

WHAT'S DOING



DEC
1980

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

MORE PUB SWAPS



Not to be outdone by the news of the recent Whitbread/Tetley/Boddingtons pub swaps, Wilsons and Matthew Brown have announced the following exchanges:

FROM WILSONS TO MATTHEW BROWN

Prince of Wales, Oldham	Hamers Arms, Higher Summers, Bury
Turf, Wash Lane, Bury	Oxford, Rochdale
Dog & Partridge, Greenacres, Oldham	
Wellington Hotel, Ripponden Road, Oldham	
Park Hotel, Shaw	

FROM MATTHEW BROWN TO WILSONS

Derby Arms, Chorley	Brookside Hotel, Darwen
Railway Hotel, Pleasington, Blackburn	
Park Hotel, Darwen	Cemetery Hotel, Blackburn
Pineapple, Blackburn	

The exchanges are due to take place at the end of January 1981

CLUBS - CAUSES FOR CONCERN

At a time when CAMRA is attempting to expand the availability of real ale in clubs, we should also take a critical look at the close liaison between big brewers and the club trade.

Recently the Director of Public Prosecutions has been asked to examine police reports of allegations of corruption in clubs. Stewards and committee officers are alleged to have taken bribes from brewers to stock their products.

There is fierce competition from the brewers to get into the ever increasing club trade; while beer sales in pubs are falling due to the recession, club trade is booming. The brewers give huge loans to clubs which are either interest free or at minimal rates as low as 3%. These loans, by which the brewer 'ties' the club for anything up to ten years, now amount to over £140 millions and it means bad news for pubs, where price increases are passed directly to the publican.

The General Secretary of the Northern Clubs Federation Brewery said, "The pub customer pays more for his beer and the brewers use that money to subsidise the free trade." By buying into clubs, the brewers are getting a tied house on which they have no overheads, no wages and no other liabilities. All they do is supply the beer. One club has been given £10,000 to tie up its lager trade - it didn't need the money so it put it into a building society. Another has had a £40,000 free gift and a £100,000 interest free loan. The brewers are very cagey when it comes to questions about their involvement with clubs. Scottish & Newcastle, for example, last year increased customer loans to £36 millions. "You are on very delicate ground," a spokesman for the brewery said when questioned.

Now allegations of bribery have come to light when a brewery accountant, since sacked, took hundreds of documents, all confidential, to the police, which purported to list hundreds of payments by the brewery to club stewards, secretaries and treasurers to capture their business.

Whether or not these particular allegations are true, they should concern real ale drinkers for two reasons. In the first place, clubs already enjoy unfair advantages over pubs - their far greater freedom in the licensing laws, greater flexibility of hours, lucrative returns on gaming machines which allow massive 'jackpot' payments as opposed to the £1 limit in pubs. Any move by the brewers to make the competition even more unfair should be resisted.

Secondly, and just as important, the prevalence of the unofficial tie is limiting choice in the club trade itself. Only when such restrictions are removed will the clubs really be free to decide for themselves whether or not they want real ale.

Humphrey Higgins

WHAT'S DOING



GOOD NEWS IN GREENGATE

Not long ago, Greengate – that bit of Salford the GMC haven't built a road through yet – was in danger of losing its reputation as a boozer's best friend. But now, with Chesters bitter at the Star (and the Three Crowns not far away) and the re-opening of the Three Legs of Man, things are getting back to normal. The new landlord at the Three Legs is Desmond Byrne, who has come from another Robinsons pub in Stalybridge. Des says trade is bucking up (the pub had been shut for some four months) and it's nice to see the old Three Legs back on its feet again.

THE CASE OF THE VANISHING O.B.B.

Old Brewery Bitter has again disappeared from the Sam Smiths pubs of Rochdale. The Bay Horse, Oldham Road, and the Brownbills, Heights Lane, have lost their handpumps so it seems the real ale has gone forever. Only the two 'Birds' in Milnrow now sell the real stuff.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSES MOUTH

Wilson's traditional beers have been installed in the bar of a new THF motel next to Haydock Park.

TETLEYS FOR THE JUNCTION

Whitefield real ale drinkers will be pleased to hear that the Junction Hotel at Besses o' th' Barn, presently a Whitbread house, is involved in the pub-swap deal with Tetley Walker.

Landlord Brian Durman says he will be serving traditional ale by handpumps when the change over takes place in mid-February 1981. Brian, whose previous pub, the Stanley Arms in Bolton, is in the Good Beer Guide, says he will be pleased to serve real ale again and is aiming to put the Junction Hotel in the guide.

QUIZ

Question: What have Wilsons beers and Holts shares got in common?

Answer: Their prices are soaring. Last month Holts shares stood at 262p and had done for months. They have now soared to a staggering 311p. The Manchester Evening News, playing down takeover rumours, attributed the rise to buying demand in a thin market following the release of excellent interim results.

HIGSTRAORDINARY!

Stockport may have regained a real ale (WD Nov), but Rochdale has lost one. The Wellington on Drake Street, a restaurant-cum-pub, no longer sells traditional Higsons ales. The supply was never guaranteed and so the quality always suffered.

