

WHAT'S DOING



NOV
1982

THE MANCHESTER BEER DRINKER'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE

WIN SOME, LOSE SOME

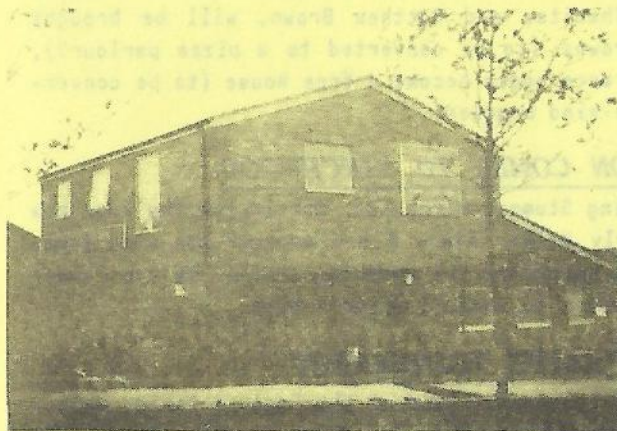
As the ill fated Gloucester set the night on fire in Salford, Holts' 88th pub opened in Cheetham. The closure of the former Pollards pub leaves only 4 remaining on the notorious stretch of Regent Road.

The Tanners on Fairy Lane (off Bury New Road) opened on October 8th and takes its name from a hide curing factory which was once nearby. The layout differs somewhat

from the identikit pubs much beloved of Boddingtons and Holts in re-

cent years. The bar, instead of separating the vault and lounge, is at the back of the pub but still serves both rooms. The vault is spartan but the lounge is fairly smart and L-shaped. There is a corridor with toilets off but the living accommodation is separated from the pub with its own entrance away from

the pub doors. A far cry from the licensee's quarters in many of the other 87.



WHAT'S DOING



SOUR GRAPES

The Old Grapes (formerly the New Grapes) is now open off Quay Street. The design is wierd in an un-Whitbread like way. The interior of the pub is laid out like a street, with paving stones, roofs, vitreous enamel advertisements and tables and chairs, Paris style. It's not the cosiest of places but who'll notice during the lunchtime rush. Chesters mild and bitter and Boddingtons bitter are served from hand-pumps alongside bright Oldham mild from a stunted quasi-handpump. If it's still there next year it might be worth thinking about for the '84 GBG.

SADDLEWORTH SWAPS

As reported last month, the Roebuck at Strinesdale, Oldham is up for sale. It now seems certain that the brewery are all set to play "swapsies" with the owner of the Cross Keys at Delph. This free house, serving real ale from Thwaites and Matthew Brown, will be brought under the control of Browns (to be converted to a pizza parlour?), whilst the Roebuck will once again become a free house (to be converted back into a pub?) The mind boggles!

BURTON COMES TO BIRCHWOOD

The Turf & Feather, Locking Stumps, Birchwood, Warrington New Town now sells Burton Ale (formerly Walker Ale). A new manager has also taken over at the nearby Silver Birch at the shopping centre. He's a former Belhaven licensee and is keen to install draught Bass.

BOWLING TOURNAMENT

The second CAMRA Bowling Tournament held at the Eagle & Child, Whitefield, last month was won by local bowler Bryan Foster. Conditions were not the most pleasant, with heavy rain falling when the tourna-

ment began. Some bright intervals followed but constantly high winds made playing very difficult. However, bowling standards were high and Bryan finished a worthy winner. Many thanks to the Eagle & Child Bowling Club for their hard work in organising the event.

DAFT

Roddingtons bitter is now available at the Sun free house in Lambs Conduit Street, London. For the privilege of supping this amber nectar the public are being charged the princely sum of 86p (yes, eighty-six pence) a pint.

TAYLORS IN BOLTON

The General Havelock, Sydney Street, Bolton, is now selling Timothy Taylors dark mild alongside Boddies bitter on handpump. It is hoped Taylors Best Bitter will soon join the mild.

MOVING ON

Peter & Glenda Beardow have left the Malt Shovels, Altrincham, to take over the Whipping Stocks, Peover. No doubt Sam Smiths Old Brewery Bitter will soon be available there in cask conditioned form to replace the chilled and filtered variety. Trafford & Hulme Branch would like to thank Peter & Glenda for all their help in the past and wish them well in their new home.

HIGH LANE HANDPUMPS

Handpumps have recently been installed in the Bulls Head, a GBG Boddingtons pub at High Lane, Stockport.

