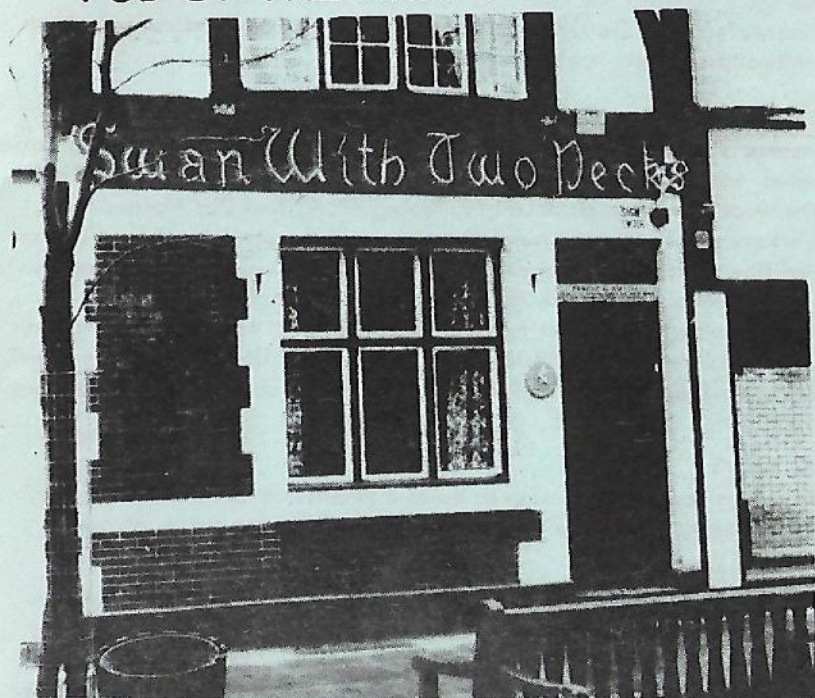


WHAT'S DOING

MAR
1982

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

PUB OF THE MONTH



South Manchester's Pub of the Month for March is the Swan with Two Necks, Princes Street, Stockport. The pub is a haven amongst the shopping precinct and has remained unspoilt as Merseyway was developed around it. The tenants, Bernie and Irene Smith, have been at the pub for 8 years, having previously had the tenancy of the now demolished Robin Hood on Brinksway. Bernie is currently president of Stockport & District LVA and Irene is past Chairlady. The Swan with Two Necks provides an extensive and reasonably priced lunchtime menu and tea and coffee are also available for the weary shopper. The social/presentation night is on Thursday 25th March, which is also Bernie and Irene's 8th anniversary in the pub. All members and friends are invited to come along.

WHAT'S DOING



REAL ALE IN FLIXTON

Real ale has reappeared at the Garricks Head and the Fox and Hounds in Flixton. Licensees at the Garricks are Tony and Elaine Copeland, who had the Oxford in Manchester until it closed two years ago.

HOP ONTO A PLANE

News of Greenalls' takeover of the Arrowsmith bit of the failed Laker organisation will be greeted with dancing in the streets of America. Not only will English beer from the wood now be available in Pittsburgh P.A. and Des Moines Iowa, but New Yorkers will be able to avail themselves of the services of Fred Dibnah Esq, brick edifice destroyer, extraordinaire, to chop down unwanted skyscrapers. Reciprocal arrangements may mean American holidaymakers being mugged in Runcorn. It is to be hoped that the new company does not feel the draught and go into liquidation like its predecessor. No doubt Greenalls high-pressure sales will enable the airline to keep its head above water and obviate any suggestions that it's a vladiafual skydrain...

PLANNING NEWS

Robinsons have applied for permission to build a two-storey extension and carry out internal structural alterations at the Junction Inn, Ashton Road, Hyde.

DESTRUCTION NEWS

The Public Inquiry into the demolition of Regent Road has upheld the Council's CPOs. Soon they will be able to lay waste yet another section of the City and build lovely warehouses (and two new pubs) so that Salford looks just like anywhere else and everyone will feel at home. It is not known exactly when the six pubs will yield to the swinging lead but a wake will be held on Wednesday April 7th, complete with coffin, armbands and crepe. Just in case anyone jumps the gun, the funeral procession will kick off in the only pub which will survive the bulldozers - the Live and Let Live - at 7.00pm before paying its last respects to the Duke of York, the Albert, the Spread Eagle, the Gloucester (8pm), the Grove and the Wellington.

CENTRAL MANCHESTER

Plans to democratise the selection process for pubs in the city centre came to an impasse at the last regional meeting when two branches demanded the right of veto. As they have been responsible for selecting such wonderful outlets as Cox's

Bar and the Grey Horse, their reluctance to relinquish control to a bunch of outsiders is understandable. The outsiders, however, didn't help their own case by suggesting that the 3 central branches never went in their pubs. The saga continues.....

CHURCH EXTENSIONS

Work has started at the Church Inn, a bitter-only Boddingtons house on Market Street in Hyde. The pub is being extended into the shop next door. The landlord is adamant that the handpumps will remain and mild will be sold as well as bitter.

