

WHAT'S DOING

SEPT
1979

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE



EIGHT MORE SALFORD PUBS TO CLOSE FOR NEW ROAD

The Falcon, the Wellington, the Railway and the Church, all on Cross Lane, closed last month, and four more pubs are scheduled for demolition within six months. Among them is the Red Cow (left), Salford's last beerhouse. The demolition is to make way for the extension of the M602 from Eccles to Windsor Bridge - full details inside.



MANCHESTER BEER FESTIVAL

Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate

21 & 22 September see inside



MORE CLOSURES IN SALFORD

The number of public houses in the City of Salford has shown a steady decline over the years. From around 600 at the end of the nineteenth century, the number of pubs fell to 300 by the late 1950s and the slum clearance programme further reduced the figure to 150 by 1977. Of these, 85 sold real ale and this figure has remained fairly constant since.

Current road-building and housing programmes will reduce the number of real ale outlets in the city to less than 80 by 1980 and to around the 70 mark by 1985, leaving few pubs of character in a depersonalised city.

The major scheme is the extension of the M602, designed to move traffic jams from Eccles to Cross Lane. This piece of progress involves the demolition of no less than eight pubs.

The Grove	Eccles New Road	Wilsons
The Falcon	Cross Lane	Wilsons
The Wellington	Cross Lane	Wilsons
The Windsor Bridge Tavern	Broad Street	Wilsons
The Railway	Cross Lane	Greenalls
The Station	Cross Lane	Greenalls
The Red Cow	Albion Street	Boddingtons
The Church	Cross Lane	Sam Smiths

Some of these pubs have already been closed and demolished and the remainder will be bulldozed by January 1980. All the pubs with the exception of the Church sold traditional beer, but we are aware of only one new real ale pub to be built in the area (a Wilsons pub on the corner of Cross Lane and Liverpool Street).

Several other pubs are threatened by slum clearance programmes, including the Duke of York (Boddingtons), the Grapes (Wilsons) and the Trafford (Wilsons), whilst long term GMC road schemes still threaten the Unicorn and the Railway on Broughton Road, the Red Lion on Chapel Street and, should the M602 be extended yet further, the remaining Regent Road pubs - the Borough, the Gas Tavern, the Grove, the Bridge (Greenalls); the Live and Let Live (Wilsons);

the Albert (Bass); the Spread Eagle (Holts); the Wellington (Boddingtons) and the Duke of York and the Queens Arms (Whitbread).



The other danger lies in the increasing tendency for brewers to sell off marginal pubs. Already Tetleys have sold the Griffin and we understand that Marston's

King William IV on Springfield Lane may soon close down. There are many other pubs in Salford which will hardly endear themselves to the brewers' accountants and it may be only a matter of time before half a dozen of Salford's smaller and less profitable outlets are sold off by their owners.

It is sad and ironic that Salford, which once boasted more pubs per head than any other city, should suffer this gradual but substantial erosion of its pubs of character.

WALKERS IN STANDISH

The Dog and Partridge, Standish, (Tetley) which used to serve only drum beer, now has Walker bitter and Tetley mild on handpumps. The public bar regulars asked the manager for real ale and Tetleys agreed. The brewery was so keen to provide traditional beer that they delivered some casks before the beer engines had been installed.

Ian Ogden

ALMA MATTER

Greenall Whitley's unpleasant habit of steadily closing down their pubs continues. The latest victim in the Bolton area is the Alma, Bradshawgate, which has regularly appeared in the Good Beer Guide since 1974.

IS THIS A RECORD?

Robinsons Old Tom has returned after the "summer" break at the White Swan, Green Street, Fallowfield.

Humphrey Higgins

GREENALLS INSTALL HANDPUMPS

Handpumped Greenalls bitter and mild are now available at the Pied Bull, Newton-le-Willows. The pub used to serve traditional bitter on metered electric pumps and keg mild. The brewery made the change in response to a request from the new landlord, who expressed a preference for handpumps.

Ian Ogden

LEES KNOCKABOUT

Final clearance has now been given for alterations at the Morning Star, Shaw, and the Greyhound, Royton. The Greyhound has already benefitted from new toilets and it is now intended to extend the lounge by breaking into the adjoining cottages. The Morning Star is to get the full treatment including much needed indoor toilets and a larger lounge, again by utilising the adjoining cottages. Let us keep our fingers crossed that both these excellent pubs manage to retain that most intangible of commodities, "atmosphere".

Steve Lawton

NEW PUBS FOR 1980 GUIDE

The South Manchester Branch has just completed its entries for the 1980 Good Beer Guide and there will be five changes from the 1979 pubs. In an effort to get a better geographical spread of pubs in Stockport there are two new entries: the Arden Arms returns to the guide after a year's absence. This pub, on Millgate, has a fine bar, old furniture, a collection of grandfather clocks (all working!) as well as excellent Robinsons Best Mild and Best Bitter on handpumps. The second new entry in Stockport is the Armoury on Shaw Heath. Another Robinsons pub, (Best Bitter and Best Mild on electric pumps) it is a big house with several rooms.

