

30p

What's Doing

FEBRUARY 2003

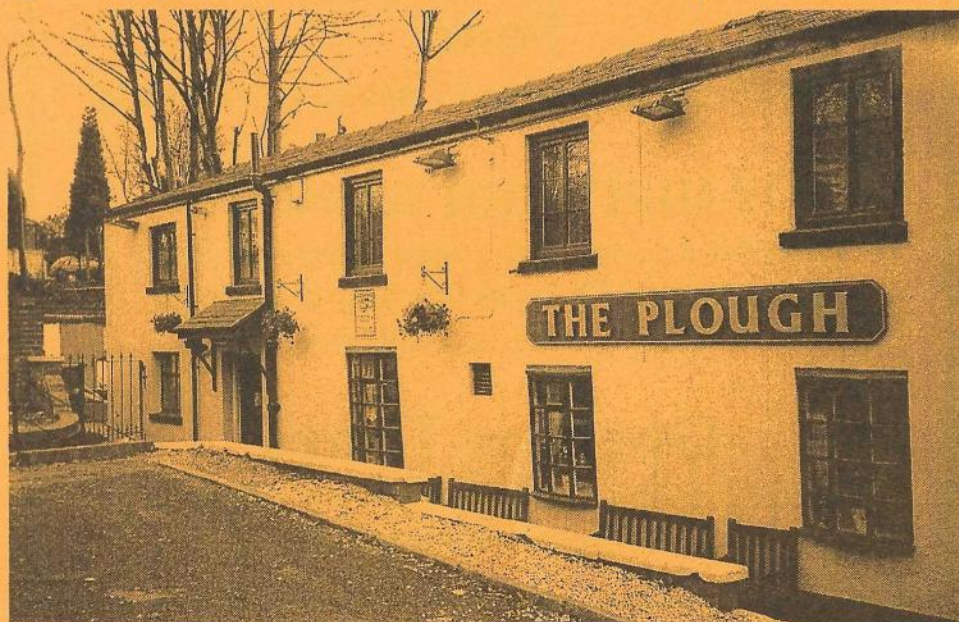


The Manchester Beer Drinker's Monthly Magazine

BAZENS' BYWAYS

The Plough, the recently opened free house on Rainsough, is keen to take a beer from Bazens' Brewery, which is just down the road in the Agecroft Enterprise Park. The pub would then become Bazens' Brewery Tap - but possibly not for long.

Production is outstripping the size of the unit in the Enterprise Park and Richard Bazen has been investigating much larger premises on Knoll Street, Higher Broughton (close to the Star and Horseshoe pubs on Back Hope



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Bazens' Byways continued...

Street). The Knoll Street building is too large for him alone, so he is looking at sharing it with another new Salford brewery. David Facer, currently head brewer at Strangeways ('Boddingtons'), is leaving there at the end of February to set up his own brewery. Sharing the Knoll Street site with Bazens' would create a 'microbrewery co-operative', with the two brewers taking it in turn to brew.

Christmas Market Returns - in May

Paul Roberts

2002 saw the third International Christmas Market in Albert Square, the highlights of which were the German beer stalls. The Paulanerbräu stall was back for a second year, this time with Eberhard in charge, taking over the reins from son Oliver, who had decided to stop at home in Regensburg. At £1.50 for 0.4 litre, the Paulaner Helles worked out at £2.10 per pint, but when the very generous over-measures were taken into account (not to mention the freebies from Eberhard), the price fell to well below the average for Central Manchester. The other stalls were also charging £1.50 a beer, but this was for a 0.3 litre. The Berlin tent was back for its second year, and there was a Schloßquelle Heidelberg stall for the first time.

The event is amazingly popular, with many people returning several times, but it has to be said that Manchester City Council cannot organize a piss at a beer festival. The toilets were closed at 6pm, despite the fact that the beer flowed until 8pm (or sometimes a few minutes later). Eberhard tells me that he has been granted permission to serve until 9pm next December (and perhaps even 9.30 at weekend). He is also bringing a toilet wagon with him.

Of more immediate interest is the fact that he is returning in May for the European Market, which will be held in Exchange Square. Eberhard promises a 50-table Bavarian Beer Tent and will be offering four beers, including a Weizenbier and a Dunkles. By special request, he has promised a few barrels of Kneitinger from his home city of Regensburg. This festival is due to take place from 20th to 30th May. It is hoped that last orders will be a more reasonable 10pm

The policy of the City Council regarding plastic glasses was also criticized. When Eberhard attends the markets in Europe, he can serve as late as 1.00am and from proper glasses. Any visitor to Germany knows that each beer demands a particular style of glass. Someday Manchester may realize that if it wants to become a real 24-hour European city, it needs to allow people to drink from proper receptacles and have suitable facilities open all hours to deal with the recycling of the beer after it has been consumed!

THE CRESCENT

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Featuring 40 Beers**

Function/Party Room available for free hire

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Open for darts and table football

The Junction is up

Dave Hallows

The Junction on Queens Road, Collyhurst, has been getting nicely spruced up since the Beartown Brewery bought the pub in September last year. The vault has been tastefully redecorated, as has the long back room, with seats re-upholstered. The ladies' loo is rather swish now, I'm told, and on the day of my visit two hand-painted signs with the Beartown crest had been put up on the building. All original features of the crescent-shaped pub have been retained.

The best selling beer is Bearskinful (the bitter); Black Bear, Polar

Eclipse and Wheat Bear are also available. The pub has a new licensee, Gillian Martingale, who hails from the Gamecock in Bury, and she has wisely reinstated draught Guinness. (There is a large Irish community in the area.) Continental beers are available on draught (Krombacher and Dortmunder Union) and in bottle.



