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WHAT'S DOING

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THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

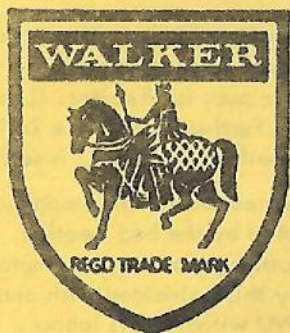
Campaign
CAMRA
for Real Ale

HOLTS PLAN TO DEMOLISH OLD PUB

The Griffin on Didsbury Road, Heaton Mersey, is a large and extremely popular Victorian pub which is typical of its era with an ornate bar, complete with etched glass and carved wood. Holts have submitted plans for the redevelopment of the site, replacing this excellent house of character with a new, featureless, estate-type pub. Quite understandably, the regulars are perturbed about this needless interference with their local and intend to set up an action committee to oppose the plans. Whether Holts will be influenced by public opinion as Wilsons were in the case of the Old House at Home remains to be seen.

NEW BEER FROM TETLEY-WALKER

Nearly a hundred Tetley pubs are to be repainted in the old Walkers style and will serve Walkers draught and bottled ales. This is a result of the 'devolution' of the Warrington-based company from Allied Breweries. Other features of the change will be the reintroduction of one of the Walker mild beers and the phasing out of the standard company colours for Tetley pubs.



GREENALLS INSTALL HANDPUMPS

Although still installing brewery conditioned beers throughout the North-West wherever considered 'suitable', Greenalls have made one small concession to the growing demand for traditional beers. After removing handpumps on a massive scale for almost a decade, Greenalls are now installing them again, although on a very selective basis. They are 'installed at our own expense and we do hold a stock', added a spokesman.

Only two pubs in the Central and North Cheshire area are known to have received them recently, the Birch and Bottle at Whitley and the Black Greyhound at Wincham, where they have replaced electric pumps. However, the Swan at Tarporley has had handpumps installed at the expense of keg beers.

Roy Walker (BLO Greenalls)

NEW DRAUGHT BASS OUTLET

Draught Bass will soon be available in Kearsley (see last month's What's Doing). The Unity Brook on Manchester Road has recently been redecorated and the real ale will be joining Bass's usual selection of tank and keg beers.

WARRINGTON PUB SWAP

The Vulcan in Dallam Lane, Dallam, Warrington, has been swapped from Greenall to Tetley, serving Tetleys mild and bitter by handpumps. This is only the third Tetley pub in Warrington serving cask beer that the C&N Cheshire branch are aware of, from a total of 14. A similarly small proportion exists in Widnes (1 out of 13) and Runcorn (2 out of 5).

The others in Warrington are the Mersey, Mersey Street (Tetley mild and bitter) and the Manx Arms (Walker bitter, Tetley mild), both using handpumps.

Roy Walker

TETLEY STRIKE

Because of labour disputes at Warrington, Tetleys have again allowed their tenants to sell other beers. In the Bolton area, the most popular choice for the real ale pubs is Thwaites. (Last year we had Jennings, Robinsons and bright Vaux). Further afield, the Railway in Leigh, which can always be relied on for something different, is selling Pollards.

The reasons for the stoppage are threefold. First, the delivery schedule, disrupted by the bad weather, was not up to date. Then the plan to close the bottling plant at Warrington with the loss of 90 jobs was announced and finally this coincided with annual pay negotiations. On the 16th January the T&GWU withdrew its labour.

THE STATE OF THE BREWERS

A quick guide to the policies and actions of the brewers in Greater Manchester.

THE LOCAL BREWERS

Boddingtons - All real ale. Was something of a cult beer. New brewery has meant expansion into free trade. Some doubt about the maintenance of consistent quality of the beer and the aesthetics of pub conversions.

Holts - All real ale. The strong bitter is an acquired taste. Beer is more consistent than hitherto but supplies are often spasmodic and unreliable. Brewery alterations should increase production by 1980.

Hydes - All real ale in tied houses even in outlets with deceptive push-button pumps. Most outlets in South Manchester but outposts in many areas. Much of the beer in clubs is not real.

Lees - All real ale in Greater Manchester pubs although pubs in N Wales often sell keg beer. Most pubs in Oldham and Rochdale area.

Oldham - Real ale being taken out of many outlets and replaced with bright beer.

Pollard - Manchester's newest brewer. All real ale. Free trade outlets only. Mild recently introduced.

Robinsons - All real ale. Great variety of tied houses. Best bitter strongest of local brews. Some danger of ordinary bitter disappearing.

THE BIG SIX

Allied Breweries - Represented by Tetley-Walker in North West. Recent decentralisation. Increased commitment to reintroduction of real ale in tied houses.

Bass-Charrington - Great variety of beers - Bass, Worthington, Toby Light, Brew X, 4X mild. Recent increase in real ale and handpumps.

Courage - Represented by John Smiths in the NW. No real ale and little likelihood of any.

Scottish and Newcastle - Few outlets in Manchester but increased commitment to real ale.

Whitbread - Real ale recently reintroduced into a selection of outlets. Greatest potential for more traditional beer.

Wilsons - Fully committed to real ale. Many pubs have recently been converted back and there are more to come.

OTHER BREWERS

Burtonwood - Houses thinly spread through Greater Manchester. Mainly real ale. Some danger of light mild disappearing.

Greenalls - Real ale being replaced with bright beer in many outlets. One mild recently withdrawn. No new pubs sell cask beer.

Higsons - Few outlets in Greater Manchester selling cask beer.

