

10p

# WHAT'S DOING

SEPT  
1981

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

## LIGHT MILD GAIN



The Rawsons Arms, Peel Street, Farnworth (near the station) is now selling Burtonwood light mild. Alongside the electric pumps for bitter and dark mild is a light mild handpump, provided by CAMRA as part of the campaign to promote this excellent beer. The brewery intended to drop the beer but, after protests from CAMRA, have deferred their decision for six months, depending on how it goes. The Rawsons Arms is a many-roomed pub which has recently been recarpeted and decorated and is well worth a visit.



# HOP STORY SCOTCHED

August WD reported that the newly opened Last Hop (previously the Turville), Chester Road, Cornbrook, showed no change in the range of beers - "Still the Bass range of fizzy rubbish". The author would not make much of a career out of prophecy. The Last Hop opened on July 27th - four days after the deadline for the August issue!

In fact, Bass Cask Bitter is available, dispensed by handpump, at 52p in the vault and 54p in the lounge. I suspect CAMRA's influence had much to do with the decision to try a real ale alongside the 'fizzy' Stones bitter, Toby Light, etc. After the first two weeks Cask Bitter had captured 25% of the bitter sales in the pub - not bad considering few people knew of its existence!

The Last Hop is managed by Malcolm and Vivienne James, who previously looked after the Phoenix on Oxford Road (where draught Bass was available for a while, but was withdrawn because of poor sales). They are delighted to be able to offer real ale and if it proves popular there is plenty of cellar space for them to change over to the cask versions of the other beers in the Bass range.

The new name of the pub is in honour of the last brew produced when the building was part of the Cornbrook Brewery (shut down by Bass in 1973); other parts of the old brewery are used by Bass for offices. The top floors were recently gutted by fire, which provided the opportunity for complete redecoration and a certain amount of rebuilding, both of which have been carefully carried out to retain the original appearance of the building, which deserves listing - if it is not already listed.

Hours of opening are 11.30 - 3.00 lunchtimes and full evening hours apart from Saturday (7.00 - 11.00). Full meals are available lunchtimes and snacks in the evenings.

The addition of Cask Bitter to the Last Hop means that the Cornbrook area now has six real ale pubs, tied to six different breweries: Pomona Palace (Marstons), Cornbrook (Tetleys), Hope (Hydes), Bulls Head (Whitbread) and Manchester Regiment (Greenalls) being the others. All six are visible if you stand outside the Bulls Head!

Mick Rottenbury

(The piece about the Last Hop in last month's WD came from a Bass employee, who shall be nameless, taken out and shot.)

## WHAT'S DOING

### TENT TENANT

Tetleys have reassessed the Gypsies Tent in Bolton and a new tenant has moved in. Closure plans would appear to have been put off for the time being.

### FOR SALE

The Stanley (Wilsons), The Rock, Bury, after being closed for at least 12 months

is rumoured to be coming up for disposal - possibly with the licence intact?  
Wilsons closed and boarded up another Salford pub last month - the Kings Arms on Oldfield Road.

#### SILLY BILLY

Last month we intimated that the revamped King William IV, Springfield Lane, Salford, was selling traditional Boddingtons and Tetleys. Well it ain't - the Tetley is keg.

#### REAL ALE AT THE ROMPER

The Romper Inn on Marple Ridge, between Disley and Marple, now serves Marstons Pedigree and Theakstons bitter on electric pumps. The Romper has a wide reputation as an eating house, which is bound to be enhanced with the attraction of real ale!

#### SECOND BURY BEER FESTIVAL

Following the huge success of last year's festival in Bury, the Rochdale, Oldham & Bury branch of CAMRA are to run the event once more. The Derby Hall, Market Street, Bury, is the venue and the festival will be open at both lunchtime and evening sessions, Friday and Saturday, 4th and 5th December. Watch this space for more details.

#### MOOR TOP CAUGHT ON THE HOP

The delay until October in re-introducing cask-conditioned beers to the Moor Top, Heaton Moor, caused a flurry of activity for Wilsons' sign writers. The newly erected sign proclaiming "traditional draught beers" was hurriedly altered to read "excellent draught beers" after a call from the office of fair trading.

#### WOOF ! (2)

Hot on the heels of the successful beer tent at the Ashton Canal Festival in July, the High Peak Branch of CAMRA are to run a bar at the Hayfield Sheep Dog Trials and County Show, which is to be held at Spray House Farm, Little Hayfield, on Saturday and Sunday 19th and 20th September.

Important details for the beer drinker are that the bar will be open 12.00-7.00pm Saturday and 12.00-5.00pm Sunday, and that the beers available will be Robinsons (bitter and mild), Burtonwood (bitter and light mild), Marstons Pedigree, Theakstons (bitter and Old Peculier), Wilsons (bitter and mild) and, it is hoped, from Winkles, a Special Bitter brewed for the event.

The site is near the Lantern Pike pub (Wilsons GBG) in Little Hayfield on the Hayfield to Glossop Road (A624). Nearest railway station is New Mills Central, with a regular bus service, Marple to Hayfield, passing the station.

Regular What's Doing readers are asked to abstain from singing "I only had eyes for ewe" or making questionable remarks about Wellingtons.

