cardiff	4
Glendola Leisure, Middlesex	16	Highgate & Walsall, W Midlands	7	LTP Inns Ltd, Staffordshire	4
Sarumdale Ltd, W Sussex	16	K-bar, London	7	Brian McLaughlin, Glasgow	4
McManus Taverns, Northants	16	London Wine Bars, London	7	Mine Host Inns Ltd, Derbyshire	4
TW Guest Trust, Hertfordshire	16	Oak Tree Inns, Wiltshire	7	Mulligans, Manchester	4
Donnington Brewery, Gloucs	15	Pals Leisure, Surrey	7	Oasthouse Inns, Bedfordshire	4
Kingfisher Leisure Ltd, Surrey	15	Pleasure Ltd, E Sussex	7	Oyster Bar Enterprises, Edin.	4
Old Mill Brewery, E Yorkshire	15	Roseberry Inns, Co Durham	7	Pubs'n'Bars, Gtr London	4
Springwood Leisure, Leicesters	15	Shannon Inns Ltd, London	7	Quintessential English, Worcs	4
T Watkin & Son, Carmarthen.	15	Splendidly Good Pub Co, Kent	7	St Peters Brewery, Suffolk	4
Bett Inns Ltd, Dundee	14	Taipan Taverns, London	7	Warm Welcome Group, Devon	4
Crownelm Properties, Suffolk	14	Trad. English PubCo, E Yorks	7	Wychstar Ltd, Surrey	4
Peel Taverns Ltd, Manchester	14	Verase Ltd, Aberdeen	7	Archers Ales, Wiltshire	3
Interpub, Buckinghamshire	14	Wallaces of Ayr Ltd, Ayr	7	B & T Brewery Ltd, Beds	3
Cascade, Wiltshire	13	Alexander Inns Ltd, London	6	Boulevard Group, Sunderland	3
Market Taverns Ltd, London	13	Butcombe Brewery Ltd, Bristol	6	Brodie's (City), London	3
Pub Co East Midlands, Notts	13	Castle Inns, Stirling	6	Caskflair Ltd, Huddersfield	3
Smiles Brewing Co, Bristol	13	C H Marlow, Powys	6	Dryfesdaie Ltd, S Yorkshire	3
Waterfall Holdings, Essex	13	D M Stewart Ltd, Edinburgh	6	Green Jack Brewing Co, Suffolk	3
Acorn Inns, Kent	12	European Bars, London	6	Head of Steam Ltd, Newcastle	3
Chapmans Group, W Sussex	12	Front Page Pubs Ltd, London	6	Lincoln Innkeepers, Lincs	3
Medwyn Partnership, Edin.	12	Hopback Brewery plc, Wiltshire	6	Market Town Taverns, Yorks	3
Planet Inns Ltd, E Sussex	12	Moorhouses Brewery, Lancs	6	Oakhill Brewery, Somerset	3
42nd St. Bars Ltd, Tyne & Wear	11	Pernickety, Cheshire	6	Porter Brewing Co, Lancashire	3
Albion Leisure, Gloucs	11	Pineapple Pub Co, Worcs	6	Rainbow International, London	3
Bulldog Pubs, Lincolnshire	11	Robert Cain & Co Ltd, Liverpool	6	Richardson Group, Northants	3
Camelot Inns & Taverns, Herts	11	South Devon Inns, Devon	6	Ringwood Brewery, Hampshire	3
Red Rooster Pub Co, B'ham	11	Winchester Ales House, Hants	6	Roman Plane Ltd, Hull	3
Ashcroft Pollard, York	10	Booker & Sons, London	5	Shawsgate Partnership, Kent	3
Bratz Ltd, Buckinghamshire	10	Celebration Inns, Somerset	5	Three Counties Leisure, Essex	3
Carnegies Group, Glasgow	10	Drystone Inns Ltd, Cumbria	5	Woodforges Ltd, Norfolk	3
Croft Inns Ltd, Belfast	10	Endmore Ltd, Liverpool	5	Aiden Brady's PubCo, Wrexham	2
Garvan O'Doherty, N Ireland	10	Galleon Taverns, Middlesex	5	Blackburn Brewing Co, Lancs	2
Shire Taverns, Middlesex	10	Henry Molyneuxs, Essex	5	Dark Horse Brewing Co, Herts	2
Tolly Cobbold, Suffolk	10	Oak Brewery, Cambridgeshire	5	Dent Brewery, Cumbria	2
Bathams Ltd, W Midlands	9	Orr Group Ltd, Liverpool	5	Empty Glass Ltd, Essex	2
Brunning & Price Ltd, Cheshire	9	Peter Arnett Leisure, Hants	5	Friamere Inns, Lancashire	2
Catmere Ltd, Lincolnshire	9	Premier Taverns, Staffordshire	5	Front Room Ltd, London	2
Conway Taverns, London	9	Puzzle Pub Company, London	5	Gatecrasher, S Yorks	2
Corney & Barrow, London	9	Rustic Pub Co Ltd, Hereford	5	Host Inns, Wiltshire	2
ESCO Retailing, Notts	9	Shakespeare Inns Ltd, Gwent	5	Keelgrove, Peterborough	2
Golden Lion Leisure, E Sussex	9	Stewart Inns, Dundee	5	Lion Taverns, London	2
Hale Leisure, Manchester	9	Suburban Taverns Ltd, Glasgow	5	Liontone, Leicestershire	2
House of Bellingham, Bristol	9	Trocadero Bars, London	5	Park & Oakleigh, W Yorkshire	2
Teesdale Trad. Tavs, Co Durham	9	Weaver Leisure, Leicestershire	5	Ricochet Inns, London	2
Fat Cat Café Bars Ltd, Derby	8	Wingcross Services, Clywd	5	Saltire Taverns Ltd, Edinburgh	2
Joe's Ltd, Middlesex	8	Wyre Piddle Brewery, Worcs	5	Scotts Inns Ltd, Norfolk	2
Lazy Leisure, Newcastle	8	Ash Vine Brewery Ltd, Somerset	4	Thorne Inns, London	2
McCoys Ltd, Hampshire	8	Big Pub Company, Dorset	4	Sweeney Taverns, Derbyshire	2
Merit Inns, Humberside	8	Burghley Taverns, Notts	4	Tommy Hyde, Shrewsbury	2
Oak Taverns, Oxon	8	Bushy's Mount Murray, I of Man	4	Town & Country Inns, B'ham	2
Quaiter Inns Ltd, Cheshire	8	Chancery Inns, London	4	Watley Taverns Ltd, Kent	2