The cask beers are good value at £1.30 to £1.40 a pint. Happy hours are 5pm to 8pm weekdays, when the bitter is £1 a pint.

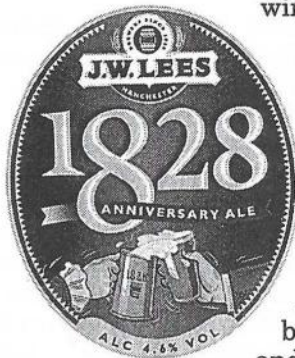
National Pubs Week

CAMRA has announced the first National Pubs Week, from 22nd February to 1st March. Branches up and down the country are holding events to persuade both regular and infrequent pubgoers to make more use of their locals. Of particular concern are isolated rural and village pubs which face closure because of diminishing trade, and to this end the Ramblers' Association has pledged its support.

The **Crescent** in Salford is holding a Festival towards the end of the week (27th February to 2nd March) and with 40 beers, should certainly attract a large number of customers.

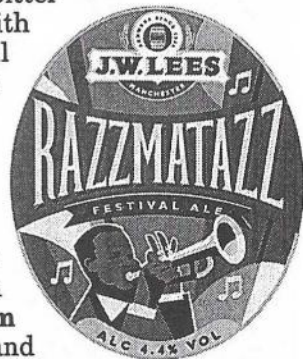
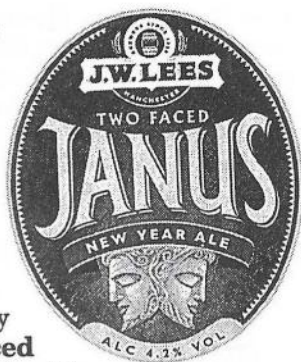
John Willie's 2003 Seasonals

To celebrate their 175th anniversary this year, J W Lees will be producing a special 1828 ale. One of the most popular seasonals, **Brooklyn Best**, created by Garrett Oliver of the Brooklyn Brewery, is being brewed again, along with **Scorcher** summer ale and **Plum Pudding** winter brew.



The range of special ales began in January with **Two-Faced Janus** (4.2%), brewed with modern hop varieties to give crisp citric fruitiness. **Brooklyn Best** (5%), the American style bitter flavoured with American hops, will be available in March and April. 1828

Anniversary Ale (4.6%), a malty brew, comes out in May and June. The golden, light **Scorcher** (4.2%) will be available in July and August, followed in September and October by **Razzmatazz** (4.4%), a spicy, malty ale made with British and American hops. The rich, dark **Plum Pudding** (4.8%), is planned for November and December.



Shaws Brewery

Tame Valley Ale (4.3%) from Shaws Brewery in Dukinfield recently appeared at the Winter Beers Festival at the Crescent, Salford, and the Queens Arms, Cheetham. The bitter was pleasingly well balanced, with a good golden colour.

Ramsbottom Brew

Tower Bitter, a light brown, quaffable 4% beer from the new Ramsbottom Brewery arrived at the **Trackside** bar of the East Lancs Railway Station in Bury last month.

Beers from even more exotic locations may soon be on sale at the Trackside. Swedish cask beers, followed by brews from micros in Brittany, are planned.

Dutton

The Dutton, close to Manchester Victoria Station and the MEN Arena, and behind the brewery that produces 'The Cream of Manchester', is under new management. The pub serves Hydes bitter on handpull and is handy for the pre or post concert drink.

Ace Sixex

The Ace of Diamonds on Oldham Road, Miles Platting, was recently selling Holts Sixex (6%) on handpump. It was dark, fruity, moreish and warming, and with a body to die for.

Speed the Plough

The **Plough** on Rainsough, recently opened after five years of closure, closed again in January, but only for a week. Work on a new kitchen revealed a load-bearing wall to be in need of urgent repair and the Health & Safety Executive insisted that there should be no customers in the pub whilst the work is carried out. By now the kitchen should be in operation and serving, amongst other things, recipes using Holts bitter! An electronic organ has been purchased to replace the old piano, so the 'nights with the organist.' which were a feature years ago, will return.

Take a Leek

The Leek Brewing Company is now in production and the beer (which is described as 'fruity') should have appeared at the Smithfield (Manchester) Festival last month. The plant is yet another one installed by David Porter of Porter Brewery fame (see Greenfield Brewery in WD December)

Albert Edward

Sam Smiths have been successful in submitting an application to carry out structural alterations at the Albert Edward in Eccles. Surprisingly, the plans are intended to recreate the pub as it was fifty years ago, with small rooms instead of the current open-plan layout. Will Sam Smiths be adopting the nickname the pub had in those days - the Stinking Stocking?

Crump

Lower Crumpsall's last remaining pub, the **Crumpsall Hotel**, was demolished just before Christmas. It's been burnt out and derelict for some time and was proving something of an eyesore for potential buyers of the new houses on the ICI site next door.

Yates

Sales and share price are down, so last month the chief executive of the Yates Group announced that up to 120 of the older Yates Wine Lodges are being refurbished. He said, 'The refurbished sites are minimalist and stylish. There are huge plasma screens playing lots of Kylie videos, and lots of vodka on sale. That's what people want.' Aaaaargh!

Wigan and District

Dave White

Chris and June Doherty are to leave the **Bowling Green**, Wigan Lane, Swinley, on 13th February. Since moving to the pub in 1996, they have brought it back up to Good Beer Guide standard with a selection of guest ales from far and wide, and the pub has been the venue for the Wigan CAMRA branch barbecue each August. It also happens to be my local, so I'd like to thank Chris and June for making me very happy for the last six-and-a-half years. Fortunately, the Dohertys are moving just down the road to the **Royal Oak**, a keg hostelry on Standishgate. See you there!