#### TURF TAVERN TURNABOUT

The Turf Tavern, Prestwich, is the latest Whitbread pub to go over to real ale. Extensive alterations to the cellar could mean several months' delay but landlord Carl Healey feels it will be worth waiting for. Handpumps will be returning to this one-time Duttons house to dispense Chesters and Boddingtons ales.



It is to be hoped that Whitbread will take the keen local competition into consideration when determining their prices - only one of the five nearby real ale pubs charges 'yer ten bob pint'. Just up the road is the St Margarets Hotel, which will become the only fizz pub in the area, where Snotes is sold at an extortionate 55p and mild goes for 53p. The cost of four pints in the 'Maggies' will buy almost five in the nearby Parkside (Boddingtons).

#### ALEX ALOHA

The Big Alex, as it is now officially known, has reopened as an amusement centre with a Tropical Bar. Coco-ribe a speciality?

#### CHESTERS

The Broughton Hotel, Great Cheetham Street, Salford 7, has now been revamped in Chesters style. The formerly dismal exterior now looks magnificent, with the original ironwork, brickwork and marble really standing out. However, inside, despite cask Chesters bitter on handpumps, the various musical activities (heavy rock, country & western and flashing lights discos) leave much to be desired. Plans for an upstairs 'vault' include pinball, space invaders, pool, etc. You have been warned!

#### NO ASH IN THE OAK

The Royal Oak, Mellor, erstwhile and present Good Beer Guide entry, has banned smoking throughout the pub.

#### WELCOME INN TO CAMRA

Colin Openshaw, landlord of the Welcome Inn (Holts), Whitefield - a GBG pub - joined CAMRA recently. Colin is proud of his CAMRA mirror, which takes pride of place under lighting and at present features the 'King & Di'. Now the wedding is over, perhaps we will see Rupert & Elsie in their place.

#### GONE AWAY

The Hydeaway in Hyde has now closed. Also in Hyde, the Navigation, formerly a free house, began selling the products of Watney-related companies - Websters, Wilsons, etc, after reportedly being bought by Wilsons. But it is now selling Boddingtons. Curious, to say the least.

#### NEW PUBS

If the bricks are still there after the recent trouble, Hydes are building a new pub to replace the Denmark on Upper Lloyd Street, Moss Side. The brewery are also building a new pub near the Lake Hotel at Belle Vue and the restoration of the New Inn in Wilmslow is now virtually complete.

#### FAREWELL

The George Hotel (Boddingtons), Prestwich, said goodbye to its long serving landlady last month. Joyce Worthington and her late husband took over the pub in 1960 and Joyce continued as landlady after being widowed in 1966.

The George has been well known for its excellent bowling green for nearly 100 years and still is a venue for many top bowling tournaments. Joyce joined in the long tradition by being President of the George Hotel Bowling Club, President of the Salford Workshops League and Vice President of the Prestwich & Whitefield League during her years as landlady.

The regulars gave Joyce a tear-jerking farewell and we all wished her the very

best on her retirement from the trade. The new landlord, Ken Magarry - a CAMRA member - came from the Selbourne Hotel, Frenchwood, Preston. David Rowlinson

### SHAME

The Grapes, Liverpool Road, Peel Green, Eccles, has a sad-looking back room. This echo of a past era, redolent with spectres of many mis-spent youths, has now lost its raison d'être, ie the snooker table has been removed. It will shortly be replaced with - you've guessed it - pool tables.

### IRLAM NEWS

Wilsons intend to spend thousands of pounds renovating the games room-cum-vault at the White Lion, Higher Irlam, and it is expected to re-emerge as something completely different. Real ale was introduced in the summer of 1979 and at the same time there was an extensive refurbishment of the lounge bar. These changes have proved commercially successful, hence, no doubt, the investment for the relatively dilapidated vault area. Let us hope that the money is again wisely spent.

On the other side of Liverpool Road, Whitbread are giving the Old Nags Head the full Chesters treatment. The pub has been redecorated inside and out and the old Chesters lettering has been re-emphasised, augmenting the old front windows which advertise the pub's wares in the time-honoured manner.

Another Irlam pub, the White Horse, was revamped in late 1980. There is a completely new lounge, which has been well designed and tastefully furnished. Mercifully, the vault has not been altered to any great degree. The pub serves handpumped Tetley mild and bitter and Warrington Ale and is Irlam's entry for the 1982 Good Beer Guide.

### PUB ALTERATIONS

Work is at an advanced stage at the Weavers, Huddersfield Road, Oldham. This Lees pub, selected for the 1982 GBG by the local branch, is a boisterous and friendly house, well worth a visit whilst exploring the real ale pubs of the Hill Stores area.

### HEYWOOD BEER FESTIVAL

The Rochdale, Oldham & Bury branch of CAMRA are to assist in the organisation of a real ale festival at the Civic Hall, Heywood, on the weekend 23rd/24th October (Friday/Saturday). The festival is to be run by the Heywood Lions and all proceeds will go to charity. CAMRA will provide technical assistance and advice in return for the provision of a publications stall at the festival. Full details next month.

### CORNBROOK CONVERSION

The Cornbrook, Chester Road (Tetleys), has recently been converted to handpumps. Geoff Selby took over three months ago and has increased his barrelage from six to sixteen per week and expects the handpumps to increase it even further. Tetleys are now planning to decorate the outside in Walkers style.