Lion (Matthew Brown) - Most houses in Wigan and Bolton areas, few selling traditional beer.

Marstons - A good few pubs, particularly in Failsworth. Most sell real ale. Good choice of beers.

Sam Smiths - Committed to reintroducing cask beer but bitter only. Mild is all keg because of shortage of casks.

Timothy Taylors - Recently introduced to some free houses in Rochdale. Wide variety of cask beers (7 in all).

Theakstons - Only available in a handful of free trade outlets in Hyde and Rochdale.

Thwaites - Commitment to traditional beer. Most tied houses sell real ale. Large number of pubs in the Bury area.

Roger Hall

MATTHEW BROWN REAL ALE

Since we published the list of pubs selling traditional Matthew Brown in November's What's Doing, some corrections have been received. An updated list will be included in a future issue. Meanwhile, Paul Riley, Secretary of the West Lancs branch of Camra, reports that in Chorley the Masons Arms, Harpers Lane, and the Prince of Wales, Livesey Street, don't sell cask beer. Neither does the Plough Hotel, Preston Road, Grimsargh, since work on extending the cellar to cope with real ale - promised 8 months ago - has not yet begun. However, one Preston pub, the Ribblesdale Inn on Broadgate, was recently converted back to real ale at the instigation of the landlord.

NEW PUB FOR SALFORD

Planning permission has been granted for a new pub in Salford. It will have the name 'The Mark Addy' in memory of the 19th century publican who saved people from drowning in the Irwell. The owner is a local bookmaker and it will probably be a free house. The exact site is uncertain but the pub is likely to be on Stanley Street, on the Manchester side of Chapel Street where the old railway yards were.

WHAT'S DOING IN TRAFFORD & HULME

On Thursday February 22nd the branch is holding its social at the Waggon & Horses, Cross Street, Sale, to celebrate the return of cask conditioned Wilsons to the area. The last pint of tanked beer was gulped down on January 21st, when an intermediate switch to chilled and filtered mild and bitter was made until the tanks could be removed and the stillages installed. The final step should be completed before publication of this month's 'What's Doing', so barring strikes, sabotage or the outbreak of World War Three, you can step in with confidence.

The building itself has some history behind it. The Waggon was built in the eighteenth century and not so long ago still had a brewhouse built from materials taken from Sale's first Presbyterian Chapel, which was erected in about 1700 complete with its own burial ground. The old chapel, near the Cross Street/Glebelands Rd junction, became redundant in 1743 when the Unitarians built a new chapel in Chapel Road. (Just in case you had visions of thirsty labourers tearing down a chapel in the middle of a service so they could build a pub!) Although the interior (of the Waggon that is, not the chapel!) suffered from Grotneyfication like most Watney/Wilson pubs in the bad old days of the Red Revolution (or was it Revulsion?) the exterior has remained basically unaltered over the years, in contrast to the Bridge



Inn (now Rollons), Volunteer and Bulls Head, which have all been rebuilt. However, I believe there are plans afoot to get further away from the Watney image, which include replacing the present painted name with a copy of the original inn sign. Perhaps Wilsons might consider melting down some of the plastic coated beams and putting in a bit of real wood here and there? Whatever happens, both landlord and brewery are to be congratulated on improving the beer drinker's lot in Sale.

A brief mention was given last month to the speed with which The Quadrant (Wilsons) in Stretford had been revamped. For those familiar with the pub before the bomb hit it, this description from our man on the spot should make everything crystal clear....

The layout has been completely altered. The area which used to be the pool room and the right hand third (what happened to metrification, John?) of the back lounge is now the vault (two pool tables, darts and video machine). The area which used to be the passageway from the front door to the back lounge is now the bar itself. The old vault, the old bar area and remaining two thirds (0.66 etc) of the back lounge now make up a large, L-shaped lounge. The old handpumps have been removed and replaced by the new, standard Wilson issue beer engines. Well all right, I should go and see for yourself!

Landlord changes in the area include the arrival of Dave Poole as tenant of the Albert (Greenalls), Erskine Street, Hulme. He used to run the Star Hotel, Regent Road, Salford until given a 24 hour notice to vacate the pub as it was found to be unsafe when adjoining shops were demolished. Two days later, the building was a heap of rubble, no doubt confusing a number of regular weekend drinkers who couldn't find the door. The Albert sells cask bitter and Mr Poole has asked the brewery to supply cask mild. We wish him success! The previous tenant, Tony Ordish, is to take over the Red Lion, Chapel Street, Salford.

A few yards from the Albert is the Three Legs of Man on Stretford Road, where Tommy Ryan took over the tenancy in December. As with the Talbot, a couple of minutes down the road, the beer is handpumped Wilsons and a good pint.

Mick Rottenbury

FULL CIRCLE?

A few years ago Watneys took a pub called the Unicorn in Peel Green and turned it into something called the Jules Verne, loosely modelled on the 'Around the World in Eighty Days' theme. Now the builders are in again and it is rumoured that they are turning it back into a pub. Come back Phineas Fogg - all is forgiven!

INCE - THE TRUE STORY



In his article in Dec 1978s 'What's Doing' the veritable Mr CPO Flynn makes Ince sound as badly off for real ale as Peterborough! Two of the pubs he does mention as still being open are well known tank/bright outlets. In point of fact Ince is quite an oasis of real beer with no less than six different breweries represented. (Until the opening of the revamped Market, due soon after Easter, Wigan centre only has five traditional breweries represented.)

