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CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE



THE NEWSPAPER OF THE NOTTINGHAM BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE
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THUMBS UP TO NOTTINGHAM'S NEWEST PUB!

NOTTINGHAM'S REAL ALE DRINKERS NOW have another outlet to frequent, thanks to Dave Willans and Les Howard - co-owners of the Southbank Bar at Trent Bridge and the renowned Fellows, Morton & Clayton pub in Canal Street.

The Globe, on London Road - formally known as the Greyhound and more recently as DC's - officially opened for business on Thursday Nov 14th.

Dave Willans told ND: "It is with great pleasure that we are able to open another free-trade outlet in the city of Nottingham, specialising in traditional ales. They seem to be a dying breed at the moment, as the big pub companies buy them up and do away with even a single guest beer.

We shall be bucking the trend and promise our new customers that there will be a "no rip off" pricing policy no matter how obscure the brew and the distance travelled to get it. The Globe will offer the discerning drinker up to 6 real ales at any one time".



More than £300,000 has been spent on refurbishing the pub which now boasts five real ales, most of which will be from micro-breweries, including two regulars from the Nottingham Brewery, Radford and Mallard's of Carlton. And for the scrumpy fanatics a real cider is also on offer.

Nottingham CAMRA Chairman Richard Studeny said: "It's more than three years since the last Nottingham city pub opened specialising in selling real ales from micro-brewers, and this has since

changed hands, so the Globe has got to be good news for beer purists!" The Globe is named after the now demolished Meadows picture house of the same name and will be managed by local Meadows man Pete Odell, formally of the Southbank Bar.

Richard Studeny added: "In today's economic climate of pub closures and brewery takeovers, it's good news for the cities cask ale drinkers that another outlet is opening in Nottingham - and the fact that some of the beers will come from the country's leading independent micro-brewers is good news for the brewing industry and is good news for the pub customer - encouraging more choice for the drinker at the bar."

Food will be served daily between 12-noon - 10 pm, and a 100-seater function room is available for hire.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS

CAMRA - THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

INNS AND OUTS OF PUB NAMES: 25 – Oliver Cromwell

I have been lecturing about pubs names for some years now and I take great delight discussing the names which hold their existence to the restoration of the Crown. 1659 was the time when England ended its unsuccessful experiment as a republic by removing the poor misfit Richard Cromwell as Lord Protector and instituting the rightful king: Charles II. The landlords of England were so pleased with the end of the morbid Puritans they showed their pleasure by naming their houses with titles of a real royal flavour such as the *Crown*, the *King's Arms* and the subject of my last article, the *Royal Oak*.

I carry (or rant) on by claiming Richard's father and original Lord Protector, Oliver Cromwell was so unpopular no pubs have ever been named for him. Well as a true-born Nottinghamian I should have known better.

Recently I was perusing one of the many books of old photographs of Nottingham I have in my collection and I was surprised, no horrified with what I found. There was a photograph of St Ann's Well Road with a very large licensed establishment named the *Oliver Cromwell*. Oh dear, I hope none of my lecturees remember my remark. But why this name?

Quite frankly, I have no idea. As far as I can see Mr Cromwell had little to do with Nottingham. Of course Nottingham featured heavily in the Civil War. It was a Parliamentarian island stronghold surrounded by Royalist held lands. George Hutchinson was in command of the roundhead army here but soon realised Nottingham, itself, could not be defended and withdrew his men into the derelict castle. Cavaliers led by Sir Richard Byron attacked from Newark taking the houses facing the castle. Cavalier musket men even climbed St Nicholas' church steeple to gain height so they could take potshots at the castle. Of course the fire was answered which must have made life interesting for those drinking in the *Salutation*.

I am afraid I will have to cut the story short but can write that things got worse for the Puritans after the great Royalist victory of Naseby in 1645. Newark became a rallying-point for Royalist and a short trip to Nottingham was an easy day out.

However things went badly for King Charles I. He was forced to escape from Oxford and managed to get to Southwell in 5th May 1646. After spending a couple of hours at the *Saracen's Head* after an all-night ride he went to Kelham and surrendered to Sir David Leslie, the Scottish general. Perhaps by surrendering to the Scots he believed he would be safe but he was wrong. In January 1647 he was handed to the

Parliamentarians. Charles last saw Nottingham when he passed through in that February on his way to London and the forthcoming unpleasant business there.

Even more disturbing (to me that is, King Charles is past caring) I now find there was an *Oliver Cromwell Tavern* in Newark and given Newark's Royalist standing during the Civil War, this instance is rather odd.

Richard Cromwell, who became Lord Protector on his father's death, is also remembered in pub names. Richard did not want to be in power; he was quite happy being a farmer. So when it was decided to end the Commonwealth and replace him with a king, he was delighted. The Government gave him a pension and he disappeared off to France to buy a farm and enter a well earned obscurity. This is rather nice when you remember what his father did to Charles I. Richard was such a bad leader he received a very derogatory nickname and those two houses at Camberley, Surrey and Farnborough, Hampshire which remember him are known by that nickname: the *Tumble Down Dick*.

If anyone can think of a reason for a Nottingham pub to be called the *Oliver Cromwell*, will you please tell me.

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Nottingham losing it's Cask Ales

Many of you will have read the letter from Michael Coleman of the **Coach and Horses** on Parliament Street in 'Whats Brewing' He along with many other pubs, both in the city and the surrounding area, has seen a reduction in the sales of real ales. Indeed since the local beer guide was published less than a year ago no less than nine pubs have stopped serving real ales or closed whilst only three have started, and one of those is another Wetherspoons.

It is up to us to support landlords like Michael who is providing us with real ale in difficult times. He will be putting on seasonal beers in the run up to Christmas including two from Wychwood and some unusual ones from Batemans, Robinsons, Morrells and Jennings plus others, so there are plenty of reasons to visit the Coach and Horses. Without drinkers not only will there be no real ale, there will be no traditional pubs left either.