### THWAITES BOOST

The Old Hall, Whitehough, near Chinley, a free house situated in a medieval manor house, was a Good Beer Guide entry last year on the strength of its Bass. Next time you visit it you will find Thwaites bitter and best mild on handpump, and of the high quality you would expect of a GBG landlord. Since its recent introduction, Thwaites bitter has been outselling the combined might of draught Bass and keg Stones.

The Old Hall features a vintage Norton motorcycle combination, which raced in the Isle of Man TT in 1928, and in the first week of September the landlord, Mick Capper, will be competing in the Manx Grand Prix, thereby continuing the motorcycle racing connection. Best of luck to the fastest landlord in the West!

While you're in Whitehough, you shouldn't miss a visit to a GBG perennial, the Oddfellows, which sells only Marstons Pedigree on draught. The landlord, described as "blunt and uncompromising", looks down on the rest of the Marstons range as "lad's beer."

#### PIN POINT

The Corner Pin, Stubbins (Wilsons), has now gone over to handpumps.

#### NOTES FROM ROCHDALE

The Moorcock Inn, Blackstone Edge Road, has changed from a free house with handpumped Theakstons and McEwans to a tied Tetley house (no real ale). The Lydgate Inn, Blackstone Edge Old Road, has stopped selling handpumped Moorhouses bitter and Robinsons. The pub now sells only Boddingtons on handpumps. The Falcon (Tetleys) has got its handpumps going again for both mild and bitter. Sam Smiths have taken the handpumps out of the Bay Horse (Oldham Road) and the Brown Cow (Heights Avenue).

As well as the Falcon, other real ale changes in Rochdale are at the Wheatsheaf, Haugh Square, Newhey (handpumped Taylors mild and bitter); the Cemetery, Bury Road (Marstons bitter); The Baum, Toad Lane (handpumped Boddingtons); Nell Rackers (handpumped Bass); White Lion, Rooley Moor Road (handpumped Wilsons); Martins Nest, Roch Valley Way (Wilsons handpumps).

#### BURY A R L F C

Two Bury based referees and Mick Connaughton, landlord of the White Horse Inn, Prestwich (handpumped Holts) founded this club in March this year. Overwhelming response from the area ensured a good start to Bury Amateur Rugby League Football Club and the White Horse became its headquarters.

Mick, an ex-player with Wigan St Patricks, was voted chairman and took the coaching along with Ken Tighe (ex-Swinton RLFC). The club's first match was, incredibly, only two months after the founders' meeting at the pub. Several more matches were arranged and, after some hard training, improvements at the game by ex-soccer players and successful 'conversions' from the 15-a-side code were exceptionally good. Bury ARLFC will enter the seventh division of the Pennine League this coming season after being in existence for only 5 months.

Bob Gilfillan, landlord of the Railway & Naturalist (Wilsons), Prestwich, is a vice-president of the club and his son-in-law, Alan Delves, is a player. Across the road at the Grapes Inn (Greenalls) Pete Burns, son of the licensee, plays for Folly Lane ARLFC, who inflicted a heavy defeat on Bury in a recent Valentine Cup match.

Interested in playing rugby league? Ring Mick on 061 798 9172 or call at the White Horse, Bury New Road, Prestwich. Kit-carrying CAMRA members welcome.

Contributors: Peter O'Grady, David Rowlinson, Ken Birch, B J Brownsword, Don Chattwood, Roger Hall, Steve Lawton, Alan Hurdle, Eric Taylor, Bill Collier

# 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 60p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN OLDHAM - Failsworth, 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.

SOUTH LANCs ALE Leigh, Wigan, Standish, St Helens, Skelmersdale, Newton, Atherton etc. Maps, photographs 50p + 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 NO 1	95p inc postage
SALFORD'S PUBS NO 2	80p inc postage
SALFORD'S PUBS NO 3	80p inc postage
SALFORD'S PUBS NO 4	95p inc postage
NOVEMBER SKIES (200 years of licensing in Salford)	£1.44 inc post
THE PUBS OF BLACKLEY	£1.20 inc post
WIGAN'S PUBS NO 1	50p inc postage
WIGAN'S PUBS NO 2	50p inc postage
THE PUBS AND BREWERIES OF MACCLESFIELD	
NO 1	£1.70 inc post
MANCHESTER BREWERIES NO 1	£1.20 inc post







# ASIAN CORNER

This is the first of an occasional series. No attempt will be made to define "real" curry (God forbid), but it would be helpful if contributors would distinguish between ethnic cafes, such as those encountered in Rusholme, Manningham or Sparkbrook, and the more widely distributed Anglo-Asian restaurants such as the one described here.

The Curry Centre Restaurant on Tootal Road, Salford, has been open since last October. It is somewhat off the beaten track as far as pub crawls go and has, in consequence, probably been overlooked by many CAMRA members.

If this is the case then a recent survey would suggest that they have been missing out on a quite reasonable place to have supper. The usual selection of main courses appropriate to Anglo-Asian establishments is available at competitive prices and meals are of decent quality and portion size. Purists, however, will be disappointed by the quantity of tomato puree in the Madras (of which the management make no secret). The pillau rice has a flavour of its own - it is not just rice and turmeric.

