

# WHAT'S DOING



JAN 1982  
THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

## FEATHER IN THEIR HAT



The Hat and Feathers, Mason Street, Manchester, is now selling both Chesters bitter and mild in cask-conditioned form. The pub has also won an award from Whitbread as the best managed pub in the area.

## HANDPUMPS

Tetleys have installed handpumps in the Bowling Green, a recently revamped managed house on Bolton Road, Pendlebury, and in the Foresters, Chorley Road, Swinton.

# WHAT'S DOING

## BAY BARRELAGE

The Bay Malton, Oldfield Brow, Altrincham is now selling three barrels of Whitbread cask per week. This makes it the highest selling beer in the pub and there are plans to install an extra handpump within the next two months.

## CROSS KEY CHANGES

The Cross Keys at New Delph, Oldham, has now taken off the Wilsons mild and bitter in favour of Matthew Brown mild, bitter and John Peel Special (all hand drawn). These beers go on sale alongside the ever popular Thwaites beers.

## POLLARDS

The clever Mr Pollard has moved into the Derby Street Labour Club in Bolton with his dark and light mild, which are available at 40p a pint, 6p less than the keg competition from Bass, Greenalls and Whitbread. Other outlets are rumoured to be Radcliffe British Legion and Astley Bridge British Legion.

## PUB OF THE MONTH

Trafford & Hulme's Pub of the Month on 28th January is the Windmill Inn, Carrington Lane, Carrington. Landlord Mike and Karen Pennington have run the pub for the past 2½ years, with real ale for the last 18 months. There has been Sam Smiths at the Windmill for the past 15 years and the building is some 350 years old. The Windmill has a village atmosphere and serves home-cooked meals at lunchtimes.

## NEW BROOMS

Lancaster's newest pub has a number of unusual features. For a start, the Water Witch appears to have no road access. For those without their own broomstick it is necessary to walk along the canal towpath from the bridge at White Cross on the southern edge of the city centre, although it might be possible to shin over the back wall of the Royal Infirmary.

The Water Witch also sells an unusual range of drinks. Draught beers are Yates & Jacksons mild and Westmorland (née Appleby) bitter. Customers asking for 'lager' are informed that only the bottled variety is stocked. What they are not told is that the range of bottled 'lager' consists of Austrian 'Steffl', Italian 'Nastro Azzurro' and Polish 'Tatra'. Unsuspecting customers can still be seen polluting it with blackcurrant!

Another oddity in the Water Witch's range is 'Pelican', a French (?) beer sold in large 'Grolsch'-style pot-stoppered bottles. Last, but not least, the pub boasts a restaurant complete with a gallery!

## TROT SPOT

Whitbread's latest real ale 'free house' is the Duck and Firkin, Bradshawgate, Bolton, formerly known as the Trotters. It was built in the sixties by Duttons, replacing two previous pubs, and the name was chose to honour some local first division football team. The Trotters sold cask beer until the early seventies,



when the Whitbread tank revolution took over.

The pub is even more gimmicky than the Moses Gate transformation (see last month WD). The decor is definitely outlandish, complete with vomiting red frogs on the ceiling and a cask peep-show. Is this gimmickry really necessary to draw people in, when Hartleys XB, Castle Eden Ale and Duttons bitter are on sale? This now brings the total of real ales available in the Bradshawgate area to 15, plus the cider in the Man and Scythe.

#### DPA

Wilsons cask conditioned Draught Pale Ale provides further choice in the Altrincham area. It is available at the Old Packet House, Broadheath; the Moss Trooper, Timperley; the Faulkners Arms, Altrincham (all on handpumps) and the Barrington Hotel, Altrincham (electric dispense).

#### MOONRAKER

As well as the Woodman in Hollinwood, the Morning Star in Shaw and the Church, Cambridge Street, Hulme, are selling J W Lees draught Moonraker.

#### KEG RULES

Seen recently on the executive car park at Whitbread's super fizz factory at Samlesbury, two Rolls Royce motors bearing the unforgettable registration plates 'KEG 31' and 'KEG 32'. They are even doing it with their cars!

#### JOE'S KING

When the licensee moved on from the Kings Arms on Oldfield Road, Salford, the pub was vandalised. Holts saw in the semi-derelict house a kindred spirit - some-



thing which would slot in nicely as an integral part of their tied estate. They made Wilsons an offer which they accepted. After refurbishment the Kings Arms will reopen as a Holts house.

## BOLOGNESE

Whitbread do seem to be going over the top with their pub conversions. The Derby Arms at Treales, a small village near Kirkham, has been transformed into Papa Luigi's Italian Restaurant. (The accompanying advertising material comes from the W Lancs Evening Gazette)

The taproom has, of course, gone, and the locals are not pleased. However, the brewery spokesman told the local paper, "We haven't done away with the taproom - it has been converted into a family room instead." Oh dear.