The Bowling Green is not the only 2003 GBG pub to undergo a change of licensee. Mark has left the **Black Diamond**, Lower Ince, or is about to; the landlady of the **Holt Arms**, Billinge, has moved to the **Prince William** at Dalton; Celia and Bert are about to retire at the **Robin Hood**, Orrell, while Julie and James, their daughter and son-in-law, are leaving the **Colliers Arms**, Kings Moss, to run a restaurant in the United States. The current bar and kitchen staff are expected to take over at the latter pub. The forthcoming GBG selection meeting (see Branch Diary) promises to be very interesting.

A recent advertisement in the *Wigan Reporter* announced that tenancies are up for grabs at the **Prince of Wales**, Market Street, Hindley, and the **Rock Ferry**, Warrington Road, Lower Ince. The 'Little Rock' used to be quite a decent boozer, but had been keg for several years, and three out of four pubs in Lower Ince are now closed and boarded up. The tenancy at the Prince of Wales is surprising, considering that the pub has been closed and supposedly awaiting demolition for the past nine months. Real ale pubs in Hindley and Ince are few and far between, so a drop of the proper stuff at either or both would be particularly welcome.

Last November, I reported that the former Conservative Club in Billinge had reopened as **Squires Bar**, but at the time I didn't know if the pub sold real ale. Well, it doesn't, unfortunately. Elsewhere on Main Street, the **Forresters Arms** has reopened yet again, having been open, closed, open again and closed again, all in the space of twelve months! It's a cosy little pub and deserves to do well, so here's hoping.



Letter

Good Beer Guide

Sir - When I opened my 2003 Good Beer Guide on Christmas Day, I immediately turned to the Greater Manchester section and I was dismayed to see virtually the same pubs listed for the *What's Doing* area as in previous guides.

There are very few new entries and there is the odd re-entry. In the City Centre, the **Centro Bar** is the only new addition and the **Pot of Beer** makes a comeback. It's a similar story with Salford; the **Union Tavern** on Liverpool Street is the one re-entry. At least Oldham and Wigan have several new listings (three each).



The Guide lists a considerable number of pubs selling Holts. I like a good pint of Holts, but the quality/consistency has been known to vary from pub to pub, even on the same road.

Surely it's time for the region's CAMRA branches to revamp the way they nominate Good Beer Guide entries? One suggestion would be for each member to submit a top ten from a shortlist of, say, twenty-five pubs to their nearest branch. The final list could then be decided at branch meetings.

There are a lot of good pubs out there and some seem to go unnoticed by CAMRA. They serve real ale and they have character, too. Take the blinkers off and widen your drinking horizons and you may find a new 'gem of a pub'.

Dale Arden

Beinlos Abroad

Paul Roberts

Bargain Booze

From 1st January all packaged drinks sold in Germany must be in containers (plastic, glass or even cans) with a refundable deposit. Most beers were sold in returnable bottles before that date, but there were some six-packs of non-returnable bottles. Since these couldn't be sold after December 31st, the remaining stocks went for bargain prices. At Aldi, 3 x 6 packs (6 litres or almost 11 pints) went for €1 - that's 9p a pint!

Ice Beer

During the cold snap at the beginning of the year, a dray wagon skidded and overturned on black ice on the Autobahn A7 near Gollhhofen, Northern Bavaria. The beer spilt out on to the ice and promptly froze, forming a fifty-metre long beery icerink across the carriageway. The report did not say how the frozen beer was eventually cleared.

Planning News

At last the plans for the Red Lion in Blackley have gone in. It's going to be 11 residential units, whatever those might be. Funny, the work is nearly finished and the application was only received in mid-December.

N/4 4 CORNERS BEER FESTIVAL

Thurs 27 Feb - Sun 2nd Mar 2003

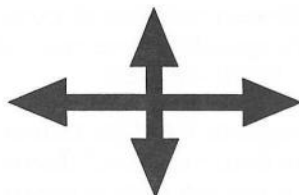
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Around Bolton

with Trotter

Passing **Elements** on Bradshawgate, one of the new bars mentioned in last month's WD, I noticed a set of wickets at the end of the bar. I therefore entered the establishment, to find that the middle pump had a Theakstons Cool Cask pump clip and another had a handwritten clip for Rosey Nosey.

The manager told me that he's keen to promote real ale and that Theakstons and Directors will be available permanently, with a rotating guest ale. The real ales are currently on offer for 99p a pint between 11am and 6pm. Yes, hand over a quid and you get change!

Around the corner on Churchgate, the inside of the **Brass Cat** (previously known as the Golden Lion and the Bears Paw) has had a Carol Smillie job and one cask ale returns. OK, it's only Tetleys, but at least another pub is making an effort.

Farnworth's premier music venue, the **Moses Gate**, is selling real ale again, at £1.50 a pint. I tried it on a recent visit to see Heart of Glass, the Blondie tribute band. The beer, brewed by Carlsberg/Tetley, didn't have a name; it was passable and rather sweet.

The **Market Street Tavern** is always a place to call into following a Sunday stroll around Ringley and Stoneclough. The pub sells a good pint of Bank Top Flat Cap for a reasonable £1.40. Premiership matches feature on the large screen in the lounge (usually Trafford United), while the vault has a normal TV screen. To escape the football, one can opt for the back games room and partake in a game of pool, or lose one's money on the fruit machines.