Two areas not represented in the 1979 guide are to be included. In Gatley, the Horse and Farrier on Gatley Road next to the cinema comes in. It is a roomy and very comfortable pub serving Hydes Best Mild and bitter on electric pumps and Anvil Strong Ale in winter. There is a good Grill Room for lunchtime meals as well as a functions room. In Northenden we have included the Crown Inn on Ford Lane, which serves Boddingtons mild and bitter on electric pumps. It's a small, very popular two-roomed pub in a countrified setting, yet only fifty yards off the main road.

Our final amendment is in Manchester, where we have entered the Peveril of the Peak on Great Bridgewater Street. The Peveril is a typical northern pub selling Wilsons on handpump and offers the attraction of table football within an unusual, triangular-shaped pub.

Humphrey Higgins

ALL'S WELL WITH WINKLE

Saxon Cross Bitter, produced by Clive Winkle in his well equipped new brewery in Buxton, is a distinctively flavoursome brew that now seems to have achieved a welcome consistency - output is approaching 20 barrels per week.

Current outlets (August 1979) are:

Bulls Head
Bulls Head
Chequers Hotel
Crewe and Harpur
Duke of Wellington
Jervis Arms

Foolow
Wardlow
Buxton
Longnor
Congleton
Onecote

Little Mill
Old Bulls Head
Portland Hotel
Swettenham Arms
Sycamore

Rowarth
Little Hucklow
Buxton
Swettenham
Birch Vale

and also - for off sales -
'Fermentation' Whaley Bridge
Mike Hicks
BLO for Winkles

ROYAL OAK, ECCLES

Like several other Holts pubs in Eccles, the Royal Oak has changed little over the last 50 years. However, the landlord and landlady, Dave and Carol Parkin, are now in the process of 'modernising'. While clearing out the extensive cellars, which had been used to store the accumulated junk of several decades, some interesting items turned up. There were some fine glass decanters, with tops as big as lampshades, and several stone spirit jars. One of these, marked 'Joseph Holt Ltd, Brewers, Wine and Spirit Merchants', still in its wicker basket, was dated 1901, which made it some years older than the pub. (The photograph shows young Sarah Parkin getting to grips with it). Among the items left by the previous landlord was a collection of trays and glasses from North East breweries. Perhaps the rarest item of the lot was a single old-style Holts beermat (remember them?) Sothebys are being informed.

The Royal Oak still has many of its original features, including a fine Victorian sink upstairs. Although the billiard table was taken out some time ago there is still a separate bar in what is now the concert room and much of the ornate wood and glass bar surround is still intact. The beer has certainly improved since Dave and Carol moved in; best of luck to them with the pub and let's hope they don't change things too much!



HISTORICAL NOTE: The Royal Oak was built in about 1904, replacing an old beerhouse on the site of the present health centre. Its building did not go unchallenged, however. In a letter to the Eccles Journal in March 1903, Mr George Smith pointed out that there were 18 licences in a ward of less than 1,000 voters, "three times as many as the ward requires". Mr Smith's demand for fewer licences was temporarily satisfied in March 1941 when the Golden Lion next door was destroyed during an air raid.

If you have any old bottles, papers, trays, jars or skeletons tucked away in your pub which you think would be of interest to readers, give Tony Flynn a ring (775 3945 ext7)

MANCHESTER BREWERIES No 11

George Bentley



KNOTT & WILLIAMSON,
Mild & Bitter Ales & Porter Brewers,
VICTORIA BREWERY,
ASHTON OLD ROAD, ARDWICK
MANCHESTER.

FAMILIES SUPPLIED WITH SMALL CASES.



Manchester Breweries Number 10 covered, in part, Richard Whittaker's Victoria Brewery of Ardwick. Prior to this venture, the Whittaker family owned an established gum and starch works on Ashton Old Road and Midland Street. Adjacent to their property stood the Victoria Brewery and it was here that the partnership of Collins and Chesters (later Chesters Brewery Co. Ltd.) first began about 1842. In 1848 Thomas Chesters bought a plot of land close by upon which the Ardwick Brewery was subsequently built. Next to arrive at the Victoria Brewery were Knott and Williamson in 1851.

By 1873 Bentley and Aston had taken possession of the Victoria Brewery. After several years, John Aston left the business, which George Bentley then moved to larger premises shortly before 1881. The vacated building was used by Richard Whittaker to extend the family interests into the brewing trade.

George Bentley's new brewery stood on Viaduct Street, facing the Ardwick branch line, approximately where Markham Close is today. At the rear of the Viaduct Brewery, the Ardwick Patent Brick Works owned a large clay pit. During this period, Bentley lived locally but he later moved to St Annes-on-Sea.

In 1892 the brewery was described as being "of the most approved type, replete with all the best machinery and appliances, and supplemented by a fine cooperage, hop-house and ample stable accommodation." Much of Bentley's 'Ardwick Ales' was bottled on the premises, then allowed to mature in a large store. Pasteurisation, followed by artificial carbonation, was an insidious practice yet to come.

The Viaduct Brewery ceased operations when Threlfalls Brewery Co. Ltd acquired Bentley's in 1913. Threlfalls used the building for a short time, possibly as stores, then leased it off in parts. In 1916 the occupants were Sidney Jepson, Tripe Dresser and Sankey, Hudson and Co., Manufacturing Stationers.