A convenient place to start a pub crawl would be in Lower Ince at the Rock Hotel ('Big Rock') on Warrington Road, a recent convert to traditional Matthew Brown. Then a little further down the street on the opposite side is the Rock Ferry ('Scotch Rock') where a pint of Youngers XXPS is to be had. Across from there is the White Swan (Greenall Whitley). Continue on down Warrington Road, still heading away from Wigan, and turn left into Ince Green Lane for the walk into Higher Ince. For the thirsty on route are the Bird i' th' Hand (Burtonwood) and the Anderton Arms (Greenalls). Close to the traffic lights at Ince Bar are the Squirrel (Burtonwood) on Manchester Road and the Imperial (Tetley) just down the street, while round the corner in Belle Green Lane is the Engineers (Tetley). These last two can be recommended for a reliable pint of Tetley bitter. However the best in both traditional and modern boozers is yet to come in the next two pubs. Down Belle Green Lane is the Oak Tree (Burtonwood handpumped bitter and dark mild) described by 'Jolly Jack' Wilson as 'The epitome of a traditional local, a throwback to a long lost era', and inside three coal fires can be found burning on the hottest August day.

The Park on Manchester Road is a much more modern affair with a good,

lively vault and a comfortable lounge. It carries a nice range of snacks, available at lunchtimes and in the evenings, and is equipped with an old bowling green at the rear. Real ale has only been available since Wilsons ripped out the cellar tanks about eight months ago, to provide Great Northern Bitter and Mild served by electric pumps.

All in all, Ince is well worth a visit despite the sad losses of the Cases and the Old Swan to a road widening scheme.

Brian Gleave, South Lancs Branch

REAL BURTONWOOD ALE IN IRLAM

Real ale has at last started appearing in the clubs of Irlam. Boddingtons is now firmly established in the Steelworks club, and Irlam Conservative Club is now selling traditional Burtonwood bitter. I was at the Christmas Dance at the Conservative Club (Burtonwoods) and after struggling through a pint of gassy bitter and a bottle of Newcastle, I asked why they didn't sell traditional ale. The barmaid replied that they did - in the downstairs bar. I raced frantically down the stairs and sure enough the genuine stuff was there. Because of my obvious pleasure at this find I was allowed to consume this delectable liquid in the members only bar, with the occasional break for a conga or waltz upstairs. So the choice of real ale in Irlam is 50% more than I thought it was. We've now got Boddies, Tetleys and Burtonwoods. If for some reason you find yourself in the club, don't ask for a pint of bitter, ask for a pint of 'trad', otherwise you'll get the gassy stuff.

Camra has been campaigning for years to try and persuade Wilsons, Greenalls and Whitbread to put traditional ale in their pubs. Nothing appears to be happening in Irlam at the moment - but we can live in hope. If the new Whitbread brew proves to be a success perhaps we'll eventually find it in the Nags Head and the George - after all the other pubs in the Manchester and Salford area have received it first, of course!

According to What's Doing, Wilsons are changing pub after pub to traditional beer. All I can say to Wilsons management is that there is a place called Irlam, which boasts two of their establishments, and is there any chance of changing these over to traditional ale? There is another brew available in Irlam called Greenalls, but unless the brewery has a drastic change of policy there'll be unreal beer in their Irlam and Cadishead houses for years to come.

Bill Collier



REAL ALE in

CENTRAL & N. CHESHIRE

INCLUDING WARRINGTON, WIDNES, RUNCORN, LYMM
FRODSHAM, NORTHWICH, MIDDLEWICH & WINSFORD



The pubs listed are in the area covered by the Central & North Cheshire Branch of Camra (Except for the Kilton, Hoo Green, and the Nags Head, Millington - Trafford & Hulme Branch). Branch contacts are: Mike Jones (Chairman) Tarporley 2974; Roy Walker (Secretary) Little Budworth 575.

B-bitter; M-mild; SA-strong ale; DM-dark mild; LM-light mild; TB-Tetley bitter; WB-Walker bitter; BB(Marstons)-Burton bitter; BB(Robinsons)-best bitter; BM-best mild; MM-Merrie Monk.

Aston Arms
 Bears Paw
 Cheshire Cheese
 Cholmondeley Arms
 George
 Golden Lion
 Kydd's Wine Bar
 Queens' Head
 Red Lion
 Travellers Rest
 Railway
 Robin Hood
 Horseshoe
 Bulls Head
 Ring O' Bells

ETHNIC AREA
Wheat/sheaf
Jolly Thresher
Railway
Bears Paw
Eagle and Child
Kilton
Anchor
Spread Eagle
Nags Head

Turnpike
Boars Head
Crown
Golden Lion
Kings Arms
Newton Brewery
White Bear
Fox and Hounds

Hazel Pear
Maypole
Three Greyhounds
Stanley Arms
Red Lion
Spinner and Burglar
Hare and Hounds
White Barn
Oddfellows Arms
Cock Inn
George and Dragon
Coachman
Duke of Portland
Woodpecker
Holly Bush
Horns
Leigh Arms
New Inn
Beehive
Bowling Green
Cock Hotel
Crown Hotel
Freemasons Arms
George and Dragon
Green Dragon
Lion and Railway
Roebuck
Thatched Tavern
Volunteer
Watermans Arms

A56
Main Street A56
Main Street A56
Church Street
High Street
Main Street/Church Street
Church Street
Main Street
High Street
Kingsley Road B5152
Chester Road A56
A56
Hollow Lane B5153
Belle Monte Road
Belle Monte Road

A56
A56/B5159
Mill Lane B5159
Knutsford Road A50
Manchester Road
Knutsford Road A56
A56
Eagle Brow A6144
off A556