HEIGHT FIDELITY

Sandwiched between two Holts pubs, the Wellington and the rebuilt Waggon & Horses, and a couple of hundred yards from a third, the Red Lion, it is proposed that Bass's Dog & Partridge, Bolton Road, Irlam's o'th' Height be extended into adjacent premises with alterations to the front. Despite its "brasses and false beams" look, the interior does have potential - in comparison to its neighbours - but surely the simple way to attract more custom would be to sell some cask ale and at a realistic price! Keg Snotes is on sale at 9p a pint more than the neighbouring Holts bitter. (Incidentally, the Waggon & Horses has just introduced hot bar meals in the evenings, of the chicken, beef, steak and scampi variety.)

BRICKLAYERS

Later than expected, Holts reopened the Bricklayers Arms, Ordsall Lane, Salford, on 29 October.

BULLS HIT

You've guessed it, Whitbread's House of Horrors team have been at it again. The Bulls Head, Walkden, now

has a sign over the door bearing the legend "Amsterdam Bar Sound and Lite Show". This is the third Whitbread aberration to use the name - others are in Preston and Fallowfield (see Sept WD).

Aficionados of "sound and lite shows" can revel in the effects of this modern technology not only in the evenings but at lunchtimes too. Marvel at the rough-textured bricks, tiles and timber - there's even a Dutch elm, with a diseased bird in its branches! Farmyard artifacts, mostly splintered cart wheels, adorn the walls - and for the enquiring mind, printed witticisms explain their locational circumstances.

One can't help wondering if the Amsterdam Bar will share the fate of the Navada Bar (nee Knowsley, now Derby Brewery Arms) and get sold off cheap to Holts. Now that would be good news - Holts can turn the place back into a pub and make lots of money selling nicely priced beers in the Walkden real ale desert. (Chesters bitter at the Amsterdam Bar is 60p a pint. Holts bitter at the Derby Brewery Arms is 47p)

MILD & MUESLI?

The Royal Albert, a Wilsons pub on Hamnett Street, Hyde, reopened on September 15th after being closed for a month for inside alterations. The new landlady is specialising in serving health food as well as traditional bitter.

ARMS OUTSTRETCHED

The Oddfellows Arms, Higher Openshaw, is being extended on both sides. Work should be complete by the end of March next year.

HOUSE OF HORRORS?

The Brooklands Tavern, Hope Road, Sale (Whitbread tank beers) is to close for a couple of weeks for alteration. What price real Chesters

Clever and artistic use has been made of a collection of effects and oddity items. The bar has a tiled canopy

and brickwork is featured, particularly in a kiln-type fireplace in the main lounge area.

Taking over the managers



at a price the over 20s can't afford, subdued lighting and a tasteless selection of old junk to fall over? We shall see.

BYE BYE BASS

Draught Bass has been taken out of the Crompton's Mule bistro in Bolton. This was the town's only outlet for the beer. White Shield will be available for the Bolton Branch Feed at the Mule on Friday 29th October.

ODD FEELINGS

Our correspondent's impression of the new Oddfellows is that the predominance of mirrors, pine panelling, plants and fancy lampshades suggests Habitiat with a bar. Some will doubtless find it appealing, however, but it's hard to avoid the impression that it is merely the realisation of an interior designer's fantasy and certainly not a response to some perceived demand from the good folk of Eccles - as some of the comments would suggest.

SALFORD real-ale brewers Boddingtons are continuing their policy of top quality designs when they modernise pubs.

This time it is the turn of the Oddfellows Arms, Church Street, Eccles.

In just three weeks the lounge bar has been completely ripped out and refurbished in neo-30's style - complete with pine panelling and mirrors.

Within hours of the reopening, many of the regulars were back and the up-market decor seemed to meet with general approval.

Alice Anderton and Annie Campbell, both of Eccles, who have been

regulars for over 50 years, were very pleased with the result.

"The only problem," they said, "is they have done away with the old corner where we used to sit!"

Harry Thornton, who lives nearby, wondered about the cost. "I reckon I have just about paid for all this in beer over the years," he said.

Andy Hopwood, while disappointed that there were no hand-pumps, liked the overall effect.

"They have tried to capture the spirit of a traditional pub," he said. "It will be the talk of Eccles."

BURY AMBER NECTAR SHOW



As promised last month, final arrangements have now been made for the presentation of the third Bury Beer Festival at the Derby Hall, Market Street, Bury (near the bus/rail interchange). Sessions are as follows:-

Friday 26th Nov 11.30-3.00 &
5.00-11.00

Saturday 27th Nov 11.30-3.00 &
5.00-11.00

Admission: 30p lunchtimes & evenings before 7.00; 50p thereafter.
Free to current card carrying CAMRA members.

Failsworth Brass Band Friday night, with the Crosland Band (Trad Jazz, folk, rock - you name it, they play it!) Saturday lunch and evening. Real Northern grub throughout - black peas, black puddings, potato pie etc.