Alan Gall

MANCHESTER BEER FESTIVAL

Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate

21 & 22 September



OPENING TIMES: 11.00am - 3.00pm 5.30pm - 10.00pm (Friday & Saturday)

ADMISSION: 50p including glass deposit and programme

THE BEERS

Most, if not all, of the following beers will be available: (o.g. in brackets)

CAMERONS Strongarm (1041.5)

GOOSEYE: IPA or bitter (1038)

HOOK NORTON: Best Bitter (1036)

OLDHAM: Bitter (1037.2)

TAYLOR: Landlord (1042), Best Bitter (1037.1), Golden Mild (1033.4)

THEAKSTONS: Best Bitter (1037.8), Old Peculier (1060.3)

GREENALLS (WEM): Best Bitter (1039)

BASS: Draught Bass (1044)

BODDINGTONS: Bitter (1035)

BURTONWOOD: Light Mild (1031.5), Bitter (1036.3)

HOLTS: Bitter (1038.5)

HYDES: Bitter (1036)

LEES: Lager, Bitter (1038), Moonraker (1074)

McEWANS: 80/- (1043.3)

MARSTONS: Pedigree (1043), Burton Bitter (1037), Merrie Monk (1043)

POLLARD: Bitter (1036)

ROBINSONS: Best Mild (1032), Best Bitter (1042)

SAM SMITHS: Bitter (1040.9)

THWAITES: Best Mild (1033)

WALKERS: Bitter (1035.5)

WHITBREAD: Cask Bitter (1041)

WILSONS: Brewers Bitter (1033), Bitter (1037)

TRADITIONAL FOOD

Real bread and a selection of real English cheeses to accompany the traditional English ale.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Morris Men

Bavarian Oompah Band

Folk Group

Organised by the Greater Manchester branches of CAMRA



Branch Diary

NORTH MANCHESTER

Committee Meeting/Social: Weds 12 Sept 8.00pm Royal Oak, Eccles
Weds 19th Sept, 7.00pm. Setting up Greater Manchester Beer Festival,
Houldsworth Hall, Deansgate

Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

SOUTH MANCHESTER

Branch Meeting: Thurs Sept 13th Gateway, Wilmslow Road, E Didsbury, 8.00pm
Branch Meeting: Thurs Oct 11th Blossoms, Buxton Road, Heavily, Stockport (note
the change of venue for this meeting) Brewers Society films by courtesy of
JW Lees Brewery. 8.00pm

Contact: Humphrey Higgins 432 0059

SOUTH LANCASHIRE

Branch Meeting: 11th September, Bull & Butcher, Hindley Green

Committee/Social: 24th September, Turnkey Cellars, Wigan

Brewery Trip: 1st November - Matthew Brown

Contact: Ian Ogden Wigan 79534

TRAFFORD & HULME

Branch Meeting: Thurs Sept 27th, 8.00pm. Lloyds Arms, Higher Ormond St, Hulme

Coach Trip: Sat Sept 29th, Castle Donington, Bass Brewery & Museum and
Loughborough

Committee/Social: Thurs Oct 4th, 8.00pm, Peveril of the Peak, Gt Bridgewater
Street, Manchester

Pub Crawl: Sat Oct 13th, Broadheath and Altrincham. Meet 6.30, Cheshire Cheese,
7.30 Orange Tree, 8.30 Railway, Stamford St (see Annual Silly Walk)

Branch Meeting (AGM): Thurs Oct 18th, 8.00pm, Malt Shovels, Stamford St,
Altrincham

Contact: Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (home)

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Branch Meeting: Tues 11th Sept. Grey Horse (Lees) Oldham Road, Hollinwood

Committee Meeting: Tues 18th Sept. Bridgewater (Holts) Manchester Road, Oldham

Branch Meeting: Tues 9th Oct. Healey (Robinsons) Shawclough Road, Rochdale

Committee Meeting: Tues 23rd Oct. Queens (Thwaites) Church St., Littleborough

Contact: Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (H) 061 236 4411 ext 7236 (W)

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.

COPY DATE for October issue is Thursday 27th September



REAL ALE in GREATER GROTLEY

INCLUDING GROTLEY, SLUMLEY, SMARMFORD
AND SLUTCH, POSHTON AND PSEUDLEY



GROTLEY

DOCKERS WEDGE

Eczema Ginell
Drabs M, B (H)
Landlord Drabs Drunk of the
Year, 1978

DOSE OF CLAP

Retch Alley
Drabs M, B (H)
Draught meths in season

DOG AND SPIT

Bilharzia Lane
Drabs M, B (H)
Bermoid strangles parrots

GUNGESMEARERS ARMS

Scum Street
Drabs M, B (H)
A rare example of authentic
squalor

RAT AND HANDBAG

Voraka Fold
Drabs M, B (H)
Room available for brawls

RAT'S VOMIT

Snots Buildings
Drabs M, B (H)
Camra member killing
landlord

SKUNK'S BUM

Back Thrutch Lane
Drabs M, B (H)
Next to farting cushion
factory

VAPID TOAD

Sweats Buildings
Drabs M, B (H)
Violent and filthy

SLUMLEY

CAP AND MUFFLER

Scrot Road
Drabs M, B (H)
Mediaeval meat pies

DIMP

Dog End Road
Drabs M, B (H)
Deaf pianist, blind juggler
and legless ballerina
perform at weekends