They who enjoy padding-out a meal with starters and side dishes will be pleased with their price - 50-60p for kebabs and 15p for Bombay Duck being typical. In view of this, the management will not serve meals made up of side dishes alone.

The nearest pubs to the restaurant are the Swan (Chesters) and the Coach and Horses (Sam Smiths), both on Eccles New Road.

Tarka Dhal

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**REAL ALE**  
**in**  
**TRAFFORD & HULME**



ALTRINCHAM

Axe & Cleaver	Stamford New Road	Wilsons	B(H)
Barrington	Barrington Road	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Bricklayers Arms	George Street	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Faulkners Arms	Stamford New Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Grapes	Regent Road	Boddingtons	
Jolly Friar	Lloyd Street	Greenalls	B(E)
Malt Shovels	Stamford Street	Sam Smiths	B(H)
Old Roebuck	Victoria Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Orange Tree	Old Market Place	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Railway	Stamford Street	Marstons	M, B(E); Ped(H)
Tatton Arms	Tipping Street	Boddingtons	B(H)
Victoria Tavern	Victoria Street	Bass	Bass, 4XM(E)
Wheatsheaf	Church Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)

Broadheath

Bay Malton	Seamons Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Cheshire Cheese	Manchester Road	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Old Packet House	Manchester Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Railway	Manchester Road	Boddingtons	M, B(H)

Timperley

Broomwood	Mainwood Road	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Gardeners Arms	Deansgate Lane	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Hare & Hounds	Wood Lane	Marstons	M, B, Ped, MMonk(E)
Moss Traoper	Moss Lane	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Quarry Bank	Bloomsbury Lane	Hydes	M, B(E)
Sylvan	Woodhouse Lane East	Wilsons	M, B(E)

ASHLEY

Greyhound	Ashley Road	Greenalls	M, B(H)
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BOWDON

Stamford Arms	The Firs	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
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CARRINGTON

Windmill	Manchester Road	Sam Smiths	B(H)
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DUNHAM MASSEY

Rope & Anchor		Boddingtons	M, B(E)
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HALE & HALEBARNES

Bulls Head	Wicker Lane	Robinsons	BM, BB, SA(E)
Cheshire Midland	Ashley Road	Sam Smiths	B(H)
Railway	Ashley Road	Robinsons	BM, BB(E); SA(H)
Unicorn	Hale Road	Hydes	M, B(E)
Wellgreen	Grove Lane	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Ye Olde Bleeding Wolf	Ashley Road	Whitbread	ChesM, ChesB(H)

# LITTLE BOLLINGTON

Nag	Chester Road	Bass	Bass(E)
Swan with Two Nicks		Whitbread	ChesB(H)

## MERE

Kilton	Knutsford Road	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Swan Hotel	Chester Road	Greenalls	M, B(H)

## MANCHESTER 2 & 3 (Central)

Abercrombie	Boatle Street	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Britons Protection	Great Bridgewater Street	Tetley	M, B(H)
City Arms	Kennedy Street	Tetley	WA(H)
Corbieres	Half Moon St, St Ann's Sq	Marstons	Ped(H)
Cox's Bar	Windmill Street	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Crown	Deansgate	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Deerings	York Street	Free House: Tetley B(H); BoddB(E)	
George & Dragon	Bridge Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Mariners	St Ann's Square	Tetley	B(E)
Midland Butty Boat	Peter Street	Tetley	B(E)
Oscars	Cooper Street	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Oxnoble	Liverpool Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Pack Horse	Deansgate	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Peveril of the Peak	Great Bridgewater Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Rising Sun	Queen Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
St Matthews Tavern	Tonman Street	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Sams Chop House	Back Pool Fold	Free House: Marstons Ped, WilB(H)	
Square Albert	Albert Square	Tetley	M, B(H)
Town Hall	Tib Lane	Bass	Bass(E)
Waggon & Horses	Southgate	Wilsons	M, B(H)
White Lion	Liverpool Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)

## MANCHESTER 15 (HULME)

Albert	Erskine Street	Greenalls	B(E)
Bulls Head	Chester Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Church	Cambridge Street	Lees	BM, B(H)
Clynes Wine Bar	Cavendish Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Cornbrook	Cornbrook Road	Tetley	M, B(H)
Ducie Arms	Devas Street	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Falstaff	Jenner Close	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Grand Junction	Rolls Crescent	Hydes	BM, B(E)
Grants Arms	Royce Road	Boddingtons	B(H)
Hope Inn	Chester Road	Hydes	BM, B(E)
Hussar	Arnott Crescent	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Last Hop	Chester Road	Bass	CaskB(H)
Lloyds Arms	Higher Ormond Street	Bass	CaskB, 4XM(H)
Lord Clyde	Chester Road	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Lord Napier	Great Jackson Street	Greenalls	M, B(E)
Manchester Regiment	Chester Road	Greenalls	M, B(E)



Mancunian	City Road	Marstons	M, B(E)
Old Abbey	Guildhall Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Platform	Stretford Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Pomona	Cornbrook Road	Marstons	M, B(H)
Red Admiral	Hulme Walk	Robinsons	BB, BM(E)
Sir Henry Royce	Royce Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Talbot	Stretford Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Three Legs of Man	Stretford Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)