Beer festivals at the **Howcroft** in Bolton have raised around £100,000 for the Bolton Lads' and Girls' Club and in recognition of landlord Clive Nightingale's achievement, there was a special event at the pub on 16th January. The pub was packed as the Mayor of Bolton, Councillor John Walsh, presented Clive with a commemorative plaque. This year's Howcroft Beer Festival will be the tenth and it is expected to be one of the best yet.



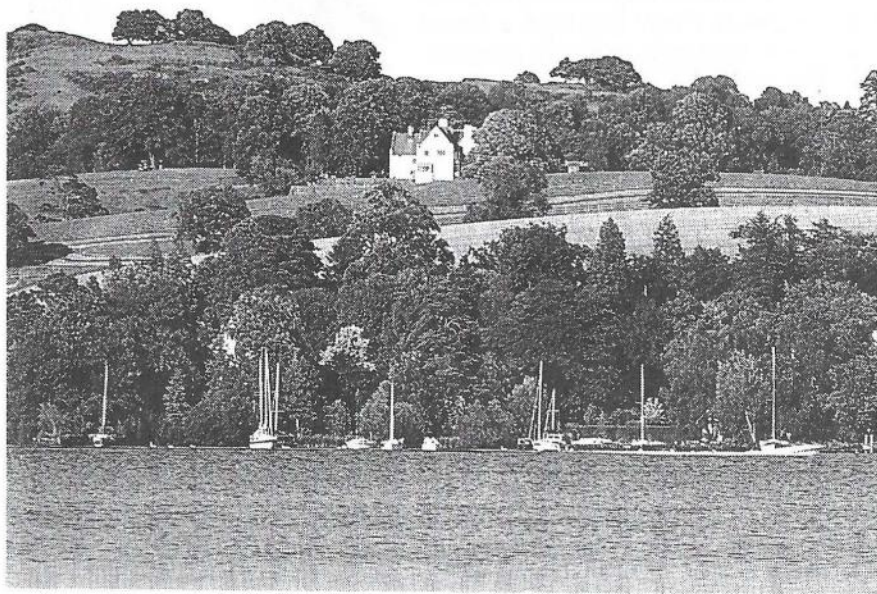
Holts Corner

Stewart Revell

The new 4.4% **Blackwell** seasonal beer is due out at the beginning of February. It has a colour midway between Holts bitter and ThunderHolt, uses Cascade aroma hops and will be priced around £1.30 a pint.

Draught **ThunderHolt** will reappear in the autumn and in the meantime there are plans for a 5% bottled version. It won't be bottle conditioned, as I am told the complicated process wouldn't be worth it for such a low production run.

There are no plans for a bottled version of **Blackwell**, although the Arts & Crafts Centre at Blackwell, Sir Edward Holt's old weekend retreat overlooking Lake Windermere (*below*), would have been delighted to stock some in their restaurant.



Keeping it in the family, the next seasonal brew in about three months' time will be called **Edward's** (4.1%).

During National Pubs Week, 22nd Feb to 1st March, posters will be displayed in Holts pubs aimed at encouraging people to use their local more often and to take along friends who have lapsed. Try out the welcoming atmosphere of a Holts pub. Remember, a pub is not just for Christmas.

stewart@revell62.freemove.co.uk

Holts aficionados who are also au fait with the interweb thingy can check out the Joseph Holt website at www.joseph-holt.com

Saddleworth Fitness Check

Dave Hallows

A big slope beckoned at Uppermill. I had climbed Running Hill Gate many times. The object was to reach, first, the **Cross Keys** (Lees), a beamed, eighteenth century cottage pub. It has a comfortable lounge with a stone fireplace, a stone-flagged room with Yorkshire range and a side lounge with TV. Lees bitter, GB mild, Moonraker and Two-Faced Janus (4.2%), the New Year Ale, were available from the small bar. The mild was fruity and glorious, the bitter fully conditioned and the Janus well-balanced. The Cross Keys serves good food at lunchtimes and in the early evening.

The Running Hill climb didn't matter any more. The only way was down to the **Church Inn**, via a footpath by the splendid Saddleworth Church. At the Church Inn, home of the Saddleworth Brewery, I was greeted by two log fires in one long L-shaped lounge and lounge bar. The beers available were Saddleworth More (3.8%) at an unbelievable £1.05 a pint, Shaft Bender (5.9%), Indian Z Pale Ale (4%) and Christmas Carol Ale (7.4%), plus Tetley bitter and Holts ThunderHolt. The bonus was a home made Purple Haze cider (8.3%) at £2 a pint.

I tried the Saddleworth More and found it easy drinking, dark brown and a well-balanced mix of fruit and hops. However, the Pale Ale was somewhat 'green' and thin; with a few more pints drawn off, I reckon it would have been better. The pub has a separate attractive restaurant with specials ranging from kangaroo steak to Aberdeen Angus beef.



Horwich - the second leg

Dave White

One year on from our first visit, we boarded the 617 bus to check out the pubs on the other side of town.

The evening began promisingly at the **Brown Cow** on Church Street. The door of the pub opens on to the games room, with the bar to the left. The back room has a real fire, is mock Tudor in design and the décor is in tasteful shades of cream and green. Lots of brasswork and copperwork, including a milk churn, a bugle and, for the sharp-eyed, a brass penguin. Nice etched windows, too. The floor around the bar is flagged and Greenalls bitter is still going strong. Taylors Landlord is also on offer.

