

7p

WHAT'S DOING

 DEC
1978

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE



The Dutton, Park Street, Manchester. Inside this issue: Real Ale in Manchester North - an up to date list. Boddingtons draught strong ale - where to find it. Then and now in Little Hulton. The Leigh pub swaps. Suicide and vandalism in Higher Ince. Letter from Peterborough. Plus all the usual features and latest news.

TRADITIONAL BEER FROM S&N

Scottish & Newcastle real ale has appeared in two pubs recently. Roy Walker reports that Youngers IPA and XXPS is now available in a free house, the Little Manor Inn, Thelwall, Warrington. The choice in the Warrington area has hitherto been restricted to Greenalls or Tetleys.

Meanwhile, in downtown Little Hulton, handpumps have appeared on the bar of the Kenyon Arms.

WHAT'S DOING IN TRAFFORD & HULME

Last month I began a scenic crawl of Hulme taking in seven brews. Starting point was the Lloyds Arms (Bass 4X best-mild and Brew Ten bitter) on Higher Ormond Street, close to the University Precinct Centre. Second on the list was the Church, Cambridge Street, a Greenalls tenanted house which I described as shut. It is still shut! A letter from the Assistant Cask Handling Manager informs us that 'the future is under review but it would appear unlikely that the house will resume trading'. Clynes Wine Bar (Wilsons mild and bitter), Cavendish Street, is thereby promoted to number two and Greenalls will resume battling further down the order. Continue along Cavendish Street for a few hundred yards to the Red Admiral (Robinsons mild and bitter), an unremarkable, modern estate pub with a huge vault containing pool and table football, with enough room for the entire Stretford End to watch in comfort. From the Admiral, follow Hulme Walk over Princess Road, through open countryside giving way to fine examples of modern architecture (note the open plan phone boxes) until you meet Royce Road. Turn right and the Grants Arms (Boddingtons bitter) is just before the junction with Clarendon Street. Cross Clarendon Street into Jackson Crescent for the Crown (Wilsons mild and bitter) if you want a noisy (but friendly) diversion. Return to the junction, turn right along Royce Road, cross Chorlton Road and on into City Road with the Mancunian appearing on the starboard side if you're lucky - an A-Z map and compass are helpful on this crawl. The Mancunian has just had Marstons Pedigree added to the ordinary bitter and mild and is noted for its lunchtime food and friendly bar staff. From here it gets complicated. I think you can get across St Georges Park, but a safer bet would be to continue a short way along City Road, right into Virgil Street and follow your nose to the main



Chester Road (A56) and you should emerge opposite the Pomona (Marstons mild and bitter) a few yards down Cornbrook Road, with the Cornbrook (Tetleys mild and bitter) almost next door. Cross on to the other side of Chester Road heading towards Manchester for the Hope Inn (Hydes best mild, bitter and strong ale) and if you have the willpower to leave, a few minutes further along the main road cross over again, and the Manchester Regiment offers Greenalls mild and bitter to complete the seven brews that are represented in Hulme. We do have guides available for this crawl at the modest hire charge of one pint per pub (payable to Branch Secretary)

PUB NEWS

One pub which is undergoing a rapid change in fortunes is the North-umberland, Chester Road, Stretford. Many months ago I dismissed it as noisy with inconsistent beer but since the new manager, Tony Eaves, took it over about four months back, the standard of beer has improved dramatically. At present Wilsons mild, bitter and Brewers Bitter are all available on handpumps, but the Brewers is selling slowly and has an uncertain future. Watneys Red has disappeared, as has the pool table in the front room. The latter has moved downstairs where there are now two pool tables, table football and video game. The pub is due to be decorated, the bar may be moved to go across the end of the lounge and a car park is to be provided at the rear. An interesting find was another cellar which had previously been bricked up and still contained a number of old bottles, some of which are now on display behind the bar. (See "Manchester Breweries" in this issue) Good food is also available both at lunchtime and in the evenings. Our January branch meeting is to be held here (see Branch Diary).



The Carters Arms, Sale Moor, has added Owd Roger to the ordinary bitter, Pedigree, ordinary mild and Merrie Monk already on sale. With an o.g. of 1080, Owd Roger is the strongest draught beer available to my knowledge (with the possible exception of Harvey's Elizabethan which is only occasionally available in draught form). Our Christmas social (see Branch Diary) should go with a bang - turn up early!

IN BRIEF

Sale is now a better place to drink. Whitbreads new cask bitter is selling well in the Volunteer, Cross Street, and at the time of writing the Waggon and Horses a hundred yards or so along the road, is getting ready for its first delivery of cask beer for several years. It should be available before Christmas. Apologies for the 'Real Ale in Trafford' article in last month's What's Doing. This was a rough draught with several inaccuracies which had been languishing in someone's pocket and somehow found its way to the editor. I plead Not Guilty! (All right, it's my bloody fault! -Ed)

Finally, welcome to two new landlords in the Altrincham area, Mr Lancaster, manager of the Moss Trooper (Wilson's handpumped mild and bitter), Moss Lane, Timperley and Peter Beardow, who has taken over the tenancy of the Malt Shovels, Altrincham, from brother Roy.