Hogshead Update

There is good news for Nottingham Drinkers at **Langtrys**. Although the Hogshead pub chain has been taken over by the Laurel Pub Company a new landlady, Suzie, has taken over the lease at Langtrys and is maintaining the number of real ales for which the pub has become known. The full selection of hand pumps will remain so a decent choice of beers will always be available. The **Salutation** lease is currently available so lets hope the selection will remain there in the future as well.



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Beer in Lincoln

Off to the Lincoln Christmas Market to buy your presents? Whilst you're there why not take advantage of two beer festivals coinciding with the Market. The **Victoria**, which is by the Castle, is holding a festival from the 2nd to the 9th of December whilst the **Golden Eagle**, beyond the railway station, is holding a Winter Ales Festival from the 7th to the 16th. Both pubs are part of the Tynemill Group so a good selection of ales is expected.

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More power to Ray Kirby's elbow for highlighting the Vat and Fiddle's outrageous pricing policy in the October/November issue of 'The Drinker'. However, by mentioning ales from the Orkneys which the Vat saw fit to sell at £2.50 and £2.65 respectively some readers may mistakenly be given the impression that such pricing is a rare tactic by that pub, applied only when beers come from faraway locations. Unfortunately this is not true, and almost always at least one of their guest beers is priced at such a scandalous level. At the time of writing for example, they have Black Sheep's 'Riggwelter' on offer at £2.50, and 'Waggledance' has been sold recently there at £2.65.

I once ventured to one of the bar staff that, surely, not many people would stump up £2.65 for a pint of Waggledance and I was assured that it sells very well, even at that extortionate price.

I wonder if the Vat's prices will ultimately be their own undoing as punters will realise sooner or later, that £2.65 for the price of one premium guest beer at the Vat and Fiddle doesn't compare too well with £1.29 for a pint of Shepherd Neame's Spitfire at the nearby Wetherspoon pub!

Name supplied

Following your comments in ND46 over the prices being charged for some of Orkneys ales at the Vat & Fiddle, I was wondering if you went to the beer festival held at The Royal Oak, in Ockbrook last weekend..? On the menu were both Orkney Raven and Dark Island. Whilst I didn't try the Dark Island and (sorry) forgot to note the price, I had an excellent half of the Raven...and the price..? 90p (or £1.80 a pint). I also tried, Parish Farmgold (4.0%), Wicked Hathern Gold (3.5%), and Cottage Olive's Oil (4.0%)...all these beers were 90p a half.... Thought you may like to know..?

"Billy" Graham

CAMRA TRIPS & SOCIALS

The recent trip to Stamford had a reasonable if not spectacular turn out. The trips now seem to be supported by a hard core of people with little exception. At the moment we have sufficient support to keep the trips viable and I have a few ideas to enable us to remain in the black. I will be mentioning more about these in the January edition.

The first social we have on the cards is the Christmas party at the **Swan in the Rushes**, Loughborough; a few tickets are still available, at £5 for CAMRA members and £7 for non-members. This includes the bus there and back and a buffet at the pub. A very good evening

is on the cards. The next bus trip is the annual end of year villages' trip after Christmas, this time we are looking at villages on the Lincs/Notts border. Details in the diary dates. First up for the New Year will be the Award of Excellence to the **Plough** at Radford on Wed. 16th Jan, please come along and give your support. On Sat. 19th I have arranged a trip around two breweries in Burton on Trent. This will be during the day, first up is the Tower Brewery at 1pm, followed by the Old Cottage Brewery at around 3pm (They are only just round the corner from each other) You will have to make your own way there as I don't intend to run a bus, but it's easy by train. I recommend the 11.44am from Nottingham Station. If you want to go please let me know at least 10 days before so I can tell the Brewers, (so they know how much beer to put on!).

The final trip I have planned at the moment is the annual bus to Lincoln on Feb 9th. Which should be £5 for CAMRA members and £7 for non-members. As with all the trips the CAMRA discount will be given on production of your membership card. The final thing to note in your diary is the CAMRA AGM to be held on Thurs. 28th Feb. at the **Globe** on London Road. This is the time for the new committee to be elected, so if you don't like the way the present mob are running the branch, or you have some fresh ideas on how the branch should be run please come along and put your name forward. If you are worried about being saddled with too much work, then please don't, there are ten of us to share the jobs between so you won't be over burdened. There are lots of perks in the job so come on give it a try.

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PUB NEWS

Batemans Brewery of Wainfleet, Lincolnshire have strengthened their presence in Nottingham by purchasing the Lion, Mosley Street, Basford.

'We are delighted to have been able to purchase a pub which has such a great reputation for its cask beers and music', says Jaclyn Bateman, Marketing Director.

Batemans XB will be permanently on the bar along with a wide range of guest beers.

As well as the music there will also be other events happening in the pub. On Sunday, 13th January there will be jazz from 1.30 to 3.30 and 4.00 to 6.00. The latter performer will be the popular Suzanne Mallard. Jaclyn will be present during the day and the BREAKTHROUGH (Breast Cancer) charity will receive a donation from the brewery of 10p for every pint of Batemans beer purchased.

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CAMRA IN THE 'VALE OF BELVOIR'

The **BLACK HORSE** at Hose was selected as **Pub of the Year** by a substantial majority at the meeting held on 13th November at the Nevile Arms in Kinoulton.

We welcome into the Vale the new landlords of the Plough at Hickling, Keith Scattergood & Dawn Lawrenson and await news on the Marquis of Granby, which should have been sold by auction by the time this is printed. The last remaining pub in the Vale not to serve cask conditioned ale is also for sale and members are keeping their fingers crossed that it may soon be converted to the cause. The planning refusal for change of use at the Boot & Shoe, Granby, into a dwelling with development of the car park for residential purposes, is to go to appeal. The hearing will be held at Rushcliffe Civic Centre at 10am on Tuesday the 12th February. On Tuesday the 9th October, a very pleasant evening at the **Rutland Arms** in Bottesford celebrated the pub's entry into the Good Beer Guide and a dominoes tournament, which supplemented, the evening was won by the landlady, Kerry and her partnering mother in law. The branch also christened the new well furnished drinkers area in the bar. On the 2nd November an away skittles match was played against Newark CAMRA at the **Castle and Falcon**. A depleted Vale team lost 3-2, but thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of Malcolm and the Newark branch members as well as the landlord who supplied a delightful buffet.