Further down Church Street we found the **Black Bull**. This pub has a large front room facing the bar, and it was karaoke night when we called in. We repaired to the back room, which is caught in time, with one of those old beaten-copper electric fires and wrought iron over the doorway, in which plastic flowers thread their way. All manner of things hang from the beams, and some of the walls are rounded. Elsewhere there is a games room with a pool table, and a smaller one containing a table football machine. (If we had known it was there when we walked in, we'd have had a game.) Cask beers on offer were Tetley bitter and Bully bitter, brewed by Robinsons.

Still on Church Street, we came to the **Bridge Inn**, a cavernous pub by any standards, and which looks as if it might have been a hotel once upon a time. The tilework and fireplaces look to be original,



although not all of the latter are still in use. There is a central bar, with several rooms leading off, a large games room, a plush front room and a smaller back room with parquet flooring. Upstairs function room. Lots of old paintings, and look out for an old Whitbread plaque on one of the walls. The Bridge has cask Marque accreditation and several handpumps, although when I asked for the Tetley mild I was told it wasn't on. The Holts bitter was very good, however. The other wickets were for Tetley bitter, Boddingtons bitter and Flowers Original.

Perhaps we should have stayed for another one, because when we hit Lee Lane the crawl went downhill, figuratively speaking, and the survey, in effect, came to an end. The closest we got to a pint was at the Conservative Club, which had a handpump with the clip turned round (Everards Tiger, by the shape of it), but the pubs - **Sams**, the **Saddle** and the **Victoria & Albert** - were all keg.

The beer in all the pubs described was eminently imbibable and the clientele were of all ages, which is something you can't say about many of the watering holes in Wigan on a Saturday night.

For the record, there are changes to report at two Lee Lane pubs surveyed last year. Traditional John Smiths bitter has replaced Greenalls at the **Bay Horse**, whilst the **Original Bay Horse** appeared to be down to just one cask beer, Lees bitter.



A Star is There

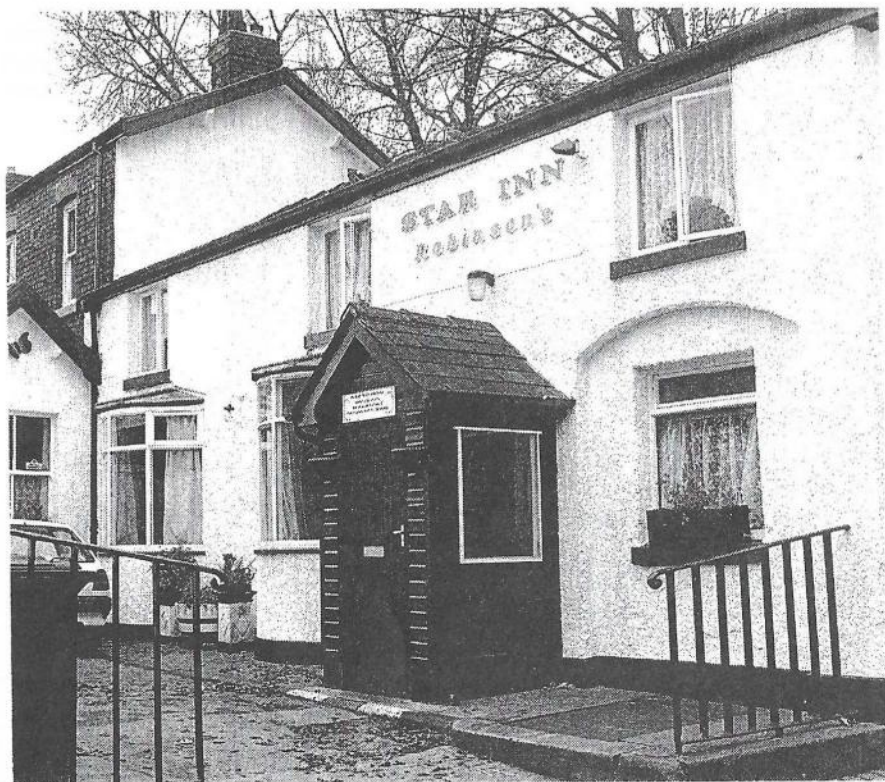
Dave Hallows

The Star Inn (Robinsons) on Back Hope Street, Higher Broughton, is a white, pebble-dashed cottage in a quiet conservation area. Hidden away in the upper reaches of Great Clowes Street, it is surrounded by cobbled streets of Victorian and Edwardian houses. There are three cask beers: Hatters Mild, Best Bitter and the new 5% Double Hop, which replaced Robin Bitter.

Passing through the porched entrance and a half-opening door, the visitor is greeted by an original bar in the tiny and hospitable vault. There are two further rooms; a largely unspoilt saloon with bay windows and a games room. The outside ladies' loo in the yard is most unusual!

The quality of the beers is good, though opening hours are 8-11 weekdays evenings (6.30 on Fridays). Weekends are 1.30 to 5, 8 to 11.

As a bonus, the Horseshoe Inn is just across the street, serving Holts or Phoenix beers. This former Bass house was originally an Openshaw Brewery outlet. The pubs can be reached by the 98 bus.



Trotter's Independent Trophies

All kinds of awards are handed out at this time of year, and not wanting to be left out, Trotter dons his dinner jacket and steps up to the podium to announce his 2002 Independent Trophy Awards...

Best CAMRA Beer Festival

1st: Bent & Bongs (Atherton) Beer Bash.

2nd: Southport Beer Festival.

3rd: Accrington Beer Festival.

Best Non-CAMRA Beer Festival

Howcroft Beer Festival, Bolton. Runner

up: Britannia Beer Festival, Farnworth.

Best Mild: Cains Mild.

Best Bitter: Sharp's Doon Bar at the Britannia Beer Festival.

