

WHAT'S DOING



7p
MAY
1979

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

LEES IN HULME

The Church, 84, Cambridge Street, began serving Lees bitter and best mild through handpumps on April 6th. Formerly a Greenalls outlet, the pub has been completely redecorated and an extra drinking area has been created out of what used to be the previous tenant's living quarters. Apart from that and a new bar, the structural alterations have been kept to a minimum. The result is pleasing and the three small rooms give an intimate and friendly atmosphere to the pub. Albert and Anne Billington are the new tenants, their prices are very reasonable and Camra sympathisers are more than welcome. What more could you want?



Mick Rottenbury

BODDINGTONS DROP ORDINARY MILD

Brewing of Boddingtons 'ordinary' mild ceased on the 12th April. The beer was sold in only 30 or so of Boddingtons' 260 pubs and was withdrawn through lack of demand.

HOME FROM THE SEA

Wilsons are spending £70,000 on the Mariners, Blackley, to turn it back into a pub. It has been a licensed discotheque for several years, and for a time was called 'The Wrecker', until its oft boisterous clientele took the name literally and wrecked the place. Handpumps are to be installed, vault prices are to be dropped and the pub will revert to its original name - the Lion and Lamb.

JOHN SMITHS IN - LANDLORDS OUT?

On April 26th The Crown, Jackson Crescent, Hulme, ceased to be a Wilsons pub serving cask beer and became a John Smiths pub serving the bright, fizzy stuff, a real ale loss to the area. John Smiths invited landlord and landlady, Mr and Mrs Dolan, to Tadcaster, where they were wined and dined and presumably told how wonderful their new employers would be. John Smiths' directors also appeared to be very upset at the local Camra branches' leaflet campaign aimed to show the customers the lack of choice available from the brewery, ie no real ale. To cut a long story short, Mr and Mrs Dolan weighed up all the pros and cons, decided they and their customers wanted real ale and promptly applied to Wilsons for a new pub. I hope they find a good one; they deserve it!

Mick Rottenbury

NO HANDPUMPS FOR BRIT

Wilson's new pub, the Britannia at Irlam o' th' Height, won't be getting handpumps after all. The length of the pipes and temperature variations between the two rooms are the reason given. Instead the new oval "traditional" bar mountings have been ordered to replace the existing Great Northern cubes.

Limited stillage space (the pub was built for tanks) combined with sales of traditional beer have meant that hogsheads have to be used for both bitter and mild. Brewers Bitter has also recently been introduced.

BODDINGTONS BUY PUB

Boddingtons have bought the Little Manor Inn at Thelwall, Warrington, previously a free house. The bitter and best mild are sold through handpumps.

This change has been incorporated in an updated Real Ale in Central & North Cheshire list. (see advertisement)

Information: Roy Walker

NEW BEER FOR STONEMASONS

Now that Tetley's troubles are over and the Stonemasons in Timperley is back to normal, it is interesting to note the new beer engine that has sprouted on the bar. At the time of writing, all that was missing was the handle and the date when the new beer - a higher gravity Walkers bitter - would be available alongside the Tetleys mild and bitter already dispensed.

Mick Rottenbury

JOHN SMITHS BREAK INTO ECCLES



John Smiths now have control of four ex-Wilsons pubs in Greater Manchester. Along with their characteristic lack of concern for the local drinkers in selling only bright beer, a much more permanent act of vandalism was perpetrated at the Grapes in Eccles.

When the Wilsons fascia board was replaced by John Smiths', the old Wilsons advertisement in the stonework was revealed and promptly chipped away. The lettering had survived about seventy years of Wilsons and Watney ownership, and could easily have been re-covered to await a more enlightened age when such old buildings will be afforded some respect.

SWEETER GREEN

Several visitors to the Sweet Green Tavern, Bolton, in recent months suffered from severe disorientation when faced with a blank wall where the bog used to be. Readers will be relieved to know that alterations to the toilets and catering room are almost complete.

There are also plans for further extensions during the next 18 months or so. The lounge will be extended into the house next door, which was once the Old Sweet Green Pie Shop. The bar will be moved and extended and the handpumps retained. There are plans for another cellar and the new pub will have facilities for meals and snacks at lunchtime.



It is hoped that some of the character of one of Bolton's last street corner pubs will remain after alterations.

Information: Bert Kerks

GREENALLS TO SWAP PUBS

Greenalls have announced plans to swap 6 pubs in their stronghold/stranglehold of Northwich. They are being cagey as to which brewery they are exchanging with but Wilsons, Whitbread and John Smiths have not been ruled out.

A further six pubs in their trading area may be swapped by the end of this year and up to 24 in the next two years.