#### MANCHESTER 16 & 21 (Whalley Range & Chorlton)

Alexandra Park	Alexandra Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Beech	Chorlton Green	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Great Western	Sedgeborough Road	Greenalls	B(H)
Pepper Hill	Exmouth Walk	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Princess	Princess Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Royal Oak	Barlow Moor Road	Whitbread	ChesB(H); Bass(E)
Southern	Mauldeth Road West	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Talbot	Bold Street	Whitbread	ChesB(H)

#### MANCHESTER 23 (West Wythenshawe)

Eagle	Greenbrow Road	Marstons	M, B(E)
Gardners Arms	Wythenshawe Road	Robinsons	BM, BB, SA(E)
Jolly Butcher	Butcher Lane	Lees	BM, B(E)
Park	Moorcroft Road	Lees	BM, B(H)

#### PARTINGTON

King William IV	Manchester Road	Marstons	M, B(E)
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#### SALE

Bridge Inn	Dane Road	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Carters Arms	Northenden Road	Marstons	M, B, Ped, MMonk(E); SA(G)
Huntsman	Firs Way, Catterick Ave	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Legh Arms	Northenden Road	Holts	M, B(E)
Old Plough	Green Lane	Hydes	M, B(E)
Railway	Chapel Road	Robinsons	M, B(E), SA(G)
Volunteer	Cross Street	Whitbread	ChesB(H)
Waggon & Horses	Cross Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Woodcourt	Maple Road	Wilsons	M, B(E)

#### STRETFORD

Melville	Barton Road	Holts	M, B(E)
Northumberland	Chester Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Quadrant	Great Stone Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Robin Hood	Barton Road	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
Throstles Nest	Seymour Grove	Whitbread	ChesB(H)

#### URMSTON

Lord Nelson	Stretford Road	Holts	M, B(E)
Roebuck	Church Road	Holts	M, B(E)
Urmston Hotel	Stretford Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)

# CITY DESK



by Peter O'Grady

The newly opened SQUARE ALBERT (situated in Albert Square, naturally) is a new venture in the City by Tetley Walker. The pub, which serves both mild and bitter through handpumps, will undoubtedly be a big success. In the basement of the building (formerly occupied by the Kardomah Cafe) is CONSORTS WINE BAR, with access upstairs to the pub so you can easily get your ale if you're with someone who likes wine. A word of warning to CAMRA gastronomes - the food, although good, is a bit pricey, even by City centre standards.

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Yet more good news for those who like the high life. OSCARS, Cooper Street, has been converted to cask-conditioned Wilsons mild and bitter, albeit through electric pumps. I'm sure sales would improve and any confusion be dispelled if the management installed efficient, new handpumps. Wilsons, I'm certain, would agree too!

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Since its sale to part of the Grand Met Group, SAM'S CHOP HOUSE, Back Pool Fold, has replaced the Tetley bitter with Wilsons bitter. Marstons Pedigree is still on sale. Both beers are handpumped. Sadly, the bottled Groelsch seems to have disappeared.

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Nancy Swannick and her sons Paul and Maurice from the PEVERIL OF THE PEAK, Great Bridgewater Street, would like to thank all those CAMRA members who made July's Pub of the Month such a great occasion. With the radio and press coverage and the licence extension, it was like Christmas and the Jubilee rolled into one! Nick Long, Area Manager for Wilsons, who attended the night, has written an appreciative letter to Nancy. The "Save the Pev" petition, which now has over 1,500 names, will probably be presented to the GMC at the end of September, so please try to sign it or send your objections to the County Engineer, GMC, County Hall, Manchester, as soon as you can.

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A new order for City and County beer guides has been received from the City of Manchester Tourist Information Office, who are rapidly becoming one of our main retailers. What a shame that the policy of the Greater Manchester Council Tourist Information Office precludes them from making these sparkling publications available to their customers. Tourists are advised to walk to the real Town Hall to get their guides.

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Timothy Taylor's bitter is now available at the WILD OATS Wholefood Restaurant, 88 Oldham Street, Manchester. This small, friendly, candle-lit restaurant is open from Tuesday to Saturday 6.30pm-11.00pm. The ale is very popular and the range

will be extended - so make your choice known.

Although corrections sometimes get boring, I'd like to point out to Leo King that there are not even any dummy handpumps in the MARINERS, off St Ann's Square. The Tetleys bitter is served through electric pumps (because the cellar is about 30 feet down). Tetleys mild is no longer available, having been replaced by keg Chesters.

The opening of the MARK ADDY, just off New Bailey Bridge, Salford (between Bridge Street and Chapel Street) seems to have caused something of a sensation with City folk. The pub, which nestles cosily on the banks of the Irwell (shades of the Loire Valley), is a free house and serves a tasty pint of Boddingtons bitter on hand-pump at 50p a pint. Lunchtime food consists of multifarious cheeses and pates, à la Royal Oak, Didsbury, at £1.20 for gigantic proportions - doggie bags available on request. The first Saturday night was so popular that owner/landlord Jim Ramsbottom had to ask patrons to form a queue to enter the hallowed portals. The view of the River Irwell is, to my mind, even more inspiring than that of the viaduct from the gents in Stockport.