Over 30 real ales and ciders will be available for the thirsty masses. Established favourites such as Taylors, Greene King, Drabs and Lees will be challenged by the beers from the country's new wave of "micro" brewers. Clarks (Wakefield), Trough (Bradford), Abbey (Notts), Woodforde (Norwich) will all be available, together with our own brand new local brew - Failsworth original (Newton Heath!).

Four mild beers plus a porter will also be featured. Farmhouse cider from Dixies Cider Mill, Bristol, will complement the beers and wine will also be available.

Don't be late on Friday & Saturday nights, the hall was full to capacity by 8.30 last year! For further details phone R.O.B. branch contact.

CHESTERS

Chesters bitter is now on sale with the Castle Eden at the Derby Arms, Derby Street, Bolton.

CASTLE EDEN

The Belle Vue, Woodhouse Lane, Wigan, was opened again last month by John Smith (John F, not John Wash-Your-Mouth-Out). John used to work behind the bar and knows how to look after his Castle Eden Ale, which is now always available in good nick and at a fair price.

Marston's

BURTON- ON-TRENT



... *The Home of Traditional Beer*

WICKETS

Handpumps have been installed at the Hanging Gate, Audenshaw Road, Audenshaw, to serve Chesters bitter. At the same time handpumps were removed from the Ashton Hotel, Ashton-under-Lyne and now only keg Chesters bitter is available.

MORE WICKETS

Handpumps now dispense Wilsons mild and bitter in the Railway and Naturalist, Bury New Road, Prestwich.

MORE MANCHESTER REAL ALE

Rather than just a frontal uplift, as mentioned last month, the whole interior of the Swan with Two Necks, Withy Grove, Manchester, is being redesigned to make the place more like a pub. There will be more drinking space and less bar and - glory of glories - handpumps. The plans are on show in the "Swan" as it is to be called when completed.

OLD MILL

Following a change of management, the Old Mill bar and restaurant, off Carr Street, Ramsbottom, sells Castle Eden Ale on handpump. Rumour has it that there may be other cask beers to follow.

OINK

Tudor Taverns are going to spend £31,000 on renovating the Blue Pig in Audenshaw. Maybe they will invest a little of the money in handpumps. The beer at present is pressurised Wilsons.

WHITBREAD WICKETS

Back in the July edition, WD reported that the Globe on Tottington Road, Bury, was selling keg Trophy on handpump, and the Lamb further up the road was selling keg Duttons Light on handpump. CAMRA complained to the local Whitbread managing director, who promptly acknowledged the letter (which doesn't always happen when some breweries are written to). However, no answer to the complaint was forthcoming six weeks later. A second letter was sent and this too was acknowledged promptly. This acknowledgement contained the line "You are quite right in suggesting that our detailed investigation into your concern is rather slow in coming to fruition". A couple of weeks later came the long awaited answer: "We have investigated your complaint and have established that both houses do in fact dispense beer through handpumps. However, because both houses are tenanted and therefore the licensees own the dispensing equipment, I would suggest you speak directly to them if you are concerned about this matter." Well, that was a pretty impressive reply after 10 weeks or so. It told

us three things:

- 1 Both houses dispense beer through handpumps
- 2 Both houses are tenanted
- 3 We may be concerned

All three points were pretty obvious before CAMRA wrote to complain. You would have thought that for a brewery who had recently started reintroducing cask beer into pubs, all on handpumps, they would have been very keen to clamp down on any landlord who started selling keg beer on handpumps, if only for the reason that this would spoil the marketing image.

One could easily draw the conclusion that Whitbread don't really give a damn about cask beer, as long as it helps draw the punters into their pubs. This is also borne out by the increasing number of appalling pub conversions that they are inflicting on the drinking public. Traditional beer is always on sale in about as far from traditional surroundings as you can get - and at a higher than traditional brewery price.

GORTON GOINGS-ON

J W Lees have spent a bob or two on doing up the Suburban Hotel, Gorton. The original facade has been cleaned up and the old building has been extended by providing a new entrance area and lounge. In addition to these rooms there is a vault, snug and games room. The Suburban has been the unofficial HQ of the Gorton Morrismen for years, and Lees have recognised the fact by portraying them on the new inn sign.

FLAT BEER?

The Dog & Partridge in Stacksteads, which Wilsons have been trying to sell with a licence for some time, is now the subject of a planning application to convert the pub to four flats.

SHUT

The Unicorn on Broughton Road in Salford has closed for trade, although the licensee is still living on the premises. This brings the number of real ale Greenalls pubs in the city down to 7. James Grimble Groves must be rotating in his grave.