Information: Roy Walker

THE SIGN OF A DECENT MILD

You certainly have to give Wilsons top marks for effort. The above slogan is their present campaign to advertise their mild and a very timely one considering Camra's annual 'Make May Mild' campaign. However, all is not so good when it comes to checking out the prices. I fail to see the logic of pricing Great Northern Mild at 34p, the same price as bitter, in the new and recently renovated managed houses when it is a couple of pence cheaper than the bitter everywhere else. It is not unusual to find a 5p difference in mild prices between pubs a few hundred yards apart. Apparently Wilsons are to step up their mild advertising in October. Let us hope they don't step up the prices at the same time!

Wilsons continue to be very active in the area and detailed plans for alterations to the Orange Tree, Old Market Place, Altrincham, are almost finalised and work should have started by now. Empty premises next door are being incorporated into the pub, creating a new lounge area. The bar will be moved, the present bar area will become a vault and the back room will remain much the same size but with direct access to the bar. Genuine oak beams from an old pub are to be used and another two or three handpumps are to be added to the existing set. Obviously an attempt is being made to keep the pub's atmosphere even though the brewery vetoed the tenant's request for real gas lights!

Mick Rottenbury

BYE BYE BASS

Traditional 4X mild is no longer available at the New Inn, Halliwell Road, Bolton, and the pub now sells only keg beer. The five handpumps are to remain, however, and the landlord, who prefers real ale to keg, says that traditional beer will be sold again but doesn't say when.



The New Inn stands in a redevelopment area and most of the adjoining terrace has already gone. The Indian take-away is due to go in about five years but the pub itself is safe for at least ten.

Information: Bert Kerks

CPO SERVED

Boddingtons have received notification of a CPO on the Duke of York, Duke Street, Salford.

WHAT'S DOING IN R O B

Last month saw the culmination of many weeks' planning when the Saddleworth Beer Festival was held at Uppermill near Oldham. The final accounts have yet to be prepared, but from our point of view it was a great success. Something like six thousand pints of ale, all in excellent condition, were gulped down over the four sessions. As a campaigning effort it helped get our message across to the public. The Camra publications stall alone took one hundred and fifty pounds for the sale of local beer guides etc. The proceeds from the festival are to be donated to the local Museum and Art Gallery on whose behalf the festival was organised. Judging from the response, the festival might well become a regular event. To all the people who helped organise the festival, with all the associated planning and effort - Well done!

On the pub scene, the branch are in the process of up-dating our three local real ale guides. The constant checking of four hundred and fifty real ale pubs is quite a task. Wilsons continue to provide most of the gains with Bass providing the majority of the losses. It would appear that local drinkers do prefer to "fire off a round or two". The mind boggles!

Oldham Brewery are as intransigent as ever. They could not, (would not?), supply beer to the Saddleworth festival. Fortunately we did manage to obtain supplies indirectly. Surprise, surprise, they could not send a speaker to our last branch meeting held in the centre of Oldham, (outside their trading area?). We really have explored all the possibilities of means of establishing contact with them. Perhaps they imagine that if they ignore the preserve of our organisation in the town, then we might go away. Some chance!

On a brighter note, the Bath Hotel, Union Street, Oldham (O.B.) is under-



going alterations and barrel stillaging has been retained. (See 'The Oldham Scene' in this issue). Handpumps have been promised for the new bar. However, such promises have been made before, (Dog & Partridge, Middleton), but electric pumps have always won the day. Of course we do not object to electric pumps per se, but they do make a change to bright beer from cellar tanks so much easier, should a new manager or the brewery so desire. In complete contrast, new handpumps have been installed at another OB house, the Rose of Lancaster, Manchester Street, Oldham, to replace the ageing ones which have given so many years' good service.

To complicate matters further, one free house, the Diggle Hotel, Diggle, near Oldham, serves bright OB ales through handpumps from converted kegs. The permutations and combinations seem endless.

Our local "beer exhibition" pub, the Cemetery at Rochdale now serves Taylors Porter along with five other brews. The St James Tavern in Rochdale has now been demolished, leaving the Healy Hotel at Shawclough as Robinsons' only tied house in the town.

A change of tenancy is rumoured at the Waggon ("Get your hot meat pies...") at Milnrow. Another change of tenancy is imminent at another GBG listed pub, the Good Samaritan at Ramsbottom, Bury. Also in Bury, the Printers at Tottington (Wilsons) has just had handpumps installed, thereby increasing the choice of real ale in the village by 33% overnight.