Merry Christmas,

Mick Rottenbury

BASS



Draught Bass is now on sale in the Red Lion, Wardley.

'SPECIAL CASK' OUTLETS

The following list of outlets for Whitbread's Special Cask bitter has been provided by the brewery. So far it has been discovered that one pub on the list has never heard of the stuff - the Jollies in Salford.

MERSEYSIDE Distribution Area

Liverpool University - Sphinx Bar
St Pauls Catholic Club, West Derby
St Helens RUFC
Tom Halls Tavern, Liverpool
Whitbread Sports & Social Club, Liverpool
Letters Inn, Tattenhall
Railway Inn, Yorton
Bee Hive, Birkenhead
Little Brighton, Birkenhead
Old Red Lion, Birkenhead
Red Cat Hotel, Birkenhead
Royal Oak, Bromborough
Seven Stars, Birkenhead
Blundell Arms, Liverpool
Borough Hotel, Liverpool
The Coronation, Southport
The Botanic Hotel, Liverpool
Nags Head, Thornton
Stuart Hotel, Liverpool
The Olde Trooper Inn, Christleton
Marlborough Arms, Chester
Seven Stars, Wrexham
Talbot Inn, Ruyton
Dunham Arms, Dunham-on-the-Hill
Railway Inn, Bomere Heath
Bird in Hand, Guilden Sutton
Brewers Arms, Neston
Marble Hall Hotel, Liverpool
Prince of Wales Hotel, Criccieth

BLACKBURN Distribution Area

Peel Hotel, Cardwell Place, Blackburn

New Britannia Inn, Heatley St, Preston
Globe Inn, Woolfold, Bury
Tillotsons Arms, Chipping, nr Preston
Feathers Inn, Brierfield, nr Burnley
White Bull Hotel, Ribchester, nr Blackburn
Duckworth Arms, Brown Bent, Shuttleworth
Game Cock Inn, Rochdale Old Road, Bury
Farmers Glory Inn, Roundhill, Haslingden
White Lion Hotel, Heptonstall, Yorks
Tippings Arms, Blackburn Road, Bolton
Halfway House, Samlesbury
Golden Lion Hotel, Manchester Rd, Clifton
Blossoms Hotel, Woodlands Rd, Andsell, Lytham
McKenzie Arms, Bamber Bridge, nr Preston
Railway Hotel, St Helens Road, Bolton

SALFORD Distribution Area

Heaton Park Hotel, Middleton Road, Blackley
Green End Hotel, Mauldeth Road, Levenshulme
Volunteer Hotel, Cross St, Sale
Talbot Inn, Sloane Street, Moss Side
Brunswick Hotel, Nantwich Road, Crewe
Roebuck Hotel, Alkington, Middleton
White Lion Hotel, Liverpool Road, Manchester
Hat & Feathers Hotel, Mason St, Manchester
Bulls Head Inn, Hyde Road, Manchester
Salford Arms, Chapel Street, Salford
Dean Social Club, Bolton
British Rail Staff Assoc, Victoria Station
Northenden Golf Club, Manchester
Coach & Horses, London Rd, Manchester
Jollies Hotel, Oldfield Rd, Salford
Laughing Cavalier, Market St, Stalybridge



THE LEIGH PUB SWAPS - FINAL SCORE

The Bass-Tetley pub swaps in the Leigh area have resulted in a net gain of five real ale outlets. Unfortunately traditional mild has been lost in three pubs and Walkers bitter in five. The following details have been supplied by South Lancs CAMRA:-
(* denotes a new real ale outlet)

REAL ALE

- * New Inn, Firs Lane, Leigh: Bass (E)
- * Jolly Carter, Lowton: Bass (H)
- * Wheatsheaf, Atherton: Bass(H)
- * Kings Head, Atherton: Bass(H),
4X mild, Toby Light(E)
- * White Lion, Leigh Road, Leigh: Bass (H)
- Spinners, Firs Lane, Leigh: Bass, 4X mild(E)
- * Shepherds, Lowton: Bass(E)
- Royal, Atherton: Bass(H)
- Albion, Atherton: Bass(E)
- * Courts, Church St, Leigh: Bass(H)

NON-REAL ALE (unchanged)

- Royal Oak, Wigan Road, Leigh
- Pennington, Henry Street, Leigh
- Red Lion, Westleigh Lane, Leigh
- Waggon & Horses, Wigan Road, Leigh
- Eagle & Child, King Street, Leigh

NON-REAL ALE (losses)

- Gardeners Arms, Atherton
- Boundary, Manchester Road, Leigh



WILSONS REAL ALE

Two more central Manchester Wilsons pubs are now selling traditional beer: The Mitre, Cathedral Yard (electric pumps) and the Rising Sun, Brazenose Street (Handpumps).