ANNUAL ENDURANCE TEST

The famous Altrincham Route March is with us once again. Details are in Branch Diary. The full crawl has increased to seventeen pubs (eighteen if the Bricklayers has gone over to cask Wilsons) with fifteen different real ales from seven breweries. Maps will be available at the three meeting points and beginners to the course are advised to be selective! For the record, there are seven (or eight) Wilsons pubs, four Boddingtons, two Sam Smiths and one each of Bass, Marstons, Greenalls and Robinsons.

'APPY ARDWICK

Graham and Joan Edwards took over as licensees at the Devonshire, Devonshire Street, Ardwick, on the 17th November. The pub, serving Wilsons mild and bitter on handpumps, has undergone several changes over the past few years and Graham hopes to shift the present emphasis to more entertainment, as opposed to the present plethora of pool tables. It is Graham's first pub and he also hopes to provide a much wider range of bar food than is presently available.

LOCAL CAMRA MAN MAKES GOOD

Oldham has seen some great drinkers in its time but we now have a champion. ROB member Malcolm Hall has out-drunk the field in the race to visit all 126 JW Lees pubs. He intended to do it in a leisurely twelve months but got the taste and did the marathon in fourteen days. His "passport" was stamped at each of the pubs stretching from Ripponden to Anglesey. For his efforts, Malcolm wins a free pub party for himself and his mates (nudge, nudge Malc!) and a "Priority Admission Card" to the Intensive Care Unit of a hospital of his choice.

Morning Star regulars Joe Ramsden and Phil Codd were narrowly pipped into second place. When Joe and Phil staggered back into their local in Shaw, they thought they had gone into the wrong pub. The Morning Star had been moved next door and handpumps had sprouted on the bar. Licensee John Kershaw put their minds at rest by telling them that phase one of the pub's alterations was now complete and "...did they fancy a drink?"

CHESTERS MILD FIGHTS BACK

Chesters Mild in cask conditioned form will be reintroduced sooner than expected. A new Whitbread pub in Crewe called the Last Pint (yes, really) will be selling Chesters mild and bitter through handpumps when it opens on December 9th. Soon afterwards, Whitbread are planning to turn one of their central Manchester pubs into a "free house", selling Chesters and beers from two other breweries.

FROM ONE NIP TO ANOTHER

The site of the old Groves and Whitnall brewery in Salford has been redeveloped and now sports a Datsun garage.

NEW BRANCH MEETING VENUE

Continuing their policy of visiting as many pubs as possible for branch meetings, Trafford & Hulme's venue for January is the Cheshire Midland, Ashley Road, Hale, to celebrate the recent return to cask conditioned Sam Smiths Old Brewery Bitter. There is a large upstairs room and the branch hopes for a good turn out. The first meeting of the new year will give members, sympathisers and critics a chance to air their views and suggest what direction the branch should take in 1981. As always, non-members are particularly welcome.

XMAS CHEER

That much-promoted but rarely available cask conditioned Moonraker from JW Lees will be available at the Woodman in Hollinwood over the Christmas period. A cheeky little brew this; one wonders what Michael Jackson would make of it?

NEW BRUSH?

Good old Joe Holts have applied for permission to extend and alter the Fox Inn in Blackley. The Fox is a house of character with perhaps the best collection of boxing memorabilia this side of Henry Cooper. No doubt the rehoming process will make bland where most it plasticises. Another case of the unspeakable in pursuit of their own ends, destroying the Fox in the process.

HYDES SEEK

Hydes have applied for planning permission to build a pub on Garratt Way, Gorton.

Contributors: Leo King, Steve Lawton, Roger Hall, David Rowlinson, Ian Ogden, Dave Eckett, Mick Rottenbury, Humphrey Higgins, Stewart Revell, Noble

LETTER

Dear Sir,

A letter in the September issue of What's Doing concerned the cheap price of Holts at a pub in Pendlebury. With this in mind, I noted that last week the price of Marstons Pedigree in Corviers Wine Bar (off St Ann's Square) was 52p a pint. I wonder whether readers might be invited to send in monthly suggestions for the cheapest and dearest real ale in Greater Manchester?

"Mancunian"



WONDERFUL WHITBREAD

So they've used their loaf at last. When we surveyed the nineteen Whitbread tied houses in the Trafford & Hulme branch area four months ago, eleven of them were thought to be possible outlets for the new Chesters bitter. In fact eight houses are on the initial list - including two that seemed most unlikely! Hulme has become an even better place to drink with real ale at the Sir Henry Royce, Chichester Road, a modern estate pub opposite the Grand Junction (Hydes - a former National Good Beer Guide pub). Don't worry about the alsatians on the roof, they're scared of heights. Real ale, too, at the Platford, a friendly, if basic, house on Stretford Road near to the Talbot (handpumped Wilsons). On a recent visit to the Platford, the barperson gave a whole new meaning to the phrase "Whitbread Bighead" by presenting me with about a third of a pint of foam. It would have looked nice with a cherry on top. No doubt by now bar staff will have become used to the novelty of pulling pints with a handpump and the head will have subsided to more acceptable levels. The third Hulme outlet to complete the swing is the Bulls Head, Chester Road, where (so I'm told!) exotic dancers are an added attraction at lunchtimes - yes, real laugh and titter. A good area for drinking, this, with Hydes (Hope Inn), Tetleys (Cornbrook) and Marstons (Pomona Palace) all available a few yards along the road.