Steve Lawton

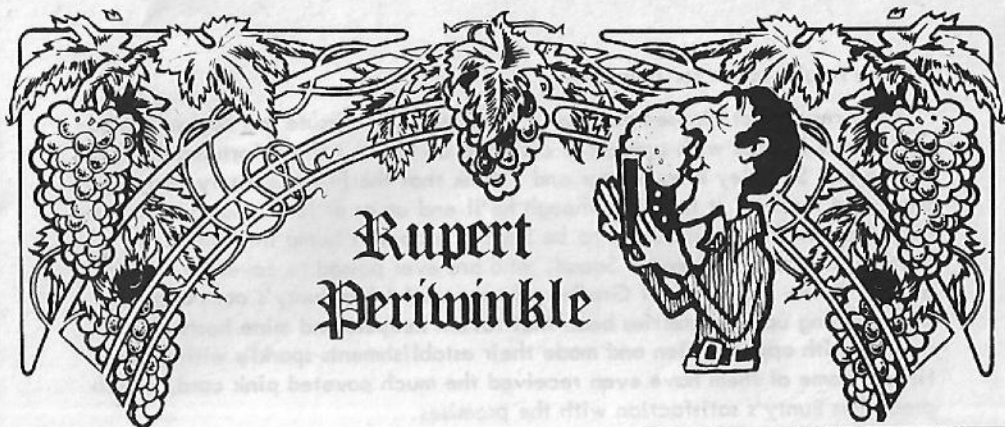
NEW INN, ASPULL

A pub which has hitherto received little attention from Camra members is the New Inn on Ratcliffe Road, Aspull. This well-kept Burtonwood house sells traditional bitter and mild on diaphragm pumps and is well worth a visit, despite of its out-of-the-way location. The nearest two pubs also sell real ale and there are others close by for those wishing to make a night of it.

Starting at the Queens Head, a GBG pub at the Fingerpost, (Walkers bitter, Tetley mild,) go up Haigh Road to Ratcliffe Road, which is off to the right. The New Inn is about a hundred yards down this road on the left. Continuing to the junction of Ratcliffe Road and Scot Lane brings you to the Moorgate. This is another Burtonwood pub, selling good bitter and dark mild, although in complete contrast to the New Inn!




Information: Dave Fairhurst



As I've told the Monday Club on many occasions, the Campaign is a non-political organisation. This General Election has, however, generated a vast amount of political activity. I suppose it all started with our glorious leader The Right Wonderful Demys Roussos, who stood for the Ruling Peasants Party in Bournemouth of all places. He didn't have much chance to start with but when he announced that he was I/C an organisation of beer drinkers, this obviously offended many Methodists and Salvationists in this geriatric Mecca and his vote was halved to 36 and a hedgehog.

In Pseudley, Eric Snot was going to stand for the Apathy Party but couldn't be bothered, whilst Albert Ackroyd hasn't got round to joining the Procrastination Party yet. Boddington, noticing the Noble Robin's lean and hungry look, and fearing that, with his master's predilection for Indian food, he might end up as an oversize Onion Budgee or a Chicken Vindaloo, stood for the Parrot Liberation Front but was beaten into second place by a homosexual dog.

Back in Grotley, there was immense interest. Punk nuns don't go down very well in Snoot Magna and Fiona lost her deposit whilst Letitia's platform as a Classless Intelligentsia candidate failed to drag the Drabs drinking electorate of Slumley out of the Dockers Wedge. Unfortunately the Gay Dwarf Reform League refused to endorse my nomination and I had to stand on an independant Rights for Persons of Restricted Growth platform, which was less than successful. Bunty Fortescue was the only one of the crowd to achieve even a modicum of success. During his research for the Bunty Fortescue real ale guide to Greater Grotley, Bunty must have frightened a lot of people into voting for him. On the face of it, you wouldn't have thought that there'd be much support for the Eradication of Uncouth and Plebeian Persons in Dockley



Demys Roussos

**Your LOCAL
LABOUR
CANDIDATE
FOR PARLIAMENT**

but the results speak for themselves.

One result that pleased me was in Scousley. The hirsute Ian Bogbrush Macmillan was flushed with success at crawling on to the NE but fortunately the electors of Scousley knew better and I think that the Effin Lavatory Party will be buried forever. It looks as though he'll end up as at least deputy assistant vice-Regional Organiser. It's to be hoped he doesn't bump into the Bunty Fortescue Instant Whitewash Squad, who are ever poised to cover up offending graffiti in the lavatories of Grotley. So successful has Bunty's campaign for the cleaning up of hostelrys been that tavern keepers and mine hosts have quaked with apprehension and made their establishments sparkle with cleanliness. Some of them have even received the much coveted pink card, which proclaims Bunty's satisfaction with the premises.

FUZZ AGAINST FIZZ?

Blackpool police chiefs, in a surprise move, recently supported an application for a new £½ million "pub/club/disco complex" in the resort's Palatine Precinct.

Speaking in favour of the bid by Thwaites, the police put forward the view that Blackpool needed more drinking spots to combat overcrowding and problems of queues during the summer season. The application was granted by Blackpool Licensing Committee despite strong opposition from big business interests such as Coral, Mecca and Rank, who control an increasing proportion of Blackpool's leisure industry. It is not yet known if the new pub will sell cask-conditioned beer, but whilst many of Thwaites' Blackpool houses sell only tank beer, the company's latest Fylde venture, the Hole in One on Lytham's South Park Estate, is selling handpumped mild and bitter.