OWD ROGER

The New Crown Inn on Old Church Street, Newton Heath is now selling draught Owd Roger strong ale.

THE PUBS OF LITTLE HULTON & WALKDEN

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Albion, Manchester Rd E (Tetley) | New Inn, Manchester Rd E (Bass) |
| Antelope, Manchester Rd W (Tetley) | *Pied Piper, Eastham Way (Robinsons) |
| *Bell, Manchester Rd E (Tetley) | Raven, Cleggs Lane (Tetley) |
| Brindley, Whittle St (GW) | Red Lion, Ellenbrook (Tetley) |
| Bulls Head, High St (Whitbread) | Shamrock, Manchester Rd E (Bass) |
| *Dun Mare, Manchester Rd W (Tetley) | Spa, Spa Crescent (Wilsons) |
| Eliesmere, Walkden Rd (Tetley) | Stocks, Manchester Rd (GW) |
| Horseshoe, Manchester Rd W (Bass) | *Vulcan, Worsley Road N (Boddingtons) |
| *Kenyon, Manchester Rd W (S&N) | Welcome, Madamswood Rd (Bass) |
| Lancastrian, Kenyon Way (Bass) | *White Lion, Manchester Rd W (Boddingtons) |
| | * denotes pubs selling traditional beer |

Of the twenty pubs in this list, about half were built within the last 25 years. Some of these are 'estate pubs' and others replace pubs which were knocked down for redevelopment along the A6. In the former category is the Pied Piper, the only Robinsons outlet in the area. The Bell was opened in December 1957, near the site of the Commercial, which, as the photograph shows, was a converted terraced house.

Esther Benelow has been the landlady of the Bell since 1963, and she and some of her regulars provided the following information on pubs which have existed in the district in the last 40 years. Before the Bell, Mrs Benelow was at the Antelope ('Poor Dick's') and before that she held the



licence of the Commercial (known as the 'Blue Bell') until 1954. The Commercial was photographed when it belonged to Walkers Brewery but before that it was owned by William Tong's Bolton brewery - the Market in Farnworth and the Falcon in Bolton are now the only two bearing his name. Another old brewery with local connections was the Worsley Brewery Company, which in later years operated from Pendlebury (Norco Pickles still use part of the premises). The original brewery was not far from the Commercial, on the site of Brierley House.

On the other side of the road from the Bell an end house which is still standing was once a pub called the Cumbermere. Between the Bell and the Shamrock was the Jolly Carter and in Smith Fold behind the Bell was the Seven Stars. Near the Dun Mare was the Farmers Arms and the 38 bus once carried 'Farmers Arms' destination signs. The Bridge Inn was connected with another form of transport. It stood near Little Hulton railway station, which was demolished in the 1950s. There were three other pubs in the area, the Flag opposite the Kenyon Arms, the Church Inn opposite the Antelope and the Royal Oak opposite Peel Church.

Compiled by Stewart Revell

SALFORD



The latest victim of GMC's road plans in Salford was the Star, Regent Road, last month. This brings the number down to six pubs on the site of the proposed Cross Lane roundabout.

Real ale is now back in the Druids Arms, Silk Street, a newish Wilsons pub built during the redevelopment of the area.



REAL ALE in MANCHESTER NORTH



Including the City Centre, Ancoats, Collyhurst, Moston,
Newton Heath, Blackley, Miles Platting, Crumpsall and
Cheetham