In Stretford, Chesters bitter had sold out before the end of the first week at the Throstles Nest, Seymour Grove so it would seem to have a good future in this comfortable pub sandwiched between Whalley Range and Old Trafford. It's a good eating place too, and appears in the Egon Ronay Good Food Guide.

The one existing real ale outlet for Whitbread in Sale is the Volunteer, Cross Street. The Special Cask bitter has been replaced with Chesters cask bitter and sales appear to be steady, though unspectacular. We did our best to increase the flow at our November branch meeting!

Out in the country, near the River Bollin at Little Bollington, the Swan with Two

Nicks (not necks as printed in August WD!) had been prepared for real ale for some time. The Swan is a beautiful pub and well worth a visit.

The two surprises are the Wellgreen, Grove Lane, Hale, where the relief manager I spoke to in July thought the cellar to be inadequate and the Bleeding Wolf, Ashley Road, Hale, where the landlord was not in favour of real ale and I got my legs smacked for my impertinence in poking my nose into his business! Both are very good pubs, though, the Wellgreen hosting a popular folk club on Thursdays and the Bleeding Wolf boasting one of the few good pub bowling greens left in the branch area.

Mick Rottenbury

ROAD PLANS FOR MANCHESTER



The road schemes which threaten Salford's pubs (WD October) are not confined to that Dirty Old Town. Plans for the Inner City Relief Road and the Inner Circulatory Route have been on the drawing board for a long time and their construction would involve the destruction of at least eleven Manchester pubs as well as those over the river. The plans are not finalised and may never happen but the latest proposals, which may be encouraged by the recent pretend pedestrianisation of Deansgate and Market Street, would mean the loss of the following pubs:

Ducie Arms	Great Ducie Street	Boddingtons
Bolton Arms	New Bridge Street	Scottish & Newcastle
White Bear	Swan Street	Tetleys
Millstone	Thomas Street	Wilsons
Edinburgh Castle	Blossom Street	Whitbread
Crown & Sceptre	Great Ancoats Street	Whitbread
* Crescent	Great Ancoats Street	Whitbread
Bridge Inn	Great Ancoats Street	Whitbread
Grey Horse	Portland Street	Hydes
Circus Tavern	Portland Street	Tetleys
Peveril of the Peak	Chepstow Street	Wilsons
Pineapple	Water Street	Greenalls

*already closed



Other pubs not in the direct line of the roads, but which are in close proximity and could be affected include the Smiths Arms on Sherratt Street, the Britons Protection and the Gaythorn.

Manchester's pubs have already been decimated by such evidently unnecessary developments as the Arndale Centre. Manchester needs new roads to cut through what's left of the city as much as it needed the Luftwaffe in 1940. Many of the pubs which the roads would destroy date from the early nineteenth century and are irreplaceable. The Bolton Arms is the only S&N pub selling real ale in the city centre, the Grey Horse and the Circus are both tiny pubs of character in a terrace which once housed five pubs. The Peveril of the Peak derives its name from its founder, a retired coachman who drove the coach of the same name on the London run through the Peak District.

The further destruction of our heritage for new roads is a short-term expedient which will have long term repercussions for Manchester. What purpose is there in creating a concrete jungle around which motorists can whizz at will, if in so doing all sense of history and individuality is destroyed?

Roger Hall

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MALTED BARLEY GRAIN Lager Malt, Pale Malt, Crystal Malt

26p 1lb £1.65 7lb £11.50 25kg (55lb)

CRUSHED MALT GRAIN 28p 1lb £1.76 7lb £12.50 25kg (55lb)

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MULTIBREWERY PUB SWAP



Tetley, Whitbread and Boddingtons are swapping 25 pubs in January. The exercise will give Whitbread more of a foothold in the Wigan area, Tetley will gain outposts in the wilds of Kendal, Clitheroe and Heywood, and Boddingtons will move in to Leigh and double the number of their tied houses in Bolton.

The list is as follows:-

Tetley to Whitbread

Honeysuckle, Pool Street, Wigan	Saracens Head, Wigan Lane, Wigan
Belle Vue, Woodhouse Lane, Wigan	Miners, City Road, Orrell
Foundry, Warrington Road, Wigan	Sir Robert Peel, Wigan Road, Hindley
Derby, Castle Hill Road, Hindley	Guardians, Frog Lane, Wigan
Hare and Hounds, Billinge Road, Wigan	

Whitbread to Tetley

Castle Hotel, Castle Street, Kendal	Board Inn, Corn Market, Penrith
Robin Hood, Whalley Banks, Blackburn	Black Horse, Abbey Street, Accrington
Brown Cow, Moor Lane, Clitheroe	Lord Raglan, Water Street, Radcliffe
Junction, Bury New Road, Whitefield	Dressers Arms, Dawson Street, Heywood
Staff of Life, Manchester Road, Bury	