## VALUE FOR MONEY IN WHITEFIELD

This survey has been undertaken to compare the prices of mild and bitter beers with their original gravity and to compile a value for money table. The Frigate was chosen as Holt's representative because, as a managed house, its prices were less than the tenanted pubs. All tenanted houses were retailing bitter at 46p and mild at 44p, with the exception of the marginally dearer Goats Gate.

(August 1981 Room Prices)	mild		bitter	
	og	price	og	price
Robinsons - Wheatsheaf (best)	1032	45p	(best) 1042	50p
Holts - Frigate	1033.4	40p	1038.5	42p
J W Lees - Lord Clive (best)	1035	45p	1038	46p
Boddingtons - Red King	1033	43p	1035	45p
Tetleys - Junction	1032	48p	1035.5	50p

Top of the table for bitter is the Wheatsheaf, serving a splendid pint of handpumped Robinsons best bitter at 50p a pint; best mild, unfortunately, is joint bottom with Tetleys. Holts at the Frigate must be good value for money, at 3p per pint cheaper compared with Boddingtons, and stronger in gravity by 3.5 on the bitter and .4 on the mild. J W Lees looks good value, with best mild at 45p and a strength the same as Boddingtons bitter and only .5 below Tetleys bitter at 50p. Boddingtons' strengths are reflected in their prices to some extent but Tetleys, with the joint lowest og for mild and highest price, and second lowest og for bitter and joint top price, do not compare favourably with the four independent Manchester breweries.

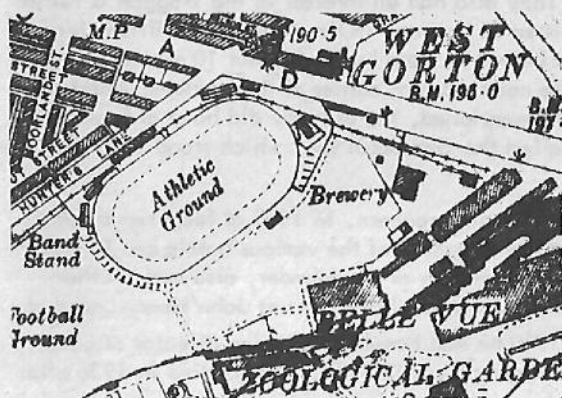
It should be stated that all comments made above are directed to the brewers and not to individual licensees, whose prices are all too often governed by the big breweries, who do not appear to be aware of local competition most of the time.

David Rowlinson



# MANCHESTER BREWERIES 23

## John Jennison & Co



The Victorians were responsible for a great variety of interesting, if not always practical, commercial schemes. At Brighton, Magnus Volk constructed a railway which actually ran along the sea bed at high tide (the train was on stilts!), Blackpool acquired a tower and John Jennison founded Belle Vue Zoological Gardens. The first was a resounding flop but Belle Vue, like Blackpool Tower, became a famous attraction. Apart from the sheer magnitude of recreational facilities on offer, the gardens were remarkable for other reasons. In an attempt to make Belle Vue self-contained, Jennison introduced a number of innovations, including building an electricity generating plant at a time when Manchester Corporation had yet to develop a system. Jennison also kept herds of cattle, which could be turned into meat pies in his own bakery; he built a gas works, a printing works, developed a large ice storage business and, naturally, brewed his own beer.

Jennison's first venture was a tea garden at Stockport, opened in 1828. Here he kept a small collection of monkeys and parrots for the amusement of customers. Meanwhile, a Mr John Walker occupied a house and about 36 acres of land on Hyde Road. The only public attraction was a bowling green, known even at that time as Belle Vue Gardens. Walker sold the land to William Crisp in 1833, who added a further plot that had been used for grazing. In 1836 John Jennison bought the land and the Belle Vue House Tavern, and moved in with his monkeys. A couple of years after the first opening of the gardens, the Broughton Zoological Gardens closed down. (Largely for lack of patronage as they were not allowed to open on Sundays) Jennison seized the opportunity to increase the number and variety of animals at Belle Vue, and so created the first successful privately owned zoo in Britain.

Many more people were able to take advantage of the Gardens with the advent of the railways. The western entrance was close to the Longsight station of the L&NWR and about half a mile away stood the Gorton station. Belle Vue Station itself was built on the Central & Midland Railway line.

Exactly when Jennisons first began brewing is uncertain. They never advertised as commercial brewers, possibly because of limited capacity, with only enough to supply

the refreshment rooms at the gardens and the few hotels. The Belle Vue House Hotel was supplemented in the mid 1870s by the building of the Midland Hotel and then the Lake Hotel, all within the grounds. They also had an interest in the Waggon & Horses on Hyde Road. Hannah Jennison is listed as licensee in the 1880s and William Jennison was the owner. The brewery, estimated to have been of about 10 quarter size, occupied some 600 square yards in the north eastern corner of the gardens. Apart from the grounds, and the hotels previously mentioned, the brewery did have at least one other outlet. This was a beerhouse called the Garibaldi Inn, which stood on Lees Street in Gorton.