Contributors: Roger Hall, Mick Rottenbury, K Egerton, Jim Davies, Don Chattwood, Steve Lawton, G Glass, Paul Roberts

**OPEN'S**  
This is the place

# C'mona filla y'face at Papa Luigi's

**'Mama Mia, the foodsa superb!'**

Bigger da  
platefuls for  
the bambinos.

Enjoia da Real Ale

Boun Appetito!



Vino  
Magnifico

**WIN**  
a Papa Luigi's  
Italian Hamper

## KING SID'S TEST

1 Who wrote: "This was the result of a temporary lapse of self control by a number of members who had forgotton (sic) the first and most important rule of organised meetings, i.e. 'The chairmans (sic) ruling is final'."

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| (a) A the Hun    | (b) G Khan      |
| (c) Vlad Dracula | (d) A Hitler    |
| (e) I Amin       | (f) Col Gadaffy |
| (g) M Antoinette | (h) I McDermott |

2 From what source is the following quotation? "It must be stressed that any changes to the Chairmans (sic) status and duties will only happen if the Chairman believes that the changes are for the good and are practical. Decisions will not be made by the passing of motions!"

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| (a) Plato's "Republic"                              | (b) Machiavelli's "The Prince" |
| (c) Hitler's "Mein Kampf"                           | (d) The Gettysburg Address     |
| (e) The UN Charter of Human Rights                  | (f) Amnesty International      |
| (g) Ken Livingstone's "Democracy for Disabled Gays" |                                |
| (h) The minutes of a CAMRA regional meeting.        |                                |

ANSWERS: 1 - H, 2 - H. Score 20 each. All others score 0.



# A YANKEE IN MANCHESTER'S COURT

This summer we were visited by August Helms from the U.S., who put our local boozers of repute to shame by the sheer number of pubs visited during his short stay. This is an extract from Augie's diary:

**BOARDROOM** - New Wilsons pub near Piccadilly Bus Station. Impressed me solely for its tasty spare ribs at lunch.

**SAWYERS ARMS** - Great Interior!. Very cosy and they serve Wilsons DPA which is difficult to find.

**NEW YORK INN** - Reputation for being involved in the "Gay Scene". Had a conversation with a 6-foot blonde "bombshell".

**SINCLAIRS** - A year old. Marble bar top reminiscent of a butcher's counter. Trying to look upper class.

**HOTEL PICCADILLY** - Reminds me of London - keg Watneys. Pristine chrome bar with absolutely no atmosphere. I imagine Americans feel at home here.

**PEVERIL OF THE PEAK** - Very friendly landlady. Met Peter O'Grady here. Only place I ever found in England with open-topped football game. (Which is fairly common in America)

**CROWN & KETTLE** - A very high ceiling gives this pub an unusual look. One of the more beautiful ones in Manchester

**ISAAC NEWTON** - New pub, but I enjoyed standing at the bar and observing the clientele. Busy at lunchtime. One of the nicer newer ones.

**CASTLE & FALCON** - Small pub with rare Burtonwood bitter, tasty sandwiches (for a change) and a very congenial host.

**MITRE** - Sat here in the early evening and felt very much alone as we were the only customers and the "mood" of the place lends itself to a sort of despair.

**CIRCUS** - Positively weird! A narrow hallway with a semi-circular bar 3 ft. long. Two smoke-filled side rooms are small and jammed with the lads. An obvious loyal following and much cribbage.



MR CHESTERS - Appears to be recently re-done, as with most of these "Chesters" pubs. Plenty of nooks here along with very colourful Chesters T-shirts (only in size small).

COACH AND HORSES - Only time I've drank Saxon Cross. If any pub is typical of an old city one, this is it. Usual jammed bar area and usual bare back room.

CITY ROAD INN - On a solo visit here. Tables and chairs along the wall. A rather heavy set woman was playing piano for the older customers in a sing-along. Nice atmosphere. One drawback- Trophy

CROWN HOTEL - Was the first customer on a Sunday. A very local pub in a very friendly atmosphere. Everyone here knows everyone else.

WEAVERS ARMS - Very congenial establishment guarded at the front door by two large but harmless dogs. First time I saw a Manchester dart board. Really enjoyed myself chatting with the guv and the customers.

MARBLE ARCH - Recently taken over and going through re-styling pains. Landlord's wife exceptionally nice person. The most beautiful and cleanest gents I've seen in a pub in England. They should have more customers than they do.

DUCIE ARMS - A very decrepit pub with an overloud juke box to compete with the lorry traffic. Not recommended.

ROYAL OAK - I liked this place. The guv and his wife pleasant indeed. Pretty barmaid to boot. Wall posters proclaim a devotion to Mancunian football. No hard liquor, but a wonderful view of Boddingtons Brewery from the gents room, due to lack of roof.

MARK ADDY - We were refused admission in the evening as we weren't wearing jacket and tie. How droll!! Unusual location with a large parlour. Sat on an outside ledge with a pint and wondered how one managed not to fall in the Irwell if one is into his cups. Also saw a local character here called "Vinegar Vera", who seemed to love fat people. This left me out, fortunately.