Meanwhile back in Blackpool the Clifton Ale House has dropped Tetley bitter from its "taste of real ale" range and now advertises itself as selling "Boddingtons, Bass and Whitbread". Confirmation of the possible new outlet for "Special Cask" would be welcome.

NEW PUB?

Word has it that planning permission has been granted to Boddingtons to build a new pub on the car park of the Concorde Cinema on the corner of Green End Road and Kingsway. This will be a welcome addition, there being at present only the fizz bar at the cinema or the Woosters nearby.

Humphrey Higgins

HOLTS IN ECCLES

The best things about living in Eccles apart from its proximity to Old Trafford are its Holts pubs, 13 in all, 11 of them on or near Liverpool Road.

Starting at the Salford border the first pub is the Lamb Hotel, a large, Edwardian pub built in 1906. A typical Holts pub with a magnificent, ornate carved wood and etched glass bar surround, it's also one of the only two pubs in Eccles to have a full-sized billiard table. Excellent beer from electric pumps.

On the corner of Church Street is the Old Bulls Head, a modernish pub frequented by a young and often boisterous clientele. The beer varies somewhat and is dispensed by handpumps. Just around the corner is the Wellington, again a youngsters' pub with one wall dedicated to the King - no, not Dennis Law, Elvis Presley. So if you like rock and roll and handpumps, venture no further.

Just off Church Street on Corporation Street is the Royal Oak. Built in 1904, this pub has recently changed hands and certain improvements have been made, not least to the beer. Avoid the Martini wallpaper in the vault if you can. Handpumps.

Back on Church Street is the Crown and Volunteer, which sells the best and cheapest dinners in Eccles as well as a good pint from electric pumps. Church Street becomes Liverpool Road towards Patricroft and the first Holts pub you come to is the White Lion, a small and very clean pub with a tiny, spotless vault. Sing-song at weekends in the main room. A nice pint from handpumps.

The next pub on Liverpool Road is the Golden Cross, well worth a visit



even if you don't drink. Some say that can be an advantage here. Don't believe it. The landlord 'Cloudy' Brown is a real character, how many landlords do you know who give free beer and shorts all Christmas Day and Boxing Day? (Regulars only). The customers are also real characters. One (John) wears a full cowboy outfit most nights and is an honorary sheriff of Patricroft! Damon Runyon would make it his regular if he lived in Eccles. The painting in the vault was done by another of the regulars, Jake. Strong beer from handpumps. Don't forget to buy Cloudy a drink.

Across the road on the corner of Green Lane is the Bridgewater, a large, fairly quiet pub, perhaps due to its proximity to the police station. Nice pint from handpumps. Back across the road is the Stanley Arms, which must be the most improved pub in Eccles. A new landlord has transformed this once quiet pub into a lively, street-corner local. The attractions include a collection of beermats on the walls and a musician at weekends, Charlie Bucket, who plays tunes on a mop bucket by swinging the handle (A Whiter Shade of Pail?). The beer from handpumps is excellent and the bar staff friendly.

Just before Patricroft Bridge is the Bird in Hand, once the haunt of Hell's Angels, etc., now a fairly quiet place. Beer from handpumps. Over Patricroft Bridge and into Peel Green is the Grapes Hotel, a large pub built in 1903, not unlike the Lamb structurally. This is the other pub in Eccles with a full-size billiard table. The landlady Mrs Evans is the oldest serving landlady in Eccles, having been in the Grapes for 29 years. Average Holts from handpumps.

The other two Holts pubs are the Ellesmere in Winton, nestling in the shadow of the M63. Music at weekends and a good pint from electric pumps. The other is the Park Hotel in Monton next to the Prince's Cinema. It is a fairly new pub built on the site of the old Park Hotel. The beer is quite nice (though tending to sell out midweek) from electric pumps.

Tony Flynn

TAR FOR THE MEMORY

First the good news: Greenalls have sold the British Tar, Warrington, to Tetleys. Now the bad news: Tetleys are pulling it down to extend their brewery.

Information: Roy Walker



OLDHAM NEWS

For many years Oldham Brewery have been changing from real ale to tank beer with each alteration to pub premises. There now seems to be a change in their "bright" ideas if recent actions are to be the rule. Modifications to the Rose of Lancaster (Werneth) have resulted in new handpumps replacing the old version. This, I believe, is the first time OB have bought new hand-pumps in years.

The popular Bath Hotel on Union Street is now being enlarged into the shop next door and extensively rebuilt and modernised. The architects Whitaker & Thompson are to be congratulated on what appears to be an excellent layout. At the



moment the skeleton structure reveals a most substantial bar, although a temporary bar is now in use with electric pumps. The landlord assures me that the famous OB ales will continue to be cask and we can only hope that the handpumps are to be re-fitted.