REAL ALE GAIN

The one-time real beer desert of Chorlton-cum-Hardy, which for many years relied on just one real ale pub, the Southern Hotel (Boddingtons), gained three traditional beer outlets recently: Royal Oak (Chesters bitter and draught Bass), Beech Inn (Chesters bitter) and Princess Hotel (Chesters bitter). Now more choice is available. The Horse & Jockey, Chorlton Green, sells handpumped traditional Wilsons bitter and mild (yes, mild) and handpumped Bulmers cider.

TAYLORS IN ROCHDALE

Informed sources in Rochdale indicate that Timothy Taylors are about to swap or gain a pub in Rochdale from Sam Smiths. This is certain to be a convert to real ale, given Sam Smiths' strange policy of selling only keg beer in the majority of their Rochdale outlets, whilst they are keen to promote cask Old Brewery Bitter over the rest of the country.

LEG UP

Following on from the information in August WD, a new licensee has taken over the Three Legs of Man, Greengate, Salford. Tony and Margaret Hatzenboer previously managed Holts' Waggon & Horses, Hyde Road, Gorton. They have made a good start at the Legs by redecorating at their own expense. CAMRA members at the recent Regional meeting can testify to the improved quality of the beer.

Tetley Bittermen.
Join'em.

CASK STONES

In February CAMRA representatives met with the managing director of Bass North West, who told them that the likelihood of getting cask Stones bitter in Bass NW pubs was as remote as a wombat appearing on platform 4 of Wigan NW Station. Three months later cask Stones appeared in several Bass NW pubs and it looked like Wigan NW would be in for a marsupial problem. The indefatigable Bogbrush has only recently elicited a confession from Bass NW. The beer comes from Iadcaster and its future will be decided at the end of the year. For the record, the original outlets were:

Last Hop, Hulme	Bay Horse, Barrow
Bromale, Bramhall	Washington Hotel, Barrow
Cross Keys, Eccles	Periscope, Barrow
Corporation, Guide Bridge	Kings Arms, Barrow
Pegs Lantern, Ashton-u-L	Harbour Hotel, Barrow
Derker, Oldham	Duke of Edinburgh, Barrow
Old Davids, Alkrington	Theatre Hotel, Barrow
Hallbottom Gate, Hyde	Wellington Inn, Barrow
Sea View Inn, Ulverston	Engine Inn, Cark in Cartmel

LEAVING

Mr and Mrs George Divney have left Tameside after being licensees of the Organ, a Wilsons pub on Acres Lane, Stalybridge, for 25 years. Before leaving they donated a bottle full of cash towards Tameside General Hospital's day care unit.

SOLD OFF

Tetleys have sold off three of their South Lancs pubs, delicensed. These are the famous Swan & Railway, Wallgate, Wigan, the Walmsley at Ince Bar and the Live and Let Live at Leigh.

HOUSE OF HORRORS

A Whitbread "House of Horrors" has been forced on the patrons of the White Lion, Burnley Road, Rawtenstall, which previously sold Duttons bitter. Now the offerings include BYB (og 1032) at 59p and Castle Eden (og 1041) at 60p. The usual tasteless adornments are present; dark green walls, raised drinking areas, shelves full of junk, the same photo of Duttons drays as in the Fielden Arms, etc, etc. Luckily the tap room has survived. The staff seem a little bemused by the hand-pumps, as a request for Castle Eden produced a pint of keg shandy. Perhaps things would improve if the piped/jukebox music was a little less loud.

The doors of the Three Pigeons, Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton, have been closed recently. Is this the next victim for the House of Horrors treatment? Will Whitbread be able to get round the problem that this pub is already on two levels? How many of their high priced beers will they get on the bar? Will the pub have wickerwork frogs vomiting bunches of grapes? Will Whitbread have used up all their green paint? See next month.

NO SIGN

light fingered person(s) have pinched the new nameboard from the wall of the Howcroft Inn, Pool Street, Bolton. Some 8ft x 6ft and situated some 20ft off the ground, it was indeed a very cheeky deed. If anyone knows where it is please could Frank have it back.

TURNKEY TURNABOUT

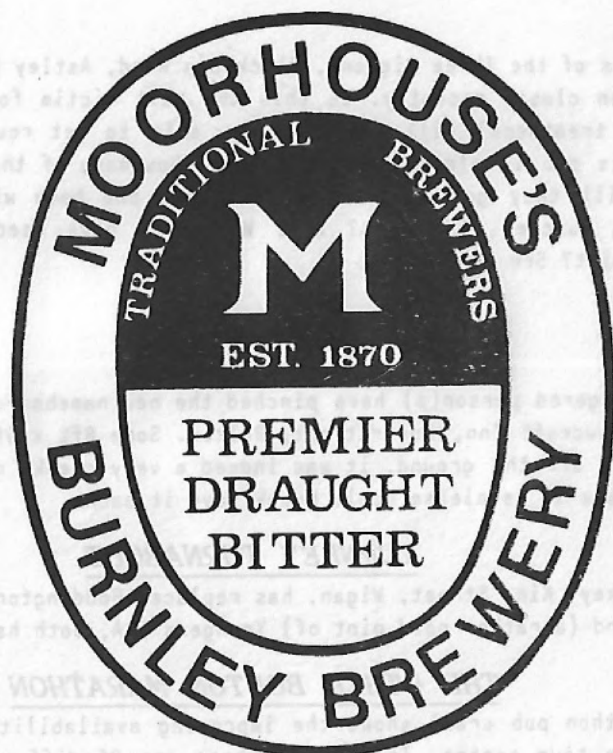
The Turnkey, King Street, Wigan, has replaced Boddingtons with McEwans bitter and (a rather cold pint of) Youngers IPA, both handpumped.