THE QUADRANT SAGA

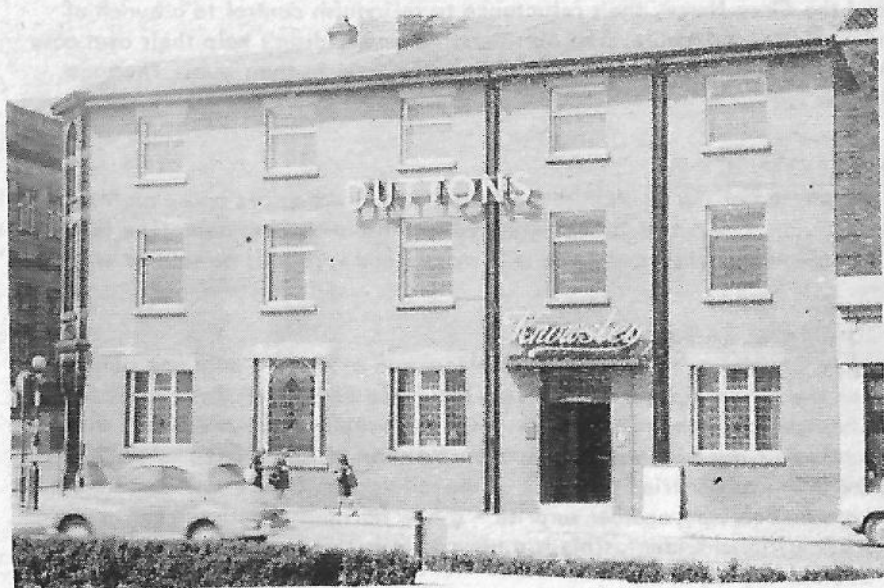
Just before Christmas the Quadrant, Stretford had a "bright" mild bar mounting alongside the handpumps serving Wilsons cask mild and bitter. In January the middle handpumps in the two "wickets" had been replaced by the bright mild bar mountings. Cask mild was off the menu because of low volume sales. It's a pity cask DPA was not tried from one of the mild pumps before such drastic action was taken. In February, another surprise - a new handpump with the motto "Bulmers Traditional Cider". This is a newcomer in this area which was selling well, even at 60p a pint.

DUTTONS

Hard on the heels of the Duttons Bitter outlets in Bury and Whitefield revealed in last month's WD are the following:

Horse & Jockey, Bell Lane, Bury Jolly Waggoners, M/cr Rd, Bury
Wellington, Bolton Rd, Bury Blue Bell, Bolton Rd, Bury (also Bulmers cider)
George, Market St, Bury (Bulmers only) Victoria, Ainsworth Rd, Radcliffe
White Horse, Little Lever
Knowsley Real Ale House, Knowsley St, Bury (Also Castle Eden & Hartleys XB)

The Horse & Jockey, Blue Bell and the George had no pump clips for the handpumps. The Jolly Waggoners had a plaque on the outside wall advertising the beer's presence. The bar in the Wellington was straining visibly at every pull of the handpump. Visitors to the Blue Bell should note the unusual original Duttons sign over the door. Last, but not least, we would warn visitors to the Knowsley that the pub has been internally bulldozed and kitted out with the John Thompson Design Inc Instant Gimmick Pub Kit, a la Duck & Firkin. If you like reading slogans such as "Hartleys pipe it up", "I want you to drink real ale" (featuring Uncle Sam), "We're all real ale drinkers heah stranger" (featuring a thug) and look at walls covered with R White's wooden boxes, not to mention the wickerwork frogs vomiting bunches of grapes and sit at sewing machine tables in elevated seating areas surrounded by old bedsteads, then this is the place for you. If you're still not satisfied, then you can wonder what old toasters, shoe lasts, road lamps and old jacks have to do with drinking real ale. In order to bring customers to reality, there's a cask peep-show near the door, and also a picture of Big Julie's younger sister, Big Jane, on the wall.



Seriously though, what an appalling place. And to think people get paid for dreaming up tasteless, rubbishy designs like this. Of course the customers pay for it - Castle Eden is 55p, Hartleys XB 54p and Duttons 53p. Let us hope that this is the last of the gimmick pubs and that Whitbread get on with introducing more real ale into their normal pubs, there are plenty of them about, especially in Bury. A few pump clips wouldn't go amiss either. Any decent choice of real ales, at the right price, will bring in the customers.

GUIDELINES

South Manchester CAMRA have for some time been keeping a regular survey of its GBG pubs and would appreciate any comments readers may wish to make about the pubs, the ale, etc. A brief survey form is available from Ron Sproson, 8 Merton Road, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, to whom all comments, etc, should be addressed.

NEW PUB FOR LEES

JW Lees have obtained planning permission for a new Colliers Arms, off Rochdale Road in High Crompton. The original pub closed before the war and was demolished in 1963. The new building cannot be connected to the public sewer so it will have the novelty of its own sewage treatment plant.

FOURTH SADDLEWORTH BEER FESTIVAL

Yes folks, yet again the Rochdale, Oldham & Bury branch of CAMRA are to organise a real ale extravaganza at the Civic Hall, Uppermill near Oldham. As on the three previous occasions, all proceeds will go to the Saddleworth Museum Fund. The festival will cover the weekend Friday 30th April until Sunday 2nd May. Licensing hours will be 5.30-11.30 Friday, 11.30-3.00 & 5.30-11.30

Saturday and 12.00-2.00 Sunday. A drinking-up session (subject to some ale being in an unconsumed condition) will be held on Sunday evening from 7.00pm until it has all gone. The branch hope to assemble a range of amber nectars from twenty or so breweries and of course a few "firsts for Greater Manchester" will feature. Full details of beers will be given next month, but if words like "County", "Ram Tam", "Abbot" and "Old Timer" mean anything to you, you know what to expect! Brass bands will entertain at each evening session and food will be available throughout. Admission charges (free to card-carrying CAMRA members) are expected to be 20p lunchtimes and evenings before 7.30 and 50p thereafter. A refundable glass deposit will be charged. For further details see next month's WD or ring Rochdale, Oldham & Bury's branch contact (see branch diary).

DEAR BEER

The Market Tavern in Wigan (Youngers) is still well ahead in the price stakes. The cheapest beer is Scotch bitter at 56p a pint, while the No3 and IPA are well ahead of that.

DIRTY OLD CORPORATION

Salford's licensing magistrates refused to renew the licence of the Corporation Inn, Cross Lane, in February because the conditions were described as "filthy". Perhaps we'll see another Wilsons boarding party.