FESTERING STUMP

Gangrene Mount
Drabs M, B (H)
Interesting collection of dust

MRS HITLERS

Belsen Villas
Drabs M, B (H)
Nestling between brothel
and curry shop

MOLECATCHERS APPEND -

AGES Spog Street
Drabs M, B (H)
Interesting clientele of thugs
and pervers

NETHER SLUMLEY

BLOODTUB
Nether Slumley Road
Drabs M, B (H)
Fights twice a night and
three times on Saturdays

PLAGUE AND VACUUM

CLEANER Bog Row
Drabs M, B (H)
Memorable display of
shrunk heads of former
customers in concert room

SLUTCH

BUSMAN'S LEG

Slag Heap Terrace
Drabs M, B (C)
Unique clockwork dispense
system

CORPSE & REINDEER

Nutters Bend
Drabs M, B (H)
Neolithic Vault

DONKEYS DONGER

Grot Lane
Drabs M, B (H)
Archetypal grime and
slovenliness

FOETID BAT

Pus Alley
Drabs M, B (H)
Unparalleled collection
of pornography

INVERTED MISSIONARY

Tweedie Street
Drabs M, B (H)
Unique women-only vault

MARQUIS ST EXCREMENT

St Denis Square
Drabs M, B (H)
Strange combination of
gothic majesty and Victorian
feculence

MERMAIDS UNFINDABLE

Coley Street
Drabs M, B (H)
Tucked away near the
fish market

NAVVYS BUTTY

Dackley Road
Drabs M, B (H)
Redolent with decay

GUNGHEURST

FLATULENT WOMBAT

Belly Hill
Drabs M, B (H)
Illicit cock fighting on
Sundays

OWL THROTTLEERS REPOSE

Back Urinal Street
Drabs M, B (H)
A Taxidermists paradise

RAMPANT STRUMPET

Kneetrembler Parade
Drabs M, B (H)
Landlord is world's only
surviving brain transplant
patient

STUNTED DWARF

Midg es Dyke
Drabs M, B (H)
HQ of Gay Dwarf Reform
League and the Persons of
Restricted Growth Liberation
Front

SHRIEKING VOLE

Gutter Lane
Drabs M, B (H)
Half drinkers frequently
knifed on paydays

TRIPEDRESSERS ARMS

Cowstun Lane
Drabs M, B (H)
Cowwheel butties in a basket
a speciality of the house

TOAD STRETCHERS ARMS

Frog Lane
Drabs M, B (H)
Landlord local chairman of
Nazi Licensees Organisation

SMARMFORD

CLOCKWORK SOLDIER

Esher Square
Sipstang Auspice (H)
Sipstang Hospice (E)
Popular with clones

THE CLICHE

Ongoing Street
Flatulence M, B (E)
Ceiling festooned with
No Way signs

CHINLESS WONDER

Coer de Lion View
Kamikaze 14X (G)
HQ of Smarmford Homing
Penguin Society

HARK TO PLASTIC

Polystyrene Avenue
Spew BB, B (H)
Marlowe was not killed here

LIMP WRIST

The Green
Honker & McNasty 80/- (W)
Site of the Siege of Smarm-
ford in the War of Belchers
Foot

MICROPROCESSOR DESIGN

ENGINEER & PORK
BUTCHERS ARMS
Software Street
Brasses B, Muckraker (Electronic)
Computerised dispense system
designed by Mine Host 'Chip'
Cohen

THE STOCKBROKER

Rue de la Bourse
Python 6X Porter (G)
Real Ales and Real Deals

POSHTON

CUCKOLDS ARMS

Chatsworth Mews
Nausea B, M (H)
Dylan Thomas never drank here

CUNNING STUNT

Coronation Square
Pigswill Strong, B (H)
Sacked by Owain Glyndwr

LORD CARDBOARD

Pretty Bay Road
Pukes M, B (E)
Wide selection of authentic
pygmy food at lunchtime

POPES KNEE

Vatican Terrace
Wolsey Cardinal Ale (H)
Interesting collection of
mitres in the vault

PERSON AND SCYTHE

Ms Street
Gollocks Old, B, M (G)
7 reel fruit machine with
reverse nudge facility and
random hold

RAILWAY AND BARRISTER

Silk Cutlings
Throwups 4X mild (H)
Popular Preston Guild
Committee meeting place

TOADSTOOL

Molyneux Terrace
Boringsod BB, 8M (E)
Giraffe market every 2nd
and 4th Tuesday

SMARMBURY

BAND WAGON

Cholmondeley Boulevard
Pissenlit 4X Royale, Plastered
Nun (G) Throbsons Olde
Wierdo (G)