Warmingham Lane
 Holmes Chapel Road A54
 Lewin Street A533
 Chester Road A54
 Queen Street
 Webb's Lane
 Wheelock Street
 Holmes Chapel Road A54

B5153
Station Road
B5082
Old Road
Runcorn Road A533
Marbury Road
B5153
Norley Road A49
Hartford Road
Northwich Road A559
Church Street
Chester Road A559
Pennys Lane B5082
London Road A553
A49
A49
B5078
High Street
London Road
Station Road
Crown Street
Castle Street, Castle
Witton Street
Witton Street
Station Road
Witton Street
Chester Road, Castle
London Road
Witton Street

Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Frodsham	Burtonwood	DM(E)
Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Frodsham	Sam Smith	B(E)
Frodsham	Lees	B(H)
Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Frodsham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Helsby	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Helsby	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Kingsley	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Overton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Overton	Greenalls	B(E)

Agden Brow	Hydes	B, BM, SA(H)
Broom Edge	Hydes	B, BM(E), SA(G)
Heatley	Boddingtons	B(H)
High Legh	Greenalls	B(H)
Hollins Green	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Hoo Green	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Lymm	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Lymm	Lees	BM, B(H)
Millington	Bass	Bass(H)

Cledford	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Middlewich	Robinsons	BB, M(H)
Middlewich	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Middlewich	Greenalls	B(H)
Middlewich	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Middlewich	Marstons	BB, MM, M(H/E)
Middlewich	Wilsons	B(H)
Sproston	Greenalls	M, B(E)

[illegible]

Wheatstef	Castle Street	Northwich	Greenalls	M, B(E)
White Lion	Wilton Street	Northwich	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Forest View	Gallowclough Lane	Oakmere	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Red Lion	B5391	Pickmere	Tetley	TB, M(H)
Golden Pheasant	Plumley Moor Road	Plumley	Lees	BM, B(E)
Smoker	A556	Plumley	Robinsons	BB, M(E)
Broken Cross	Middlewich Road	Rudheath	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Blue Cap	A556	Sandway	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Windmill	A556	Tabley	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Hanging Gate	A49	Weaverham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Wheatstef	B5153	Weaverham	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Black Greyhound	Hall Lane A559	Wincham	Greenalls	M, B(H)

RUNCORN AREA

Castle	Castle Road	Halton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Travellers Rest	Highlands	Higher Runcorn	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Red Lion	Runcorn Road A558	Moore	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Red Lion	Chester Road A56	Preston Brook	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Clarendon	Church Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Darwell Vaults	Brindley Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Devonshire	Ashbridge Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(H)
Egerton	Irwell Lane	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Grapes	Halton Road	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Masonic	Devonshire Square	Runcorn, Old Town	Tetley	TB, M(E)
Navigation	Bridge Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Marstons	BB, M(H)
New Inn	High Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Oddfellows	Wellington Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(H)
Railway	Cavendish Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Red Admiral	Boston Avenue	Runcorn, Old Town	Tetley	TB, M(E)
Royal Hotel	High Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Union Vaults	Union Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Waterloo	High Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Wellington	Egerton Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Marstons	BB, M(H)
Wilsons Hotel	Bridge Street	Runcorn, Old Town	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Prospect	Weston Road	Weston	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Royal Oak	Heath Road South	Weston	Marstons	BB, M(H)
Dock	South Road	Weston Point	Greenalls	M, B(E)

WARRINGTON AREA

Wheatstef	A559	Antrobus	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Thorn	Grappenhall Lane B5356	Appleton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Bridge	Green Lane	Burtonwood	Burtonwood	B, DM(E)
Elm Tree	Chapel Lane	Burtonwood	Burtonwood	B, DM(E)
Pear Tree	B5204	Collins Green	Greenalls	B(E)
Plough	Kenyon Lane	Croft	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Cherry Tree	Common Lane	Culcheth	Tetley	TB, M(E)
Vulcan	Dallam Lane	Dallam	Tetley	TB, M(H)
Ring O' Bells	off A56	Daresbury	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Farmers Arms	A574	Fearnhead	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Chat Moss	Warrington Road A574	Glazebury	Burtonwood	B, DM, LM(E)
Grey Horse	Warrington Road A574	Glazebury	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Parr Arms	Church Lane	Grapenhall	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Rams Head	Church Lane	Grapenhall	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Brook Oak	Liverpool Road A57	Great Sankey	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Butchers Arms	Liverpool Road A57	Great Sankey	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Chapel House	Liverpool Road A57	Great Sankey	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Hutton Arms	B5356	Halton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Black Bear	Knutsford Road A50	Latchford	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Brook	Knutsford Road A50	Latchford	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Royal Oak Branch	Knutsford Road A50	Latchford	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Fiddlers Ferry	Station Road	Penketh	Wilsons	B(E)
Noggin	A574	Risley	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Red Lion	London Road A49	Stockton Heath	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Cat and Lion	A49	Stretton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Ring O' Bells	Northwich Road A559	Stretton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Little Manor Inn	Bell Lane	Thelwall	Youngers IPA, XXPS(H) Boddingtons SA(G)	
Stag	Chester Road A56	Walton	Greenalls	M, B(E)