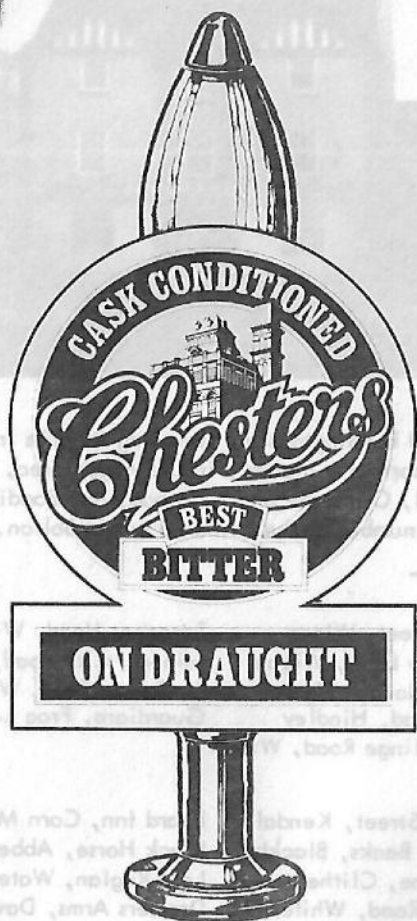
Tetley to Boddingtons

Masonic, Devonshire Square, Runcorn	Three Crowns, Chapel Street, Leigh
Gilnow, Deane Road, Bolton	British Volunteer, Lord Street, Leigh

Boddingtons to Tetley

Junction, Queens Road, Manchester	Millstone, Blackley New Rd, Blackley
British Protection, Walmsley Street, Stalybridge	

Chesters Best Bitter in Cask is brewed at the long established Salford brewery, brewed traditionally to re-create that distinctive flavour of real cask bitter.



Chesters Best Bitter in Cask is going down well. Look for the new sign at your local Whitbread house and in certain Free Trade Clubs.

Salford

Queens, Regent Road, London North Western, Cross Lane.
Town Hall Tavern, Cleminson Street. Flat Iron, Church Street.
Salford Arms, Chapel Street. Star, Greengate.
Tallow Tub, Chapel Street. Three Crowns, King Street.
Unicorn, Lower Broughton Road. Two Brewers, Regent Road.
Albert, Short Street. Broughton, Grosvenor, Great Clowes St.
Vavasour, Cottenham Lane, Lower Broughton.
Duke of York, Church Street, Eccles.
Swan, Eccles New Road, Weaste. Hobsons Choice, Oldfield Road.

Manchester

Gold Cup, Royds Close, St Matthews Tavern.
Tonman Street, Deansgate, Crown and Anchor, Hilton Street.
Fox Tavern, Clayton Lane. Crown and Cushion, Corporation St.
Waldorf, Gore Street. Red Bull, Mason Street.
White Lion, Liverpool Road.
Ox noble, Liverpool Road. Abercrombie, Bootle Street.

Ancoats

Cob of Coal, Winder Avenue. Crown, Weybridge Road.

Ardwick

Hyde Road Hotel, Hyde Road. General Birch, Ashton Old Rd.
Star and Garter, Fairfield Street.

Bridge Inn, Great Ancoats Street.

Ashton-Under-Lyne

Ashton Hotel, Katherine St. Dog and Partridge, Oldham Rd.

Spread Eagle, Stamford Street.

Andenshaw

Junction, Whitehead Street.

Blackley

Heaton Park, Middleton Road.

Bradford

Bradford Hotel, Mill Street. Old Brewery, Bell Crescent.

Victoria, Grey Mare Lane.

Collyhurst

Billy Greens, Talgarth Road.

Chorlton-cum-Hardy

Royal Oak, Barlow Moor Road.

Clayton

Sir Humphrey Chetham, Ashton New Road.

Denton

Chapel House Hotel, Stockport Road.

Kings Head, Crown Point, Jolly Hatters, Town Lane.

Didsbury

Olde Cock Inn, Wilmslow Road.

Droylsden

Royal Oak, Manchester Road. White Hart, Market Street.

Yew Tree, Edge Lane.

Fallowfield

Sherwood, Wilmslow Road.

Gorton

Haxby, Haxby Road, Marsland, Longnor Walk.

Aces, Clowes Street. Gardeners Arms, Gorton Lane.

Junction, Hyde Road.

Hollinwood

Railway, Railway Road.

Hulme

Platform, Stretford Road.

Sir Henry Royce, Chichester Road.

Bulls Head, Chester Rd.

Levenshulme

Railway, Stockport Road.

Longsight

Farmers Arms, Stockport Road.

Middleton

Roebuck, Kirkway.

Moss Side

Talbot, Sloane Street.

New Cross

O'Connell Arms, Oldham Road.

Openshaw

Halfway House, Ashton Old Road.

Grey Mare, Ashton Old Road.

Prestwich

Park Hotel, Lowther Road.

Rusholme

Parkside, Lloyd Street South.

Stretford

Throstles Nest, Seymour Grove.

Withington

Old House at Home, Burton Road.

Talbot, Mauldeth Road.

Cheshire

Alderley Edge

Brookfield, Brook Lane.

Altrincham

Swan with Two Nicks, Little Bollington.

Crewe

Brunel, West Street. Kings Arms, Earle Street.

Cumberland, Middlewich Street.

Prince of Wales, West Street. Brunswick, Nantwich Road.