The next event will be the Xmas social at the **Horse & Plough** in Bingham on Tuesday the 11th December. To book places, phone Bridget on 01949 876 479 (home) or 01949 850 056 (work). The January meeting on the 8th will be the presentation of the 'Pub of the Year' award at the **Black Horse** in Hose and on February 12th a meeting will be held at the **Red Lion** in Stathern.

Pubs supplied with The Drinker in and around the Vale of Belvoir

Aslockton: **Cranmer Arms, Old Greyhound**

Bingham: **Horse & Plough**

Bottesford: **Rutland Arms**

Colston Bassett: **Martins Arms**

Cropwell Bishop: **Chequers, Wheatsheaf**

Cropwell Butler: **Plough**

Granby: **Marquis of Granby**

Hickling: **Plough**

Hose: **Black Horse, Rose & Crown**

Old Dalby: **Crown**

Orston: **Durham Ox**

Plungar: **Anchor**



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BOB'S BEERWORD – JUST FOR FUN

BEERWORD 39

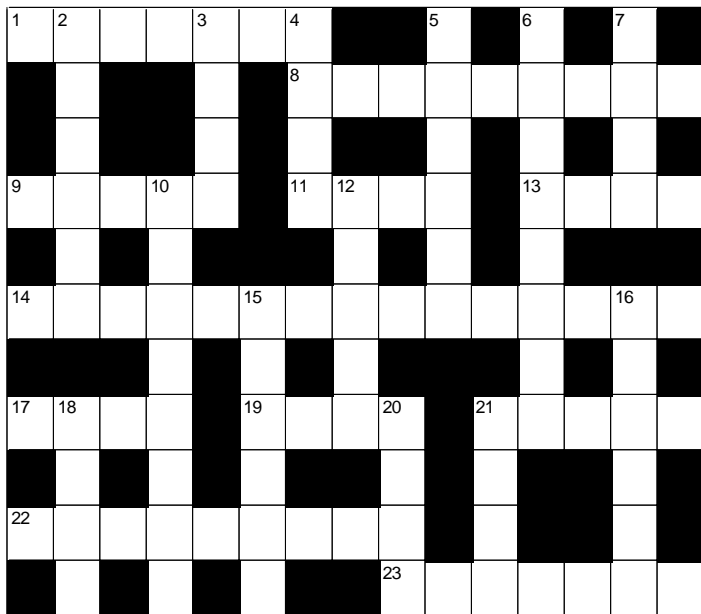
Answers next time. Answers to the last beerword (No 37) can be seen below. All solutions involving beers, breweries or non local pubs can be found in the 2002 CAMRA Good Beer Guide.

Across

1. Brewsters beer makes you leap on one leg to boss (7)
8. Ancient & irritable at Kemptown (3,6)
9. Beer, perhaps without Morris man at Brewsters (5)
11. Bird loses colour in the vale (4)
13. Smiles produced ale without the French taper (4)
14. Auction the rock first for Broadstone ale (11,4)
17. At Daleside, crack off a quick round (4)
19. Teignworthy wobble about the Spanish ale (4)
21. Wager on bone at start of year without Wogan fan on board at Skinners (5)
22. Fast track bitter at Elgoods (8)
23. Church yard foliage or pub at Hucknall (3,4)

Down

2. Large test perhaps for west Yorks brewer (6)
3. A doddle without horseman at Kelham Island (4)
4. Boxers perhaps emasculated at Wychwood for answer (4)
5. Triple gravity eon reform for grannies Xmas drink (3,3)
6. Scottish isle hides grooming aid near Bristol brewer (8)
7. Round enclosure welcomes one at pub (4)
10. Long scot makes effort we hear for pub near theatre (8)
12. Sounds dark with no light at Goffs (6)
15. Go wrong in wearing dress tie at Somerset brewer (6)
16. Lloyds ale loses claw to become tiny (6)
18. Exmoor ale or Forest manager (4)
20. Elegant woman to go off with opera singer in Warwicks (4)
21. Concoction loses battle of Burton Bridge (4)



Solution to Beerword 38

- Across:** 1. Pea-cock, 4. Miss, 7. Asp (anag), 9. Tall, 10. V-ale, 11. (Waggle) Dance, 13. Edit (anag), 16. (The) Empress (of India), 17. Mull-(k)keys, 20. Late (Starter) (anag), (Three) Kings (Ale), 25. Easy (Rider), 26. Lion (Slayer), 27. SFI, 28. (Golden) Newt, 29. (Croak &) Stagger
- Down:** 1. Pot-age, 2. C-old (Turkey), 3. Corn (Spirit), 4. (Old) Mill, 5. Saddlers, 6. (old) Spot, 8. Over, 12. (Paley) Aley, 14. Spittin' (Feathers), 15. Flag, 18. S-inner, 19. (Isle of) Skye, 20. Last (Resort), 21. East (Street Cream), 23. (Fear) Nowtt 14. (Old) Slug (Porter) (anag).

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RICHARD'S REAL ALE MUSIC DIARY

Real Ale Music Listings for December 2001/January 2002

Here is a listing of real ale venues in the Nottingham area offering live music/entertainment on various evenings. Most gigs start at 8.30 pm and are **FREE** but confirm bookings & times etc with the individual venues. If you know of a real ale venue that ought to be mentioned, ND will be glad to hear from you!