Any unsuspecting visitor to the Spotted Cow on West Street would surely think that real ale was being dispensed when confronted with the large "Wilson's Traditional Ale" signs which are incorporated in the bar. To complete the effect wooden cask ends adorn the walls but the beer sold is as bright as Wilsons at it's worst can be, which is a pity as the premises are ideal for real ale. Let's hope it is part of Wilsons' future plans to change more pubs to cask beer. A traditional jazz band appears at Sunday lunch.

Lees' new pub called the Tommyfield (because of its situation near to the Tommyfield market) opened at Christmas and replaced the Radcliffe Arms, which has now been demolished in order to widen St Mary's Way. Beer is on electric pumps.

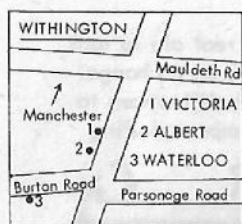
The Hare and Hounds (Lees) on Block Lane, Chadderton, and the Lamb Inn, (Boddingtons) Failsworth, are now being extensively rebuilt and modernised. The Tim Bobbin (Milnrow) is internally being restructured but fortunately the handpumps are retained as is Wilsons new policy.

New landlord Ronald Cripps of the Dutchbirds (Failsworth) now serves mild and bitter on electric pumps although the old handpumps are still available. He has now introduced Marstons Pedigree, to the delight of the locals, and is using one of the handpumps in the lounge.

D Mason

BETTER JOINT?

The Butchers Arms, Pendlebury, at the moment marginally less unpleasant than the nearby Duke of Wellington, is to have handpumps installed. Whether the event will mark a change in the fortunes of this Thwaites pub remains to be seen.



A ROUND IN SOUTH MANCHESTER



There's not a great choice of real ale in Withington, though neighbouring Didsbury more than makes up for it!

In Withington, starting on Wilmslow Road, the VICTORIA has a good pint of Hydes mild or bitter and there's still a lively round-the-piano sing-song on Saturday nights. A few doors along is the ALBERT, a one-roomed Wilsons pub. Turning right up Burton Road, the WATER-LOO on the left has a fine pint of hand-pumped Wilsons mild or bitter in a large, plain, locals' pub.

In Didsbury there's a wealth of good ale and pubs. Make your first call, and

it's got to be early, in the STATION on Wilmslow Road. The Station is a fine pub, very small and unspoilt with excellent, handpumped Marstons mild or bitter. Further along on the corner of Barlow Moor Road (avoiding the Cavalcade!) handpumped Wilsons can be sampled in the NELSON, a comfortable, two-roomed pub. Next try the Greenalls in the CROWN, a roomy, basic house. The final call on Wilmslow Road is the ROYAL OAK (Marstons mild, bitter and Pedigree). Lunchtime is a must here - the cheese lunches are second to none and worthy of Egon Ronay! Off Wilmslow Road on William Street is the ALBERT, a smart Hydes house also selling Bulmers cider from the barrel (albeit a plastic one!) No trip being complete without Boddingtons, the PARRSWOOD HOTEL is a cavernous pub on Parrswood Road. As long as you're patient, you'll get served! Last, but certainly not least, is the GATEWAY at East Didsbury. The venue of the South Manchester Branch Meetings (2nd Thursday of the month, all welcome), the pub provides a good pint of Hydes with prompt and friendly service.

Humphrey Higgins

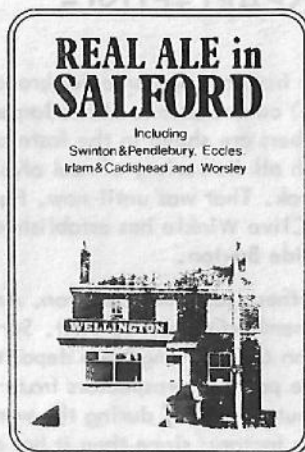
NEWTON & RIDLEY

Following the article last month on the Newton & Ridley Centenary, the landlord of the White Swan in Fallowfield has acquired a full set of their bottled beers for his collection. We understand that Annie Walker is worried about a stock loss!

NEW SALFORD REAL ALE LIST

'Real Ale in Salford' has been updated this month and is available by post for 10p + s.a.e. from Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester. The list runs to eight pages and is also available as a supplement with the first edition. (see advert)

Owing to lack of space it will not be available as a What's Doing centre piece.



RAIL ALE

The BR Buffet at Victoria Station, Manchester, is now selling Lees bitter from beer engines.

Jim Davies

GOLDEN EAGLE

Anyone with the odd £100,000 to spare may be interested in investing in the Spread Eagle at Lymm. This pub, which sells Lees beers, is owned by the landlord, who has put it on the market since he is bound for New Zealand.

Information: Roy Walker

QUACK MEDICINE

The Strawbury Duck at Entwistle now sells Whitbread Special Cask on handpumps. This free house also has Theakstons and Pollards bitter and Old Peculier. Unfortunately, no real mild is available. Wednesday night is jazz night and there is also live music on Thursdays from the M6 band.