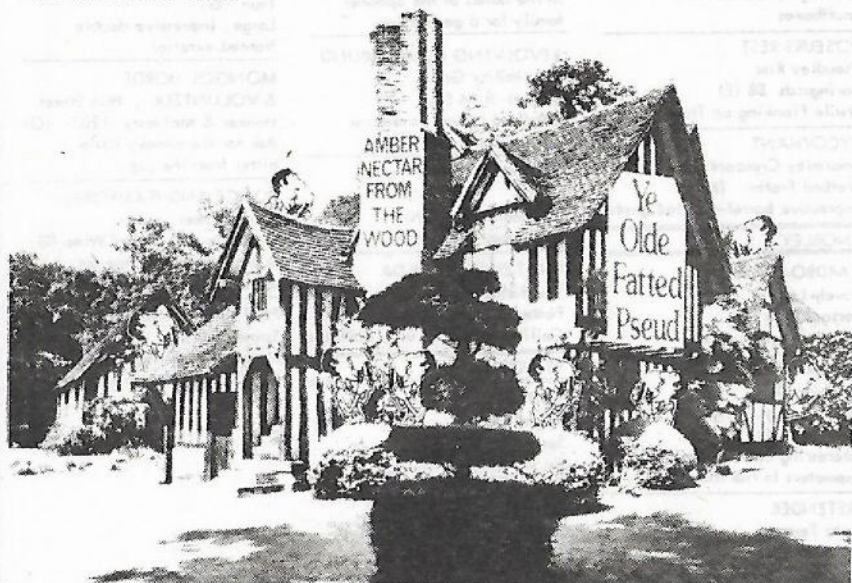
Chile can carne from the wood
& Barristers Lunch from 6 gns

CRAVAT AND LABRADOR

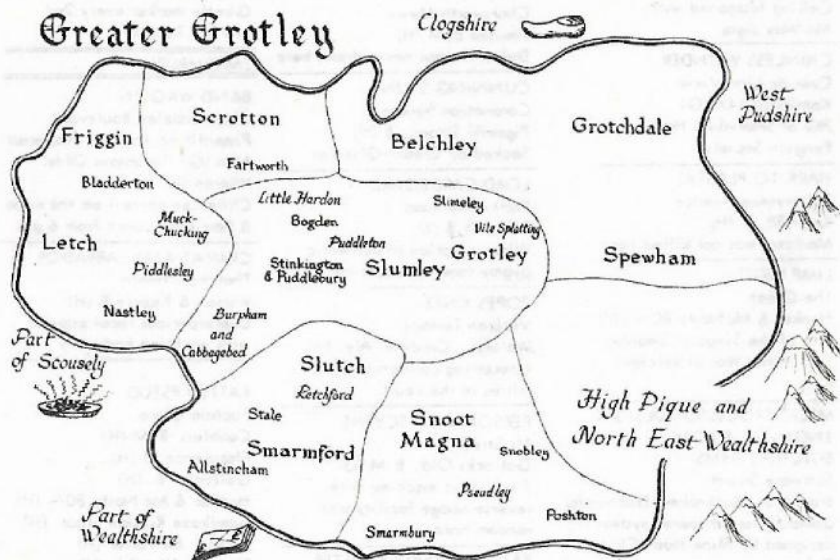
Thatchers Heath
Wilson & Kepple B (H)
Unpretentious local popular
with yachting fraternity

FATTED PSEUD

Fuchsia Close
Cobblers B, M (H)
Flatulence B (H)
Gollocks B (H)
Honker & McNasty 80/- (H)
Kamikaze Russian Stout (H)
Python 6X Porter (H)
Pigswill 4X mild (H)
Throwup 4X mild (H)
Startling array of amber
nectars from the wickets



Greater Grotley



GIN AND JAGUAR

Royal Ascot Mews
Mc Sporrán Welsh (E)
Ceiling festooned with
snuffboxes

POSEURS REST

Pseudley Rise
Boringsads BB (E)
Dwile Flonking on Thursdays

SYCOPHANT

Smarmley Crescent
Wetbed Frathy (H)
Impressive barrel-vaulted gents

SNOBLEY

CARDBOARD PRATT

Lovely Lane
Fartons B,M (H)
Gay graveyard at rear

CRASHING BORE

Yawning Dell
Broddingnags B (H)
Pukes M (E)
Interesting collection of
hopmeters in the lower bar

PRETENDER

Protz Terrace
Molestrangler Diabetic Lager(G)
All beer served in 300ml silver
goblets

PHEASANT PLUCKERS REST

Potters Row
Cobblers Tig Bitter (E)
In the hands of the Spooner
family for 5 generations

REVOLVING CUMMERBUND

Credibility Gap
Brasses B,M (E)
Landlord refuses to discuss
Kierkegaard

SLIGHTLY LESSER TURKS

HEAD Pseud Hill
Nausea B (H)
Cucumber sandwiches in winter

WALTZING MATILDA

The Billabong
Fasters Lager (T)
Ceiling festooned with wallabies

PSEUDLEY

BODKAN 200

Bright Road
Spew BB (E)
An instant pub

CUCUMBER & HEARING AID

McSporran Polish (G)
Newton Apfel (G)
Beowulf slept here

THE BRISTOL

Knockers Lane
Pissenlit 4X Royale, Plastered
Nun (G)
Large, Impressive double
fronted exterior

MONGOL HORDE

& VOLUNTEER Hun Street
Honker & McNasty 120/- (G)
Ask for the cheeky little
bitter from the jug

PONCE AND GASWORKS

Therm Street
Gallacks 7X Barley Wine (G)
A cosy meeting place for
epicureans and beer buffs

PESTILENT PORCUPINE

Spine Street
Fartons Halitosis (H)
Excellent Sachertorte and
Womble Pie

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.