CENTRAL MANCHESTER

Bolton Arms	New Bridge Street	Youngers	(H)
Britannia	Newton Street	Wilsons	(H)
Britons Protection	Great Bridgewater Street	Tetleys	(H)
Brewers	Pall Mall	Boddingtons B & Tetley M	(H)
Bulls Head	London Road	Wilsons	(H)
Burton Arms	Swan Street	Bass	(E)
Castle	Oldham Street	Robinsons	(H)
Castle and Falcon	Bradshaw Street	Burtonwood	(H)
Church	Aldwick Green	Wilsons	(H)
Circus Tavern	Portland Street	Tetleys	(H)
Coach and Horses	London Road	Tetleys	(H)
Cox's Bar	Grand Central	Boddingtons	(E)
Crown	Great Ducie Street	Tetleys	(H)
Deerings	York Street	Boddingtons & Tetleys	(E)
Ducie Arms	Great Ducie Street	Boddingtons	(H)
Dutton Arms	Park Street	Hydes	(E)
George and Dragon	Bridge Street	Wilsons	(E)
Grenadier	Oldham Street	Wilsons	(H)
Grey Horse	Portland Street	Hydes	(E)
Hare and Hounds	Shudehill	Tetleys	(E)
Harp and Shamrock	New Mount Street	Marstons	(H)
Hat and Feathers	Mason Street	Whitbread	(H)
John Willie Lees	Withy Grove	Lees	(E)
King	Oldham Street	Tetleys	(H)
Lord Clyde	Chester Road	Greenalls	(E)
Lord Napier	Great Jackson Street	Greenalls	(E)
Lower Turks Head	Shudehill	Wilsons	(H)
Marble Arch	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(H)
Millstone	Thomas Street	Wilsons	(H)
Mitre	Cathedral Yard	Wilsons	(E)
New York	Bloom Street	Wilsons	(H)
Nickelbys	Dale Street	Wilsons	(H)
Old Garrett	Princess Street	Boddingtons	(H/E)
Oxford	Oxford Street	Wilsons	(H)
Pack Horse	Deansgate	Greenalls	(E)
Paddy's Goose	Bloom Street	Wilsons	(E)
Peveril of the Peak	Great Bridgewater Street	Wilsons	(H)
Pineapple	Water Street	Greenalls	(E)
Royal Oak	Great Ducie Street	Boddingtons	(H)
Rembrandt	Sackville Street	Lees	(E)
St Vincent	Oldham Road	Bass	(H)
Wheatsheaf	Oldham Road	Bass 4X	(H)
Lancaster Arms	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(E)
Heywood Arms	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(E)

Royal George	Lever Street	Wilsons	(E)
Seven Oaks	Nicholas Street	Whitbread (Bass only)	(H)
Rising Sun	Brazennose Street	Wilsons	(H)
Unicorn	Church Street	Bass	(E)
Union	Princess Street	Burtonwood	(E)
Waggon and Horses	Southgate	Wilsons	(H)
Wellington	Old Shambles	Bass	(E)
White Lion	Liverpool Road	Whitbread	(H)

COLLYHURST

Golden Tavern	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(E)
Ark Royal	Conran Street	Robinsons	(E)
Boddington 200	Carisbrook Street	Boddingtons	(E)
Junction	Queens Road	Boddingtons B	(H)
Milan Inn	Rochdale Road	Robinsons	(H)
Vine	Glendower Avenue	Boddingtons	(E)

ANCOATS

Ancoats	Great Ancoats Street	Wilsons	(H)
Auld Lang Syne	Pollard Street	Wilsons	(H)
Brown Cow	Woodward Street	Wilsons	(E)
Cross Keys	Jersey Street	Tetleys	(H)
Crown and Kettle	Great Ancoats Street	Wilsons	(H)
Grove Inn	Every Street	Wilsons	(E)
Grove Inn	Tutbury Street	Greenalls	(E)
Jersey Lilly	Jersey Street	Greenalls	(E)
Jolly Angler	Ducie Street	Hydes	(H)
Moulders Arms	Heyrod Street	Tetleys	(H)
Nelson	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Pollard	Pollard Street	Lees	(E)
River	Palmerston Street	Greenalls	(E)
Smiths Arms	Sherratt Street	Tetleys	(H)
White House	Great Ancoats Street	Wilsons	(H)

MOSTON

Gardeners Arms	Chain Bar	Boddingtons	(H)
Bluebell	Moston Lane	Holts	(E)
Kestrel	Hugo Street	Wilsons	
Museum	Moston Lane	Wilsons	(E)

NEWTON HEATH

Britannia	Robert Street	Tetleys	(H)
Church	Droylsden Road	Holts	(E)
Copenhagen	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Dean Brook Inn	St Mary's Road	Marstons	(H)
Grosvenor	Goddard Street	Lees	(H)

New Crown Inn	Old Church Street	Marstons	(E)
Newton House	Culcheth Lane	Marstons	(E)
Prince of Wales	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Railway	Dean Lane	Holts	(E)
Railway	Berry Brow	Boddingtons	(E)
Robin Hood	Droylsden Road	Marstons	(E)
Royal Oak	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(E)
Swan	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(E)

BLACKLEY

Alliance	Rochdale Road	Boddingtons	(H)
Duke of Wellington	Weardale Road	Holts	(H)
Flying Horse	Crab Lane	Boddingtons	(E)
Fox	Old Market Street	Holts	(H)
Golden Lion	Old Market Street	Holts	(E)
Grove	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(H)
Millstone	Blackley New Road	Boddingtons	(H)
Old House at Home	Bottomley Side	Wilsons	(H)
Pleasant	Chapel Lane	Robinsons	(H)
Heaton Park Hotel	Middleton Road	Whitbread	(H)

MILES PLATTING

Apollo	Varley Street	Boddingtons	(E)
Bradford Road Inn	Bradford Road	Holts	(E)
Grey Mare	Varley Street	Tetleys	(E)
Half Moon	Holland Street	Wilsons	(H)
Victoria	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
White Hart	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Cricketers	Bradford Road	Marstons	(H)