THE OTHER BOLTON MARATHON

The Marathon pub crawl shows the improving availability of cask beer in Bolton town centre. In 14 pubs there are 26 different beers from 16 breweries. **Friday 5th November** is the date for your diary.

6.30pm	Howcroft Inn	Peter Walker M&B
6.50pm	Greyhound	Bass 4X
7.10pm	George	Wilsons M&B
7.30pm	Derby Arms	Castle Eden & Chesters
7.50pm	Lodge Bank Tavern	Lees M&B
8.10pm	Queen Elizabeth	Greenalls M&B
8.30pm	General Havelock	Taylor's M, Boddingtons B
8.50pm	Sweet Green Tav.	Letley M&B
9.10pm	York Hotel	Burtonwood LM, DM, B
9.30pm	Duck & Firkin	Hartley XB, Marstons Ped, Castle Eden
9.50pm	Masseys	Theakstons B, Old Peculier
10.10pm	Gaiety	Vaux Samson
10.30pm	Prince William	Boddingtons M&B
10.50pm	Dog & Partridge	Thwaites M&B

Contributors: Jim Hurst, Roger Hall, Dave White, Brian Gleave, Don Chattwood, Leo King, Steve Lawton, Ken Birch, Dave Pentelow, Dave Hale, Peter Watkins, David Rowlinson, Rob Dunford, Stewart Revell, Roy Walker, Mick Rottenbury



Premier Draught Bitter

THE REAL ONE

THE BREWERY, MOORHOUSE STREET
BURNLEY, ENGLAND. Tel. Burnley 22864.



THE AIMS OF CAMRA

- 1 The provision of top quality traditional mild and bitter in every pub. (not mediocre "cask conditioned" beers)
- 2 The preservation of the traditional public house. The "ideal" is a pub with a lounge, quiet room and vault.
3. To persuade the breweries to pursue the above in a positive manner.

A popular misconception is that CAMRA has won the real ale battle. This is not true; there have only been marginal gains. Most breweries are still in love with lager and tank beer and they still wish CAMRA would go away. Well it won't.

Traditional pubs are still being knocked down unnecessarily (Regent Road) and identikit buildings are going up in their place. The "House of Horrors" articles in WD have shown what breweries can do to the insides of pubs.

A somewhat sinister development has been the declining quality of "real ale". There is a danger that traditional mild will disappear altogether and a lot of these "cask conditioned" bitters are not worthy of the name "real ale".

In our area Whitbread are past-masters at bamboozling themselves, the general public and CAMRA. They changed the name of their beers and pubs to "Chesters" and then wrecked the insides of many good pubs (ref "House of Horrors") At the same time they promoted tank, keg and "real" Chesters bitter and did all this in the name of tradition. CAMRA has had difficulty in coping with this series of Whitbread googlies.

Even good old Boddingtons have proved disappointing. Their beers are now classed as "drinkable" and are still popular, but this is a far cry from the halcyon days of the early seventies. Their bitter was rightly described as one of the best in the country, and the brewery was held up by CAMRA as a model for all others to follow. How times change! I can hardly believe that Boddingtons of all people are now actively promoting tank and keg beer. I refer of course to their policy with regard to Oldham ales. It's enough to make you cry in your pint.

Bill Collier

Rupert Periwinkle



It is a self evident truism that people who are silly deliberately will not be pilloried within these pages. It is inadvertance combined with truly eccentric behaviour which guarantees inclusion. Thus Elsie's Hitleresque megalomania, the lesser Bogbrush's televisual posturing, the Noble's Vindaloost and the promiscuous proclivities and lascivious lechery of others too numerous to mention have rightly been the subjects of discussion.