RISING STAR

The Star on Old Street, Ashton under Lyne, reopened on Monday 21st December as a Boddingtons pub. The licensee is George Radcliffe, a member of the Fivepenny Piece folk group.

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT

The Old General, Crescent Road, Dukinfield now sells Chesters bitter by handpump.

LESS MILD

The Castle and Falcon, Bradshaw Street, has ceased to sell mild because of very low sales. The bitter continues to be excellent.

GOURMET CORNER

Congratulations to the Malt Shovels, Stamford Street, Altrincham on being included in the new Egon Ronay Good Food Guide (as well as the 1982 Good Beer Guide, of course.)

SHUT

The Bridgewater at Hindley and the Bold at Poolstock are closed, awaiting new tenants. Any offers to Burtonwood.

MORE MILD GOES

Wilson's traditional mild is being replaced by keg at the Bricklayers Arms on Reynold Street in Hyde. The landlord says he is not selling enough and is sending half-empty casks back to the brewery.

BODDINGTONS & OB

Boddingtons BLO Bob Wise has gleaned the following information from the brewery:
In the short term, Boddingtons plan -

- (A) To retain the brewery at Oldham and continue promoting OB mild and bitter and the "OB" name,
- (B) Boddingtons and OB ales will be available in both Boddingtons and OB houses. So if an OB house wanted to sell Boddingtons bitter and OB mild it could, and if a Boddies house in, say, Blackpool wanted OB for the holiday period, it would be available.
- (C) Cask beer would be available to OB tank pubs if the cellar was suitable. Boddingtons are to make a comprehensive survey of OB houses once the takeover is completed.
- (D) Rheingold will not become the Boddingtons "house" lager. Boddies pubs will continue to take Heineken - the Whitbread lager.
- (E) There will be a "two pronged" attack on the free trade, using OB tank beer and Boddies cask. OB sales are currently 40% free trade, compared with Boddies' 20%.

NAVIGATION ERROR

Last month we reported that the Navigation, Hyde, was selling Saxon Cross and Thwaites. Not so. The only cask beer on sale there at present is Boddies bitter, Thwaites and Saxon Cross are possibilities for the future.

BUCKS EX-FIZZ

The Bucks Head, Abram, a spacious multi-roomed pub with its own bowling green, is now selling handpumped Tetley mild and bitter.



OLDHAM CASK IN TAMESIDE

The Dukinfield Ward No 1 Conservative Club on Stanley Street in Stalybridge is selling cask conditioned Oldham Ales.

NEW BEER

Burton Ale is now available at the Bulls Head, Newton le Willows, a Tetley pub which formerly had a good turnover in Warrington Ale.

HANDPUMPS

The landlord of the New Bridge Inn on Micklehurst Road, Mossley, has ordered handpumps from the brewery. What is surprising is that the brewery is Greenall Whitley.

THE NATION DECIDES

Entries for the Central Manchester Top Ten poll have been processed by the Whats Doing computer and the results are as follows, in order of popularity:

- 1 Jolly Angler, Ducie Street (yes, really)
- 2 = Coach & Horses, London Road and Grey Horse, Portland Street
- 4 Crown & Kettle, Gt Ancoats St 5 Hare & Hounds, Shudehill
- 6 Castle & Falcon, Bradshaw St 7 George & Dragon, Bridge Street
- 8 = Circus, Portland Street and Royal Oak, Gt Ducie Street
- 10 Harp & Shamrock, New Mount Street

Contributors: Ray Kruup, Mick Rottenbury, Roger Hall, Brian Gleave, B J Brownsword, Bill Collier, Alan Ball, Dave Hale, A Jarratt, Roger Bullock, Jack Hopwood, Bob Wise.

WORK AT THE WHEATSHEAF

Ever had that dream of running a little country pub, roaring fire, cats on the hearth, horse brasses and locals with funny accents? Well, who hasn't? I've been following the progress of a couple who became fed up with the feeling they were not getting anywhere in their normal jobs and decided to become their own bosses as tenants of a pub. After many applications, John and Kath Greenwood finally realised the first step towards their own dream when they were granted the tenancy of the Wheatsheaf, a real ale Tetley house on Oak Street in the city centre. To turn round an old saying - it's tough at the bottom! On October 2nd they took over a rough back-street pub on a prayer and a bank loan, prepared to work all hours to realise its "potential". First thing to go was the stripper (closely followed by a fair number of customers, no doubt!) The next job was to make the most of the existing facilities, the first priority being the condition of the beer. John takes great care in looking after his mild and bitter, proudly



claiming that you are drinking "pure" beer - no slops poured back in the barrels here - and there has been a steady swing from the cider and lager to real ale. Equally high on the list is cleanliness - very difficult when you are surrounded by a building site a foot deep in mud (Manchester Corporation are constructing a large housing complex on the doorstep). Still, the carpets have to be cleaned - and the windows and mirrors, ornaments and tables, walls and curtains - the list is endless. Now you have a clean pub with good beer but not a lot of custom (you deserve an award for wading through the mire to find it). Alterations are planned to improve the building and work on a new ladies' lavatory is already in progress. Lunchtimes are pleasant but the evenings can be marred by the odd drunk falling onto someone's fist. The regular thugs, tramps and winos have had to be ousted and the doors continue to be closed to drinkers who overstep the mark. There is entertainment on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, with piano and drums and floor singers (including the licensee, whose singing is enhanced by a highly distorting pa system!) Despite all the drawbacks, the potential is there - once the surrounding buildings are complete, once the new craft market is open (a few yards down the road in the old Smithfield fish market) and once it loses its rough image and gains a greater number of better class customers. So if you're interested in running your own pub or merely want to see how the other half lives, call in for a chat and a decent pint - you might learn something.