WELLINGTON (Regent Road) - Had a terrific time here. Maggie and her husband Len displayed the finest hospitality I ever encountered in a pub. Even manned the pumps for my own pint. I was here with Alan Gall at the tail end of a Salford crawl.

PRINCE OF WALES (Oldfield Rd) - Small pub with avid card playing beer guzzlers. Very close in appearance to typical little bar in Eastern Pennsylvania. Even has a telly.

YE OLDE NELSON - Crowded and friendly. Ladies in back room and lads in bar area really lay into Chesters mild.

WHITE SWAN (Swinton) Enjoyed the Holts bitter. Went here on a Wednesday night and found the back room full of unsavoury characters planning pub crawls.

UPS 'N' DOWNS (Stockport) Positively the trendiest pub in the area. Space invaders and hippie types abound. Too bad, as they serve Burtonwood.

THE GEORGE - On a Friday night, swarmed with the prettiest girls in town. Besides this, a very attractive establishment.



# BOOKS

This book traces the history of the public houses, past and present, of Prestwich from the earliest records to the present day. The oldest surviving alehouse records, which are reproduced in the book, mention four licensed houses in the village in 1629 - the Ostrich, the Cock and Trumpet (now rebuilt as the Parkside Hotel), the Red Lion and the Church Inn.

Several small beerhouses have come and gone in the last 100 years - such as the Albion and the Ring o' Bells - and with the help of licensing records and personal recollections the author has secured their place in the history of Prestwich.

There are plenty of anecdotes too, like the one about the customer of the Royal Oak who had her husband's ashes put in an egg timer, saying, "He was a lazy bugger when he was alive so he can damn well work now!"

The book is well illustrated with old photographs, many of which have not been published before, as well as reproductions of beer labels from the long-gone breweries which once supplied the area.

A HISTORY OF PRESTWICH PUBS is available for £1.75 by post from David Rowlinson, 11 St Austell's Drive, Prestwich, Manchester M25 5LU



## A HISTORY OF PRESTWICH PUBS



by David Rowlinson

£1.50

## WASHBROOK'S

Specialist Home Brew Shop  
59 Halifax Road, Rochdale

MALTED BARLEY GRAIN Lager Malt, Pale Malt, Crystal Malt

26p 11b £1.76 71b £12.50 25kg (551b)

CRUSHED MALT GRAIN 28p 11b £1.85 71b £13.50 25kg (551b)

DRIED MALT EXTRACT Light, Medium, Dark. 66p 11b £30.30 25kg

LIQUID MALT EXTRACT 21b £1.16 41b £2.20 141b £6.57 281b £11.75 25kg(551b)

HOPS 6 varieties 2oz 32p-48p 16oz £2.40-£3.10 £23.70

We stock the better beer concentrates Kwofitt, Cumbria, Muntona, Condessa

Five makes of pressure barrels including Cornelius

For full list phone Rochdale 41590 - Callers always welcome

## 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 LANCAS 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





# REAL ALE in N. W. DERBYSHIRE



BIRCH VALE

Grouse Inn	New Mills Road	Robinsons	M, B(E), OT(G)
Printers Arms	Thornsett	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Sycamore Inn	Thornsett	Winkle	Birch Vale M, B(H)
Vine	Hayfield Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)

BUXTON

Bulls Head	Fairfield Road	Marstons	M, B(E)
Cheshire Cheese	Market Place	Hardy Hansons	M, B(E)
Devonshire	Bakewell Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Devonshire	Fairfield Common	Hardy Hansons	M, B(E)
Duke of York	Macclesfield Road	Tetley	M, B(E)
Grove Hotel	Spring Gardens	Robinsons	B(E)
Hardwick	Spring Gardens	Tetley	B(E)
Kings Head	Market Place	Marstons	M, B(H)
Lee Wood Hotel	Manchester Road	McEwans	Scotch B (H)
London Road	High Street	Tetley	B(E)
Manchester Arms	London Road	Worthington Best	B(E)
New Inn	Market Place	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Nineteenth Hole	Waterswallows Road	Marstons	M, B(H)
Palace Hotel	Palace Road	Websters	B(H)
Prince of Wales	Fairfield Road	Marstons	M, B(H)
Railway	Bridge Street	Hardy Hansons	M, B(E)
Robin Hood	London Road	Marstons	B(H)
Royal Foresters	Victoria Park Road	Hardy Hansons	M, B(E)
Sun Inn	Market Place	Marstons	M, B(E)
Swan	High Street	Tetley	M, B(E)
White Lion	Holker Road	Marstons	M, B(H)

BUXWORTH

Navigation	Buxworth	Wilsons	M, B(H)
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CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH

The Dog	Market Street	Bass	Toby Light(H)
Jolly Carter	Sandway Head	Robinsons	M, B(E), OT(Winter)(G)
New Inn	Manchester Road	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Old Pack Horse	Town End	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Roebuck	Market Place	Tetley	M, B(H)
Royal Oak	Market Street	Tetley M, Ind Coope	B(H)
Shoulder of Mutton	Market Street	Robinsons	M, B(E)

CHAPEL MILTON

Cross Keys	Hayfield Road	Pollards, Winkles	B(H)
Crown & Mitre	Hayfield Road	Robinsons	B(H)

CHARLESWORTH

George and Dragon	Marple Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Hunters Inn	Marple Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)

CHINLEY

Lamb Inn	Chinley Head	Pollards	B(H)
Oddfellows	Whitehough	Marstons	Pedigree, B(H)
Old Hall	Whitehough	Bass	B(H)
Princes Hotel	Green Lane	Boddingtons	M, B(H)

COMBS

Beehive	Combs Village	Wilsons	M, B(H)
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DISLEY

Albert	Buxton Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Crescent	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Dandy Cock	Buxton Road	Robinsons	B(H)
Mouse Trap	Buxton Old Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
White Horse	Buxton Old Road	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Rams Head	Buxton Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)

DOVE HOLES

Railway	Buxton Road	Hardy Hansons	M, B(H)
Wheatsheaf	Station Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)

EARL STERNDALE

Quiet Woman	Earl Sterndale Village	Marstons	M, B(H)
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FERNILEE

Shady Oak	Longhill	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
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FLAGG

Duke of York	Pommeroy	Robinsons	B(E)
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FURNESS VALE

Crossings	Station Street	Robinsons	M, B(H), OT(G)
Soldier Dick	Buxton Road	Bass	Toby Light(E)

GAMESLEY

Centurion	Melandra Castle Road	Hydes	B(E)
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GLOSSOP

Beehive	Hague Street, Whitfield	Bass	Bass, Toby Light(H)
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Crown	Victoria Street	Wilsons	B(H)
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Drovers	Charlestown	Boddingtons	B(H)
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Friendship	Arundel Street	Robinsons	M, B(E)
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Grapes	High Street	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
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Grouse	Chunal Road	Thwaites	M, B(E)
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Manor	High Street East	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
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New Market	High Street West	Greenalls	M, B(E)
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Plough	Dinting Vale	Boddingtons	B(E)
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Star	Howard Street	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
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Surrey Arms	High Street West	Robinsons	M, B(E)
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Surrey Arms	Victoria Street	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
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Trap	Victoria Street	Boddingtons	B(E)
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Victoria Vaults	Gladstone Street	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
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HADFIELD

Chieftain	Green Lane	Hydes	M, B(E)
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Commercial	Bank Bottom	Boddingtons	B(E), Strong(G)
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Masons Arms	Station Road	Wilsons	M, B(E)
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Palatine	Station Road	Robinsons	M, B(H)
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Spinners	Marsden Street	Boddingtons	B(H)
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HAYFIELD

George Inn	Church Street	Burtonwood	M, B(H)
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Kinder Lodge	New Mills Road	Wilsons	M, B(E)
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Lantern Pike	Little Hayfield	Wilsons	M, B(E)
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Royal Hotel	Market Square	Wilsons	M, B(H)
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Sportsmans Inn	Kinder Road	Thwaites	B(H)
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HURDLOW

Bull & Thorn	Ashbourne Road	Robinsons	B(H)
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NEW MILLS

Beehive	Albion Road	Tetley	B(H)
Crescent	Market Street	Tetley	M, B(H)
Fox	Brookbottom	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Grove Inn	Buxton Road	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
Hare and Hounds	Low Leighton Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Masons Arms	High Street	Robinsons	M, B(E)
North Western	Albion Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Pack Horse	Mellor Road	Tetley	B(H)
Peaks	Market Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Pineapple	Dyehouse Lane	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Queens	Church Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Rock Tavern	Wirksmoor Road	Robinsons	M, B(E)
Royal Oak	Market Street	Robinsons	M, B(E), OT(G)
Squirrel	Buxton Road	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Swan	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M, B(H)
White Hart	Dyehouse Lane	Robinsons	M, B(H), OT(G)

PADFIELD

Peels	Temple Street	Youngers IPA, Scotch	(H)
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PEAK DALE

Midland	Peak Dale	Robinsons	M, B(H)
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PEAK FOREST

Devonshire	Peak Forest Village	Wards	M, B(E)
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ROWARTH

Little Mill	Rowarth Village	Pollards M, B(H), Winkle B, Robinsons B(H)	
Moorfield Arms	Shiloh Road	Robinsons M, B(E) Boddingtons B(E)	

SIMMONDLEY

Hare and Hounds	Simmondley Village	Tetley	M, B(H)
Jubilee	Simmondley Village	Thwaites	M, B(E)

SPARROWPIT

Wanted Inn	Sparrowpit	Robinsons	M, B(E)
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TAXAL

Chimes of Taxal	Taxal Road	Bass	Bass(H)
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TINTWISTLE

