

BREWERY HISTORY

SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



No 100
March 2023

BREWERY HISTORY SOCIETY

March 2023

Newsletter 100

Contents

- 2 - Roger's intro
- 3 - One hundred newsletters
- 4 - BHS events
- 4 - From the Chairman
- 5 - Membership matters
- 6 - Members articles
- 19 - Out and about
- 21 - Mike's meanderings
- 24 - New Brews News
- 28 - Gleanings
- 30 - Questions and occasionally the odd answer

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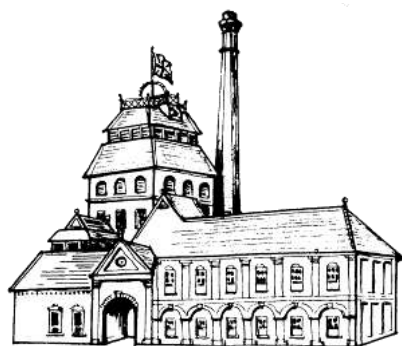
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Roger's twenty fifth

Bannaghtyn from the rock. Being the depths of winter, there is not a lot to report from the Island. It is often wet and always windy so small wonder there are few visitors and happily few motorbikes! Rest assured they will be back in time for NL101. The TT races will be on a subscription TV channel and the fees are lucrative but perhaps not to the local economy when the biker visitors realise it is probably more cost effective to stay at home and watch it on the telly.

The fall-out from the Molson Coors and East Staffordshire Borough Council debacle which led to the closure of the old Bass Museum rumbles on. It looks like the whole project to relocate a lot of the artefacts and archives into unused M-C buildings on Burton High Street has been scuppered as it relied on a grant from the Government's Levelling Up fund. They went ahead thinking those funds would become available but they did not materialise. We were assured that alternative funding would be available if Levelling Up did not cough up but now it seems that long stop was the next phase of the same Levelling up fund. What a muddle. Keep watching this space.

On page 23 Ian Mackey has collected the names of some 90 breweries which closed last year and that does not include Caledonian or Jennings. Yet the next couple of pages are taken up with New Brews. Are they incurable optimists or do they know something that we do not? 8 Sail currently underneath the famous eight sailed windmill in Lincolnshire is moving so that it can to expand to 2000hL; Ludlow is set to double capacity and wants to brew a lager while alcohol free Jump Ship is seeking crowd funding to build a new brewery in Edinburgh. Wild Beer went bust but Curious has picked up the brands, Leeds beers will be brewed by Kirkstall and Skinners has actually found a buyer. The industry is not moribund.

Yet we know it is hard in the world of hospitality; staff are in short supply and cost more, heating bills are a lot higher, brewers are putting prices up as are catering suppliers and customers are pulling their horns in. The planned excise duty rises have been deferred but government support for energy costs will have dramatically reduced by the time you finish reading this newsletter. There will be undoubtedly be more casualties.

One interesting ramification of the deferred 5% draught beer duty discount on containers greater than 20L into the trade could be the demise of the carry out growler unless the pub is registered to repackage alcohol by HMRC. This seems to be designed to stop supermarkets cashing in on the discount and providing carry outs.

As a history society we get to see all sorts of documents from the past, so in order to show you how times have changed and also to act as a tiny bastion of bigoted blokefulness we bring you a photo from the S&N house mag from Winter 1969. Not much to do with brewing, eh?

Copy dates for 2023 are... NL101 - end of April; NL102 - end of July and NL103 - end of October 2023.

Slaynt vie as tannee-shiu sauçhey



Front and back covers; This month we feature Marston's in Burton on Trent back in 2006 as the ex Mansfield brewhouse was being recommissioned. The photo shows the motor end of the Steels mashing machine. To see more of Roger Putman's photos taken while he was Editor of the Brewer & Distiller magazine, go to the BHS Brewerypedia pages