Information: Bert Kerks

CHATEAUNEUF DE STRANGWAYS

The Camra-engraved toothpick this month goes to the Cromptons Mule, Bolton (see April's What's Doing). This town-centre bistro has opened its French Restaurant on the first floor and as a radical alternative to Chateau d'Yquem Grand 1er Cru at £20 a bottle there is Boddingtons bitter.

SPA SPARGEING

Apart from a long name, our branch of Camra (High Peak and North East Cheshire) can boast one of the largest areas covered. No matter that some of our members are sheep in the fastnesses of the High Peak. But in all this larger area with all its variety of real ales we've never had a brewery on the premises, so to speak. That was until now. For, as all well-informed beer savants are aware, Clive Winkle has established his Saxon Cross Brewery at Harper Hill just outside Buxton.

Or rather, just above Buxton. And to prove the point a bus-load of intrepid branch members set out to visit. Springtime in Buxton is rather like winter in the Yukon and, having been deposited near the entrance to the industrial estate, our brave party of prospectors froze their way to what looked like rows of Nissen huts. In fact, during the war the 5,000 square foot brewery was an ordnance factory; since then it has also seen service as a mushroom factory. But we weren't kept in the dark for long by Mr Winkle and the welcome was far warmer than the night.

The stainless steel equipment uses a 15 barrel mash with spargeing facilities. Despite the Buxton Spa setting, Clive Winkle 'burtonises' the water but is pleased to inform visitors of fellow 'home brewers' whose gypsum addition is as much as 9 times more than his. Sugar is the only addition to water, malted barley and yeast apart from the three types of hop which, it may be supposed, hold the secret to the delicate fragrance of this light-coloured bitter which weighs in at around 1038 o.g.

Saxon Cross's present output is between 26 and 30 barrels a week and Clive and his associate are working flat out to full capacity - but hope to expand to 40 barrels during the hot season (if and when it deigns to arrive.) His wooden and metal casks reach their ever-growing number of outlets by Sherpa Van dray. Whether bigger modes of conveyance will be needed when the brewery starts to produce mild as well we shall have to see. In the meantime, from the unlikely setting of Peak quarry land comes a really interesting new bitter. You don't have to travel far to enjoy it. Take a tip from thirty-odd frozen prospectors - it's worth the journey.

Some outlets:-

The Red Lion, Goostrey, Cheshire

The Swettenham Arms, Swettenham, Ches.

The Portland Hotel, Buxton, Derbyshire

The Crewe & Harper Arms, Buxton, Derbys.

The Old Bulls Head, Little Hucklow,

Derbyshire

The Plough, Eaton, nr Congleton, Ches.



Portland Hotel

MANCHESTER BREWERIES

- Cardwell Revisited

Cardwell & Co was the subject of Manchester Breweries No. 1 in last September's issue of What's Doing. Since then a considerable amount of information about Cardwell pubs has been made available, thanks to the efforts of Malcolm Smith at Wilsons Brewery.

Cardwell & Co Ltd was formed in 1894 following the merger of Henry Cardwell's Naval Brewery and Cox's Brewery Ltd of 219 Chester Road. All brewing was then continued at the Naval Brewery. In 1899 Wilsons bought the two breweries and tied estate from Henry Cardwell, who had been appointed liquidator for the company.

Cardwells had a surprisingly large number of outlets, over 120 pubs and 11 off-licences. The Cattle Market Tavern on Cross Lane, Salford, is of interest because it was one of three that passed from Cardwell to Wilsons, then to Walker & Homfray Ltd and back again to Wilsons in 1949. Another Salford house, the Elephant & Castle on Whit Lane, had its own brewhouse attached and probably supplied other pubs also. Samuel Heathcote was the brewer and he is listed as such from 1852 to 1869. The pub was lost under a CPO in 1975.

Not surprisingly, in view of the brewery location, many of the pubs were in Hulme and about 30 could easily be visited on foot if the hypothetical pub crawler had a good enough stomach! Not many still stand but the Talbot on Stretford Road is an example. This property was taken on lease by Henry Cardwell in 1894.

Cox's Brewery do not appear to have owned many licensed houses and the only one which can definitely be traced to Joseph Cox is the Stanley Arms beerhouse which stood on Pump Street, Salford.

A number of properties controlled by the company had connections with other brewers. An off-licence at 16 John Street, Bowden, once sold the products of Edward Issot, who operated from the Ardwick Place Brewery. The Victoria House at 72 Wilmslow Road was tied to William Kay's Britannia Brewery on City Road and the Galloway Arms, York Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, was once owned by Broadbent's Steam Brewery.

Although the majority of the outlets were within 10 miles of the brewery, some were much further away. The New Inn was situated at County End in Saddleworth and was another pub with its own brewhouse. Several pubs were located in Oldham like the Three Horse Shoes on Huddersfield Road, the Hartford Inn on Shaw Lane and the Bird in Hand, Yorkshire Street.