Dukinfield

Dukinfield Arms, Johnsons Brook.

Gatley

Red Lion, Church Road.

Hale

Bleeding Wolf, Ashley. Well Green, Grove lane.

Hyde

Clarendon, Market Street. Queens, Clarendon Place.

Wheatsheaf, Manchester Road.

Knutsford

Post Chaise, Princess Street.

Lymm

Crown, Booth's Hill Road.

Marple

Otters Pool, Wood Lane.

Romiley

Romiley Arms, Compstall Road.

Sale

Volunteer, Cross Street.

Stockport

White Lion, Great Underbank.

Railway, Gorton Road.

Houldsworth, Houldsworth Road.

Winsford

Travellers Rest, Main Road Moulton.

White Lion, Delamere Street.

Derbyshire

Griffin, Market Street, Broadbottom.

Commercial, Manor Park Rd., Glossop.

Nags Head, Charlestown Road, Glossop.

Spread Eagle, Woolley Bridge, Glossop.

Clubs and Free Houses

Blackley Golf Club.

Ashton-under-Lyne Golf Club.

Laughing Cavalier, Market Street, Stalybridge.

The Bulls Head, Moltram, St. Andrews.

The Rose & Crown, Tunstead Milton.

Heald Green Social Club.

R.A.F. A. Club, Sharston, Wythenshawe.

B.R.S.A. Piccadilly.

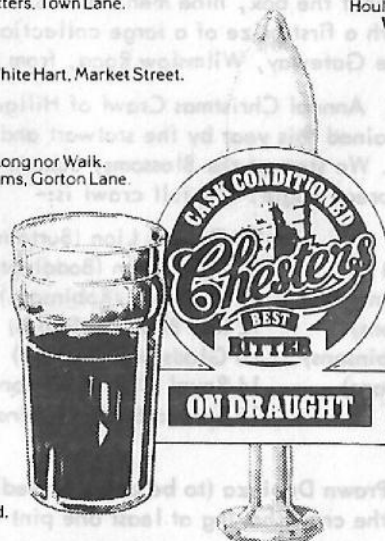
Keele University, Lindsay Hall.

Syd's Bar, Newcastle Under Lyme.

Bucknall Bowling Club.

Irlam Catholic Club.

Hunters Lodge, Crewe.





CHRISTMAS WITH CAMRA



To get members in trim for the festive season the South Manchester branch are organising two events this year. First, our branch meeting on the 11th December will be a social pub games night. We are hoping to provide a wide range of traditional pub games - shove ha'penny, shut the box, nine men's morris etc, as well as a hot pot supper and a special raffle with a first prize of a large collection of nationwide old ales. Everyone welcome at the Gateway, Wilmslow Road, from 8.00pm.

On a more sober note, the Annual Christmas Crawl of Hillgate (Stockport) will be held on the 19th December, joined this year by the stalwart and upright members of the North Manchester branch. We start at the Blossoms, Buxton Road, at 7.00pm and go downhill to finish at the Spread Eagle. The full crawl is:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1 Blossoms (Robinsons) | 9 Golden Lion (Burtonwood) |
| 2 Wheatsheaf (Wilsons) | 10 Black Lion (Boddingtons) |
| 3 Royal Mortar (Robinsons) | 11 Waterloo (Robinsons) (optional extra) |
| 4 Bowling Green (Wilsons) | 12 Red Bull (Robinsons) |
| 5 Flying Dutchman (Robinsons) | 13 Gladstone (Tetleys) |
| 6 Star & Garter (Robinsons) | 14 Royal Oak (Robinsons) |
| 7 Rams Head (Wilsons) | 15 Spread Eagle (Robinsons) |
| 8 Crown (Wilsons) | |

A special prize of a King Prawn Dupiaza (to be eaten immediately) will be awarded to the person who completes the crawl having at least one pint in each.

Humphrey Higgins

BURY BEER FESTIVAL

Worried ROB committee members could be seen anxiously surveying the deserted streets in the centre of Bury on the night before the recent Bury Beer Fest. Its resemblance to a graveyard was striking. But, we are pleased to say, the real ale boozers of Bury did themselves proud on the following night and over the weekend. The festival was sold out of ale by 9.30 on Saturday night. By then a out 1,500 people had guzzled down more than 5,000 pints of amber, and not so amber, nectars followed by enormous quantities of black peas and black puddings - definitely a recipe for disaster. Apologies to the people turned away at the door on Saturday, but what good is a beer festival with only one beer available?



Many thanks to all CAMRA helpers and Derby Hall staff. Thanks also to 'mine hosts' at the Wheatsheaf and the Coach and Horses, Whitefield, for their assistance. Also special thanks to our entertainers, Callisto and the Failsworth Brass Band. (who was that bloke on the big drum?). Here's looking forward to another festival next year.

Steve Lawton



REAL ALE AND GOLF



The Real Ale Golf Society was founded at the Red Lion, Prestwich, by local players who prefer real ale at the nineteenth hole. Golfers dedicated to cask and course increased the membership to such an extent that a rule was introduced limiting RAGS to a manageable 24 members.