CRUMPSALL

Cleveland	Crumpsall Lane	Holts	(H)
Swan	Waterloo Street	Wilsons	(H)

CHEETHAM

Apollo	Heywood Street	Holts	(E)
Cheetwood Arms	Derby Street	Holts	(H)
Crumpsall Hotel	Bury Old Road	Holts	(E)
Egerton Inn	Hanlon Street	Holts	(H)
George Hotel	Bury Old Road	Wilsons	(H)
Grove Inn	Bury New Road	Boddingtons	(H)
Mechanics Arms	Waterloo Road	Boddingtons	(E)
Griffin	Cheetham Hill Road	Wilsons	(E)
Mile House	North Street	Boddingtons	(H)
Queens	North Street	Tetleys	(E)
Robin Hood	Cheetham Hill Road	Wilsons	(E)
Waterloo	Waterloo Road	Boddingtons	(H)

HIGHER INCE

Fancy a drink in Higher Ince? Coming out of Wigan on Manchester Road, I thought I'd try the Bay Horse, a Tetleys house. It closed down two years ago. OK let's have one in the Queens, a Greenalls house. Boarded up. Try the Old Swan, a Matthew Brown pub - again closed and badly vandalized (there's a nice line in aerosol graffiti by Ince NF). Well, the Cases Arms must surely be open. With feelings of déjà-vu I found the Cases to be well and truly boarded up.

I don't believe it! A pub on the road actually open, the Imperial, a Tetleys house. Inside, a regular, Billy Byrom, continued the tale of woe as he told how the Rose Bridge shut down and is now a printing works; the Royal, once called the Glass Barrel, is now an antique warehouse and underneath the grime the old Walkers Warrington Ales windows are still just visible.

Pubs like the Shovel and Broom, the Broomfield Hotel, the Red Lion, the Queens Arms and the Kings Arms are now just memories. The Horse-shoe fared no better. As Billy so eloquently put it, 'They knocked that bugger down to build a piss-stone'. In fact two landlords have committed suicide in Ince, and with black humour the Hand in Arm (Hand and Banner), where the landlord hung himself, was known as 'Long Necks'!

Admittedly there are still a few pubs in Higher Ince; the Oddfellows, the Squirrel and the Fox Tavern. The highlight of a wet and miserable day was to see the beautiful, gold-etched, Walkers Warrington Ales windows of the Walmsley Arms. But if you want to see them you'd better hurry because - would you believe? - the Walmsley is under threat of demolition.

C.P.O. Flynn





MANCHESTER BREWERIES No4 THE POLLARD STREET BREWERY



John Taylor was one of those early entrepreneurs who followed the classical route from publican to commercial brewer. Operating from the Admiral Lord Rodney, a pub dating back before 1869, he first began to advertise himself as a brewer in about 1880. Eventually, the success of the enterprise enabled him to consider expanding and the Pollard Street Brewery was built next to the Lord Rodney sometime between 1884 and 1889. The figure of Lord Rodney was adopted for a trade mark, as can be seen from the 'rubbing' of an early embossed bottle shown here.

On the 2nd August 1895, John Taylor & Co Ltd was formed and five years later controlling interest passed to Walker & Homfray of Salford. Taylors probably continued to brew until shortly before 1931, when the company was transferred to Walker & Homfray's Woodside Brewery.

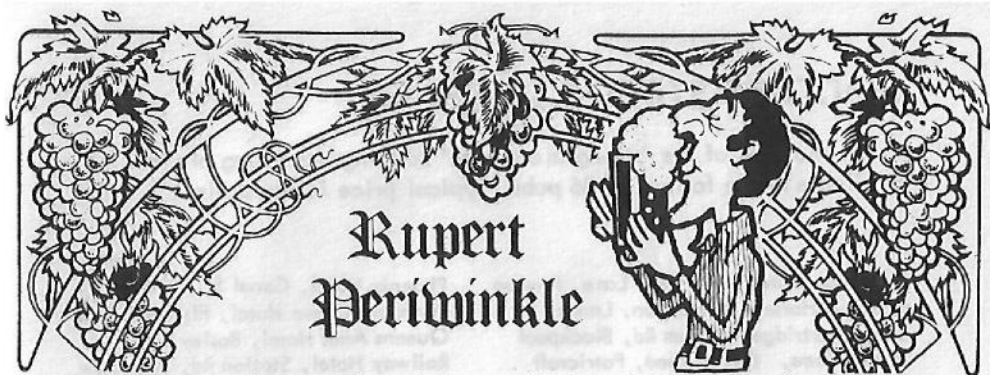
Towards the end of the company's life, one of the directors was Lord Howard of Glossop who also held a seat on each of the boards of Cornbrook Brewery, Phoenix Brewery and Walker & Homfray.