Mick Rottenbury



REAL ALE in MANCHESTER NORTH



Including the City Centre, Ancoats, Collyhurst, Moston,
Newton Heath, Blackley, Miles Platting, Crumpsall and
Cheetham

CENTRAL MANCHESTER

Abercrombie	Bootle Street	Chesters	(H)
Bay Horse	Thomas Street	Wilsons	(E)
Bolton Arms	New Bridge Street	Youngers	(H)
Britannia	Newton Street	Wilsons	(H)
Britons Protection	Great Bridgewater Street	Tetley	(H)
Bulls Head	London Road	Burtonwood	(H)
Burton Arms	Swan Street	Bass	(E)
Castle	Oldham Street	Robinsons	(H)
Castle & Falcon	Bradshaw Street	Burtonwood	(E/H)
Churchill	Chorlton Street	Greenalls	(E)
Circus Tavern	Portland Street	Tetley	(H)
City Arms	Kennedy Street	Tetley	(H)
Coach & Horses	London Road	Tetley, Saxon X, Pollards, Bodd.	(H)
Corbieres	St Ann's Square	Marstons	(H)
Cox's Bar	Grand Central	Boddingtons	(E)
Crown	Deansgate	Wilsons	(H)
Crown & Anchor	Hilton Street	Chesters	(H)
Crown & Cushion	Corporation Street	Chesters	(H)
Deerings	York Street	Tetley (H) Boddingtons (E)	
Ducie Arms	Great Ducie Street	Boddingtons	(H)
Dutton Arms	Park Street	Hydes	(E)
George & Dragon	Bridge Street	Wilsons	(H)
Grenadier	Oldham Street	Wilsons	(H)
Grey Horse	Portland Street	Hydes	(H)
Hare & Hounds	Shudehill	Tetley	(H)
Harp & Shamrock	New Mount Street	Marstons	(H)
Hat & Feathers	Mason Street	Chesters	(H)
Heywood Arms	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Imperial	London Road	Wilsons	(E)
John Willie Lees	Witby Grove	Lees	(E)
King	Oldham Street	Tetley	(H)
Lancaster Arms	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Lord Clyde	Chester Road	Greenalls	(E)
Lord Napier	Great Jackson Street	Greenalls	(E)
Lower Turks Head	Shudehill	Wilsons	(H)
Marble Arch	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(H)
Midland Hotel	Peter Street	Tetley	(H)
Millstone	Thomas Street	Wilsons	(H)
Mr Chesters	Cateaton Street	Chesters	(H)
Mitre	Cathedral Yard	Wilsons	(E)
Mother Mac's	Back Piccadilly	Chesters	(H)
New York	Bloom Street	Wilsons	(H)
Nicklebys	Dale Street	Wilsons	(H)
Old Garratt	Princess Street	Boddingtons	(E)
Oxnoble	Liverpool Road	Chesters	(H)
Pack Horse	Deansgate	Greenalls	(E)
Paddy's Goose	Bloom Street	Wilsons	(E)
Peveril of the Peak	Great Bridgewater Street	Wilsons	(H)
Red Bull	Mason Street	Chesters	(H)
Rembrandt	Sackville Street	Lees	(E)
Rising Sun	Queen Street	Wilsons	(H)
Royal George	Lever Street	Wilsons	(H)
Royal Oak	Great Ducie Street	Boddingtons	(H)
Sinclair's	Old Shambles	Sam Smiths	(H)

Seven Oaks	Nicholas Street	Bass, Chesters	(H)
St Matthew's Tavern	Tonman Street	Chesters	(H)
Sam's Chop House	Back Pool Fold	Marstons, Wilsons	(H)
Star & Garter	Fairfield Street	Chesters	(H)
Square Albert	Albert Square	Tetley	(H)
Town Hall	Tib Lane	Bass	(E)
Unicorn	Church Street	Bass	(H)
Union	Princess Street	Burtonwood	(E)
Victoria Station Bar	Victoria	Boddingtons	(H)
Waggon & Horses	Southgate	Wilsons	(H)
Waldorf	Gore Street	Chesters	(H)
Weavers	Angel Street	Tetley	(E)
Wellington	Old Shambles	Bass	(E)
Wheatsheaf	Oldham Road	Bass	(H)
Wheatsheaf	Oak Street	Tetley	(E)
White Lion	Liverpool Road	Chesters	(H)

COLLYHURST

Ark Royal	Canran Street	Robinsons	(E)
Billy Green	Talgarth Road	Chesters	(H)
Boddingtons 200	Carisbrook Street	Boddingtons	(E)
Golden Tavern	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(E)
Junction	Queens Road	Tetley	(H)
Manhattan	Collyhurst Street	Wilsons	(E)
Milan Inn	Rochdale Road	Robinsons	(H)
Swan	Rochdale Road	Greenalls	(E)
Vine	Glendower Avenue	Boddingtons	(E)

ANCOATS

Ancoats	Great Ancoats Street	Greenalls	(H)
Auld Lang Syne	Pollard Street	Wilsons	(H)
Brick House	Great Ancoats Street	Chesters	(H)
Brown Cow	Woodward Street	Wilsons	(E)
Church	Jersey Street	Wilsons	(H)
Cob o'Coal	Winder Avenue	Chesters	(H)
Cross Keys	Jersey Street	Tetley	(H)
Crown	Weybridge Road	Chesters	(H)
Crown & Kettle	Great Ancoats Street	Wilsons	(H)
Dancing Weasel	Great Ancoats Street	Wilsons	(H)
Jersey Lily	Jersey Street	Greenalls	(E)
Jolly Angler	Ducie Street	Hydes	(H)
Moulders Arms	Heyrod Street	Tetleys	(H)
Nelson	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
O'Connell Arms	Oldham Road	Chesters	(H)
Pollard	Pollard Street	Lees	(E)
River	Palmerston Street	Greenalls	(E)
Smiths Arms	Sherratt Street	Tetley	(H)
White House	Great Ancoats Street	Wilsons	(H)
Mitchell Arms	Beswick Street	Wilsons	(H)