Old Oak	Manchester Road	Tetley	B(H)
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TUNSTEAD MILTON

Rose and Crown	Buxton Road	Marstons, Pollards, Winkles	B(H)
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WHALEY BRIDGE

Board Inn	Chapel Road	Robinsons	M, B(H), OT(G)
Cock Inn	Buxton Road	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Goyt Inn	Bridge Street	Wilsons	M, B(E)
Jodrell Arms	Market Street	Wilsons	M, B(H)
Navigation	Buxton Road	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
Railway	Market Street	Robinsons	M, B(H)
Shepherds Arms	Old Road	Marstons	M, B, Pedigree(H)
White Hart	Market Street	Tetley	M, B(H)
White Horse Inn	Buxton Road	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
*Fermentation - all sales - Market Street		Winkle	B(G)

WOOLLEY BRIDGE

Pear Tree	Hadfield Road	Bass Toby Light, Bass(E)	
Spread Eagle	Glossop Road	Whitbread/Chesters	B(H)



# REAL ALE IN CENTRAL MANCHESTER

At the moment the central Manchester pubs selected for inclusion in the Good Beer Guide are chosen by three branches as part of their branch allocation. The result is subject to the vagaries of the various branches and if the choice is reasonably representative it is by accident rather than by design. It is proposed that the three branches involved give up their central Manchester pubs to a special group of interested people who would select the pubs for inclusion in the 1983 guide at a meeting convened for that purpose.

It is suggested that the area should be bounded by Fairfield Street-Travis Street-Adair Street-Great Ancoats Street-Redhill Street-Murray Street-Sherratt Street-Thompson Street-Gould Street-Roger Street-Lord Street-Southall Street-Great Ducie Street-New Bridge Street-The River Irwell-Liverpool Road-Whitworth Street-Princess Street-Granby Row. The following pubs would be eligible for inclusion:

Abercrombie, Bootle St (Whitbread)	Ancoats, Gt Ancoats St (Greenalls)
Bay Horse, Thomas St (Wilsons)	Britannia, Newton St (Wilsons)
Britons Protection, Gt Bridgewater (Tet)	Bulls Head, London Rd (Burtonwood)
Burton Arms, Swan St (Bass)	Castle, Oldham St (Robinsons)
Castle & Falcon, Bradshaw St (B'wood)	Church, Jersey St (Wilsons)
Churchill, Charlton St (Greenalls)	Circus, Portland St (Tetley)
City, Kennedy St (Tetley)	Coach & Horses, London Rd (free)
Corbieres, St Ann's Sq (Marstons)	Cox's Bar, Grand Central (Bodd)
Crown, Deansgate (Wilsons)	Crown & Anchor, Hilton St (Whit)
Crown & Cushion, Corporation St (Whit)	Crown & Kettle, Gt Ancoats St (Wil)



Dancing Weasel, Gt Ancoats St(Wil)	Deerings, York ST(free)
Ducie Arms, Gt Ducie St (Bodd)	Dutton Arms, Park St (Hydes)
George & Dragon, Bridge St(Wilsons)	Grand Hotel, Aytoun St (Bass)
Grenadier, Oldham St(Wilsons)	Grey Horse, Portland St (Hydes)
Hare & Hounds, Shudehill (Tetley)	Harp & Shamrock, New Mount St(Mar)
Hat & Feathers, Mason St (Whitbread)	Imperial, London Rd (Wilsons)
John Willie Lees, Withy Grove(Lees)	Jolly Angler, Ducie St (Hydes)
King, Oldham St (Tetley)	Lower Turks Head, Shudehill (Wilsons)
Marble Arch, Rochdale Rd (Wilsons)	Mariners, St Ann's Sq (Tetley)
Midland, Peter Street (Tetley)	Millstone, Thomas St (Wilsons)
Mr Chesters, Cateaton St (Whitbread)	Mitre, Cathedral Yd (Wilsons)
Moulders Arms, Heyrod St (Tetley)	New York, Bloom St (Wilsons)
Nicklebys, Dale St (Wilsons)	O'Connell Arms, Oldham Rd(Whitbread)
Old Garratt, Princess St (Bodd)	Oxnoble, Liverpool Rd (Whitbread)
Paddy's Goose, Bloom St (Wilsons)	Peveril of the Peak, Gt B'water St (Wil)
Red Bull, Mason St (Whitbread)	Rembrandt, Sackville St (Lees)
Rising Sun, Queen St (Wilsons)	Royal George, Lever St (Wilsons)
Royal Oak, Gt Ducie St (Bodd)	St Matthew's Tav, Tonman St (Whit)
Sam's Chop Hse, Bk Pool Fold (free)	Seven Oaks, Nicholas St (Whitbread)
Sinclairs, Old Shambles (Sam Smith)	Smiths Arms, Sherratt St (Tetley)
Town Hall, Tib Lane (Bass)	Unicorn, Church St (Bass)
Union, Princess St (Burtonwood)	Victoria Stn Bar (free)
Waggon & Horses, Southgate (Wil)	Waldorf, Gore St (Whitbread)
Weavers, Angel St (Tetley)	Wellington, Old Shambles (Bass)
Wheatsheaf, Oak St (Tetley)	White House, Gt Ancoats St (Wilsons)
White Lion, Liverpool Rd (Whitbread)	

It would perhaps be appropriate if say 10 pubs could be included in the national Good Beer Guide from this area. Suggestions for the guide are always welcome.