Bell, Angel Row, Nottm 0115 947 5241. **Regular** (most Sundays) Sun 12.00-2.45 Footwarmers (Trad. Jazz); Mon 8-10.30 pm Omega Jazz Band; Tue 8-10.30 pm Johnny Johnson Quintet (Trad Jazz) **November** – Weds 28: Pesky Alligators **December** – Weds 5: Comin' Home High; Weds 12: Moose Malloy; Weds 19: Pesky Alligators **January 2001** – Weds 2: Comin' Home High; Weds 9: TBA; Weds 16: Bjzuz; Weds 23: TBA; Weds 30: Pesky Alligators **February** – Weds 6: Comin' Home High; Weds 13: Seb Clarke; Weds 20: Bjzuz; Weds 27: Pesky Alligators

Canal House, 48-52 Canal Street, Nottm 0115 955 5060. **Regular** – various live bands on Sunday nights

Chestnut Tree, Mansfield Road, Sherwood 0115 985 6388. **November** – Thurs 29: Pesky Alligators **December** – Thurs 6: Performance; Thurs 13: Mini Drivers; Thurs 20: Made Guys; Thurs 27: Rolling Clones **January 2002** – Thurs 10: Anita & Bob (duo); Thurs 17: Mick Rutherford Band; Thurs 24: Losers (covers); Thurs 31: Blind Panic **February** – Sat 2: Step 2; Thurs 7: Thieves; Thurs 14: Sparky; Sat 16: Pure Genius; Thurs 21: TBA; Thurs 28: Strawberry Fields **March** – Sat 2: Tin Rat (rock covers); Thurs 7: Lazy Daze (60s/70s); Thurs 14: Stranger Blue; Sat 17: Wicked Messages; Thurs 21: Richie Muir; Thurs 28: In Like Flint; Sat 30: Performance **April** – Thurs 4: Loaded Dice (soft rock); Thurs 11: Step 2; Sat 13: Pulse; Thurs 18: Bjzuz **November** – Thurs 22: Shades of Blue; Thurs 29: Pesky Alligators

Druids Tavern, High Street, Arnold 0115 926 5519. www.druidstavern.ukpub.net Check with venue

Fiveways Hotel, Edwards Lane, Sherwood 0115 926 5612. **Regular** Big Band Jazz Band every Weds night; Mark Vega (vocalist/organist) Fridays and Saturdays; Jazz Thursdays and Sundays

Frampton's Bar & Bistro, 9-11 St James Terrace 0115 941 1997. **December** – Tues 4: Barry Shaw; Tues 11: Dave's open mike; Tues 18: Frank **January 2001** – Tues 8: Dave's open mike; Tues 15: Robbo; Tues 21: Women's open mike

Fox & Crown, Basford 0115 942 2002. Occasional live jazz – check with venue

Gladstone Hotel, Loscoe Road, Carrington 0115 912 9994 (pub) Web Address: www.nottmus.freeserve.co.uk/gladstone/frontpag.htm Occasional live music in upstairs room – check with venue.

Golden Fleece, Mansfield Road, Nottm 0115 947 2843. **Regular** – Mon: 8-11 pm Acoustic Routes (Open mike session). Tue: 8-11 pm Acoustic Routes 2 (Open mike session). **November** – Fri 30: Lovers Block (in the style of Beautiful South/House Martins) **December** – Sat 1: Shades of Blue; Sun 2: Fieldwork; Sun 9: Winter Wilson's; Sun 23: Red Start

Horse & Groom, Radford Road, Basford 0115 970 3777. **Regular** – Tues nights: Open mike night and other occasional live music – check with venue

Horse & Jockey, David Lane, Basford 0115 978 7883 November 30 (St Andrews night): Pesky Alligators **December** – Sat 8: Una (Irish); Mon 12: Una

Lady Bay, Trent Boulevard, West Bridgford 0115 981 1228. Occasional live music – check with venue. Regular live music as from February 2002

Lincolnshire Poacher, Mansfield Road, Nottm 0115 941 1584. **December** – Sun 16: Richie Muir **January 2002** – Sun 27: TBA There maybe other live music – check with venue

Limelight Bar, Wellington Circus, Nottm 0115 941 8467.

Lion Inn, Mosley Street, Basford 0115 970 3506. **Regular** – Thurs: Open mike night with Steve Bliss & Steve Daulton; Sunday lunchtimes: various Jazz. **November** – Fri 30: Pulse **December** – Fri 1: Kelly's Heroes; Fri 7: Loose Cannons (urban jazz); Sat 8: Borderline; Fri 14: Strawberry Fields; Sat 15: Wicked Messengers; Fri 1: Herb Birds; Sat 22: Tony Crosby's Stranger Blue (blues); Mon 24: Three Wheel Drive (rhythm & blues); Fri 28: Monkey Doyles (Irish/Celtic); Sat 29: Loose Cannons; Mon 31: Spacehopper (glam rock)

Old Vic Tavern, Fletcher Gate, Nottm. This venue supports a late bar – call for more details re live music

Pevenil, Beacon Hill Rise, St Anns 0115 910 6660. Occasional live music – check with venue

Plough, 17 St Peter's Street, Radford, Nottm 0115 942 2649. **Regular** – Sunday lunch (12 noon – 4 pm) Jazz

Portland Arms, Portland Road, Nottm 0115 942 0181. **December** – Sat 1: Moon (Robbo & Berlinda); Sat 8: Stomp Brothers; Sat 15: Magic Car

Running Horse Canning Circus, Nottm 0115 978 7398. **Regular** – Mon: 'Rock the Runner' rock jam; Tues: Jazz (various artists) £2.50/£2 cons; Weds: Colin Staples Blues Jam

Stratford Haven, Stratford Road, West Bridgford 0115 982 5981. Occasional live music – check with venue

The Maze, North Sherwood Street, Nottm 0115 947 5650. **Regular** – Live music most weekend evenings. Late license – various admission charges – check with venue