The Falcon Inn on Cross Lane, Salford, still serving, was once owned by the London & North Western Railway Company and was leased to Cardwell under an agreement dated 6th September 1894. As a final dip into the past, Cardwell & Co leased the Pleasant Inn at 113 Tamworth Street, Hulme, for which they paid a yearly rent of £26.

Alan Gall

New mini conference

...the first of a series of mini-conferences...
...the first of a series of mini-conferences...
...the first of a series of mini-conferences...

Branch Diary

...the first of a series of mini-conferences...
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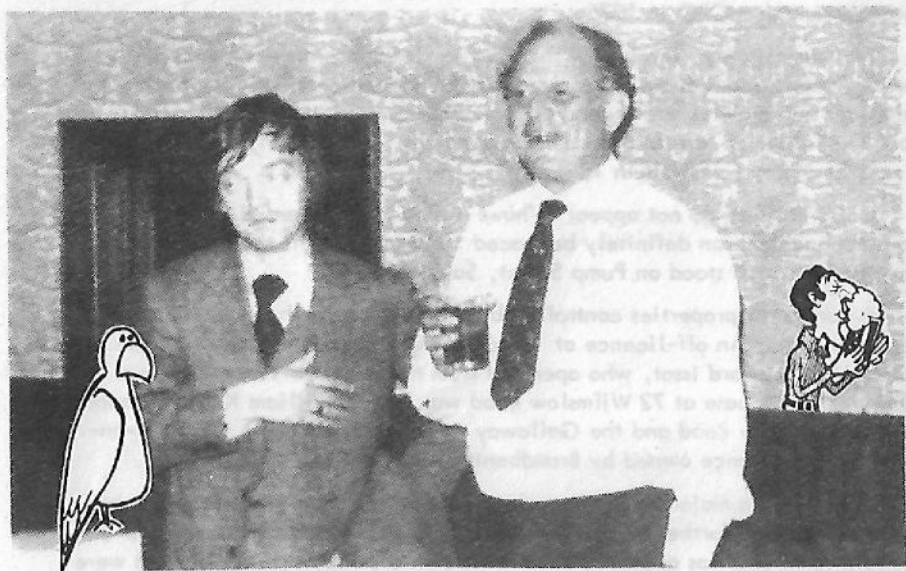
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CAMRA CENSORSHIP STORM SHOCK

A seemingly innocent picture of John Young of Youngs Brewery in this month's London Drinker shows firm evidence of a cover-up conspiracy by the London branches of Camra. The unedited photograph has fallen into the hands of What's Doing and we see it our duty to pub-

lish it in full. The complete picture shows a typical London Camra meeting in progress. From left to right: an overweight parrot; a drunk; Mr Young; a member. The identity of the drunk is a closely guarded secret (so far). See next month's gripping disclosures.



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 June issue is Thurs 31st May

BEER GUIDES



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 & 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 CENTRAL MANCHESTER** - A comprehensive guide to real ale within 1 mile of St Peter's Square. 117 pubs, map, illustrated. 30p + s.a.e.

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

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

** **REAL ALE IN CENTRAL & NORTH CHESHIRE** - Including Warrington, Widnes, Runcorn, Lymm, Frodsham, Northwich, Middlewich & Winsford 10p + s.a.e.

** Second Edition 1979 *Updated 1979

*** Third Edition 1979

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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 _____

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



Branch Diary

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM AND BURY

Branch Meeting: Tues 8th May 8.00pm. Spread Eagle, Cheetham Street, Rochdale

Open Committee Meeting: Tues 22nd May 8.00pm. Cross Yates, Whitworth Rd, Rochdale.

Contact: Steve Lawton 620 9329

NORTH MANCHESTER

Branch Meeting: Weds 16th May, White Swan, Swinton. 8.00pm

Pub Crawl: Weds 6th June. Star, Back Hope Street, Salford 7.00pm. Church, Hilton Street, 8.00pm

Committee Meeting: Weds 13th June. Ordsall, Salford. 8.00pm

Branch Meeting: Weds 20th June, White Swan, Swinton (provisional), 8.00pm

Contact: Roger Hall; 740 7937

SOUTH MANCHESTER

Branch Meeting: Thurs May 10th, 8.00pm, Gateway, East Didsbury

Mild Pub Crawl: Thurs May 31st, 7.30pm Nicholsons Arms, Lancashire Hill, Stockport. 8.00pm Buck & Dog, Bridge Street, Stockport.

Branch Meeting: Thurs June 14th, 8.00pm, Gateway, East Didsbury.

Contact: Humphrey Higgins 432 0059

HIGH PEAK AND NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Branch Meeting: Tues May 15th, 8.00pm. Bowling Green Hotel, Stockport Road, Marple.

Social/Games Evening: with Rochdale, Oldham & Bury Branch. Tues 22nd May 8.30pm Railway, Hyde (nr Hyde Central Rly Stn)

Branch Meeting: Tues 12th June. Railway, Dove Holes, nr Chapel-en-le-Frith
CAMRA BEER TENT at Charlesworth Carnival Recreation Ground, Charlesworth, nr Glossop, Derbyshire. Sat 14th July.