Adelphi Vaults	Mersey Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Bluebell	Horsemarket Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Borough Arms	Mersey Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Bowling Green	Liverpool Road	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Bulls Head	Church Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Causeway Hotel	Wilderspool Causeway	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Cross Keys	Buttermarket Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Glassmakers Arms	Brick Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Hawthorne	Orford Lane	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Hop Pole	Horsemarket Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Manx Arms	School Brow	Warrington	Tetley	WS, M(H)
Mersey	Mersey Street	Warrington	Tetley	TB, M(H)
Old Ball	Winwick Road	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Packet House	Bridge Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Prince of Wales	School Brow	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Raven	Fennel Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Red Lion	Winwick Road	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Ring O' Bells	Church Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Roebuck	Bridge Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Royal Oak	Bridge Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Victoria Vaults	Mersey Street	Warrington	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Chelwood Arms	off A49	Whitley Inferior	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Millstone	Grimsditch Lane, off A49	Whitley Inferior	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Birch and Bottle	Northwich Road A559	Whitley Superior	Greenalls	M, B(H)
Fiddle I' Th' Bag	Alder Lane	Winwick	Greenalls	B(E)
Swan Hotel	A49	Winwick	Wilson	M, B(E)

WIDNES AREA

Angel and Elephant	Appleton Village	Appleton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Horse and Jackey	Birchfield Road	Appleton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Griffin Inn	Warrington Road	Bald Heath	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Hillcrest Hotel	Cranton Lane	Cranton	Youngers IPA, XXPS(H)	
Unicorn	Cranton Lane	Cranton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Cuadley Cross	Dons Road A562	Cuadley Cross	Greenalls	M, B(H)
Black Horse Hotel	Birchfield Road	Farnworth	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Griffin Hotel	Farnworth Street	Farnworth	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Beehive	Hale Bank Road	Hale Bank	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Clapgate Hotel	Clapgate Road	Hale Bank	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Church View Inn	Lunts Heath Road	Lunts Heath	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Horns Hotel	Derby Road	Lunts Heath	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Angel Hotel	Mersey Road	West Bank	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Britannia Hotel	Irwell Street	West Bank	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Mersey Hotel	Mersey Road	West Bank	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Swan	Mersey Road	West Bank	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Adelphi Hotel	Warrington Road	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Central Hotel	Victoria Road	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Commercial Hotel	Page Lane	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Cricketers Arms	Milton Road	Widnes	Tetley	TB, M(E)
Grapes	Widnes Road	Widnes	Higsons	B(H)
Market Gate	Ann Street	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Millfield Inn	Millfield Road	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Prince of Wales	Kent Street	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Railway and Commercial	Victoria Road	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Royal Hotel	Hutchinson Street	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Stanley Arms	Lugsdale Road	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Sun Inn	Victoria Road	Widnes	Greenalls	M, B(E)

WINSFORD AREA

Alvanley Arms	A49	Cotebrook	Robinsons	BB, M(E)
Raven	B5074	Darnhall	Burtonwood	B, DM(E)
Red Lion	Eaton Road B5152	Eaton	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Cabbage Hall	A49	Little Budworth	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Fox and Barrel	A49	Little Budworth	Greenalls	M, B(H)
Red Lion	Vicarage Lane	Little Budworth	Robinsons	BB, M(H)SA(G)
Shrewsbury Arms	Chester Road A542	Little Budworth	Robinsons	BB, B, M(H)SA(G)
Plough	Beauty Bank	Morton	Robinsons	BB, M(H)SA(G)
The Ark	Station Road A54	Winsford	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Golden Lion	High Street, off A54	Winsford	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Rifleman	Weaver Street/Dingle Lane	Winsford	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Old Star	Swanlow Lane B5074	Winsford	Tetley	TB, M(H)

MANCHESTER BREWERIES No 5

The Longsight Brewery

One item which might not find its way into an official company history of John Willie Lees concerns the scandal of 1905 which involved the Longsight Brewery. This incident landed Mr J W Lees in the dock at the Lancashire Chancery Court; but more on the subject later.

The Longsight Brewery stood on Ducie Street, off Stockport Road, a street which has now been replaced by open ground. The brewery was founded by Thomas Barber in the 1850s, later became Barber & Co. and was acquired by Daniel Irvine Flattely in 1868. Barber & Co was retained as the trading name, indicating that the company probably enjoyed a good reputation.

Flattely had spent the early years of his working life in the Inland Revenue Department of the Civil Service before settling in Gorton about 1865. He managed to combine his commercial interests with an active participation in public affairs. During 1885 he contested the parliamentary representation of Gorton against a Mr Richard Peacock but was unsuccessful. He also served as a Magistrate, being an expert on licensing laws (as might be expected), and was also a County Councillor for Longsight prior to its amalgamation with Manchester. D I Flattely died on October 22nd 1897 at his home in Windermere.

The brewery itself had a 25 barrel plant (900 gallons per brew) in the 1890s, was particularly noted for its porter and supplied many outlets in Salford, Manchester and district. The trustees of Daniel Flattely valued the entire business at £90,000 and set about finding a suitable buyer.

During September 1898, John W Lees negotiated with Flattely's trustees, the final terms being £77,500 for the business, £1,658 for book debts and £3,829 for stock in hand, making a total of £82,987. A deposit of £7,750 was then paid. Lees managed the business for a time but ill health resulted in his moving to Blackpool for a rest.

It was whilst he was recuperating at sunny Blackpool that meetings with a representative of Whitefield Breweries began. The whole truth about subsequent events may never be known, there being two versions, one originating from Mr Lees and the other from Arnold D Briscoe, manager of Whitefield. According to Mr Briscoe, an agreement was reached to form a company by the merger of the Longsight Brewery business with the Stamford Brewery of Ashton-under-Lyne, Lee Home Brewery of Oldham and the Whitefield Brewery Co Ltd of Besses o' th' Barn. However, Lees later maintained that such a merger was never mentioned and that he thought the Whitefield Brewery was interested only in buying the property. What is certain is that Whitefield was heavily in debt. Although they offered £110,487 for the Longsight Brewery, they already owed some £30,000! It was intended that the flotation of the new company would provide the needed capital. Unfortunately for them, the shares were under-subscribed and the new company was formed still in debt. At some stage, John W Lees

was told about the formation of a new company. As he had agreed to accept £40,000 of the original purchase price in shares of the Whitefield Brewery (Lees's story), he then agreed to their being in the new company and also joined the board as Chairman. The firm was registered first as Breweries Ltd, then as Whitefield Breweries Ltd.