Vat & Fiddle, Queensbridge Road, Nottm 0115 985 0611. Occasional live music at the weekends. **November** – Fri 30: Richie Muir; **December** – Mon 24: Pesky Alligators

Victoria Hotel, Dovecote Lane, Beeston 0115 925 4049. **November** – Fri 30: Kelly's Heroes **December** – Sun 2: Strawberry Fields; Sun 9: Roy d' Wired; Sun 16: Pesky Alligators; Sun 23: Richie Muir; Mon 24: Strawberry Fields **January 2001** – Sun 13: Ann Duggan

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City Brew

Punch Group with 5,100 pubs is considering merging with Laurel (2,500), the pubs owned by Morgan Grenfell Private Equity. Both have split into two divisions, tenanted & managed houses. Combining in a double merger, they would control one in eight of the county's bars and dwarf the current leader, Nomura, with 5,490 pubs. Punch bought a string of pubs from Bass in 1998 and Allied Domecq in 1999.

Scottish & Newcastle has almost completed the sale of its tenanted estate with the sale of 465 leased pubs to the Royal Bank of Scotland, including 17 in Notts, for £260m. S & N will continue to run the pubs and supply them with beer. It now has only 50 tenanted pubs remaining but still retains 1500 managed houses, which it sees as a core operation. RBS will spend £5.5m a year in making improvements.

Belgian brewing group, Interbrew, which owns the Bass & Whitbread brewing interests has now received European clearance for the purchase of the fourth largest brewery in Germany, Beck's. It is thought that Scottish & Newcastle were also interested in Beck's. Interbrew is making arrangements for the sale of Carling to comply with the regulators. The Saracens Head in Southwell is now owned by Greene King in part of

a £59.1M package deal of 136 traditional inns, the Old English Inns chain. The pub is where King Charles I surrendered to the Scottish army in May 1646 during the Civil War. Wolverhampton & Dudley, the owners of Mansfield Brewery, has reported a 16.9% increase in profits, but paid £9.2m defending itself against the hostile take over bid from Pubmaster. Pubs are being sold, including the Piano & Pitcher chain to raise funds and return money to shareholders. Regent Inns had been thought to have been interested in the latter but have now withdrawn their interest. Three Nottingham pubs have been sold to Barracuda as part of the fund raising, namely **The Varsity** in Peel Street, the **Slug & Fiddle** on Upper Parliament St and **O'Reilly's** on Clinton Street.

In Germany a scandal is brewing. It seems that "beer bandits" have been stealing the barrels of leading brewers, filling them with cheap low grade beer and selling the casks at cut prices to unwitting bar and restaurant owners. Customers tasting these beers then swear never to touch them again and desert the original brewery, believing it to be their ale. It is said that one in five beers sold in Berlin are fake. German beer production is governed by the Purity Edict of 1516 which restricts the ingredients to be used to malt, hops, yeast and water. Last year the average German drank 221 pints of beer.

More Bottle (31) by Andy Ludlow



At the end of this year's Nottingham Beer Festival I checked the shop, as a number of bottler conditioned beers were being sold. One from The Cropton Brewery took the eye – Monkman's Slaughter, named in honour of Mr Monkman (who grows the barley, from which the malt for the beer is made) and Mr Slaughter, Crompton's brewer and chemist. The beer had to be poured with great care as a generous amount of sediment could be seen at the bottom of the bottle. The result was a rich dark brown ale with a strong aroma of caramel and fruit. The taste emphasised the aroma and whilst the chocolate caramel was marginally dominant the fine fruitiness gave the beer a balanced flavour. The beer did not disappoint in the aftertaste, which emphasised the overall dryness, which no doubt was one of the factors in the beer being the winner in the Strong Beer category in Champion Beer of Britain competition 2000.

The Lady Bay Trent Boulevard West Bridgford Christmas and New Year Deals

Buy a pint of...

- . Kimberley Best
- . Kimberley Classic
- . Kimberley Guest Ale

...in December and receive a 25p
off voucher to use in January

We also have

- . Quiz nights every Sunday and Monday
- . Great Food from 12-2.30 & 5 - 7.30

Hope to see you

Overall the beer clearly demonstrated that it was a heavyweight, packing a considerable punch with its 6% ABV strength.

The Cropton Brewery is located at The New Inn, Cropton, near Pickering and currently brews a range of 7 beers, the majority of which are not only available in cask form but also as 'real ale' in a bottle. Next time you are in North Yorkshire pop in with the knowledge that not only will the cask beer be excellent but the take away bottles will be well worth taking home.

The beer is sold in 500 ml disposable bottles and can be bought at the brewery shop or the more discerning off licenses.

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PAGE 5

In praise of PUBLIC transport

No. 14– Spyke Golding looks at the use of our train and bus services to visit pubs

“Go to a restaurant, go to a pub” say NCT

Teething troubles -

So, the much heralded new NCT services are with us, surrounded by much publicity. There's a catchy “Go 2” jingle on local radio, which, amongst other things, invites us to “Go to a restaurant, go to a pub”. There's a spanking new NCT logo, and new



liveries for the buses; although not all are finished yet. Take a look at the Lilac and the Pink Line buses to see what they will eventually be like. Each area has its own colour, mostly very attractive, (although poor old Top Valley got Brown Line).

So what went wrong? Why have the media been full of adverse reports about the services? Very simply, they launched them without having enough drivers to operate them. So, finding your bus missing has been a common occurrence. Twice on my route two successive buses have been missing, and then the next two arrive full and don't stop. So the concept of “turn up and go” has often been “turn up and wait”, and many people have been late for work judging by the overheard mobile phone conversations all round the bus when you finally get one. My worst journey saw me arrive at work at 9.15am, having aimed to be there at 8.10am.