Roger Hall

## ASHTON IN MAKERFIELD PUB CRAWL

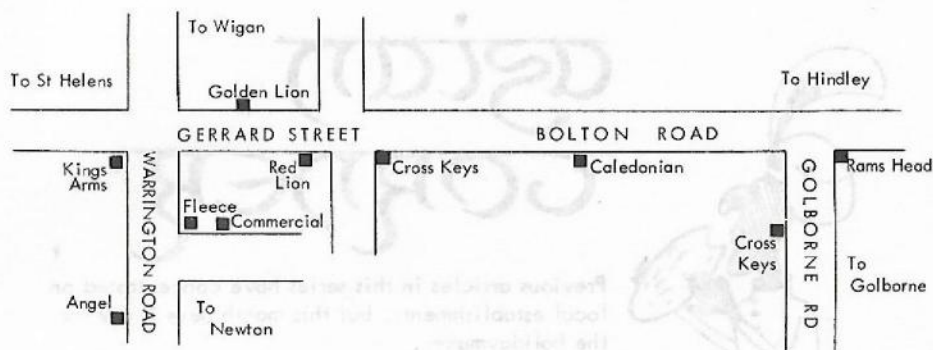
Most of the pubs in Ashton centre sell real ale, although the choice is somewhat restricted to the South Lancs "Big Three". Ashton has remained unaffected by any of the Tetley or Burtonwood pub swaps.

The Cross Keys, Golborne Road, is a small, unassuming, one-bar local selling Burtonwood bitter and dark mild (E). The Rams Head on the corner of Bolton Road and Golborne Road is a brash Stubshaw Cross local with Tetley bitter and mild (E). The sloping floors and uneven doorways can give the impression of premature inebriation.

A short walk along Bolton Road brings you to the Caledonian - Tetley bitter and mild (H) - a former Walkers pub now undergoing extensive alterations. Brand new handpumps have been installed and it is hoped that Walker bitter will replace Tetley in the future. The clientele is predominantly Liverpoolian and there is a thriving social club and a successful football team.

The next pub is a Burtonwood house, the Cross Keys, Bolton Road, although there are no signs to inform the passing visitor. The brewery is splashing out on refurbishing





this pub, which is known locally as Tosh's. Avoiding the Robin Hood - Higsons non-real ale at its most insipid - the next pub on the crawl is the Red Lion, Gerrard Street, with Greenalls bitter and mild (E). The mock-Tudor exterior hides an unspoilt traditional interior, where landlord Ray Doyle runs the pub in his own characteristic style. The Red Lion is also known as "Owd Mary's" or "Nutters Arms" and is often busier in the afternoon than the evening. The topic of conversation amongst the elderly clientele is usually horse racing or sea fishing. Ray's Alsatian dog, Sheba, is often found outside the pub, discouraging any faint-hearted customers.

Opposite the Red Lion is the Golden Lion, where Austin Doyle, brother of Ray, is the landlord and the beer is Tetley bitter and mild (E). The customers are more youthful and noisy, and unfortunately Warrington Ale is no longer one of the attractions. Across Gerrard Street and down the passage alongside the Beverley Hills Tandoori is the Commercial on Heath Road. This popular pool players' pub sells Burtonwood bitter (H) and dark mild (E) and features a mosaic carpet in the lounge. Also on Heath Road is the Hingemakers, the only Lion pub in Ashton, unfortunately on tank beer. Discerning drinkers who like a clear head in the morning are recommended to buy the White Shield.

The Fleece at the corner of Heath Road and Warrington Road has been extensively modernised, but has retained Greenalls traditional beer. The Fleece was an ordinary, unspectacular local, which Greenalls leased to a private company who were willing to spend their own money (and take their own risk) on refurbishment. The result is a plush, open-plan pub-cum-restaurant, and there are regular Country & Western evenings on Wednesdays. However, the Fleece has two drawbacks - there is no car park for the car-key swinging set to leave their wheels, and Greenalls have not relaxed the tie (as usual).

Opposite the Fleece on Warrington Road is the Angel Hotel, with Burtonwood bitter (E) and dark mild (H). The Angel has many electronic games to attract the younger customers and landlord Jimmy Cunliffe is a regular supporter of local charities. The last pub on the crawl is the Kings Arms, Warrington Road - a long-standing GBG entry selling Tetley bitter and mild (H). Landlady Rose Kelly runs the pub single-handed and a friendly welcome awaits all. The Kings Arms is often packed at weekends and occasional visitors should look out for the elusive JT - recognised local expert on all sporting activities.