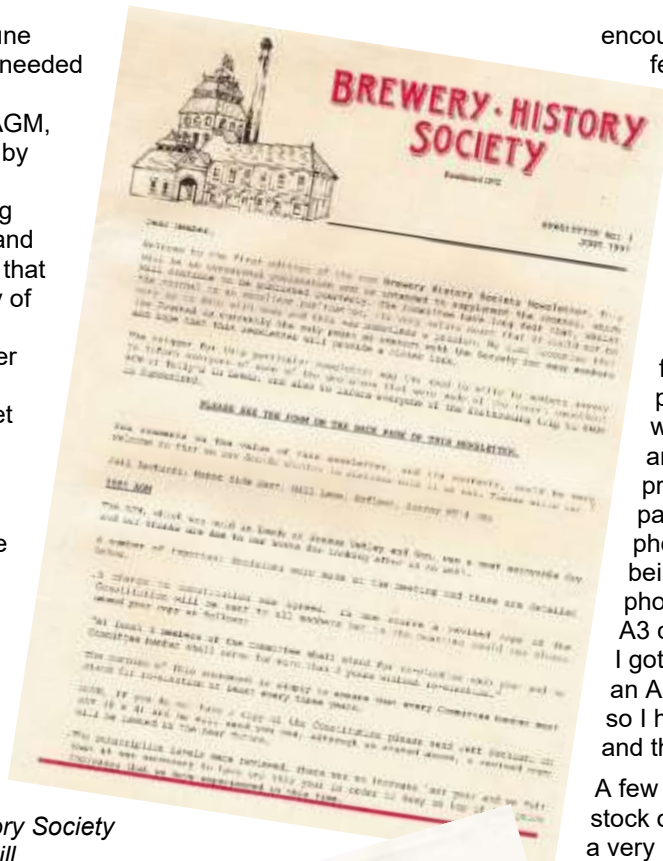
One Hundred BHS Newsletters

Over 30 years ago in June 1991 it was felt that we needed to update members on decisions taken at the AGM, which had been hosted by Joshua Tetley in Leeds. There was a forthcoming visit to Vaux in Sunderland and this made me think that we needed a better way of communicating with the membership – remember this was prior to the availability of the internet and email. Thus the Newsletter was born.

That first issue, and hopefully we will be able to gradually add the back issues to the BHS web site, was introduced with the following words-

*Dear Member,
Welcome to the first edition of the new Brewery History Society Newsletter. This will be an occasional publication and is intended to supplement the Journal, which will continue to be published quarterly. The Committee have long felt that, whilst the Journal is an excellent publication, its very nature meant that it could not be very up to date with news. We also recognise that the Journal is currently the only point of contact with the Society for many members and hope that this Newsletter will provide a closer link.....*

This issue had three pages of information with page four used for a subscription renewal form (£8.00pa) and an application form for a place on the Vaux visit (NB If you have any photographs from that or other early visits we would love scans of them for the archive). Whilst I was



encouraged by generally positive feedback there was at least one complaint – having the form on the back page meant defacing the Newsletter to send it off.

The early issues were simply photocopied at work (who kindly set up an account for me for printing and postage). In order to marry up with our house style I used our cream letterhead for the front page, but of course photocopying then was black and white. The pages involved 'copy and paste' but sadly being pre word processors this literally meant pasting the sheets together ready for photocopying. Initially I thought I was being very clever halving the photocopying costs by setting it up for A3 copying to be folded in half. When I got the bill, however, I realised that an A3 copy counted as two A4 copies so I had simply created work for myself and the team and not saved a penny!