So we have lots of disgruntled passengers suffering from “bus rage”, and who do they take it out on? The poor old driver, of course! Very unfair, really, as he is the one who has actually turned up to work and is driving you to where you want to go. This has led to there being hundreds of disgruntled drivers as well as passengers. No wonder so many are leaving or pulling “sickies”! Come on, let's leave the drivers alone and have a go at the company when things go wrong. Not that they are very sympathetic – when my last bus didn't show and I had to get a taxi home, this was the curt response I received by e mail to my complaint made through their website www.nctx.co.uk

“Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience you may have suffered due to non-operation of services. This is caused by driver shortages and we are doing our utmost to recruit

enough drivers to be able to offer 100% service.

With regards to your taxi cost, Nottingham City Transport do not offer any refund or compensation policy for costs through services not running. Customer services “

Great, isn't it! Whatever happened to PR?

- but a great service really!

Now I've got that off my chest, it's time to look at all the good things the new services have to offer. For the pubgoer, the services really are a massive improvement in most cases on what we had before. NCT are gradually recruiting more drivers, and the number of missing services seems to be decreasing. When they reach a full complement, it will be a great service.

So what's so good about it? First and foremost, there are, at last, services between 11.00pm, and midnight on most routes, and Nightriders at hourly intervals from 1.10am, making it a 24 hour service. This means that you will have much more opportunity to travel to out-of-town pubs without the need to leave too early to get home. When you have to change buses in the City, the stops are much closer together now, so you'll have no more long walks between buses. The Green Line and Turquoise Line buses also do a City Loop, providing services between Victoria Centre, Maid Marion Way, Broadmarsh, the Railway Station and the Hockley area.

It's not going to cost you much either, as a trans-ticket (£1) allows you to get a connecting bus within an hour of boarding the first one. A day ticket, purchased on the bus for £2 gives you unlimited travel on normal City services for a day, whilst a Day Rider (£2.20 from the new travel centre, on South Parade, or £18 for 10) allows you additionally to travel to Lambley, Woodborough, Oxtun, Burton Joyce, Lowdham, Gunthorpe, East Bridgeford and Bingham on Pathfinder services. A Family Day Rider (£3) gives similar benefits for up to 2 adults and 2 children and as a bonus, if you use one on a Saturday it's valid for Sunday too. A Network Rider (£4 or £35 for 10) gives unlimited travel for a day on the whole network including Loughborough and Newark. Finally, a Buscard, for those who use buses every day, costs from as little as £1 a day depending on the length of time bought and the payment method.

So where can we go for some good drinking? Let's start with services 6 and 6a. These can get you to the **Willow Tree**, a newly refurbished pub with some good real ales, the **Test Match**, a revitalised art-deco classic selling the full range of Hardys' and Hansons' beers, and the **Stratford Haven**, a Tynemill pub selling their usual excellent range of beers. On the way back to town you could alight just after Trent Bridge to visit the newly opened **Globe** or at the Railway Station to sample the delights of,



amongst others, the **Vat and Fiddle**, which serves Castle Rock and many other beers, or **Fellows, Morton and Clayton** serving good Tim Taylors Landlord, a Mallard beer, Fullers Pride and more.

Turquoise line services 80, 81 and 82 will take you to the excellent **Horse and Groom** next to the old Shipstones Brewery, where the big range of beers includes Belvoir Star. On the way back, you may wish to break your journey at Canning Circus to try the **Portland**, the **Falcon**, or the **Red Lion**.

Nottingham's premier home brew pub, the **Fox and Crown** can be visited on the Yellow Line 69, as can the **Horse and Jockey**, now a Castle Rock tied house with a guest beer or two.

Finally, it's well worth taking an Orange Line 33 to Beeston to visit the splendid **Victoria Inn** (also accessible by train) to enjoy one of the best ranges of real ales around as well as good food in great surroundings.

Nottingham Boat Club Beer Festival

Looking for something to do on those long winter evenings then why not drop in at The Nottingham Boat Club, but before you think that sounds far too energetic read on. On Friday 25th January 2002 they will be holding their annual beer festival at the Clubhouse which is located on the tow path between Trent Bridge and the Nottingham Forest Football Club, turn off Loughborough Road by the Southbank. The event runs from 7 through to 11 and will offer around twenty real ales, many by local brewers. Entry is £2 with a discounted entry fee of £1.50 to CAMRA members with membership cards.



AVAILABLE AT LOCAL PUBS AND AT BRANCH MEETINGS

THE NEW GOOD BEER GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE AND JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS! THIS YEAR THERE IS A DIFFERENT FORMAT WITH 4000 ENTRIES WITH LONGER DESCRIPTIONS AND 1000 'INN BRIEF' ENTRIES

PUB SNIPPETS

The Castle on Lower Parliament Street near the new Arena has recently increased its range of cask beers and now offers guest ales. If you are hungry as well as thirsty after seeing Steps then there is food available till late. A certain Tombola man at the recent beer festival was often to be seen in there and occasionally he returned to his post!

LOCAL PUB GUIDE

Look out for a new guide to pubs in the Northern area of Nottingham including Hucknall. Surveying is being carried out now but if any one wants to help or advertise in the guide then please contact the address below or Ray Kirby.

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www.bass-museum.com

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Far & Wide 10 - by Ray Peters DIARY OF A TRAVELLING TIPPLER

Bar Now!

A day trip (on business) to Ilkley one mild September Saturday provided an hour or so for "research". A town that always seems to be full of other day-trippers was especially busy with some big society wedding so the town centre pubs such as the *Rose & Crown* were avoided. Glancing through a number of windows we could only see those ghastly 4-branch dispensers - so again we gave these a miss.

A little out of the town however, the *Station* (of eponymous location) had fine Tetleys on handpump, and the *Midland* next door belied its John Smith badging, offering Abbot (very acceptable), Pedigree and Boddingtons. Alas, I did walk past the "*Bart'at*" but of course hadn't seen the article in October's *Beer* and honestly was put off by its outward appearance. Apologies - return visit soon for full appraisal.