When Walker & Homfray's assets were acquired by Wilsons in 1949, the Admiral Lord Rodney was one of the many licensed houses inherited. Another was the Northumberland Arms, a large former hotel still standing on Chester Road. The landlord's recent discovery of old bottles in a sealed off part of the cellar suggests that the pub may well have been a Taylors house. Other outlets have included the Flying Horse on Greengate and the Commercial Inn at 160 Pollard Street.

A new primary school now marks the site of the Pollard Street Brewery, opposite Halton Street, which is about 150 yards up from John Willie Lees's The Pollard (previously the Fire Brigade). The Admiral Lord Rodney survived much longer and was demolished within the last ten years.

Alan Gall

(Thanks are due to Tony Flynn for finding the bottle and Andrew Cunningham for providing a copy of the beer label)



Rupert Beriwinkle

The other week we eschewed the multifarious delights of nether Grotley and decided to tour the new real ale hostelrys of Central Manchester. To me this was a delightful experience but to my continued consternation Ag, Tish, Fiona and Alistair set up a constant barrage of carping criticism of every single establishment we entered. They collapsed in uncontrolled mirth at the tasteful juxtaposition of 14th century beams and sawn-up planks in the roof of the Wellington and positively howled with derision at its aesthetic setting near the Arndale Centre. I thought that this was several hundred thousand pounds well spent.

The John Willie Lees was likened by my tactless colleagues to an air-conditioned oil rig canteen although they didn't find it particularly amusing. The same cannot be said of the Brewers. The careful blending of Elizabethan, Victorian, Georgian and contemporary features was met with contemptuous laughter. They even complained about the price of real ale in these delectable surroundings. I myself believe that if someone has gone to the trouble to put in plastic beams and Georgian windows you can expect to pay 6p a pint more for a decent tipple. Quite reasonable.

Our last port of call probably caused the most amusement. We went downstairs in a place on York Street something to do with Nelson or Trafalgar. Well the room was spotlessly clean and decorated with tiles and marble tables. My friends likened it to a cross between a urinal and a mortuary. I was unable to argue because I don't have much cause to visit mortuaries and since the Thorpe hearing I have avoided public urinals.

I feel that these ribald and uncouth comments are uncalled for. It is surely sufficient that dynamic entrepreneurs have opened real ale bars in our City Centre without expecting the places to be replicas of our own image of a pub.

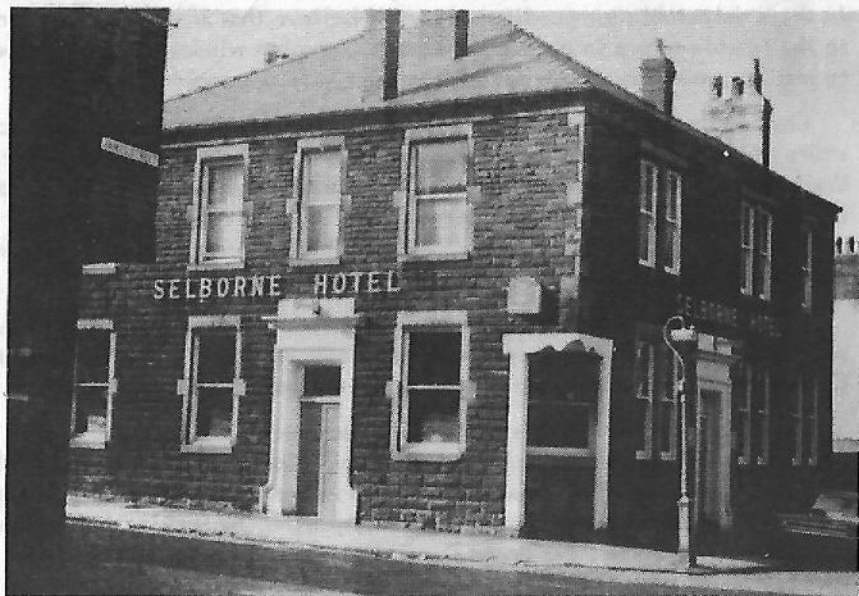
I see that Max Wall in his wisdom has appointed a successor to Martin Boreman as area organiser. Ian Dermatitis will find it difficult to follow the purposeful example of his predecessor, who is firmly ensconced in a monastery. Max Wall himself may, according to the grapevine, be jacking in his sinecure of Regional Organiser. No doubt Demys Roussos will be appointing a new one. Possibly Boddington and his underclaw, the Noble Robin, would make an admirable pair for the job despite their current residential non-proximity situation.

BODDIES STRONG ALE

At the start of the 'strong ale season' Boddingtons strong ale was available in the following 36 pubs. Typical price is 34p a pint.