However, when people dress up in silly clothes merely for self-publicity their

behaviour must be ignored. So the talk of Tykeley - the amber nectar show cherished wonder - will receive no mention here. poor try Mr Dumpty. I don't know how to treat the antics of Mr Duckfoot. To the untutored eye, the pretty picture reproduced here is merely of a slightly self conscious beer supremo fooling about for the camera. And yet this innocuous gesture hides a serious maladjustment. Tom is acting out a chronic drinking problem. He has been seen on more than one occasion entering a detoxification unit run by a Dr Webb. One can only surmise that the treatment has not been desperately successful - perhaps Humphrey Dumpty will be luckier when it's his turn.

RUMOUR DENIAL SECTION:

There is absolutely no truth in the story that when firemen had finished dousing the clever Mr Cobbler's late hostelry, they found the

skeletons of 14 former tavernkeepers huddled together in the attic.

It is totally untrue that one of Smarmford & Slutch's Central Grotley entries for the '83 vademecum has only been included in 1 in 7 of the amber nectar guides. The rumour arose apparently because the very wonderful Montague Ale was only sold three days a week and on two of those it was less than ambrosial.

WHAT'S DOING COMPETITION

Fill in the following form and send it to:

Fred Bright (GW Bumshine Competition)

Greenall Whitley

Wilderspool Brewery

Warrington WA4 6RH

First Prize 10 pints GW bitter

2nd Prize 20 pints

NORTH WEST ACADEMY OF BREWING

SCHOOL REPORT Autumn Term 1982

Name:- Whitley, Greenall

Age:- 220

Average age of Class 138 years

Subject	Assessment	Teacher's Remarks
BITTER		
MILD		
NEW BUILDING		
PUB PRESERVATION		
CHEMISTRY		
PUBLIC RELATIONS		
PIZZERIA		
EMETICS		

A=Excellent B=Very Good C=Good D=Fair

E=Unsatisfactory

.....Form Master Head Master



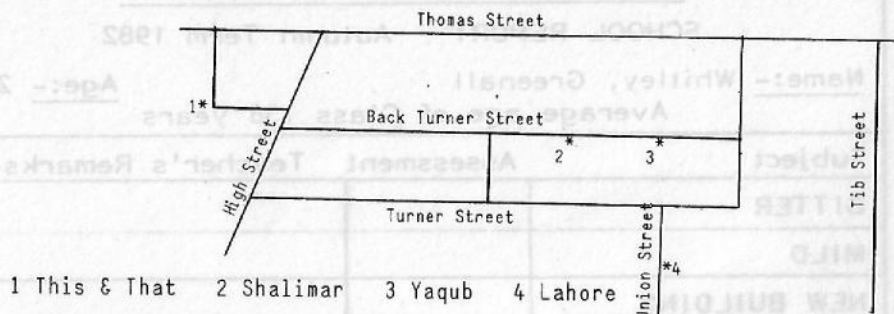
ASIAN CORNER

The article by Dim Sum in the August WD has certainly started some considerable controversy, and also broadened some minds. Indeed, D Busman and two other

members of the Campaign for Real Steamships were seen emerging from the Kwok Man shortly after the article was published.

Regrettably Indian food is still perceived by many CAMRA members as a means of soaking up the huge amounts of ale they consume on a typical night out. The September article has done little to dispel this. By way of rectification, I suggest that the reader try some or all of the four establishments which are to be found in the city centre (see map)

It will be readily apparent from their location that these cafes cater mainly for the Asian community which trades locally. (This is reflected in their opening hours - generally late morning until early evening). All offer good straightforward food at reasonable prices.



Those of you who prefer to eat a little later in the day and possibly in more sumptuous surroundings should give serious consideration to the Hilal Restaurant, 90 Wilmslow Road, Handforth. The menu is typical of this type of establishment but the quality is particularly and consistently good. Lovers of Macho-Curry should note that the dishes are a little milder than the norm. A Rogan Josh fan should have little difficulty with the Vindaloo.

Tarka Dhal

OVERSEAS SECTION

In the January '81 issue Papa Dumm wrote about one of the few Indian restaurants in Austria, the Taj Mahal in Innsbruck. Regular travellers to that country will doubtless be interested to learn of another such establishment which has been discovered in the city of Linz. Linz lies roughly halfway between Salzburg and Vienna but possesses none of the

charm or attractiveness of those places. In fact the guide books don't have a nice word to say for the place. This is slightly unfair as Linz does lie on the Danube and has its own mountain, the Postlinberg, from the top of which (reached by tram) there are fine views over the surrounding country. Also reachable by tram, necessarily so as it is situated outside the city centre, is the Shakuntla Indian Restaurant. It is instantly recognisable as such by its "temple" windows, red flock wallpaper, etc, etc, and serves the usual range of Anglo (or should it be Austro-) Indian dishes. Especially recommended are the papadums, which although not advertised as such are well spiced. Unlike most Indian restaurants in England, pork dishes are to be found on the menu along with lamb, beef and prawn. Boiled rice is included with all meals, with pillau rice (containing peas and nuts) 50p extra. Also good value are the chapatis, some of the best I've seen outside Bradford - you also get two for the price of one!