Pub Guide to the Rescue

In some areas it's the very devil to find B & B easily - this proved the case in the Bristol area one late September weekend. The local tourist website looked promising, but didn't work well, or come up with anything affordable. The Good Pub Guide however produced *The Dog* at Old Sodbury, a little way out but quite acceptable. A leisurely drive took us through picturesque Chipping Sodbury where we found the *Squire* offered a superb "real pub" atmosphere - despite sport screens and bandits! The informal layout, friendly locals, and wedding party in progress all made for a pleasant experience - not to mention a splendid pint or two of Wickwar "Bob", not often seen in the Midlands. This quick teatime visit didn't enable us to check out the menu (but the rolls were first-class). We had to leave the *George* for next time.

The Dog was marvellous - exactly as described in the Guide (except for the border collie which had passed on). A menu that could only be described as stupefying - over 120 dishes (excluding extras, junior meals and desserts) all apparently served at a lightning speed which would have put McDonalds to shame. Very reasonable prices too - even if the price of the beer was a trifle on the high side. Wadworth 6X, Pedigree and Pride were available, with the local "Bob" not quite up to scratch in my opinion. Excellent B & B accommodation is offered here in neighbouring cottages under the direction of the Harris family who run the *Dog* - thoroughly recommended if you're visiting that area.

Thirsty work at Crewe

This one-time railway centre must hold some sort of record for its tally of really good pubs. The *Crown*, a Robinson's house, offered a spectacular pint of Old Tom (so it should be at 8.5%!) but no food, so a tour was necessary. Banks' *Three Lamps* certainly had food but also a full complement of Saturday shoppers (my companion also has a fixed aversion to "brass numbers on tables"), so we trekked uphill to the tiny *Albion* to find generously filled rolls and splendid proper Tetleys (with DM at only £1.00!) in a friendly atmosphere of interesting old railway scenes - which looked as if they were original!

Also in the station area, the *British Lion* and *Brunswick* (Hogshead) looked inviting but we had to forgo a closer inspection. On the way out of town we spotted the *Earle of Crewe* which had also been recommended for its railway prints.



What was it?

Have you spent the last two months wondering what that strange contraption that Rob Gibson, ex landlord of the Gladstone, was holding? Well wonder no more. It is called a sylvester and it was used for tilting the barrels. No one got the right name but a few people guessed the use so we have put the names in a hat and the winner of 8 pints is J Hildred. Happy drinking and thanks to Rob for the prize.

DRINKER INFORMATION

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Advertising

ND welcomes advertisements subject to compliance with CAMRA policy and space availability. Advertising rates, inclusive of FREE typesetting and design, if required, costs: £35 front page; £30 back page; £25 inside pages - these prices are for an advert of approximately 47mm x 70mm, or an equivalent area and VAT is chargeable at the current rate. Larger adverts can be booked and are charged pro-rata. Six advertisements can be bought for the discounted price of five. Advertisements/pre-designed graphics etc can also be accepted on disc in Tiff, Jpeg, or Bmp format.

Publication dates

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PUB SNIPPETS

THE TEST MATCH IN WEST BRIDGFORD SEEMS TO HAVE ACHIEVED THE COMPROMISE BETWEEN CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT. THE BUILDING IS LISTED AND THUS ENGLISH HERITAGE WERE INVOLVED

WITH THE ALTERATIONS. HARDYS AND HANSONS HAVE KEPT MANY OF THE INTERNAL FEATURES AND AS AN ADDITIONAL BONUS THEY'VE ADDED SOME EXTRA BEERS ON HAND PUMP. THE PUB IS ON CAMRA'S NATIONAL INVENTORY SO IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF THE CHANGES WILL ALTER THAT STANDING.

JOIN CAMRA NOW

Just fill in the form below and send, with a cheque (payable to CAMRA) to Membership Secretary, CAMRA
230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4LW.

*Rates are Single £14, Joint £17,
Disabled/OAP/ Under 26/Unemployed £8

APPLICATION FORM

Name:.....

Address:.....
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I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Signed.....Date.....

NOTTM DRINKER DECEMBER 2001

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NOTTINGHAM & AREA CAMRA BRANCH DIARY DATES

NOTTINGHAM

BM = Branch Meeting Everyone is welcome to come along

CM= Committee Meeting

December

Mon 10: **CM Salutation**, Maid Marion Way, Nottingham

Sat 15: Christmas Party **Swan in the Rushes**, Loughborough. Tickets £5 (includes Buffet, Bus and Disco) £7 Non-members, available from Ray. Departs 6.30 from The Limelight
 Fri 28: Evening minibus Trip to Lincolnshire/Nottinghamshire border villages 6.00 from The Limelight

January

Wed 16: Social Evening and Award of Excellence **The Plough**, St Peters Street, Radford

Thurs 17: **CM Peacock**, Mansfield Road, Nottingham

Sat 19: Brewer tour of Tower and Old Cottage breweries at Burton upon Trent. Meet at Nottingham Station for 11.44 Train. First Brewery at 1pm

Thurs 31: **BM Bunkers Hill Inn**, Hockley - New Drinkers available

February

Sat 9: Evening Trip to Lincoln 5.30 from The Limelight

Thurs 14: **CM Bell**, Market Square

Thurs 28: **AGM & BM Globe**, London Road

BM's and CMs begin at 8pm **Note new times** Trips depart from the **Limelight Bar** (Nottm Playhouse) Book with Ray Kirby on 0115 929 7896. CAMRA cards must be shown for the £2 discount offered on some trips.