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.

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

THE ROAD TO WIGAN BEER - Including Leigh, Atherton, Standish, Skelmersdale, Newton etc. Fully illustrated, maps. 35p + s.a.e.

*Updated 1979 ** Second Edition 1979 *** Third Edition 1979

Subscriptions

If you want to be sure of getting What's Doing every month, why not subscribe? It costs £1.20 for six issues, postage paid. Fill in the form below and send it together with a cheque or postal order for £1.20 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 _____

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.

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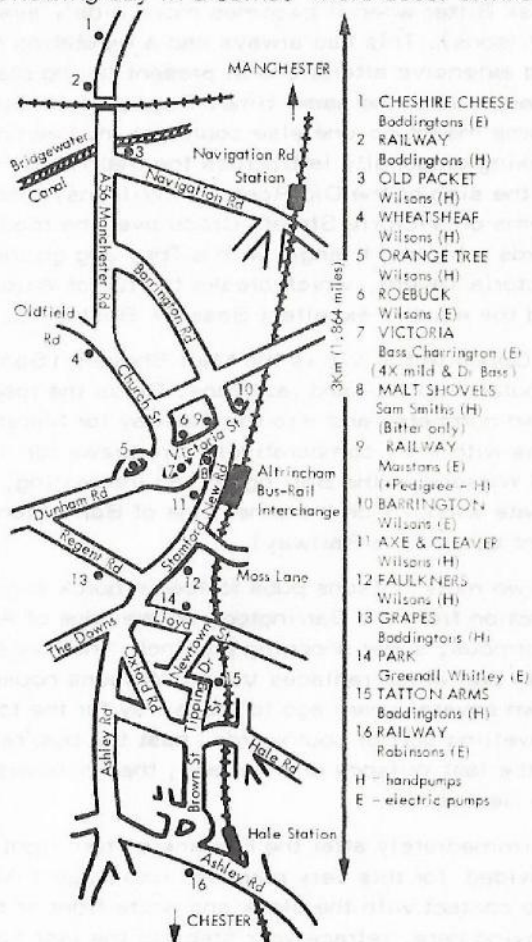
ANNUAL SILLY WALK

(see Branch Diary)

To celebrate the second anniversary of the forming of Trafford and Hulme branch of CAMRA, we are embarking on our regular autumn pub crawl of Broadheath and Altrincham. It has always proved to be a popular little sampling session and we hope as many people as possible will join us somewhere along the route. For statisticians, the route is 3Km (1.864 miles) long and covers 16 real ale pubs offering 14 brews (16 in the strong ale season) from 7 different breweries.

The full crawl is designed for complete lunatics who like an early start and don't mind spending the following day in a coma. More sober drinkers can still enjoy the full range of brews available by starting at No 5 and being selective. The route is designed with public transport in mind and begins with the Cheshire Cheese (Boddingtons) on the 263 bus route from Manchester. Watch out for the black and white frontage and leap out immediately! Train users should disembark at Navigation Road Station and allow ten minutes to walk to the starting point.

Leaving the Cheese, pass the 'Chippy' and on the same side of the road not more than a welly throw away, the terraced house just before the railway bridge is, in fact the Railway (Boddingtons). It is a wonderful, basic house with no spirit licence and not to be missed unless you're fussy about carpets and comfy chairs and silly things like that.



From here, pass under the railway bridge, cross the road over the canal

and immediately on your left is the Old Packet (Wilsons). This is the home of the local sea angling club and was once a staging post for packet boats on the canal. There is a fine panelled bar and the real oak beams are still there under the plastic covering!

Continue along the main road passing the Navigation (fizzy Bass products) and in front of you where the road bends you will see a large black and white building, the Wheatsheaf (Wilsons). Closed for alterations last winter, it is now tastefully modernised, though it is a pity the open fire has to go, replaced by one of those 'pretend' gas ones that send all the heat up the chimney.

A few minutes' walk into Altrincham along the dual carriageway and just before the road bends sharply to the right (hidden behind the Unicorn - fizzy Whitbread at present, but possibly a candidate for their Special Cask Bitter when it becomes more widely available) is the Orange Tree (Wilsons). This has always had a reputation for consistently good beer and extensive alterations at present taking place will enable more people to enjoy it at the same time. Previously a Cyril Smith in each of the two rooms meant no-one else could get in. Leaning against the front door and looking diagonally left across the main road, you should be able to focus on the sign of the Old Roebuck (Wilsons) a comfortable old pub with four rooms on Victoria Street. Cross over the road and stumble forwards towards a blurred triangle with a Toby Jug grinning at you. This is the Victoria Tavern, which breaks the run of Wilsons pubs with draught Bass and the equally excellent Bass 4X Best Mild.