Austrian ice-cream is very good and can be recommended for afters. To drink with the meal there is excellent draught Schwechat "Hopfenperle" or "pearl of hops" beer and on warm summer evenings all this can be enjoyed in the large rear garden which is decorated with fairy lights.

The Shakuntla is to be found at 218 Wiener Strasse and is best reached by the southbound No1 tram (Kleinmünchen) from the city centre, alighting at "Neue Welt", which is at the top of Wiener Strasse itself.

Guten appetit! Ben Gall

LOTTA BOTTLE



Dear Sir - I have in my possession some 90-odd bottles of barley wine and strong ale - all full and all different - which I have collected over the past ten years or so of travelling around the country. About a third of the collection are commemoratives, many are from small local breweries, and a few are common-or-garden

varieties which you can buy anywhere.

Recently I have moved into accommodation which is rather more limited than that which I had previously, and regretfully I have decided that the collection must go. There must be other collectors of this commodity, but I have never met any and am none too sure how to go about doing so (what prefix does this particular '-ology' take anyhow?)

Are there any WD readers interested in purchasing the collection, or part of it?

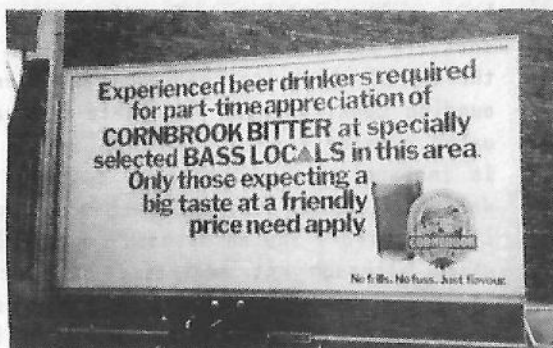
Joan Butler 434 7040

CORNBROOK

As more and more revival brews embark on a new lease of life it gets more and more interesting. Old nostalgic names like Halls (Oxford), Benskins (Watford), Taylor Walker (London), Friary Meux (Guildford), Aylesbury Brewery Ales, Fussells (Rode, nr Bath) and Duttons (or Chesters) have been joined

by Cornbrook. Bass revived Fussells in the west of England and now they have revived an old Manchester brewery name. Large posters state: "Drinkers required for part-time appreciation of Cornbrook bitter", and also state "No frills, no fuss - just flavour". Flavour! Where? I visited two pubs to sample the beer; the New Inn, Greenside Lane, Droylsden and the Wheatsheaf, Oldham Road, Ancoats. The former sold the beer in such a gassy state that "flavour" was barely noticeable. In the latter it was much less gassy, although there wasn't enough taste to comment on. I think it would go down well in traditional form. I only hope that in its present form (or in any form, for that matter) it does not replace the Stones cask beer which is creeping into Bass N W outlets. Cornbrook bitter is brewed in "the north". But where? Glasgow? Sheffield? Edinburgh? Tadcaster? Who knows, in due course we could get Hardys from Belfast, Gartsides from Wales or Openshaw from Burton. I rather like the idea of revival brews, but let's enjoy them in their traditional form, whether they are original, near-recipes or damned good imitations!

Leo King



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ADDRESS.....

WHAT'S DOING

WHAT'S DOING is edited by Neil Richardson, 375 Chorley Road, Swinton, Manchester M27 2AY

COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS THE 20th OF THIS MONTH



Branch Diary

BOLTON

Fri 5th Nov 6.30 THE OTHER BOLTON MARATHON PUB CRAWL (See elsewhere in this issue)
 Wed 10 Nov 8.00pm Branch AGM Gypsies Tent, Bolton. MEMBERS PLEASE ATTEND
 Sun 14th Nov 12noon. Pub crawl of Brightmet. 12.00 Hare & Hounds (Walkers), 12.30
 Black Horse (Duttons, Castle Eden), 1.00 Bowling Green (Wilsons), 1.30 Bradford (Tet)
 Fri 26th Nov 7pm. Social - Bury Beer Festival. Meet Two Tubs, the Wylde, Bury 7.00
 Contact Jim Hurst Tottington 3532

SOUTH LANCs

Tues 9 Nov Branch Meeting. Plough & Harrow, Upholland 8.00
 Tues 23 Nov Pub of the Month, Colliers, New Springs 8.00
 Tues 7th Dec Branch Meeting, Hand & Banner, Hindley 8.30
 Wed 22 Dec Xmas Party with traditional Lancashire food and Excelsior jazz band.
 Contact Brian Gleave Atherton 876200 (w) 892965 (h) for information/tickets