## Rupert

It was one of those conspiracies of silence that you read about in novels or discover after the death of one of the conspirators. Usually they revolve around circumstances of joint guilt where an unspoken agreement ensures that the events will never see the light of day as all would be equally shamed. Occasionally fortune treats people differently and those who are relatively disadvantaged may blow the whistle on those whose worldly success is more manifest. Sometimes someone gets pissed and spills the beans. In the case of the beached porpoise it was more the latter than the former.

The amber nectar at Tiggy's had been slipping down quite well in celebration of Slumley's silver jubilee. After most of the assembled grey beards had gone home to bed, a few stalwarts continued their imbibing in 'The Pub' down the road. It was at the stage when Billy Cosh slid down the wall and Charlie Starsky fell asleep that the story was told. As to who divulged the secret, my lips are sealed with baseball bats.

Snobley and Snoot Magna's Yuletide thrash was held at the Kindergarten in deepest Snobley. Rumpleshirtscream, up from Leekley, was guest of honour and much excellent Sikhs ale was quaffed by all. Around midnight on a cold and frosty night the tired

and emotional throng made their way home. Rumpleshirtscream, in an uncharacteristic display of quietude, lay down in a hedge and went to sleep. His companions, being legless and brain-dead, were unable to move the supine form and, fearing for his safety, called the boys in blue. Whether they thought the vast expanse of exposed belly might succumb to hypothermia, or whether they believed a visually impaired person might mug him for his clothes, is neither recorded nor remembered. Perhaps they feared he might awake and shout and drive demented the slumbering denizens of Snobley. Suffice it to say that the police were called and came.

At this point the story becomes a little unclear. One version has plod waking the sleeping stentor and seeing him home. The preferred account is the one where our sartorial hero is banged up in Snobley nick until the morning, when he is released without charge, whilst his 'friends' spend a sleepless night wondering what they've done and whether old Rumples will be somewhat unchuffed if he's done for being drunk and incapable.

It's funny, isn't it, how altruistic behaviour is so often misinterpreted by those whom it's intended to help? There's nowt so grateful as the grateful dead.



# Branch Diary

## **Rochdale, Oldham & Bury**

Tues 6 April 8.30pm, Branch Meeting, Bulls Head, Halifax Road, Rochdale.

Tues 20 April 8.30pm, Committee Meeting, Tandle Hill Tavern, Thornham Lane, Slattocks.

Sat 24 April, Coach Social, Saddleworth Spring 7. Details from Branch Contact.

Tues 27 April 8.30pm, What's Doing Collation, Cask & Feather, Oldham Road, Rochdale.

Contact: Peter Alexander 0113 232 4023(w), 0161 655 4002 (h)

## **North Manchester**

Wed 7 April 7pm, Holts Brewery Trip (by prior booking only). Meet Derby Brewery Arms.

Wed 14 April 8pm, Social and GBG Award, Union Tavern, Liverpool Street, Salford.

Wed 21 April 8pm, Branch Meeting, Grapes, Liverpool Road, Peel Green.

Tues 27 April 6pm onwards, What's Doing collation, Queens Arms, Honey Street.

Wed 28 April, City Crawl. 7pm Lass o'Gowrie, 8.30 Grey Horse, Portland Street; 9.30 City Arms, Kennedy Street.

Wed 5 May, Higher Irlam Crawl. 7pm Boat House, Ferry Road, 8.30 White Lion, Liverpool Road.

Contact: Roger Hall 0161 740 7937

## **Trafford & Hulme**

Thur 15 April 8pm, City Arms, Kennedy Street, Manchester. 10pm, Peveril of the Peak.

*Branch members meet most other Thursday nights. For details contact Dave Ward, 0161 980 1170 (h)*

**WHAT'S DOING** contributions should be sent to the editor c/o 88 Ringley Road, Stoneclough, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 1ET, to arrive no later than first post on the 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's issue.

**WHAT'S DOING ADVERTISING:** Full page £52.50 or £210 for six months, half page £36.75 or £157.50 for six months, quarter page £26.25 or £105 for six months. All adverts must be accompanied with payment. Cheque payable to 'What's Doing'.

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**To join CAMRA** send £14 to Membership, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW.



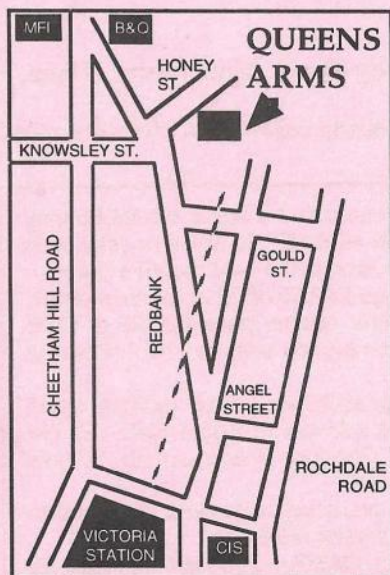
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