New members came from far and wide. Mike Davies, the current hon. secretary, lives in Warrington and Mike Bainton, one of the two landlords in the Society, runs the New Inn (Hydes), Wilmslow. Today local members frequent the New Grove and the Eagle and Child, two Holts pubs in Whitefield. Les Mitchell of the New Grove is the second landlord, whilst Tony Smith of the Eagle and Child

is bidding to become the third.

During the season RAGS had four meetings with an aggregate prize for the best three from any four scores, and a knock-out trophy. The aggregate prize and two of the four meetings were sponsored and sponsorship for the third meeting has been promised for the 1981 season. The 1980 season closed on 26 September with Invitation Day. Members invited a guest whose qualifications had to be a love of golf and real ale. The venue was Stand Golf Club where, after dinner, the winners were presented with their prizes and trophies.

The Real Ale Golf Society is professionally run by lovers of golf and good beer. Further information from M Davies, 151 Longford Street, Orford, Warrington, Cheshire. Photo: RAGS Committee and Thwaites beer.

David Rowlinson, Mike Ramsbottom



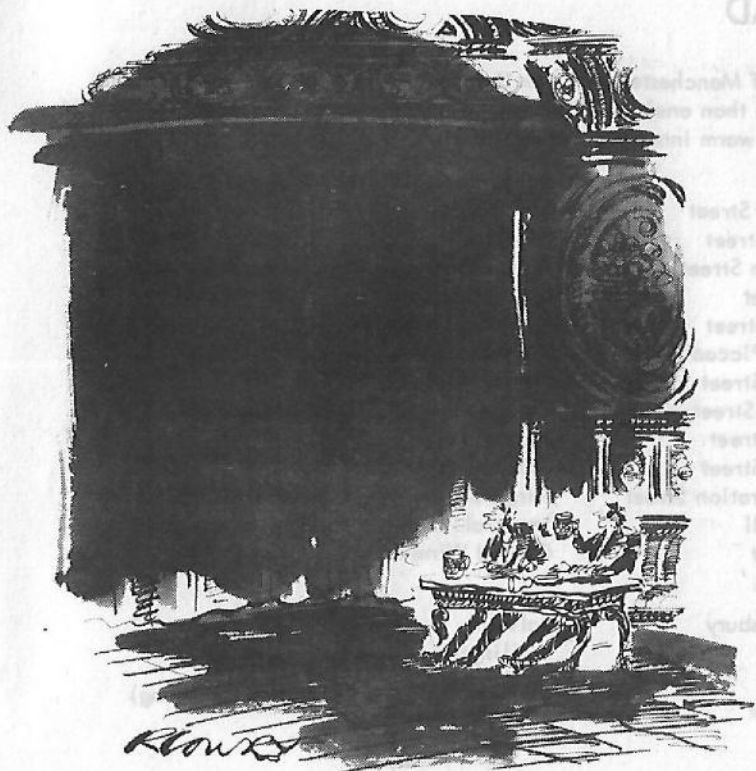
Rupert Periwinkle is on holiday.

Next month What's Doing will be publishing its own New Years Honours List and handing out Elsie's for achievements in the amber nectar related fields. Nominations are sought for such categories as the most charming landlord in the whole world, the most useful pub swap ever, Obese Biryani Eaters, Kebab Gobblers, the most naive brewer, the most plastered landlady and anything else which springs to mind like the Luftwaffe architecture prize.



CHRISTMAS QUIZ

The winner of Rupert's Christmas Quiz is Humphrey Higgins, with an amazing 44 out of 45 answers correct. Humphrey passed on question 7: "Where is the Lord Snooty?" The answer was, of course, Molestrangler Crescent. The runners up were David Marsden and Brian Fcoo, who will receive signed portraits of Elsie Clockwork-Nun.



"That's how I like to see a beautiful summer sunset - through the bottom of a glass of a fiercely debilitating alcoholic mixture behind the tightly drawn curtains of a lounge bar."

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Taylor's Ram Tam

Lees Moonraker

Taylor's Porter

Thwaites Best Mild

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ASK YER DAD

On the left is a list of Manchester pubs, on the right, mixed up, are their previous names (some had more than one) See if you can match them up. No prizes for getting them right - just that warm inner glow of satisfaction!

City, Oldham Street
Rembrandt, Sackville Street
Churchill, Chorlton Street
Paddy's Goose, Bloom Street
Rosies Bar, York Street
Grenadier, Oldham Street
Imperial Ale House, Piccadilly
Shady Lady, Oxford Street
Auld Reekie, Market Street
Tommy Ducks, Bale Street
Cox's Bar, Windmill Street
Isaac Newton, Corporation Street
The Brewers, Pall Mall
Oscars, Cooper Street

Royal Central Hotel
The Waldorf
Albert
New Mancunian
Sportsmans Bar
King & Coronation
The Fleece Inn
The York
Ogden Arms
Samuel Pepys
Mechanics Arms
Kingston
Imperial
Oxford Wine Bar
Beef and Barley
Princess Tavern
Cork and Screw
Young Pretender
The Tavern

SUBURBAN PUBS

Old Grey Horse, Didsbury
Turnpike, Withington
Gold Cup, Longsight
Manhattan, Collyhurst

Salvage
Wellington
Wellington
Wellington
Cavalcade

(set by Leo King)

Subscriptions

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These are available from the above address at 10p a copy. Please send a large s.a.e.