In the company prospectus it was claimed that the combined output from Longsight Brewery and the others would be 450 barrels per week and this figure was used to calculate expected profit. It was also claimed that the company owned property valued at £153,297, free of all mortgages or other charges. Both claims turned out to be false.

In 1903 a shareholders' committee was formed to examine the company's affairs. This resulted in a winding up order in March 1905 and a charge of fraud under the Directors' Liability Act. The only way J W Lees could avoid prosecution was to settle with the plaintiffs. He agreed to pay 12s 6d per share and the charges were withdrawn. Throughout the hearing Lees claimed that the other directors of the Whitefield Brewery had misled him, that he had had no hand in writing the prospectus and had suffered as much financial loss as anyone else. Despite the settlement, John Willie didn't do too badly. The Law Debenture Corporation, who had taken possession of the Whitefield Breweries property when the interest on a £105,000 loan was not paid, sold property valued at £231,000 back to Lees for just £115,000.

The Welcome Inn, the recently demolished Lees pub in Salford, was once tied to the Longsight Brewery. Manchester pubs (no longer standing) which probably belonged to Barber & Co included the Moulders Arms on Princess Street, the Nottingham Arms on Prussia Street and the Sherwood Inn on Mytton Street.

Alan Gall

INN SIGN

The Bulls Head (Whitbread) near Hyde Road Bus Depot displays posters on the front windows saying, 'Real Ale on Sale Here'. No messing about with statements like 'Cask conditioned ale available here' or 'Traditional beer dispensed' or other diplomatic phrases dreamt up by the PR men at the breweries. These two posters are home-made and straight to the point, clearly implying that the other beers dispensed are not real.

Just think, this idea could catch on with other licensees. If they believed that (say) tank beer was the thing to be drinking, a sign in the window would advertise it. Those who preferred keg and were not ashamed of saying so could put a large poster up to help real ale drinkers keep their distance.

Well done, Bulls Head, but be careful you don't make any enemies. It may well be that the nearby Hyde Road Hotel and Wellington Inn and (further away) the Junction will have to give the information 'No real ale on sale here' in their windows.

Stewart Revell

LABOLOGY



The next time you drink a bottle of beer take time to examine the label on the bottle. Paper labels have been used as a method of identification since Bass of Burton-on-Trent introduced them in 1843.

Labels have been issued to commemorate such events as Coronations, Royal Weddings, the end of World War Two, and Watneys even produced a 'World Cup Ale' in 1966. No bets for another issue, going on England's current form! Possibly the most famous labels issued are the Bass 'Kings Ale' and 'Princes Ale'. In 1902 King Edward VII visited the brewery and started a brew, the result of which was Kings Ale. A similar event in 1929 initiated Princes Ale. These full and labelled bottles are now highly valued collectors' pieces. There is a Princes Ale bottle on display in the Lamb Hotel, Eccles.

My modest collection began by writing to several breweries. The response varied somewhat. The Burtonwood Brewery sent me a selection of current labels and also several obsolete labels and beer mats. At the other end of the scale Holts didn't bother replying to my s.a.e. Rumour has it that they don't answer the telephone.

Anyone interested in this hobby will find it well worthwhile to join the Labologist Society. For £2.50 membership p.a. you receive a bi-monthly newsletter which gives details of new issues, history of breweries, dates of society meetings and a members' 'swap shop'. For further details contact Roy Denison, 7 The Finches, Sittingbourne, Kent.

Tony Flynn

Real Ale



Comprehensive real ale guides to the following areas are available from Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester.

REAL ALE IN HIGH PEAK AND NORTH EAST CHESHIRE - Including Marple, Hyde, Ashton, Audenshaw, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, Mossley and Denton. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SOUTH MANCHESTER - Including Gorton, Openshaw, Clayton, Didsbury, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN STOCKPORT - Including Hazel Grove, Cheadle, Heaton Mersey, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SALFORD - Including Swinton, Eccles, Worsley and Irlam. 150 pubs, maps, photographs. 25p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN TRAFFORD AND HULME - Including Altrincham, Sale, Urmston, Stretford, etc. With maps. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ROCHDALE - Including 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 - Including Failsworth, Royton, Chadderton, Shaw, Saddleworth, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN BURY - Including Ramsbottom, Radcliffe, Tottington, Whitefield and Prestwich. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN MANCHESTER NORTH - Including the city centre, Ancoats, Collyhurst, Moston, Newton Heath, Blackley, Cheetham, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