MOSTON

Bluebell	Moston Lane	Holts	(E)
Bricklayers	Moston Lane	Wilsons	(H)
Gardeners Arms	Chain Bar	Boddingtons	(H)
Kestrel	Hugo Street	Wilsons	(E)
Museum	Moston Lane	Wilsons	(E)

NEWTON HEATH

Britannia	Robert Street	Tetley	(H)
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Clarendon		Marstons	(E)
Church	Droylsden Road	Holts	(E)
Copenhagen	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Culcheth Gates	Culcheth Lane	Wilsons	(E)
Dean Brook Inn	St Mary's Road	Marstons	(H)
Grosvenor	Goddard Street	Lees	(H)
New Crown Inn	Old Church Street	Marstons	(E)
Newton House	Culcheth Lane	Marstons	(E)
Prince of Wales	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Railway	Dean Lane	Holts	(E)
Railway	Berry Brow	Boddingtons	(E)
Robin Hood	Droylsden Road	Marstons	(E)
Royal Oak	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(E)
Swan	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(E)

BLA CKLEY

Alliance	Rochdale Road	Boddingtons	(E)
Duke of Wellington	Weardale Road	Holts	(H)
Flying Horse	Crab Lane	Boddingtons	(E)
Fox	Old Market Street	Holts	(H)
Golden Lion	Old Market Street	Holts	(E)
Grove	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(H)
Heaton Park	Middleton Road	Chesters	(H)
Millstone	Blackley New Road	Tetley	(H)
New White Lion	Middleton Old Road	Wilsons	(E)
Old House at Home	Bottomley Side	Wilsons	(H)
Pleasant	Chapel Lane	Robinsons	(H)
Top Derby	Rochdale Road	Wilsons	(H)

MILES PLATTING & BRADFORD

Apollo	Varley Street	Boddingtons	(E)
Bradford Road Inn	Bradford Road	Holts	(E)
Cricketers	Bradford Road	Marstons	(H)
Bradford Hotel	Mill Street	Chesters	(H)
Grey Mare	Varley Street	Tetley	(E)
Half Moon	Holland Street	Wilsons	(H)
Navigation	Holland Street	Greenalls	(E)
New Inn	Cambrian Street	Greenalls	(E)
Victoria	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
White Hart	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Heywood Arms	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)
Pack Horse	Oldham Road	Wilsons	(H)

CRUMPSALL

Cleveland	Crumpsall Lane	Holts	(H)
Swan	Waterloo Street	Wilsons	(H)

CHEETHAM

Apollo	Heywood Street	Holts	(E)
Cheetwood Arms	Derby Street	Holts	(H)
Crumpsall Hotel	Bury Old Road	Holts	(E)
Egerton Inn	Hanlon Street	Holts	(H)
Grove Inn	Bury New Road	Boddingtons	(H)
Mechanics Arms	Waterloo Road	Boddingtons	(E)
Griffin	Cheetham Hill Road	Wilsons	(E)
Mile House	North Street	Boddingtons	(H)
Queens	North Street	Tetley	(E)
Robin Hood	Cheetham Hill Road	Wilsons	(E)
Waterloo	Waterloo Road	Boddingtons	(H)

ABOUT TIME

Burtonwood have planning permission for alterations at the long-closed Colliers Arms at Ashton in Makerfield, together with the cottage next door. The Colliers holds many fond memories for several CAMRA members.

OVERFLOW

Greenalls have applied to extend the River, Palmerston Street, Ancoats into the house next door. Let's hope that the cask beer remains in the revamped pub.

REAL ALE AT THE NAG

The lounge of the Old Nags Head, Higher Irlam is being extensively altered to give the pub a fresh image. The vault will remain unaffected. Fortunately Geoff Webber, the new manager, has decided to alter the range of beer as well. Hand-pumped Chesters mild and bitter is available alongside the non-traditional tank Chesters mild and bitter, keg Chesters Lite and Whitbread Trophy.

NO BULL

The Red Bull, Mason Street, a 1982 Good Beer Guide entry, has ceased to sell traditional beer. Come back Jolly Angler, all is forgiven.

BATH TIME

The Bath Springs at Brynn, a traditional Tetley pub, has recently converted to handpumps. The Travellers Rest at Lamberhead Green has had similar treatment.

WATCH OUT, WILSONS!

Our Manchester Town Hall mole reports that a planning application has been submitted for a property on Oldham Road, Newton Heath where, it is proposed, space is to be set aside for quilting, catering supplies, rubber grinding (!) and a brewery, the whole enterprise being under the auspices of the Oldham Slitting Manufacturing Co. Sounds intriguing.

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 COPY DATE for April is Thurs 18 March

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

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 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.



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.

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 N.W. DERBYSHIRE - Buxton, Glossop, New Mills, Whaley Bridge, Disley, Chapel-en-le-Frith, etc. 10p + s.a.e.