The ten pubs included in this crawl are all within easy walking distance of each other, but the choice of beers can be extended by including Pit Pony, Lowbark Road (Thwaites) and Haydock Post House, Lodge Lane (Wilsons).

"Bryn Cross"



# ASIAN CORNER

Previous articles in this series have concentrated on local establishments, but this month here is one for the holidaymaker.

From the outside, the "Taj Mahal Indian Restaurant" is typical of those found all over Britain. Inside as well, the similarity continues with candlelit tables, (stained) white tablecloths and the ubiquitous flock

wallpaper which, coupled with Eastern music, gives an authentic "Anglo-Indian" atmosphere. Opening hours are a slightly restricted 11.30 - 23.30.

Certain items on the menu will also be familiar. For starters one could try Mulligatawny soup (77p), kebabs or perhaps a pakora. The Taj Mahal offers a "Thali" or complete Indian meal for £3.85, otherwise one could choose a main course from an extensive menu including Lamb Rogan Josh (£2.45), Sag Gosht (£2.45), Beef Do Piazza (£2.65) or a lamb or beef biryani (£2.65). A range of tandoori meals and vegetable curries is also available. In all cases pullau rice is 70p and boiled rice 25p extra. For side dishes chapatis are 25p and parathas 35p.

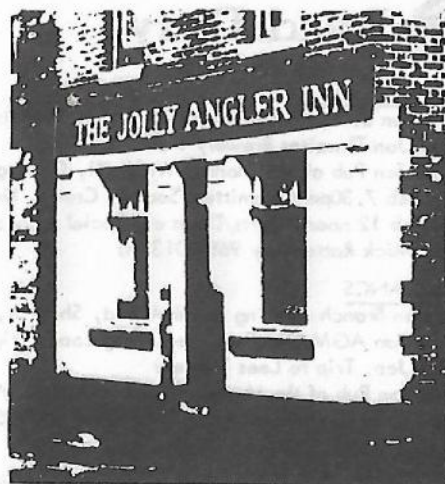
On my visit I tried a lamb rogan josh with boiled rice and a chapati. In the Taj Mahal one is asked to request hot spices if required, as otherwise all meals are very lightly spiced - that's the way the locals like them. Well-spiced, the rogan josh was similar in strength to a Madras and very tasty with obvious high quality meat. The rice, however, comes in a "buttered-rice" form and is unusual, whilst the chapati was a failure, rather like an overdone pancake. This slight set-back was more than made up for by the fact that I was able to enjoy a glass of excellent draught beer with my meal at pub prices.

The Taj Mahal has been open for 2½ years and is the only one in town, in fact there are only 5 in that part of the world altogether. The locals have not yet "got the taste for curry", to quote the proprietor, but the restaurant is popular with tourists.

There's only one thing I seem to have omitted to tell you about the Taj Mahal, and that's its location. You'll find it at 6 Höttinger Gasse, Innsbruck, Austria! (for reservations phone 05222-85103)

Papá Dúmín





### THE GREAT DEBATE

Sir - Manchester CAMRA has not gone far enough in removing only the Jolly Angler from the Good Beer Guide. It is quite clear that all the Hydes entries should be replaced by more deserving Whitbread pubs. How anyone could prefer the bland and thin Hydes beers to the full-bodied and distinctive Chesters ales on sale in traditional surroundings is beyond me. I am quite sure that the local branches would rightly replace all their Holts entries in the GBG with Greenall Whitley pubs if only they were in a position to determine which of their Greenalls pubs sold real ale. Keep up the good work!

Yours, Zachariah Smith

### FIZZY WELLIE

Sir - Whatever other contributors to this worthy journal may assert, the Higsons beers at the Wellington in Rochdale are pure and unadulterated FIZZ! This correspondence is now closed.

Yours, Steve Lawton

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## JOIN CAMRA

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



## Branch Diary

### TRAFFORD & HULME

Mon 18 Jan 8.00pm Branch meeting, Malt Shovels, Stamford Street, Altrincham  
 Thurs 21 Jan Thwaites Brewery visit  
 Thurs 28 Jan Pub of the Month, Windmill, Carrington Lane, Carrington  
 Thurs 4 Feb 7.30pm Committee/Social, Crown, Deansgate  
 Sun 14 Feb 12 noon. Darts/Doms etc Social v locals, Bakers Arms, Pownall Road, Altrincham  
 Contact Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (h)

### SOUTH LANCs

Tues 5 Jan Branch meeting Royal Alfred, Shaw St, St Helens 8.30  
 Thurs 14 Jan AGM Old Pear Tree, Frog Lane, Wigan 8.00  
 Weds 27 Jan. Trip to Lees Brewery  
 Fri 29th Jan Pub of the Month, Prince of Wales, Woodhouse Lane, Wigan 8.30  
 Contact Brian Gleave Atherton 876200 (w) 892965 (h)