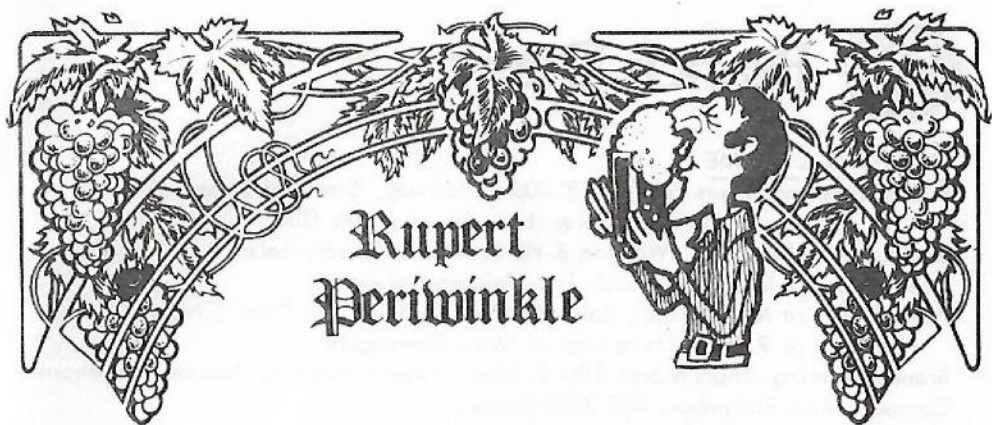
Subscriptions

If you want to be sure of getting What's Doing every month, why not subscribe? It costs £1 for six issues, postage paid. Fill in the form below and send it together with a cheque or postal order for £1 made out to 'What's Doing' to Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Please send me the next six issues of What's Doing, starting with the _____ issue (state month). Signed _____



You know, some people have no respect for authority. We were enjoying a quiet nip in the Toadstool when Ag and Tish came in helpless with mirth. The rest of the company, myself excluded, were soon equally overcome with chortlement as Ag handed round copies of that erudite publication from the Camra chiefs, Branch Bulletin. "Look at this barmy branch twinning idea!" cried Alistair, throwing barley wine over the horse. "Can you imagine Albert Ackroyd going down to Esher with his ferrets, smelling like a skunk's bum?" "Or even apprentice stockbrokers," Fiona rejoined, "playing Don in the Dockers Wedge? Or having their cockles warmed with a blowlamp in the Nether Slumley Bloodtub?" My protests were in vain amongst the Rabelaisian disorder and any hopes of improving the class of the Grotley branch were swiftly cleft asunder.

No sooner had this merriment ceased, than Fiona launched into an invective against the National Executive for banning beer guide stickers other than their own. Once again I argued for the establishment, putting forward the case that a plethora of pub stickers would serve no useful purpose and could well hinder the campaign. "Nonsense!" Agrippa knocked another pint over the hedgehog bowl. "A sticker in a pub is a useful indication that the pub sells consistently good cask beer and as long as the pubs with stickers are constantly monitored, it can do nothing but good in the furtherance of the objectives of the campaign. I intend to press for stickers, NE or no NE."

During the awed silence which followed, Boddington entered, accompanied by our noble National Publicity Officer. They quickly jumped to my defence but were sadly outnumbered by the misguided ruffians who see fit to do their own inane thing rather than follow the guidelines of our well informed betters. The Noble Robin hasn't got where he is today by not listening to the distilled wisdom of Martin Boreman, Max Wall, The Lunes-dale Prune, Peter Podge, Chris Brew Ten, Jimmy Slyme and Demys Roussos. In the immortal words of Boddington, "No Way!"



Branch Diary

TRAFFORD & HULME

Branch Meeting: Thurs Feb 15th 8.00pm. Railway, Stamford Street, Altrincham
Speaker: Mr Coles (Lees Brewery) and film.

Social: Thurs Feb 22nd. Waggon & Horses, Cross Street, Sale.

Committee/Social: Thurs March 1st. Unicorn, Halebarns.

Pub Crawl: Sat March 10th, Salford. Meet 8.00pm Old Ship, Chapel Street
or 9.00pm Three Legs of Man, Greengate

Branch Meeting: Thurs March 15th 8.00pm. Rope & Anchor, Dunham Woodhouses.

Contact: Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (home)

NORTH MANCHESTER

Committee/Social: 8.00pm 14th Feb Harp & Shamrock, New Mount Street,
Manchester

Branch Meeting: 21st Feb 8.00pm. White Swan, Swinton

Pub Crawl: 7th March Cross Lane, Salford. 7.00pm Paddock, 8.00pm Wellington

Social/Committee: 14th March 8.00pm. Lord Nelson (Wilsons) Chapel Street,
Salford

Branch Meeting: 21st March 8.00pm. White Swan, Swinton.

Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

SOUTH MANCHESTER

Branch Meeting: Feb 8th, 8.00pm Gateway, Parrs Wood. Guest Speaker

Pub Crawl: Manchester: 17th Feb, 7.30 Oxford, 8.30 Britons Protection

Branch Meeting: March 8th, 8.00pm Gateway, Parrs Wood. Talk by Home
Brewing Expert.

Contact: Barry Pryme 225 4949

Gorton Morris Men have a tour/crawl of Chapel Street, Salford, planned for
Feb 23rd. 8.30pm - Angel; 9.00pm - Borough; 9.30pm - Salford Arms;
10.00pm - Punch Bowl; 10.30pm - Old Ship.

What's Doing

Contributions to the magazine are always needed. If you have any news of pubs opening, shutting, going back to traditional beer or going the other way, please get in touch with the editor, Neil Richardson, 51 Lime Street, Farnworth, Bolton. Farnworth 78138, 061-793 5329. Articles are always welcome.

COPYDATE for the March issue is Thursday 22nd February

JOIN NOW AND GET UP TO 3 MONTHS FREE MEMBERSHIP

What is Real Ale?

CAMRA coined the term 'real ale' to describe beer brewed from traditional ingredients — malted barley, hops and yeast — kept in casks which allow it to continue 'working' in the pub cellar, and delivered to your glass by any method that does not involve the use of carbon dioxide.

More about the Campaign for Real Ale.