REAL ALE IN HIGH PEAK & N E CHESHIRE (TAMESIDE) - Marple, Hyde, Denton, Ashton, Dukinfield, Stalybridge, etc 10p + 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 95p 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

WHERE HAVE ALL THE BREWERIES GONE? £3.75 inc post

THE PUBS OF SWINTON & PENDLEBURY £2.25 inc post

A HISTORY OF PRESTWICH PUBS £1.75 inc post



DON'T MOCK TUDOR

Tudor Taverns is a subsidiary of Chef and Brewer, which is itself the managed house division of Grand Metropolitan. Tudor operates 116 pubs mainly in the northern half of Greater Manchester. Of these, 47 currently sell traditional beer and a further 27 pubs have been identified by the company as possible future outlets for cask conditioned Wilsons. Tudor Taverns maintains and decorates its tied estate to a higher standard than most brewers, with perhaps a little too much "brewer's tudor". Unfortunately this results in prices which are excessive by North West standards (typically 57p bitter, 56p mild). The differential between mild and bitter prices is meaningless and leaves little scope for the introduction of other beers. This is something which Tudor Taverns are actively investigating. Let's hope that they find an answer before even more pubs end up on keg mild.

The 116 Tudor Taverns are:

(* = presently selling cask beer; **Cask beer may be introduced)

Ace of Spades**, Fitton Hill, Oldham	Craven Heifer*, Broad La, Rochdale
Admiral, Rodney St, Ancoats	Crown & Kettle* Oldham Rd, M/cr
Belmont**, Higher Crumpsall	Crown*, Blackfriars St, M/cr
Berkshire**, Victoria Avenue, Blackley	Dog & Partridge**, Chester Rd, Stretford
Black Horse*, Ripponden Rd, Oldham	Dragon*, Parr La, Unsworth
Blue Bell, Monton	Ducie Bridge, Corporation St, M/cr
Blue Pig, Audenshaw	Elizabethan**, Whitefield
Boardroom, Minshull St, Manchester	Falcon**, Langley, Middleton
Bowling Green*, Tonge, Bolton	Flat Cap, Hattersley, Hyde
Bricklayers*, Moston Lane, M/cr	Forester**, Fir Tree La, Dukinfield
Britannia, Hollinwood	Fox & Hounds*, Flixton
Britannia*, Bank Lane, Irlams o'Height	Garricks Head*, Flixton
Brookdale, Coronation Rd, Failsworth	George & Dragon*, Bridge St, M/cr
Brunswick**, Piccadilly, M/cr	Golden Fleece*, Oldham Rd, Denshaw
Bulls Head*, Ripponden Rd, Oldham	Grapes*, Yorkshire St, Oldham
Cardinals Hat**, Langley, Middleton	Greens Arms*, Ashton New Rd, M/cr
Centurion, Hattersley, Hyde	Greyhound**, Boothstown
Chadderton Arms*, Chadderton	Griffin*, Cheetham Hill Rd, M/cr
Chaucers**, Hardman St, Liverpool	Hare & Hounds, Holcombe Brook
Church Inn*, M/cr Rd, Denton	Highlander, Darnhill, Heywood
Church Inn*, Church St, Eccles	Holden Arms* Helmshore
Clarks Arms*, Gee Cross, Hyde	Hopwood Arms*, Slattocks, Middleton
Cock**, Two Trees La, Denton	House that Jack Built, Broughton
Cornmarket*, Old Ropery, Liverpool	Inn of Good Hope*, Eccles Old Rd

Jolly, Park Rd, Liverpool
 Jolly Carter, Winton
 Jolly Carters, Bury/Bolton Rd
 Jolly Miller*, Bolton
 Jubilee*, Shaw, nr Oldham
 Junction, Ripponden Rd, Oldham
 Lion & Lamb*, Blackley
 Lord Derby, Tuebrook, L'pool
 Mallard*, Langley, Middleton
 Metropole*, Beswick, M/cr
 Moss Rose*, M/cr Rd, Kearsley
 Moss Vale, Urmston
 Museum*, Moston
 Nelson Tavern*, Failsworth
 Nickleby's*, Dale St, M/cr
 Northumberland*, Old Trafford
 Old Duke*, Brandlesholme Rd, Bury
 Old Priory, Hr Broughton
 Old Boars Head**, Long St, Middleton
 Pack Horse*, Mottram, Hyde
 Paddy's Goose*, Bloom St, M/cr
 Phoenix**, Briscoe La, Newton Heath
 Printers Arms, Tottington
 Quadrant*, Stretford
 Queen Anne**, Deane, Bolton
 Rams Head, Stand La, Radcliffe
 Red Barn, Chadderton
 Red Bridge, Ainsworth
 Red Lion**, Blackley
 Red Lion**, Flixton
 Rising Sun*, Queen St, M/cr
 Robert Tinker**, Collyhurst

Rosie's Bar, York St, M/cr
 Royal Oak, Westhoughton
 Salisbury**, Oxford St, M/cr
 Sawyers, Deansgate, M/cr
 Shady Lady, Oxford St, M/cr
 Shakespeare, Haughton Green, Denton
 Shakespeare**, Fountain St, M/cr
 Shiredale, Harpurhey
 Spa**, Little Hulton
 Spanking Roger, Miles Platting
 Spinners, Brownlow Way, Bolton
 Swan*, Winwick, Warrington
 Swan with 2 necks**, Withy Grove, M/cr
 Talbot*, Hulme
 Tanner, Skelmersdale
 Thompsons Arms, Sackville St, M/cr
 Three Crowns*, Deansgate, Bolton
 Tiger Moth**, Higher Irlam
 Top House, Haughton Green, Denton
 Trafford**, Chester Rd, OT
 Turks Head, Castleton Rd, Royton
 Unicorn**, Peel Green
 Urmston*, Urmston
 Waggon & Horses*, Southgate, M/cr
 Welcome*, Abbeyhills Rd, Oldham
 White Horse*, Westhoughton
 White Lion*, Irlam
 Whitegate**, Chadderton
 Willow Tavern, Failsworth
 Windmill**, Lord Lane, Failsworth
 Winmarith, Lytham Rd, Blackpool
 Woodlands, Woodlands Rd, M/cr
 Woolpack*, Manchester Rd, Haslingden



Sir, On Friday 5th February I ambled to the bar of the George, Wellington Road, Stockport, in a state of total sobriety and was about to request a drink when a

rather gruff, peroxide virago chanted insultingly "I'm not serving you" and strode off. Since I had been in the pub many times before without incident, I thought perhaps she had mistaken me for someone else. Unable to speak to her since she had gone to the opposite end of the bar and wouldn't come back, I made a request for some drinks to her foppish colleague who had been serving someone else at the time. He also refused to serve me, but added that I was "not suitably dressed". When pressed, he would not expand on this statement. I was wearing a duffle coat, plain jersey, sensible shoes and a clean pair of jeans and after a quick perusal of the clientele I spotted many similar items of clothing literally peppered around the room. The only inference I can make is that I was refused because I have long hair, which is a disgustingly antiquated reason for insulting behaviour towards a potential customer.