Belle Vue Hotel, New Hall Lane, Preston
Coach & Horses, Freckleton, Lancs
Dog & Partridge, Lytham Rd, Blackpool
Dutton Arms, Barton Road, Patricroft
Gardeners Arms, Lightbowne Rd, Moston
John o'Gaunt, Cottam Ave, Preston
Lane Ends Hotel, Blackpool Road, Preston
Lane Ends Hotel, Wesham, Lancs
Ladybrook Hotel, Fir Road, Bramhall
Meridian Inn, Palmerston St, Bollington
Neptune Hotel, 2 Strand Rd, Preston
New Inn, 2 Poulton Square, Morecambe
Oddfellows Arms, Abbey Hey La, Gorton
Oddfellows Arms, 48 Church St, Eccles
Old Garrett, Granby Row, Manchester
Old Ship Hotel, Chapel Street, Salford
Paddock Hotel, Cross Lane, Salford
Parrs Wood Hotel, E Didsbury

Phoenix Hotel, Canal St, St Helens
Plymouth Grove Hotel, Plymouth Grove
Queens Arms Hotel, Bosley
Railway Hotel, Station Rd, Wilmslow
Railway Inn, Manchester Rd, Broadheath
Railway Inn, Commercial Brow, Hyde
Raven Inn, Brookhouse Drive, Crewe
Rifleman's Arms, Moor Lane, Wilmslow
Royal Central Hotel, Windmill St, M/cr
Selborne Hotel, Frenchwood, Preston
Swan Hotel, Hr Walton, Preston
Thatched House Hotel, Poulton-le-Fylde
Tatton Arms, Tipping St, Altrincham
Unicorn Inn, Stockport Rd, Manchester
Wellington Inn, Regent Road, Salford
Wellington Inn, Caroline St, Stalybridge
White Lion Hotel, M/cr Rd W, Little Hulton
Whitesmiths Arms, Standishgate, Wigan



REAL ALE IN PETERBOROUGH

Peterborough, the booming capital of East Anglia, is as well blessed with real ale as it is with life. When one considers that the highlight of the week is to sit in Cathedral Square on a Saturday night watching the traffic lights change, one gets a pretty fair insight into the East Anglian lifestyle.

Amongst a multitude of keg Watneys pubs lie three city centre real ale pubs. The Elephant & Castle on Bridge Street in the heart of the shopping centre was until recently a Ruddles tied house selling handpumped bitter and County. Following Ruddles' policy of selling off tied houses, the pub has now passed to Whitbread and is selling hand drawn Wethered's bitter - at 34p a pint. The pub has only been on its present site for a couple of years - the original Elephant & Castle, like so many central Peterborough pubs, was a victim of demolition. Originally there were 95 real ale pubs in the city centre - now there are only three.

The White Lion on Church Street is the first Watneys pub in the city centre to sell Fined Bitter amongst its range of kegs. The new East Anglian division of Watneys is Norwich Brewery Ltd, which has produced a new Castle Bitter, not yet available in Peterborough.

The third real ale outlet is to my mind the best. This is the Still on Cumbergate, which sells gravity Bass at 33p per pint. The locals call the Bass 'E' and it is brought up from the cellar in jugs. The pub is owned by a firm of wine merchants, closes at ten o'clock and does not open at all on Sundays. I found this to be the friendliest pub in the city centre and the interior can't have been altered for many a year which gives the pub a somewhat unique atmosphere - especially after the tenth pint of Bass!

If one moves to the outskirts of Peterborough there is more variety in the brews available. The suburb of Dogsthorpe is two miles from the centre and has a large estate pub - the Peter Pan, a Homes tied house. Here one can enjoy excellent pints of electric dispensed Homes mild and bitter for only 24 and 25p per pint. A few minutes' walk away is the Blue Bell, a large Elgoods pub selling ordinary bitter through handpumps at 32p a pint. New on this year is Elgoods Centenary Ale (37p a pint), said to be the same strength as it was 100 years ago. Although not a fan of 'kami-kaze premium bitters' I found this very palatable and it certainly has a kick to it.

Greene King have opened up two new pubs on the outskirts of Peterborough. The Greenkeeper at Thorpe Wood is on the Corporation golf course and sells handpumped Abbot Ale, but the mild and bitter are pressurised. The newest Greene King pub is the Silver Jubilee at Bretton.

This sells Abbot, IPA and light mild, all through Greene King's new method of dispense. The cellar is on the first floor and ale comes down transparent pipes to the bar. Also in Bretton is the Gresset Bar in the Sports Centre, which sells Bass, Charrington IPA and Tolly Cobbold.

In the future things look brighter for Peterborough - there is much more real ale there now than there was three years ago. Peterborough suffered a mighty blow by the John Smiths takeover of Barnsley Brewery, losing a dozen real ale pubs overnight. But if you were thinking of going to Peterborough in the next few weeks, don't bother - the best thing there at the moment is the road out!

Paul Roberts



Editor: Neil Richardson, 51 Lime Street, Farnworth, Bolton.

Subscriptions: £1 for 6 issues from Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester.