John Jennison & Co was obviously a family concern. In 1910 at least ten members of the family were actively employed, as licensees of the various hotels and in administering the grounds. Angelo Jennison, grandson of the founder, also had another brewing connection. In 1904 he joined the board of directors at John Henry Lees Ltd, based at the Moss Side Brewery. By 1910 he had become managing director of Lees, a post he held until the appointment of a receiver in 1913. Angelo died in 1936 after many years of failing health.

Just before the First World War, Belle Vue Pale Ale cost 3d for a half pint bottle. The same price applied to Allsopp's lager and Murphy's stout, which were also on sale in the grounds. Bitter beer on draught sold for 2d a glass. The pale ale label shown here dates from 1902, one of the few remaining relics. Brewing is thought to have ceased before 1916 and John Jennison & Co Ltd sold out to Belle Vue (Manchester) Ltd in 1925. John Jennison Junior, a grandson of "Old John", continued to work at the gardens, first as general manager, then as resident works manager. The last surviving member of the Jennison family, Mrs Emily Studholme, died in Sale, aged 86, in May 1958.

Alan Gall

WHAT'S  
DOING  
GREATEST  
HITS  
VOL.1

**MANCHESTER  
BREWRIES**  
of times gone by



1 Alan Gall £1.00

This month sees the publication of the first of a series of "Manchester Breweries" booklets by Alan Gall. It contains expanded versions of Manchester Breweries 1-10, which appeared in WD between September 1978 and August 1979. Since their original publication, much more material has come to light and the booklet is well illustrated with photos, maps, etc. It is available for £1.20 (inc p & p) from Alan Gall, 22 Stoneleigh Drive, Stoneclough, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 9 HA



Didn't we have a lovely time the day we went to Tykeley. The array of amber nectars was unprecedented, with a wonderful selection of cheeky little bitters, malty, mellow milds and off-the-o.g.-chart kamikaze jungle juices. I cannot accept that the beers from the new micro breweries were all mediocre. Some of them might have been OK, particularly if sieved through a stevedore's underpants. However, one mustn't dwell on the beer, which was incidental to the event. Even profit, according to the Campaign's wizard financial supremo, took second place to the wonderful campaigning value of the show.

One was particularly impressed by the conviviality of the occasion. Even obsessional bores like Peter Podge didn't run around ramming their drunken half-cocked hobby horses down people's throats. I must say, though, that Bazza Primp rather let the side down, wearing his sexual prowess emblazoned on his back; it was quite a relief when he became legless on the beer factory visit and staggered away to tick off the Humber Bridge in his I-Spy book.

I always think it better to keep quiet about liaisons, then persons with nasty minds cannot make mock of one. Bilko is a case in point. On the rebound from the death of Boddington he has, it seems, fallen in love with a surrogate parrot in the form of a woman. Most romantic. One wonders what might transpire should the avian ovum in Bilko's sock drawer hatch. This, we are led to believe, contains the embryonic son of Boddington. Would the Good Sergeant's passion for a mere woman endure and survive the arrival of a new living epaulette? In the words of the poet: "No greater love hath no man, than to lay down his woman for his parrot." Perhaps he'd bulge again to fill his clothes.

But back to Tykeley. Humphrey Humpty ingratiated himself to everyone in the hope of becoming a beer supremo next time, and Bunty was delighted that the bloated trendies made him look positively sylph-like. Even Tom Android showed a human face, tinkling the ivories until dawn with

FREE CUT-OUT BADGE



**I'VE  
BEEN TO  
BILKO'S**





the crowd singing along. Just like the good old days, marred somewhat by the porno-video show which featured, among other things, Ian Mihel II and Mole Whalebody eating blancmange through a tennis racquet. I suppose that all the whining Jeremiahs like Bogbrush and Dermatitis will be eating their hats now that it's obvious that Tykeley was not a rip-off, was well run and, lawdy, lawdy, actually made a profit!

## LETTERS

### ECCLES EPISTLE

Dear Sir, "For a break, pop next door..." I wrote in last month's WD about the Spinners Arms in Eccles. "For a shock..." would have been a more appropriate phrase, as when I visited the pub in August it was serving bright beer. My apologies to all who have tried the place on my recommendation.

The refurbished front room of the Golden Cross opened on August 5th. The opening of this one-time store for Guinness crates, which had remained in "moth-balls" for many a year, must nearly double the available drinking area of the pub. Live music, provided by a pianist (and a piano), now features at the weekend.

The decorators have arrived at the Grapes Hotel. The final colour scheme is not known, but I understand that there are to be no structural alterations, thank goodness.

Duncan Roberts

### SHOCK HORROR!

Dear Sir, Can the Jolly Angler really be left out of the 1982 GBG?

B J Brownsword

## Subscriptions

If you want to be sure of getting What's Doing every month, why not subscribe? It costs £1.60 for six issues, postage paid. Fill in the form below and send it together with a cheque or postal order made out to "What's Doing" to Roger Hall, 123 Hill Lane, Blackley, Manchester

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What's Doing is edited by Neil Richardson, 375 Chorley Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 2AY. 061 793 5329

## JOIN CAMRA

To join CAMRA send £7.00 to: Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 3BW



## Branch Diary

### HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Tues Sept 15th 8.30pm. Branch meeting at the White Horse, Disley

Sat/Sun 19/20 Sept. Beer tent at the Hayfield Sheep Dog Trials

Contact Tom Lord 061 427 7099

### BOLTON

15 Sept Light Mild Night at the Rawsons Arms, Peel Street, Farnworth 8.30

24 Sept Cromptons Mule, Spa Road, Bolton. 7.30 for Bistro meal & Draught Bass. Followed by a short crawl of town centre, starting at Gypsies Tent 9.00.