When friends I had arranged to meet heard what had happened they asked if they could return their drinks for the money paid. When they were told they could, they returned their drinks but were severely short-changed in compensation for the microscopic amounts which had been sipped. They also did not receive a satisfactory answer for this secondary maltreatment.

We left

What really annoyed me was that the barmaid from the bottle and the sycophantic poofster with the luminous red shirt, Andy Pandy pantaloons and Lionel Blair bouffant were hardly in a position to pass comment on the suitability of anyone else's dress.

I hope that the dubious discriminatory policies of this pub will be fully considered before it is selected for the 1983 GBG.

Alastair L Walker

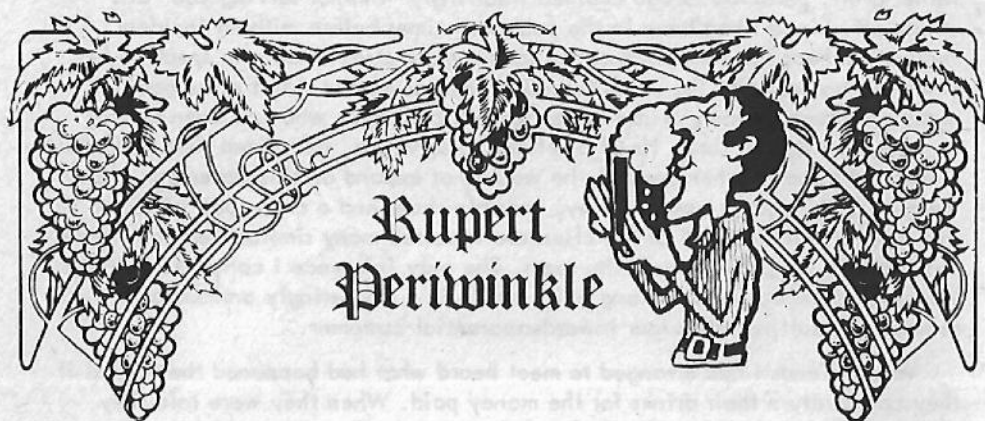


PISSING ABOUT

Sir, I was interested to note the illustration from Pub Games of England in February's WD. "Pissing into Hat" is a modern keg corruption of the traditional Slutch pastime of "Pissing on the Cat". Having to aim at a fast moving feline object took considerable skill and had the added advantage of swilling down the vault floor and cleaning your clogs. The game reached the height of its popularity in the 1890s, with inventive variations using budgies and 8 stone weaklings as targets. The sport was squashed about 1920 when RSPCA inspectors investigating an outbreak of illegal cockfighting in the gents of a local meths bar became "it" for the night and the entire membership of the SPOMO (Slutch Pissing On Moving Objects) League were incarcerated in Strangeways (the prison, not the brewery) where the art is apparently still kept alive behind locked cell doors.

Rottenbodge





I suppose a brouhaha is inevitable when Bunty Fortescue, the stalwart members of DOGSHIT International and the Slumley cell of the Gay Stevedores Liberation Army are assembled in the same hostelry. The Rat and Handbag is now restored to its former un-glory. An emergency meeting of DOGSHIT was convened by Peter Hammerstein as a result of ructions among the membership. Mr Zimbabwe Talbot was suffering from Tedium Tremens and Mrs Prune was pushing for supremacy. Mr Hammerstein thought it about time that the ongoing problem situation was resolved. Pinky O' Flaherty and Zsa Zsa McGurk had also convened a meeting because several gay stevedores had been refused admission to the Tavern of No Hope and Jimmy Turfbookie's Sewer View Hotel by monkey-suited supernumeraries. Bunty had merely gone along to admire the decor.

The trouble really started when Pinky asked Big Julie where she'd bought them from and how they fastened on. Bunty made an unfortunate remark about Pinky looking "fit for a queen" and the handbags began to fly. The Spanish bullfight posters were torn from the walls and the plaster mallards in flight were smashed to smithereens. Zsa Zsa McGurk ended up with his head jammed inside the tuba suspended from the vault ceiling and had to have an emergency operation to remove the pool cue. The electronic shove ha'penny machine was strewn with the broken remnants of the polystyrene characters from Lowry reproductions which had lent an air of character to the refurbished lounge. The plastic horse brasses had melted and dripped off the plastic beams onto the beaten copper tops of the sawn down Britannia tables.

The noise and general commotion awoke the DOGSHIT members who were assembled in the Duke of Grotley's Stirrup Cup Bar in the converted pigeon loft. This room alone was left untouched by the devastation. The constabulary were otherwise engaged harassing other tavernkeepers so Bunty has avoided the beak this time. Paradoxically, the dishevelled Rat and Handbag has a certain cachet which the upmarket pub never managed to attain. Despite the sordid surroundings, Tracy Voletrouser is happy with her profitable lot. However, the twin problems of DOGSHIT policy and Gay Stevedore recognition remain unresolved.