ROCHDALE, OLDHAM & BURY

Tues 9 Nov 8.00pm Branch Meeting, Ordnance (OB), Park Rd, Oldham
 Tues 23 Nov 8.00pm, Committee meeting, Brunswick (Wilsons), Moorgate, Bury
 Fri/Sat 26/27 Nov Third Bury Beer Festival - see elsewhere
 Tues 7 Dec 7.30pm Christmas Social, Eagle & Child (Holts), Higher Lane, Whitefield -
 All manner of festivities.
 Tues 14 Dec 8.00pm, Branch Meeting, Old Cross (Holts), Eaton Hill, Radcliffe
 Contact Steve Lawton 061 620 9239 (h) or 061 236 4411 ext 7237

HIGH PEAK & NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Mon 8 Nov 6.30 Committee meeting, Halfway House (Holts), Manchester Rd, Droylsden
 Tues 16th Nov 8.30 Branch Meeting, The Grapes (Boddingtons), Glossop
 Contact Tom Lord 427 7099

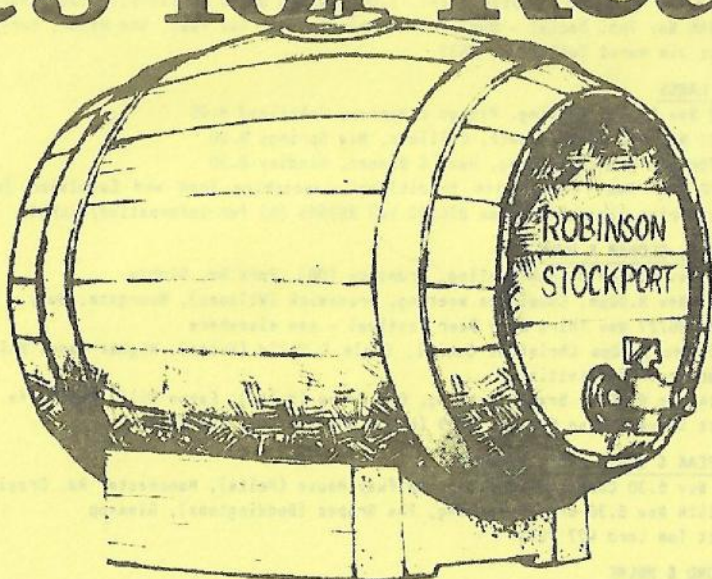
TRAFFORD & HULME

Sun 14 Nov 12noon Games Social with Sale Homebrew Soc. Sale Wardens Assoc, rear of 23
 Wardle Rd, Sale
 Thu 18 Nov 8pm Branch Meeting, King William IV, Manchester Rd Partington
 Wed 24 Nov 8pm, Regional Meeting, Three Legs of Man, Greengate, Salford
 Thu 25 Nov 8pm, Pub of the Month with S Manchester branch, Bulls Head, London Road,
 Manchester
 Thurs 2 Dec 7.30pm, Committee/Social, Barrington Hotel, Barrington Rd, Altrincham
 Sat 4 Dec World Famous Altrincham Pub Crawl. Meet 7.00pm Railway, Broadheath; 7.30
 Wheatsheaf; 8.30 Victoria Tavern; 9.00 Malt Shovels; 10.00 Faulkners Arms. Maps avail-
 able.
 Thu 16 Dec 8pm Branch meeting/Christmas Social. Melville, Barton Rd, Stretford. Games,
 Quizzes, Strip 5's and 3's. Bring own jellies.
 Contact Mick Rottenbury 969 7013 (h)

NORTH MANCHESTER

Weds Nov-10 Committee/Social Derby Brewery Arms, Cheetham 8.00
 Weds Nov 17 Branch Meeting, White Swan, Swinton 8.00pm
 Sat Nov 20 Keighley & Bradford trip. Pick up in Ashton-u-Lyne, Manchester centre,
 Eccles, Swinton, Bolton, Leigh. Contact John Worthington 775 8681
 Wed Dec 1 pub crawl Swinton & Pendlebury. 7.00 White Swan, 8.00 Bulls Head
 Weds Dec 8 Committee/Social Tanners Arms, Fairy Lane, Cheetwood 8.00
 Weds 15 Dec Branch meeting, Queens, Patricroft 8.00pm
 Weds 22 Dec SOLSTICE pub crawl. Salford Arms, Old Ship, Lower Turks Head, Sinclairs,
 Town Hall, Imperial, Coach & Horses, Everest
 Weds 29 Dec HUNGOVERS pub crawl. Hare & Hounds, Unicorn, Mickelbys, Grenadier, Old
 Wellington, Victoria Station Bar, Eagle, Royal Oak, Shah
 Contact Roger Hall 740 7937

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.**