CAMRA is the only national organisation which exists specifically to speak for the beer-drinker and pub user. Except for a small staff in St Albans, CAMRA relies on voluntary effort, and members subscriptions, to promote and publicise traditional draught beer. The Campaign is piloted nationally by a democratically elected Executive, and 140 branches are its lifeblood at local level. Few parts of the country are without a CAMRA branch.

CAMRA tries to increase public awareness through such means as publications and beer exhibitions, and seeks to influence the brewing industry itself by making responsible and intelligent representations to the industry's bosses and the nation's legislators.

The Campaign is now accepted as one of Britain's foremost consumer and conservation bodies. Its views on a wide range of subjects connected with the brewing industry and the licensed trade are listened to seriously by the industry itself and by Government. CAMRA's growing concern with a whole range of legal and technical issues — with pricing policies, brewing technology, monopolies, the licensing laws, and consumer protection — reflect a mountain of effort by unpaid individuals.

The Campaign publishes a monthly newspaper — What's Brewing — which takes a broad and critical look at all sorts of developments in the world of beer and pubs, and keeps members closely informed. What's Brewing is sent free to every member. The annual Good Beer Guide, listing the best Real Ale pubs in the country, has become a national institution.

In 1976 CAMRA became a limited company. This status in no way inhibits the Campaign's activities as a voluntary organisation, and has been adopted with the sole purpose of putting CAMRA on a sounder legal footing.

Remember, most of CAMRA's activities cost money, and CAMRA relies on its members for financial support. Your help is needed now. If you do care about your pint and your pubs, join CAMRA. Then contact your local branch. They will be delighted to see you at their meetings, socials and on the trips they organise from time to time. They will also welcome your views, and your help in their local ventures.

Join Now!

Application for membership

I/We wish to become a member(s) of the Campaign for Real Ale Limited. I/We agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the campaign.

I enclose £4 (£6 Overseas) for full membership

We enclose £5 for husband and wife membership

or I/We enclose completed standing order authority

(Any additional amount will be welcomed as a donation).

☐
☐
☐

Application for Associateship

I wish to become an Associate of CAMRA Ltd.

I agree to abide by the aims of the organisation and enclose my fee of £1

☐

FULL NAME (Block capitals)

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS (Block capitals)

SIGNATURE..... DATE.....

Cheques should be made payable to Campaign for Real Ale Limited. Applications should be sent to Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts. AL1 3BW.

STANDING ORDER FORM (FOR FULL & HUSBAND AND WIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY)

To (your Bank)

Please forward to Barclays Bank Ltd, 3 High St., St Albans (20-74-09) for the credit of CAMRA Limited subscription account; A/c No. 50187887; now the sum of *£4/£5 and continue to pay this sum on the..... annually until further notice.

SIGNATURE..... DATE.....

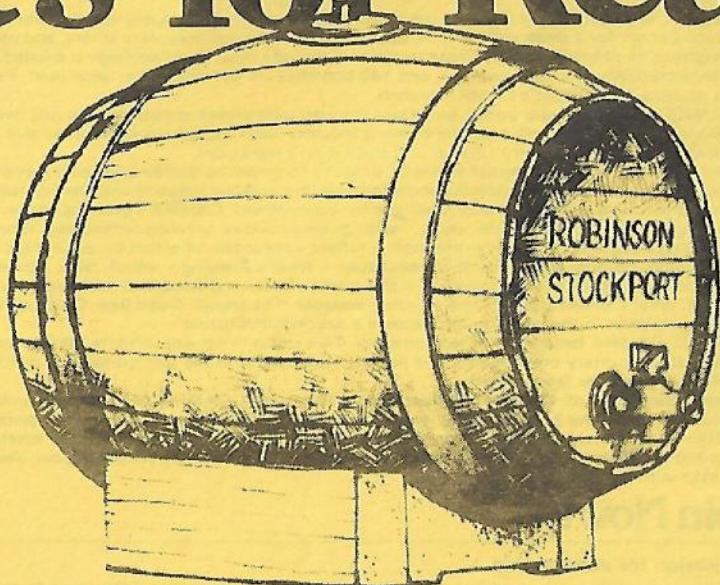
NAME (Block capitals)

BANK A/C NO. AND ADDRESS

*delete as appropriate



It's for Real



We, at Robinson's, think that what matters most about beer is its flavour. That's why we are still brewing beer the same way that we did a hundred years ago. Natural ingredients, the same time-honoured brewing ways, even on the same site — not many can say that!

And you can buy at least one, usually two and sometimes more of the traditional Ales listed here in any Robinson's pub within 100 miles of Stockport. Not many can make that sort of claim either.

Now you can have Real Ale at home for parties or just for your own enjoyment. Available in Firkins and Pins*, complete with tap, stillage and detailed instructions. You can order

from any Robinson's On or Off-Licence or Unicorn Wine Shops.

Always available from Unicorn Wine,

Old Tom Ale
Best Bitter Ale
Bitter Ale*
Best Mild Ale



Lower Hillgate, Stockport, (just by the Brewery) 061-480 6571. And its the cheapest way of buying beer. A little more trouble perhaps but we think you will agree with us that it is worth it.

There are deposits on the casks, stillages and taps, returnable in full when you bring them back. You can borrow glasses, paying only for those you break or fail to return providing you also make appropriate purchases of items to fill them.

We strongly recommend that you place your order as soon as possible for Christmas or New Year use.

It's Robinson's . . . for Real.

*Bitter Ale not available in Pins.

**When you buy any of these Robinson's Ales,
you are buying Traditional Draught Beer
-at its very best.**