Opposite the Vic is the Malt Shovels (Sam Smiths), a lively pub popular with folk and jazz fans. Cross the road again (one way of running down numbers) and into the Railway for Marstons. After these last three pubs with their comparatively rare brews for the area, it's back to dear old Wilsons in the Barrington, an interesting, triangular shaped pub with ornate windows on the other side of Barrington Road (turn left outside the front door of the Railway).

Two more Wilsons pubs follow in quick succession. Across the road junction from the Barrington, on the edge of Altrincham's great big, huge, enormous, super shopping precinct, the Axe and Cleaver is a comfortable, busy pub which replaces the old Wilsons house of the same name pulled down several years ago to make way for the town centre redevelopment. Travelling sort of southwards, past the bus/rail interchange, on the left is the last Wilsons of the crawl, the Faulkners Arms. Mind the step into the Gents!

Immediately after the Faulkners, turn right (a pedestrian crossing is provided for this very purpose) into Regent Road, where you will come into contact with the black and white front of the Grapes (Boddingtons). Leaving here, retrace your steps to the last junction, turn right and shortly left into Lloyd Street for the Park Hotel (Greenalls). At the time of writ-

ing this pub is closed for renovations and it is possible that one or both of the beers will be no longer real when it reopens, but your trusty guides (and scouts) will be suitably informed by the date of the crawl.

For those who have paced themselves in the manner of Seb Coe, there will be time to spare for the last two ports of call. From the Park, compass bearing SSE, sway gently outside the front door and aim diagonally left through the bus stop, alongside the car park towards the Bakers Arms (fizzy Whitbread, but another possible future gain to Special Cask), at which point turn left, where the Tatton Arms (Boddingtons) should be exerting a magnetic pull in front of you, next to the old folks' club. Our architectural expert tells us it is an inter-war pub because it has metal windows.

A brisk 5 minute walk south, across Hale Road, down Brown Street, brings you out at the Railway, Hale (Robinsons). Congratulations, you've passed your orienteering badge (as well as a few pints during the course of the evening)! The last diesel to Oxford Road leaves Hale Station (one minute from the pub) well after closing time, calling at Altrincham and Sale. The 263 and 264 (plus night service) buses start from Lloyd Street, opposite the Park Hotel and the last electric (stopping) train from Altrincham leaves at 23.20. See you on October 13th.

Mick Rottenbury

GREENALLS SWAPS

Sorry to spoil a good "story"..... but What's Doing has got it wrong.

There is no truth whatsoever in your report that we are throwing traditional beer out of the five Manchester pubs we have taken over recently from Wilsons. (To find out for certain, why not send your intrepid reporter down for a pint or two of Greenall's cask conditioned beer now on sale at all five?)

The Facts: It is not, and never has been, our intention to change from traditional beer at these pubs. They were cask-conditioned beer pubs...and they stay cask conditioned beer pubs.

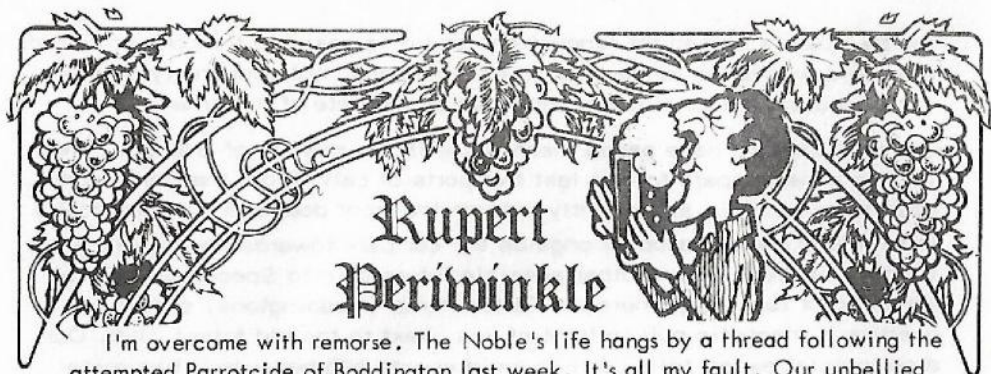
The licensees of the swapped pubs concerned were as surprised as we were when they heard about your story. Incidentally, four of the five are happily staying with Greenall Whitley.

Michael Lane, Group Marketing Manager, Greenall Whitley & Co Ltd.

CASK OFF

Whitbread Special Cask is no longer available at the Green End Hotel, Burnage Lane, Green End.