27 Sept Three Crowns, Daisyhill, Westhoughton, Sunday Lunchtime Social

Contact Bert Kerks Bolton 388172

### NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed 16 Sept Branch meeting White Swan, Swinton 8.00

Weds 23 Sept Greenalls Survey of Eccles. Wellington 7.30pm

Sat 26 Sept Munchen Oktoberfest Crawl. 1600 hrs Mathaser Bierstadt, Bayerstrasse (Lowenbrau)

1800 hrs Schottenhamel, Theresienwies'n (Spatenbrau)

Sun 27 Sept 1200 hrs Hofbrauhaus, Hofbrauhaus Platz

Wed 7 Oct Crawl of Lower Broughton. 7pm Druids, Silk St, 8pm Grosvenor, Gt Clowes Street

Wed 14 Oct Committee meeting, Duke of Wellington, Weardale Rd, Blackley (Bus no 60 or 61 to Tweedle Hill Road on Victoria Avenue)

Weds 21st Oct Branch meeting Three Legs of Man, Greengate

Contact: Roger Hall 740 7937

### TRAFFORD & HULME

Thurs 17 Sept 8pm Branch meeting, Melville, Barton Rd, Stretford

\*\*\*\*Please note change of venue from Britons Protection

Sat 19 Sept Coach Trip to York

Thurs 24th Sept 8pm Pub of the Month (See S Manchester)

Thurs 1st Oct 8pm Committee/Social, Crown, Deansgate

Thurs 15th Oct 8pm Branch AGM, Malt Shovels, Altrincham

Contact Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (home)

### ROCHDALE OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 8 Sept Branch meeting Alpine Ayingerbrau Gasthof - yes, really! (Sam Smiths), Whitworth Rd, Rochdale

Tues 22 Sept 8pm Committee meeting Bottom Bird (Sam Smiths), Huddersfield Rd, Newhey

Sun 4th Oct, Bowling tournament, Eagle & Child (Holts), Higher Lane, Whitefield

Tues 6th Oct 8pm Branch Meeting Ordnance (OB), Park Rd, Oldham

Tues 13th Oct Trip to Mitchells brewery, Lancaster

Tues 20th Oct 8pm Committee meeting, Royal Oak (Robbies), Manchester Rd, Oldham

Fri/Sat 23/24 Oct Heywood Beer Festival (see elsewhere in this issue)

Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h)

### SOUTH MANCHESTER

Thurs Sept 10 Branch meeting Gateway, Wilmslow Rd 8.00

Thurs 24 Sept Pub of the Month - Jolly Angler, Ducie Street, Ancoats 8.00

Thurs 8 Oct Branch Meeting, Gateway, Wilmslow Rd 8.00

Contact Humphrey Higgins 432 0059

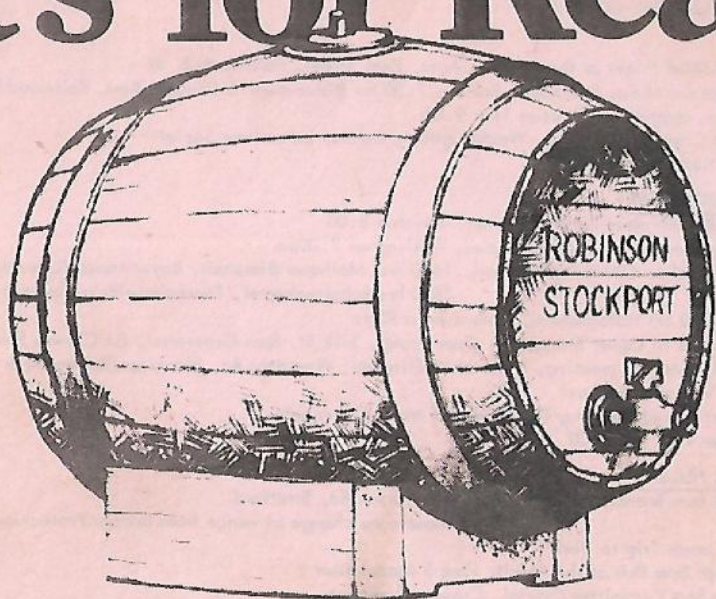
### AWASH WITH REAL ALE

A Whitefield 'Gang of Four' cast off on a pub crawl from Bury to Whitefield last month in aid of the RNLI. Sailing from Thwaites' Rose & Crown at 1900 hours one Saturday, ports of call included the Waterloo and Swan & Cemetery (both Thwaites), Bridge Inn (Wilsons), Bluebell (Holts), Wheatsheaf (Robinsons), Church Inn and New Grove (both Holts), Red King (Boddingtons), Junction Inn (Tetley) and finishing at the Coach & Horses (Holts), a GBG pub.

Just over £50 was handed over to Arthur and Judith Burnham of the Coach & Horses, who handed back a couple of free beers. (Thanks, Arthur, just what we needed.)



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