What's Doing COPY DATE for January is Thurs 18th December

What's Doing is edited by Neil Richardson, 51 Lime Street, Farnworth, Bolton. Farnworth 78138

JOIN CAMRA

To join CAMRA send £5.00 to: Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 3BW

Real Ale Guides

The following publications are available from Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester. The guides are updated from time to time so if you know of any changes please contact the relevant branch - see Branch Diary.

REAL ALE IN HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE -

Including Marple, Hyde, Ashton, Audenshaw, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, Mossley & Denton. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SOUTH MANCHESTER -

Gorton, Openshaw, Clayton, Didsbury, etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN STOCKPORT -

Hazel Grove, Cheadle, Heaton Mersey, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN SALFORD -

Swinton, Eccles, Irlam, Worsley 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ROCHDALE -

Heywood, Littleborough, Middleton etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ROSSENDALE -

Bacup, Haslingden, Helmshore, Rawtenstall etc 10p + s.a.e.

INNS OF MAN -

Illustrated comprehensive guide to the island's tied houses 50p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN TRAFFORD & HULME -

Altrincham, Sale, Urmston etc. with maps 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN CENTRAL MANCHESTER -

A comprehensive guide to the real ale outlets within 1 mile of St Peter's Square. Map, illustrated 50p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN OLDHAM -

Failsforth, Royton, Chadderton, Shaw, Saddleworth, 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN BURY -

Ramsbottom, Radcliffe, Tottington, Whitefield, Prestwich, 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN MANCHESTER NORTH -

city centre, Ancoats, Collyhurst, Newton Heath, Moston, Blackley, Cheetham etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN CENTRAL AND NORTH CHESHIRE -

Warrington, Widnes, Runcorn, Lymm, Frodsham, Northwich, Middlewich and Winsford 10p + s.a.e.

THE ROAD TO WIGAN BEER -

Leigh, Atherton, Standish, Skelmersdale, Newton etc, fully illustrated, maps. 35p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN ST HELENS -

Sutton, Peasley Cross, Thatto Heath, Moss Nook, Eccleston, Parr, etc 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN GREATER GROTLEY -

Slumley, Smarmford & Slutch, Poshton & Pseudley 10p + s.a.e.

GREATER MANCHESTER GOOD BEER GUIDE -

A selective guide to about 1,000 pubs in Greater Manchester - Bury, Stockport, Oldham, Salford, Trafford, Wigan, Bolton, Rochdale, Leigh, Tameside, etc. 64pp. £1.00 + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN BURY METRO -

A 20-page guide to Whitefield, Ramsbottom, etc, with maps, illustrated, brewery history, etc. 50p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN HIGH PEAK Inc. Glossop, New Mills, Whalley Bridge, Buxton 15p + s.a.e.

Pub & Brewery Histories

The following publications are available from

Alan Gall, 22 Stoneleigh Drive, Stoneclough,

Radcliffe, Manchester M26 9HA

SALFORD'S PUBS No1 -

Hanky Park, Regent Road, Cross Lane, Walker & Homfrays, etc. 78p inc post.

SALFORD'S PUBS No2 -

Greengate, Chapel St, Ordsall, Threfalls, small breweries etc. 78p inc postage

SALFORD'S PUBS No3 -

Broughton, Weaste, early inns, Groves & Whitnall, demolition, etc. 78p inc postage

SALFORD'S PUBS No4 -

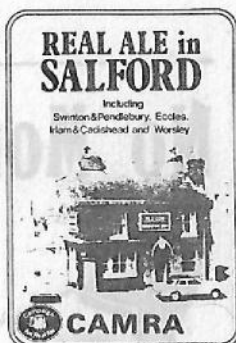
Pubs 50 years ago, alehouses of 1600s, 100 years of brewing, pub names 93p inc post

WIGAN'S PUBS No1 -

Town centre, Newtown Brewery, Aireys, Oldfield, Albion breweries etc 47p inc post

WIGAN'S PUBS No2 -

Scholes, early inns, brewing in and around Wigan, surrounding pubs 47p inc postage



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A Sample of the Great Coza Powder will be sent Free of Charge.

May be administered in coffee tea, milk, beer, water, liqueurs or solid food without the partaker's knowledge.

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COZA POWDER has reconciled thousands of families, saved from shame and dishonour thousands of men and transformed them into sturdy citizens and capable business men. It has led many a young man along the direct road to good fortune, and has prolonged by several years the lives of many individuals.

COZA POWDER is guaranteed to be perfectly harmless

and the institute which owns this famous powder send free to all applicants a sample and a book containing several hundred testimonials.

Coza Powder may be obtained at all chemists, and at the following depot in Salford:

THOM. R. JEANS & CO., 2 and 4, CROSS LANE,
where the book will be given gratis to callers only.

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Write to-day. Cut this out as not to forget.

Beware of imitations The Great Coza Powder is the only genuine Powder for drunkenness.