Humphrey Higgins



I'm overcome with remorse. The Noble's life hangs by a thread following the attempted Parrotcide of Boddington last week. It's all my fault. Our unbelieved adept had turned the corner since the Drabs drip was set up together with four hourly intravenous Vindaloo injections. So cheerful was he that he asked me if I'd take Boddington with me to Bunty's release celebrations. So uncouth and sordid was the whole event that I and my avian companion sought solace in the more comfortable surroundings of the Poseurs Rest. It was during a recital of 7th century Maori songs by electric lutanist, the Very Reverend Nathan Blether, that the incident occurred. Boddington, no doubt constrained by his weeks in hospital, suddenly squawked, "What a load of crap! Put a sock in it!" and was immediately shot by the said man of God. My effete retaliation succeeded merely in bending his plectrum. What might Bunty have done? Fortunately my feathered friend was but winged and after a beak transplant and wing splinting began to recover. Taxidermy was not needed. But as you can imagine the blow was mortifying to someone in the Noble's position and we can only pray for his delivery from his coma. Since the event the Reverend Blether has repented and now leads his flock from the Underpants for Horses Campaign Mission in daily prayer meetings for his victim's master.

It's to be hoped that the Noble recovers in time to mastermind the events he's organised. Apparently only fourteen people have volunteered to serve the 876 megapints of beer that have been ordered for Ally Pally so our hero's dynamism would come in handy. The Noble's illness also prevented his submitting a tender for the Poseurs Rest. This excellent hostelry has now gone to Bloggs of Turdcaster, whose bid of £75,000 just beat Drabs' offer of £8-3-6d. I'm only sad that there'll be a decline in the range of amber nectars on offer but nevertheless wish them luck.

It's interesting that since Bunty's release the self-publicising televisual divorcee, Bogbrush, has thrown in his commission and left the fortunes of Greater Grotley in the no doubt capable hands of some Celtic barbarian. Demys Roussos and his acolytes would have no truck with Dermatitis's bid for power and the indisposed Noble was unable to intervene on his behalf. No doubt when the entourage of our W.G. Grace look-alike supremo assembles in Grotley in September, Bunty and Letitia will give them the stick they deserve, that is if they in turn are not locked up for tax evasion. I have it on good authority that Ned Kelly's yacht was bought with proceeds from his wins at Caesars Palace (Cheade & Gatley branch). The Inland Revenue should give up pestering innocent drinkers and concentrate on moonlighting dockers and other proletarian swindlers.

SHIPPO SHIPPERS

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to have to disappoint Grahame Tonge, whose article in the July edition 'Shippo's in Silly Country' I have just finished reading.

The fact that Shipstone's beers are available from many off-licences in the Manchester area is more likely due to the efforts of my company, as we were marketing these products for quite some time before Greenall Whitley took over Shipstone's. It may be interesting to your readers to know that as well as selling 'Shippo's' in Manchester, we are also selling 'Boddies' in Nottingham.

Although we are guilty of selling many thousands of gallons of the 'Fizzy stuff', nevertheless in many ways we share the sentiments of CAMRA. Though it is not practical for us, as wholesalers, to stock and distribute traditional draught beers, we are however introducing discerning drinkers throughout our area to quality bottled and canned beers from the lesser known breweries. I am quite sure that even the stalwarts of CAMRA will accept that there is a place for these in the take home trade.

If, therefore, you spot Ruddles in Liverpool, Theakstons in Derby, Symonds Scrumpy Jack in Matlock (we also sell 'real cider') or anything else which looks out of place, it could well have come via Glossop.

Yours faithfully,

G Cooper

(Managing Director, J A Cooper & Son (Glossop) Ltd.
Wholesale Distributors of Wines,
Beers, Minerals etc.)

THE GREAT DEBATE

Dear Sir,

In reply to Jim Davies' criticism, I would like to explain that the title 'Pub Crawl' was only used in order to provide a sequence of the pubs in the area to give a minimum of travel.

Only the real ale pubs have the types of beer listed in the initial table (the Newton Heath table was omitted by the editor). Due to the changing pub scene in Manchester, it is essential to include all pubs for the following reasons:

- 1) the list of pubs and map is for future reference
- 2) Wilsons are rapidly changing from non-real to real ale in the area
- 3) Whitbread are introducing their real Cask Bitter
- 4) John Smiths and Wilsons are swapping pubs.

It is possible therefore that in the future all the non-real ale would be real and it is for this reason that they are included - ie. for location purposes.

Conversely, Sam Smiths have withdrawn the real ale from the Bulls Head (Oldham Road) and it is no longer on sale at the Failsworth Arms, yet it was when the article was written. Even though some pubs are non-real for draught beer, the bottled Guinness and White Shield (where available) are real enough, so there is no reason to boycott the pub.

The object of the articles was to bring the attention of CAMRA members to a previously rarely mentioned area which is rich in real ale. Any future articles will be in such a form that even Jim Davies will understand.

Yours faithfully,

D Mason

SPOT THE PUB (2)



This photo has been turned up by Alan Gall in some old records at Wilsons Brewery. The signboards read 'Windmill Hotel' and 'Chadwick's Walmersley Brewery'. Chadwick's Brewery operated in Walmersley, Bury, until the 1920s and it is probable that this pub is (or was) in the Bury area. If anyone can identify it, please 'phone the editor.

ON AND OFF

The Lamb, Tottington Road, Bury, is now selling Whitbread's Special Cask ale but just down the road at the Globe the handpump has disappeared. It was incorrectly reported (What's Doing, July) that the Turf at Prestwich was currently selling this beer.

Steve Lawton