### BOLTON

Jan 13 Branch meeting Rock House, Duke Street 8.30  
 Jan 20th Committee/Social - Bowling Green, Horwich 8.30  
 Jan 28th Social - Duck & Firkin, Bradshawgate, Bolton 8.00  
 Contact Bert Kerks 388172

### ROCHDALE OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 12 Jan 8.00 Branch meeting, Napier (Thwaites), Bolton St, Bury  
 Tues 19 Jan Evening trip to Sam Smiths, Tadcaster  
 Tues 26 Jan 8.00 Committee meeting Lamb (Whitbread), Tottington Rd, Bury  
 Tues 9 Feb 8.00 Branch meeting Healey, Robinsons, Shawclough Rd, Rochdale  
 Tues 23 Feb 8.00 Committee meeting Cross Yates (Holts), Whitworth Rd, Rochdale  
 Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) or 061 236 4411 ext 7237 (w)

### WHAT'S DOING ADVERTISING RATES

	1 MONTH	6 MONTHS
$\frac{1}{4}$ PAGE	£7.50	£6.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ PAGE	£15.00	£12.00
$\frac{3}{4}$ PAGE	£20.00	£16.00
1 PAGE	£25.00	£20.00

## HIGSTRAORDINARY

Higsons drinkers will be familiar with the brewery's "Old Higsonians" series of beer mats. In a world exclusive, What's Doing reveals here their latest design, featuring that plump doyen of Merseyside CAMRA.

The brewery have yet to decide on a suitable description for the reverse of the beer mat. What's Doing would welcome any suggestions (max 80 words).



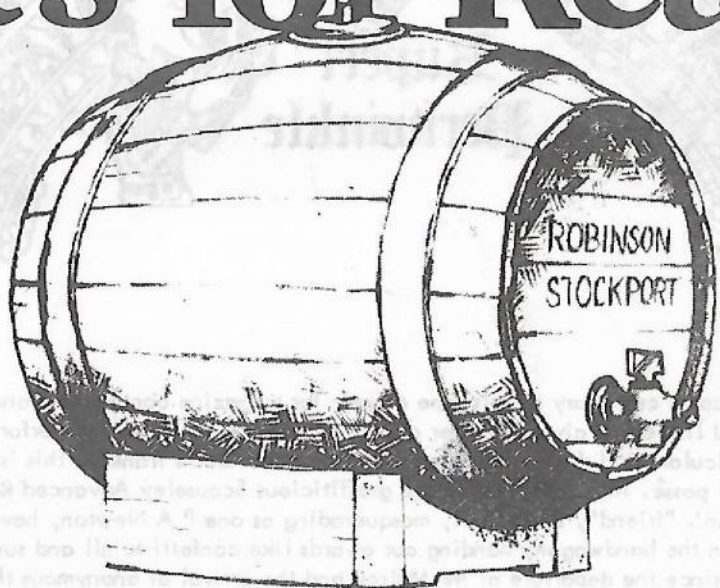




It has become customary at this time of year for magazine contributors and other assembled literati to give a number of token awards for outstanding performances in a particular field during the previous 12 months. Quite frankly, this is becoming somewhat passé. Minor hacks like the graffiticious Scouseley Advanced Railwayman and Alison's "friend", Boris Pratt, masquerading as one P A Newton, have all jumped on the bandwagon, handing out awards like confetti to all and sundry. Besides, since the departure of Mr Mulroy and the arrival of anonymous threats in plain envelopes from Messrs Rottenbodge and Primp, it hardly seems worthwhile. I'm sure that Drabs, Boringsods, Starsky, Bilko, Mr Nestfeather and Elsie will receive accolades from elsewhere. The no awards situation will also obviate the Bilko hostelry presentation situation, which would involve numerous aficionados of the hop becoming somewhat obfuscated and shovelling gallons of double strength rat vindaloo Pal down their throats. Not a pretty sight, but I suppose we'll have to put up with this again at the eventual nuptials where, no doubt, even the biriani will be in tiers.

I've been meaning to report on the latest activities of DOGSHIT for some time. According to my informant, Peter Hammerstein has lost his marbles and let people like Mr and Mrs Prune and Bessie Clog join the throng. The last meeting was held in a 15th century Goosegrease & Dishwater tavern in the sticks of mid-Wealthshire. The tavernkeeper was a teetotal Methodist and didn't serve AT's, so the assembled DOGSHIT members remained in a state of comparative sobriety during the 6-hour ongoing discussion situation. Nor did the tavern collapse about their ears as they left. A far cry from the days of real Grotley-style DOGSHIT meetings. The only benefit was that, in comparison to Mr Hammerstein, Dermatitis seems positively dynamic, decisive, impartial and commanding of respect in his role of Regional Chairperson. So perhaps when, at the next meeting, he runs off with his teddy bear and hides in a cupboard, unkind persons like Humphrey Dumpty, Billy Cosh and Royal Hall will take pity on him and not expect miracles or logic.

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