Branch Diary

SOUTH MANCHESTER

- Thurs Dec 11th: Christmas Social, Gateway, Wilmslow Road, E Didsbury. Pub games night - shove ha'penny, Shut the box etc. Raffle - 1st prize collection of Old Ales. Free hot pot supper. 8.00pm onwards
 Mon Dec 15th - Pub of the month - White Swan Hotel, Green Street, off Ladybarn La, Fallowfield, M14 (Robinsons) 8.00pm onwards
 Fri Dec 19th - 2nd Annual Hillgate Crawl. 7.00pm Blossoms, Buxton Road, 7.30 Wheatsheaf, Higher Hillgate, 8.30 Star and Garter. (With N Manchester)
 Thurs Jan 8th - Branch Meeting, Castle, Oldham Street, Manchester 1 (Note change of venue)
 Contact Humphrey Higgins 432 0059

SOUTH LANCASHIRE

- Weds 10 Dec Branch Meeting, Whitesmiths, Wigan 8.30
 Tues 16th Dec Wigan Crawl. 7.15 Old Pear Tree, 8.30 Woodhouse Inn
 Weds 14 Jan AGM Old Pear Tree, Wigan 8.00. All members please attend. Raffle, Buffet and Pub of the Year competition
 Contact: Ian Ogden Wigan 79534

NORTH MANCHESTER

- Weds 7 Jan. Pub Crawl of Pendleton, Church 7.00, Railway 8.30
 Weds 14th Jan Committee/Social Duke of York, Eccles 8.00pm
 Weds 21 Jan Branch Meeting, White Swan, Swinton 8.00pm
 Fri Dec 19th - Hillgate Crawl with S Manchester (see above)
 There will be no trip in January (Mandatory post-Yuletide drying-out period)
 Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

- Tues 9th Dec 8.00pm Branch meeting Angel (Lees) Shaw Rd, Royton
 Tues 16th Dec 7.30pm Xmas Social Hot pot supper, Ring o Bells (Lees) via New Street, Middleton
 Tues 13 Jan 8.00pm Branch Meeting, Old Blue Bell (Wilsons) Bell Lane, Bury
 Tues 20th Jan 8.00pm Committee Meeting Napier (Thwaites), Bolton Street, Bury
 Contact Steve Lawton 061 236 4411 ext 7236 or 061 620 9239

TRAFFORD & HULME

- Sat 13 Dec Broadheath-Altrincham-Hale pub crawl. 6.30 Railway, Broadheath; 7.30 Orange Tree, 8.30 Railway (Marstons), Altrincham
 Mon 15 Dec 8.00pm Pub of the Month (with S M/c branch), White Swan, Green St, Fallowfield
 Thurs 18 Dec 8.00pm Branch Meeting, Malt Shovels, Altrincham
 Mon 5th Jan Tetley Brewery Visit
 Weds 7 Jan 8.00pm Committee/Social: Lloyds Arms, Higher Ormond St, Hulme
 Thurs 15 Jan 8.00pm Branch Meeting, Cheshire Midland, Ashley Rd, Hale
 Contact Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (home)

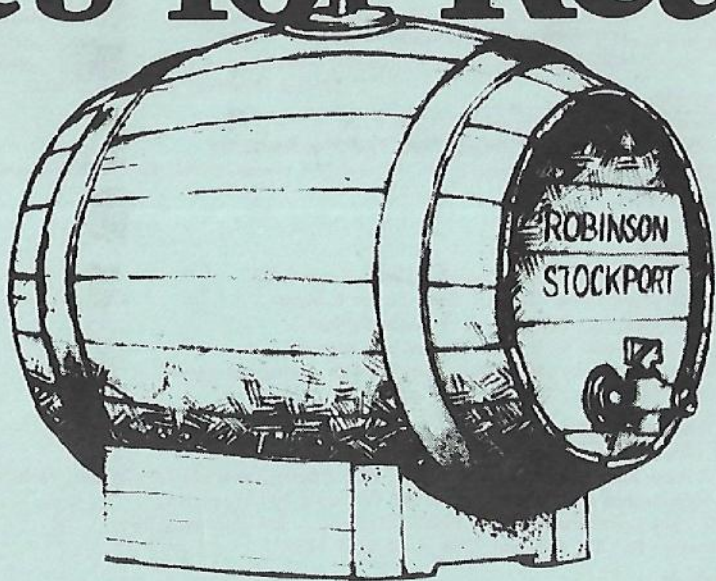
PUB OF THE MONTH

The South Manchester Branch Pub of the Month for December is the White Swan Hotel, Green Street, Fallowfield. The pub is one of the few Robinsons houses in South Manchester and serves best mild and best bitter on electric pumps and Old Tom (in season) on gravity. The White Swan was built in 1929 as a Kays house and the Kays sign can still be seen on the front of the pub. It opened as a Robinsons house following their takeover of Kays that year.

It has been a National Good Beer Guide pub since 1975 and the present tenants, Steve and Jean Weston, have been there since March of that year, having previously been at the Printers at New Mills. Among Steve's hobbies is bottle collecting and an impressive array of over 400 bottled beers, all full, adorns shelves around the pub. Due to Christmas, the Social and Presentation night has been brought forward to Monday December 15th, and all members and friends are invited to what promises to be an excellent 'do'.

Humphrey Higgins

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.

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



Always available from Unicorn Wine, 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.**