CAMRA BEER TENT at Tameside Canals Festival, Portland Street basin, Ashton-under-Lyne. Sat/Sun 4th-5th August.

Contact: Tom Lord 427 7099 (home) 832 8686 ext 358 (work)

BOLTON

Social/Committee Meeting: Mon 14th May. George, Gt Moor Street. 8.30pm

Branch Meeting: Mon 21st May. Dog & Partridge, Man r Street, 8.30pm

Brewery Visit: Mon 2nd July - Thwaites. Details at above meetings.

Contact: Les Kilsby Westhoughton 812884

TRAFFORD & HULME

Branch Meeting: Thurs May 17th 8.00pm. Railway, Ashley Road, Hale

Speaker: John Hutchinson (PR Manager, Bass NW)

Social: Thurs May 24th 8.00pm Robin Hood, Barton Road, Stretford

Committee/Social: Thurs June 7th 8.00pm Wheatsheaf, Church St, Altrincham

Good Day Out: Sat June 16th, Chester. Meet 12 noon Bull & Stirrup, Northgate Street and 7.00pm Olde Custom House, Watergate St
Branch Meeting: Thurs June 21 8.00pm Melville, Barton Road, Stretford.
Speaker Joe Goodwin (Chairman of Camra)

Contact: Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (home)

AREA MEETING

Weds 30 May 8.00pm. Crown & Kettle

CAMRAMBLE

Hayfield, Saturday 26th May. Meet near George, High Street, Hayfield
10.30-11.00

GREATER MANCHESTER GUIDE MEETING

Three Legs of Man, Greengate, Salford. Tues 29th May 8.00pm

GREATER MANCHESTER BEER EXHIBITION MEETING

Crown & Kettle, Friday 1st June, 8.00pm

GBG PUBS IN TRAFFORD & HULME

Now that the national Good Beer Guide has been available for a few weeks, the reactions to the branch entries have started to come in. As always, the main complaint runs something like, "Why isn't the 'Stuffed Budgie' included? It's the best pint of Whitballs for miles!" Occasionally we receive a complaint concerning poor standards in a pub included in the guide, so it is worth mentioning how the pubs are chosen in the first place. Trafford and Hulme received an allocation of 14 pubs which had to be selected from the 69 real ale pubs in the branch area. This had to be completed during June and July last year. First, a short-list was drawn up of all the pubs recommended during the year. The list included about half the pubs in the area! The final 14 were arrived at after much heated discussion and a deciding vote taken at two of the branch meetings. Care was taken to ensure a reasonable spread of listed pubs throughout the area and a fair representation of the different breweries to show the available choice.

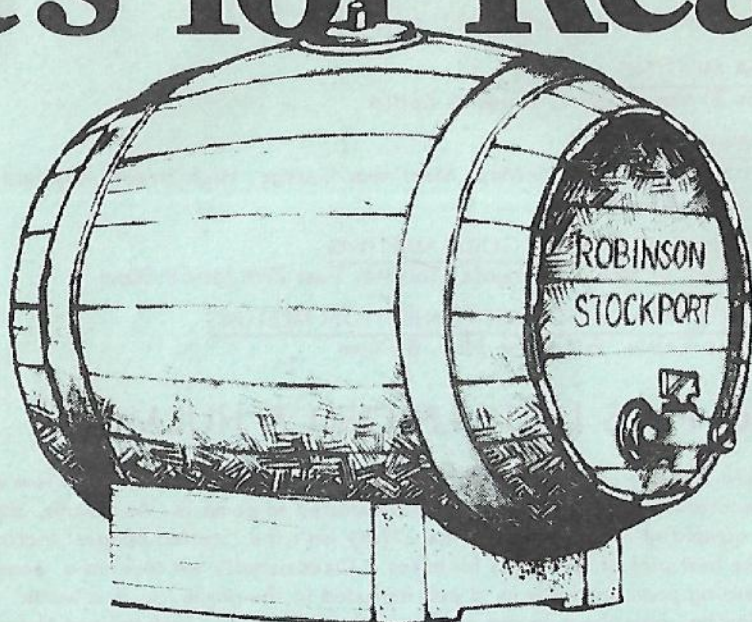
Consideration will soon be given to the entries for the 1980 Good Beer Guide so if you wish to recommend a pub in the Trafford & Hulme area or you feel a particular pub should not be included please contact me at the number given in Branch Diary. All comments are noted, though the size of the barmaid's bust will have no bearing on a pub's suitability for inclusion.

Mick Rottenbury

BODDINGTONS EXPORT DRIVE

Boddingtons White Horse at Swinton was without draught beer on Easter Sunday, but the landlord Albert O'Connor opened up specially at lunchtime just so that the son of a regular, on leave from Germany, could call in for a pint - of lager!

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 it's 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.**