Best Brewery Trip or Social:

O'er t'Moors - the Rochdale, Oldham & Bury branch trip to Yorkshire. Runner up: Southport Crawl (with the two Steves).

Tidiest Pub: Hen & Chickens, Bolton.

Most Overrated Pub: Bar Fringe.

Pub Serving The Chilliist Ale: Goose on Deansgate, Bolton.

Special Achievement Award: Jim

Fletcher (Fletch) for all his hard work at beer festivals throughout the country.

So there we are, the first T.I.T awards. I have omitted the 'Best Pub of the Year' category so as not to appear biased towards any of the particular pubs I frequent.



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'.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: £3.30 for six months, £5.80 for twelve months. Send cheque/PO together with your name and address to Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester M9 6PW. Cheques made out to 'What's Doing'.

BACK NUMBERS: 15p per copy. Send stamped addressed envelope to Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester M9 6PW.

To join CAMRA send £16 to Membership, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW.

The pub that never was?

The document reproduced on the opposite page is part of a brewery/manager agreement signed at Threlfalls Brewery offices in Cook Street, Salford. It is unusual in that there never has been a Green Bank Hotel on Victoria Avenue, Blackley.

When the agreement was signed in January 1939 the pub was about to be built. Mr McPhee was going to be the first licensee, but a few months later Germany started throwing its weight about and work on new pubs was suspended until after the war.

Threlfalls built two new pubs in Blackley before the war, the Heaton Park Hotel and the Clough Hotel, but the Green Bank Hotel didn't make it.

Boggart Bulletin

The latest from Boggart Hole Clough Brewery is Winter Sun (4.6%), a light, fruity and hoppy beer.

Brewer Mark Dade has gone into the distribution business, taking beers such as Shaws, Pictish, Phoenix and Holts to places down south, including the capital.



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An Agreement

made the

One thousand nine hundred and ^{tenth} day of ^{January} ~~thirtynine~~

Between THRELFALL'S BREWERY COMPANY LIMITED whose Registered Office is situate at No. 21 Trueman Street in the City of Liverpool in the County of Lancaster (hereinafter designated "the Landlords") of the one part and **James Henry McPhee, of the "Crown & Anchor Hotel", 6, Cateaton Street, Manchester,** in the County of **Lancaster** (hereinafter designated "the Manager")

of the other part **Whereas** the Landlords are the owners of the Public House and premises called the **GREEN BANK HOTEL,** situate ~~and being in~~ on **Victoria Avenue,** **BLACKLEY, MANCHESTER,** in the County of **Lancaster** and the Landlords have agreed to engage the said **JAMES HENRY MCPHEE** as the Manager and Licensee thereof upon the terms hereinafter set forth **Now** this Agreement **witnesseth :-**

1.—**The** Landlords will pay the Manager the weekly wage of **£ 5. 5. 0. (five pounds five shillings)** for the services of himself during the continuance of his service and such further sum for the wages food and lodging of any assistants and servants whom it is considered necessary to be employed for the proper conduct of the business as shall be agreed upon by the Landlords and the Manager.

2.—**The** Manager and his assistants and servants in the business for the time being carried on in the said Public House shall conduct himself and themselves in a proper and orderly and sober manner and shall conduct and manage the said Public House and the business carried on therein in a quiet and respectable and orderly manner.

3.—**The** Manager and his assistants and servants or any of them will neither do nor suffer to be done any act or thing which may afford or be likely to afford any just pretext for the refusal or suspension of the licences attached to the said premises or for any information or complaint to be laid or made against the Manager or the premises. And the Manager shall annually at the proper time so long as he shall remain in the said Public House apply for and obtain the renewal of the said licences. Any breach of this clause by the Manager shall be considered to be and may be treated as gross misconduct on his part.

4.—**The** Manager shall personally attend to the said business and devote his whole time and attention thereto and shall neither directly nor indirectly engage in any other business or service and shall keep correct books of account and when requested by the Landlords render a correct statement of his stocks.

5.—**The** Manager shall reside on the premises and shall not sleep away from the said premises without the consent of the Landlords nor allow any person whomsoever (except members of his own household and guests or *bona fide* travellers) to pass the night in or upon the said premises without the like consent.

The Holts List

Following on from the list of free trade outlets published last month, Stewart Revell provides an up-to-date list of the company's pubs. Tenanted houses are marked with an asterisk; all the others are managed.

Holts have given up on a few pubs in recent years. The most recent loss was the Pack Horse on Ashton Old Rd, Openshaw.

Abbey, Hard Lane, St Helens
Angel Inn, King Street, Knutsford
Ape & Apple, John Dalton St, Manchester
Ashley Brook, Liverpool Street, Salford
Atherton Arms, Tyldesley Road, Atherton
Bay Horse, Parr Lane, Unsworth
Bird in Hand, Liverpool Road, Patricroft
Black Dog, Church Street, Belmont
Blue Bell, Manchester Road, Bury
Blue Bell, Moston Lane, Moston
Bolton Castle, Tonge Moor Road, Bolton
Bradford Inn, Bradford Road, Miles Platting
Bricklayers, Ordsall Lane, Salford
Bridgewater, Liverpool Road, Patricroft
Bridgewater, Manchester Road, Hollinwood
Brigadier, Firsway, Sale
Broadway, Nuthurst Road, New Moston
Broadway, Broadway, Salford
Brooklyn, Green Lane, Bolton
Cart & Horses, Manchester Road, Astley
Chapel House, Stockport Road, Denton
Cheadle Hulme, Station Road, Cheadle Hulme
Church Inn, Bury New Road, Whitefield
Church Inn, Gaskell Street, Newton Heath
Claremont, Claremont Road, Moss Side
Cleveland, Crumpsall Lane, Crumpsall
Coach & Horses, Bury Old Road, Whitefield
Cock o'Budworth, Warrington Road, Great Budworth
Cricketers, Manchester Road, Swinton
*Cross Yates, Whitworth Road, Rochdale
Crown, Chorley New Road, Horwich
Crown & Anchor, Cateaton St, Manchester
Crown & Cushion, Corporation Street, Manchester