REGIONAL MEETING

December

Sat 8 : **Spedwell**, Staveley

LOCAL BEER FESTIVALS

January

Fri 25: Nottingham Boat Club Beer Festival, Clubhouse by Trent Bridge Open 7-11

Fri 25 - Sat 26: Burton Winter Beer Festival, Town Hall, King Edward Place. Open 12-3 & 6.30-11 on Fri, 11.30-4 & 7-11 on Sat

February

Fri 1 - Sun 3: Ashfield Beer Festival, Festival Hall, Kirkby in Ashfield. Open 6-11 on Fri, 11-11 on Sat, 12-2 on Sun. See page 2

Thur 7 - Sat 9: Derby Winter Beer Festival, Assembly Rooms, Market Place. Open 5-11 Thur, 11.30-11 Fri & Sat

MANSFIELD

BM = Branch Meeting at 8.30pm

December

Tue 4: **BM The Boundary**, South Normanton

January

Tue 1: **BM Olde Plough**, Pleasley

February

Tue 5: **BM Hare and Hounds**, Warsop

Call Brian Haydon for more details on 01623 453148 or web site: www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk

EREWASH

BM = Branch Meeting start at 8.30pm

December

Wed 5: **BM Bridge Inn**, Bridge Street, Cotmanhay

January

Wed 9: **BM Rays Arms**, Ray Street, Heanor

February

Wed 6: **AGM Dewdrop Inn**, Station Street, Ilkeston

Contact Mike Doyle on 0115 849 0885 for further details. or web site: www.erewash-camra.org.uk

NEWARK

BM = Branch Meeting start at 8pm

December

Thurs 6: **BM Castle and Falcon**, Newark

January

Thurs 3: **BM Woolpack**, Newark

February

Thur 7: **AGM Fox & Crown**, Newark
 Call Phil Ayling for more details on 01636 659902 or web site: www.newarkcamra.org.uk



First up this time is a few words about the Wetherspoons chain. Not everybody's cup of tea but the quality of the beer is usually OK. My real bugbear with them is constant deception as to what beers they have on offer at any one time. Frequently they have the pump clips turned to face the customer when the beer has gone or is not yet ready. On a recent visit to the **Roebuck** there appeared to be three guest beers on when I entered the pub. The first one went off as I stood waiting at the bar (these things happen, so no problem there, the barman even turned the clip around) I asked for one of the others only to be told that it was not ready yet, so I had a pint of the third. (Triple vff Pressed Rat and Warthog 3.8% very nice). That finished I decided to have a second pint. On returning to the bar, there again appeared to be three guests on. They had turned back around the clip of the one that had gone, the second was still not ready, so only one on again. At this point I complained, only to be told that they lose points with their mystery customers if all the pumps don't have a clip showing. (Well you definitely lose points with me on this issue) As far as I'm concerned it's conning the customer. Also while I was at the bar another customer asked for a pint of Spitfire. Now there were no fewer than four pumps with a Spitfire clip on. The barman had to try THREE before he found one that actually had beer in it. So much for good customer service.

For this issue's crawl I thought I'd try the area around Carlton Square, so I jumped on a No.27 bus from King Street and got off at the stop before Tesco. Sadly the Nags Head and the Earl of Chesterfield have no real ale, so on to the **Windsor Castle**, Carlton Hill, (the main road for those who don't know the area). In here, can be found Kimberley Best bitter 3.9% £1.80, it's cask but on the continental style font and Kimberley Classic, (on a proper handpump) 4.8% £2.11. The lounge seemed to

BELVOIR

BM = Branch Meeting

December

Tue 11: Xmas Social **Horse and Plough**, Bingham

January

Tue 8: **BM Black Horse**, Hose

February

Tue 12: **BM Red Lion**, Stathern
 Phone Bridget on 01949 876 479 for the latest news.

DISTRIBUTION

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be more geared for the food trade. From here it's over the cross-roads to the **Blacks Head**, Burton Road. This is another two-bar pub, with a full bar side and a quieter lounge side. Three ales are on offer here Tetley Bitter 3.7% £1.81, Ind Coope Burton 4.8% £2.12 and Charles Wells Bombardier 4.3% £2.12. Next a short walk away is the **Volunteer** also on Burton Road. This is a single room pub, mainly bare floorboards, but with a small carpeted seating area to the rear. The selection in here is again Tetley bitter 3.7% £1.85 and Greene King Abbot 5% £2.15. Certainly not the cheapest drinking area around but worth a look if you are in the area.

On the pub changes front there has been a bit of activity of late. **Framptons** now has three beers available; one of which is from the new Nottingham Brewery (and I wish Mick a speedy recovery). **The Bank** on Alfreton Road has cask beer available again, and while you are in the area The Albion Inn on Newdigate Street has been refurbished and has also been re-named. It is now called **Moog** after the Moog synthesiser. There is one beer on; Marstons Pedigree. The final change I know about is DC's bar on London Road (The Greyhound). This is now known as the **Globe** and is run by the same people who have the **Southbank**. There are six handpumps and not a national beer in sight. The range on opening night was Fullers London Pride, four micros, including two local (Nottingham Brewery and Mallard) and a cask cider. These are the sort of places that need our support, so get down there and try it out. (If you can't walk that far get on any bus to Trent Bridge)

Finally I've been asked in the **Bell** why I don't mention them since Sarah Louise left, well she used to pester me into mentioning her and also I don't know any of the staff these days! (Next mention 2010)

Cheers for now.

USEFUL ADDRESSES

For information on local trips and socials please contact Ray Kirby on 0115 929 7896

CAMRA HQ, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts. AL1 4LW Tel: 01727 867 201, Fax: 01727 867 670. E-mail Address: camra@camra.org.uk Internet address: <http://www.camra.org.uk>

For complaints about short measure pints etc contact: Nottingham Trading Standards Department, Consumer Protection, NCC Advice Centre, 15 Middle Pavement, Nottingham Tel: 0115 950 7910.

For comments, complaints or objections about pub alterations etc, or if you wish to inspect plans for proposed pub developments contact the local authority planning departments. Nottingham City's is at Exchange Buildings, Smithy Row, Nottingham.

If you wish to complain about deceptive advertising i.e. passing nitro-keg smooth flow beer off as real ale, or pubs displaying signs suggesting real ales are on sale or guest beers are available, when in fact they are not, contact the: Advertising Standards Authority, Brook House, 2-16 Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN

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