Branch Diary

TRAFFORD & HULME

Thurs 18 Mar Branch Meeting, Malt Shovels, Stamford Street, Altrincham, 8pm
 Thur 25 Mar 8pm. Pub of the Month with South Manchester branch, Swan with Two Necks, Princes Street, Stockport
 Thurs 1 April 7.30pm Committee/Social, Faulkners Arms, Stamford New Road, Altrincham
 Thurs 15 April 8pm, Branch Meeting, Church, 84 Cambridge Street, Hulme
 Contact Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (h)

BOLTON

Mon 1 Mar 7pm Pub crawl of Ramsbottom. 7pm Good Samaritan (Wilsons), 7.30 Railway, (Boddingtons), 8.00 Royal Oak (Thwaites), 8.30 Grants Arms (Burtonwood), 9.00 Major (Duttons) 10.00 Hare & Hounds (Wilsons)
 Sun 7 Mar 12.00noon. Burtonwood Light Mild Meeting. York, Newport St. All branches welcome
 Wed 10 Mar 8pm. Branch Meeting Falcon, Kay Street (Tetley)
 Wed 17 Mar (St Patrick's Day) 7pm. BACKWARD CRAWL OF BOLTON TOWN CENTRE. 10.10pm Old Three Crowns, 10pm Prince Bill, 9.00 Alma, 8.00 Sweet Green Tavern, 7.30 Lodge Bank Tavern, 7.00 Derby
 Fri 2 April 10.00pm-2.00am CAMRA DISCO! See Bopping Bert at "Scamps" Disco, Bradshawgate (handpumped Greenalls bitter) Meet Alma 10.00pm
 Wed 7 April 8pm Branch Meeting at Derby Arms, Derby St (Hartleys)
 Fri 23 April 7pm. Pub Crawl of Manchester. Meet at Dome Bar, Victoria Station. 8pm Burton Arms, Swan St
 Fri 30 April 7.30pm Social at Ainsworth Arms followed by crawl down Halliwell Road
 Contact James Hurst, Tottington 3532

SOUTH LANCOS

2 Mar PUB OF THE YEAR AWARD. Park Hotel, Wigan
 Fri 12 Mar 8.30 Pub of the Month. New Inn, Kiff Green
 Tues 16 Mar trip to Mitchells Brewery
 Sun 7 Mar Burtonwood Light Mild meeting, York, Newport St, Bolton 12.00noon
 Mon 22 Mar Branch Meeting, Kings Arms, Ashton
 Contact Brian Gleave Atherton 876200 (w) 892965 (h)

NORTH MANCHESTER

Wed 17 March Branch AGM, White Swan, Swinton 8.00
 Wed 31 March Regional Meeting, Burton Arms, Swan Street
 Wed 7 April Regent Road Wake. Live and Let Live 7.00, Grove 8.00. Black ties, cummerbunds, etc.
 Wed 14 April 8.00 Nags Head, Irlam. Compare real and tank Chesters mild and bitter in the same pub
 Wed 21 April, Vine, Dunsley Road, Kinver, Staffs (A449). Check with R Hall just before
 Contact Roger Hall 740 7937

HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Wed 10 Mar Branch meeting, Organ, Hollingworth. Guest speaker from Websters. All welcome. Early start essential
 Thurs 18 Mar Committee Meeting in the Grapes, Gee Cross
 Contact Tom Lord 061 427 7099

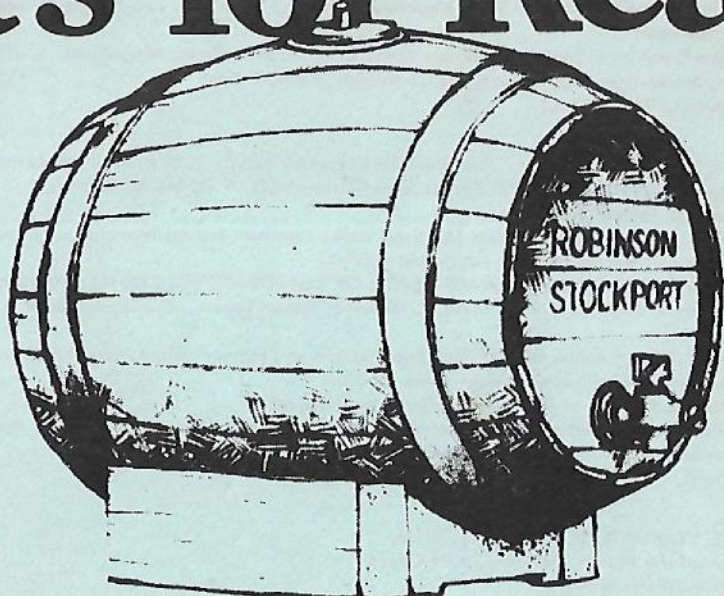
SOUTH MANCHESTER

Thurs 11 Mar Branch Meeting, Gateway, Wilmslow Road, 8pm. Discussion of Bradford AGM agenda
 Thurs 25 Mar 8pm Pub of the Month, Swan with Two Necks, Princes St, Stockport
 Contact Humphrey Higgins 432 0059

ROCHDALE OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 9 Mar 8pm Branch Meeting - NEW VENUE - Halfway House (Lees), Rochdale Rd, Royton
 Tues 23 Mar 8pm Committee Meeting Woodman, (Lees) Hollinwood
 Tues 13 April 8pm Branch Meeting Cotton Tree (Lees) Boarshaw Rd, Middleton
 Tues 27 April Committee meeting Dog & Partridge (OB) Spring Vale, Middleton
 Weds 28 April to Sun 2 May Setting up and serving at 4th Saddleworth Beer Fest. See elsewhere in this issue
 Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) 061 236 4411 ext 7237 (w)

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
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.

**When you buy any of these Robinson's Ales,
you are buying Traditional Draught Beer
- at its very best.**