Crumpsall, Bury Old Road, Cheetham Hill
Derby Brewery Arms, Cheetham Hill Road
Doffcocker, Chorley Old Road, Bolton
Douglas Bank, Woodhouse Lane, Wigan
Duke of Wellington, Weardale Road, Higher Blackley
Duke of York, Marlborough Road, Hightown
Dukes Gate, Cleggs Lane, Little Hulton
Eagle & Child, Higher Lane, Whitefield
Eagle, Collier Street, Salford
Edington Arms, Ladies Lane, Hindley
Egerton Inn, Hanlon Street, Cheetham Hill
Ellesmere, King William Street, Winton
Foresters, Bury New Road, Prestwich
Fox Inn, Old Market Street, Blackley
Friendship, Scholes Lane, Prestwich
Frigate, Thatch Leach Lane, Whitefield
Gardeners Arms, Hollins Lane, Middleton
Garratt, Pink Bank Lane, Longsight
Globe, Bradshawgate, Leigh
Goats Gate, Radcliffe New Road, Whitefield
*Golden Cross, Liverpool Road, Patricroft
Golden Lion, Old Market Street, Blackley
Grafton Arms, Grafton Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock
Grapes, Liverpool Road, Peel Green
Griffin Hotel, Wilmslow Road, Heald Green
Griffin Hotel, Didsbury Road, Heaton Mersey
Grove Inn, Ashton New Road, Clayton
Halfway House, Manchester Road, Droylsden
Hare & Hounds, Outwood Road, Radcliffe
*Hipp, Lathbury Road, Harpurhey
Hyde Park Corner, Silk Street, Salford
Kings Head, Market Street, Droylsden
Kingsway, Moseley Road, Levenshulme
Lamb Hotel, Regent Road, Eccles
Legh Arms, Northenden Road, Sale Moor
Lord Nelson, Bolton Road, Pendlebury
Lord Nelson, Stretford Road, Urmston
Melville, Barton Road, Stretford
Millhouse, Ballater Drive, Padgate
Morning Star, Manchester Road, Swinton
Mort Arms, Elliott Street, Tyldesley
Mosley, Red Lane, Breightmet
Navigation, Drake Street, Rochdale
New Grove Inn, Bury New Road, Whitefield
Newmarket Inn, Bolton Road, Pendlebury
Northgate, Sholver Green, Oldham

Old Blue Bell, Bell Lane, Bury
 Old Bulls Head, Church Street, Eccles
 Old Cross Inn, Eton Hill Road, Radcliffe
 Old House at Home, Whit Lane, Pendleton
 Old Monkey, Portland Street, Manchester
 Orion, Burton Road, Withington
 Ostrich, Bury Old Road, Prestwich
 Papermakers, Church Street East, Radcliffe
 Park Hotel, Monton Road, Monton
 Park Inn, Worsley Road, Swinton
 Pepper Alley, Crown Street, Bolton
 Queens Hotel, Waters Green, Macclesfield
 Railway, Dean Lane, Newton Heath
 Railway, Lapwing Lane, Didsbury
 Railway, Manshaw Road, Higher Openshaw
 Railway, Egerton Street, Moses Gate
 Red Lion, Bolton Road, Irlams o'th'Height
 Red Lion, Bury New Road, Prestwich
 Red Lion, Robins Lane, St Helens
 Roebuck, Church Road, Flixton
 Rose Hill, Leigh Road, Westhoughton
 Royal Oak, Barton Lane, Eccles
 Rumworth, Wigan Road, Deane
 *Seven Stars, Ashton Old Road, Beswick
 Sidings, Broom Lane, Levenshulme

Silver Birch, Poundswick Lane, Wythenshawe
 Silverwell, Darlington Street East, Wigan
 *Sir Charles Napier, High Street, Golborne
 Spread Eagle, Wilbraham Road,
 Chorlton-cum-Hardy
 *Stanley Arms, Liverpool Road, Patricroft
 Starkey Arms, Manchester Road, Heywood
 Sun and Castle, Middle Hillgate, Stockport
 Tamar, Wigan Road, Leigh
 Three Crowns, Mill Green, Macclesfield
 Union Tavern, Liverpool Street, Salford
 Volunteer, Cross Street, Sale
 Waggon & Horses, Hyde Road, Gorton
 Waggon & Horses, 367 Bolton Road,
 Irlams o'th'Height
 Welcome, Bury Old Road, Whitefield
 Wellington, Church Street, Eccles
 Wellington, Bolton Road, Irlams o'th'Height
 *White Horse, Bury New Road, Prestwich
 White Lion, Liverpool Road, Patricroft
 White Lion, Market Street, Westhoughton
 White Swan, Worsley Road, Swinton
 Wilton Arms, Coronation Road, Radcliffe
 Winters, Little Underbank, Stockport
 Woodthorpe, Bury Old Road, Prestwich
 Wyldes, Market Street, Bury



Rupert

January was a little disappointing this year. In the past I've enjoyed the Grotley amber nectar show and the opportunity to discuss ale related matters with a wide range of like-minded people. I've been doing penance by washing up since I, uncharacteristically, lost my sense of perspective and insulted Campaign greybeards.