COPYDATE for the January issue is 28th December

CAMRA BRANCH DIARY

TRAFFORD & HULME

Branch Meeting: Thurs Dec 21st, 8.00pm, Malt Shovels, Stamford Street, Altrincham.

Christmas Social: Thurs Dec 28th, 8.00pm, Carters Arms, Northenden Road, Sale Moor (see W D Trafford & Hulme)

Committee/Social: Thurs Jan 4th, 8.00pm, Victoria Tavern, Stamford Street, Altrincham

Branch Meeting: Thurs Jan 18th, 8.00pm, Northumberland, Chester Road, (by Northumberland Road junction), Stretford.

Contact: Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (home)

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Christmas Social: Tues 19th Dec, 7.30pm. Cemetery, Rochdale.

Branch Meeting: Tuesday 9th January, 8.00pm, Wilton, Rhodes.

Trip: Saturday 13th January. Lunchtime in Lancaster.

Contact: Ken Holt, Heywood 65288

NORTH MANCHESTER

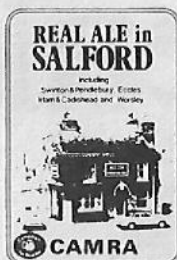
Branch Meeting: Weds 20th December 8.00pm. White Swan, Swinton

Pub Crawl: Weds 3rd Jan. Collyhurst. Milan Inn 7.00pm, Boddington 200 8.00pm

Social/Committee Meeting: Weds 10th Jan. Cross Keys, Ancoats. 8.00pm

Branch Meeting: Weds 17th Jan. 8.00pm White Swan, Swinton

LOCAL BEER GUIDES



REAL ALE IN HIGH PEAK AND NORTH EAST CHESHIRE - A comprehensive guide to real ale in Marple, Hyde, Ashton, Audenshaw, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, Mossley and Denton. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SOUTH MANCHESTER - A comprehensive list of pubs selling real ale in Gorton, Openshaw, Clayton, Didsbury, etc. 10p + s.a.e.



REAL ALE IN STOCKPORT - A comprehensive list of pubs selling real ale in Stockport, Hazel Grove, Cheadle, Heaton Mersey, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SALFORD - A comprehensive guide to real ale in Salford, Swinton, Eccles, Worsley and Irlam. 150 pubs, maps, photographs. 25p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN TRAFFORD & HULME - A comprehensive list of pubs selling real ale in Hulme, Altrincham, Sale, Stretford, Urmston, etc. With maps. 10p + s.a.e.



REAL ALE IN ROCHDALE - A comprehensive list of pubs selling real ale in Rochdale, Heywood, Milnrow, Littleborough, and Middleton. 10p + s.a.e.

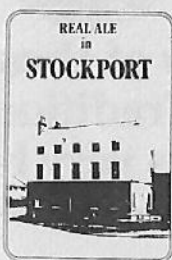
REAL ALE IN MANCHESTER CENTRAL - A comprehensive guide to real ale within 1 mile of St Peter's Square. Over 100 pubs, map and over 50 photographs. 20p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN OLDHAM - A comprehensive list of pubs selling real ale in Oldham, Failsworth, Royton, Chadderton, Saddleworth, Shaw, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

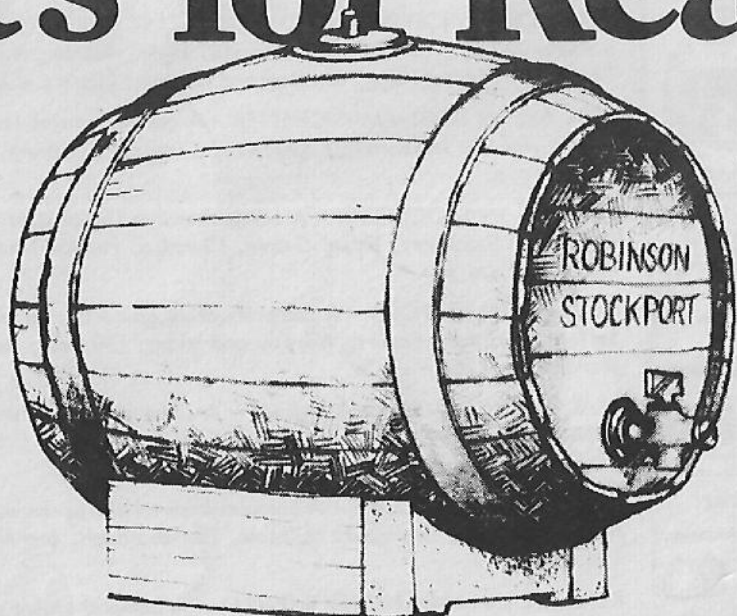


REAL ALE IN BURY - A comprehensive guide to real ale in Bury, Ramsbottom, Radcliffe, Tottington, Whitefield and Prestwich. 10p + s.a.e.

All the above publications are available from Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester, who would like to hear from readers of any changes in the lists so that they can be kept up to date.



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