Nonetheless, I was still able to converse and quaff the odd jar of well-hopped winter ales. Fortunately, some stalwarts do keep in touch in other ways. We all thought that Bogbrush must have discontinued his biennial missive. But, no. We were all in Smokeley and received it when we returned.

Uncowed by some of the comments made by my friends two years ago, Bogbrush uses these as a masthead for his latest oeuvre in much the same way as publishers emblazon reviews on novels: 'Banal, self-indulgent claptrap,' etc. I still think it's a good read, but even I was almost swayed by the derision it met from my pals. I am disinclined to repeat what was said as this is not the Grauniad.

I think that people should remember that Bogbrush is an ambulatory medical dictionary and should be forgiven for personality disorders which we might rightly condemn in others. I, for one, am

certainly interested in his favourite programmes and the non-adventures of people I don't know and am never likely to meet. Others seem not to be.

As closing time drew near, we moved to a discussion of the consequences of 'the vertical disintegration of the brewing industry,' as Fiona put it, or as Bunty expressed it: 'Since the Beer Orders, instead of half a dozen mega outfits screwing the poor drinker in their own boozers, we've got three even more massive global brewers in cahoots with a handful of tavern-owning highwaymen, robbing everyone blind - licensees as well as punters.'

No wonder pubs are shutting everywhere and people are reduced to buying ale in the supermarket and drinking it at home - it's less than half the price. We'll all end up like Americans - is that what we want? We try to support the likes of Brassos, Boringsods, Drabs and Sikhs, but it's an uphill struggle and you can bet your boots they'll succumb one by one to the promise of piles of lucre. We need to take positive direct action now.'

We might not have agreed entirely, but Bunty was in an aggressive mood, so we all nodded sagely. Perhaps in the morning his suggestions would be tempered by sobriety. What's the point of fighting the inevitable? It's not as though we're a campaign.

Contributors to this issue: Paul Roberts, Paul Warbrick, Dave Hallows, Stewart Revell, Dave White, Pete Cash, Roger Hall

Branch Diary

The **REGIONAL AGM** will be on
2nd April, venue to be advised.

CAMRA U-26 2-Way Social

Fri 7 Feb 8pm, Rain Bar, Great

Bridgewater Street. 11pm till late, Bar Centro, Tib Street. Meet by CAMRA sign

Rochdale, Oldham & Bury

Sat 1 Feb 12noon, GBG 2004 selection, Old Boars Head, Long Street, Middleton

Tue 4 Feb 8.30pm, Branch Meeting, Junction Inn, Green Lane, Middleton Junction

Tue 25 Feb 8.30pm, Committee/What's Doing Collation, Boat & Horses, Broadway, Chadderton

Contact: Peter Alexander 0113 232 4023(w), 0161 655 4002 (h)
email: P.Alexander@Virgin.net

North Manchester

www.camra.org.uk/nmanchester

Wed 5 Feb 8pm, Talk by Keith Sheard, Holts Head Brewer at the Derby Brewery Arms (upstairs room), Cheetham Hill Road

Wed 12 Feb, Two Pub Social: Dutton (corner of Park Street and Dutton Street - off Cheetham Hill Road and Trinity Way) 8pm.

Berwick Arms, Carnarvon St (three minutes from Dutton) 9pm.

Wed 19 Feb 8pm, Branch Meeting, Crescent, Salford

Tues 25 Feb 3pm onwards, What's Doing Collation, Queens Arms, Honey Street, Cheetham

Wed 26 Feb 8pm, Ye Olde Nelson, Chapel Street, Salford. GBG City Centre Final Selection

Wed 5 March 8pm prompt, Marble Arch, Rochdale Road. GBG Non-City Final Selection (Deadline is March 6th, so descriptions must be complete and fit to print!)

Contact Roger Hall 0161 740 7937

Trafford & Hulme

www.camra.org.uk/trafford

Thurs 6 Feb 8pm, Branch Meeting at the Old Market Tavern, Altrincham

Thurs 20 Feb, Social Evening in Urmston. 8pm Urmston Hotel, Stretford Road. 9pm Urmston Cricket Club, Lesley Road

Thurs 6 Mar 8pm, Branch Meeting, Old Market Tavern, Altrincham
Contact: Dave Ward 0161 980 1170

Wigan

Wed 12 Feb 8pm, Branch Meeting, Bowling Green, Wigan Lane, Swinley

Wed 19 Feb 8pm, 2004 Good Beer Guide selection meeting, Silverwell Hotel, Darlington Street East, Wigan

Thur 13th - Sat 15th March, Wigan Beer Festival, Trencherfield Mill
Contact: John Barlow (01257) 478816 (w), 427595 (h)

email john@misltd.co.uk

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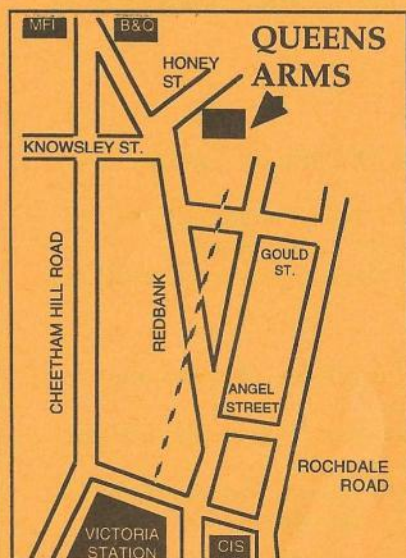
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GUIDE 2003