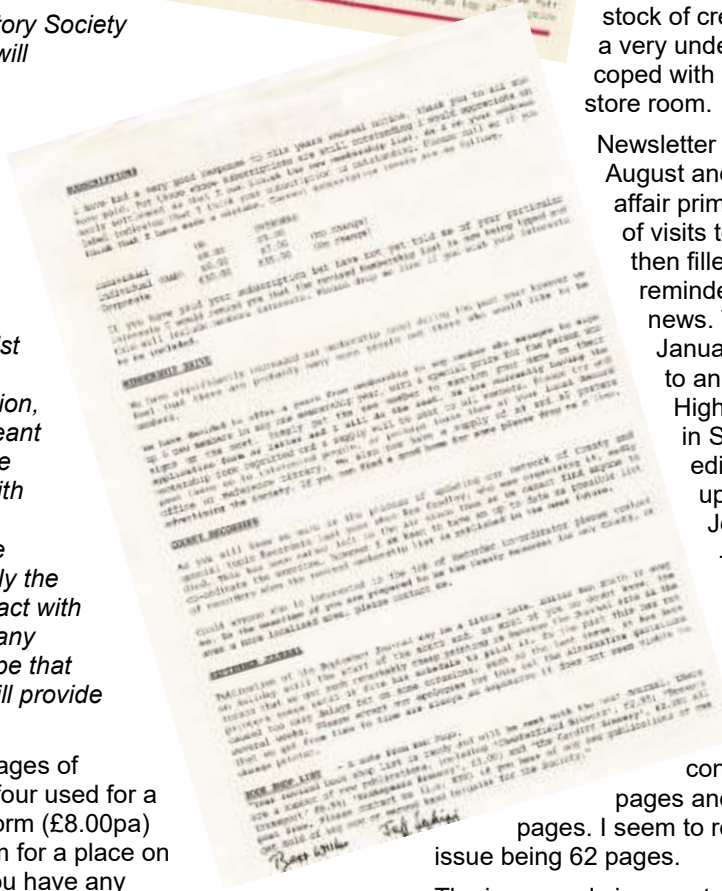
A few issues in I decided to buy in a stock of cream paper, fortunately we had a very understanding stock taker who coped with my mountain of paper in the store room.

Newsletter number two followed in the August and was just a double sided A4 affair primarily to announce the details of visits to Redruth and Hartleys and then filled out with a subscription reminder and a few bits of BHS news. There was then a gap until January 1992 for issue 3, this time to announce visits to Hanson's, Highgate and a possible weekend in Scotland. This was a four page edition with the last page taken up by a brief index to past Journals.

Things carried on in a similar vein with a couple of issues a year but by No.6 it had expanded to ten pages and included members' queries and an impressive list of new members. Expansion continued and No.9 was up to 28

pages and No. 10 weighed in at 32 pages. I seem to recall things peaked at one issue being 62 pages.

The increased size created a bit of a problem, compounded by the increased reliance on the



Newsletter as the means of communicating time sensitive information – every time an issue was about to go to press some other urgent news item would crop up so I would add that and delay production. Another issue was my work which involved a lot of travel limiting time for late nights at the office typing away. I carried on until issue 20 but by then the spasmodic timetable was causing frustration so Simon Fowler took on the role of Editor, producing No. 21 in Spring 2001. Time and work commitments again proved a problem so from issue 25 Mike Brown, our indefatigable archivist, took the helm and produced 50 editions to a regular quarterly timetable.

By this time we had moved to using a printer rather than photocopying each issue, a great relief as the membership numbers had greatly increased, although I still used to take boxes full of Newsletters and envelopes up to my local Village Club where a few BHS

members would spend the evening packing and labelling envelopes. It is certainly a bonus now that the printer also manages despatch for us.

Once Mike decided to step down we faced a problem trying to find someone prepared to take the role on and able to maintain the standard and timetable we were all now used to. Fortunately Roger Putman, with his vast experience of the industry and editing the Brewer and Distiller International for the IBD, agreed to step in, starting with issue 76 and now completing his quarter century. A colour cover was introduced and soon afterwards it was decided to print the whole Newsletter in colour, giving us the impressive document we all enjoy every quarter

Time has flown by and Roger has already produced 25 issues – long may it continue.

Jeff Sechiari

BHS Calendar

2023 sees us starting our visits programme again. The team are busy putting together a programme for the forthcoming year. We have had a number of offers from hosts and are in the process of settling the date for each. At the time of writing this is very much an outline of what is planned. Please keep an eye on the BHS diary on the web site for any additional arrangements.

Thu 20 April Visit to the All Saints Brewery, Stamford

The following visits, along with the AGM and hopefully more, are being planned with details in the June Newsletter

- Wadworth, Devizes
- Wells & Co, Bedford.
- Felinfoel, Llanelli
- October, Antwerp – subject to sufficient interest, see separate note below

For more information contact Steve Elliott on visits@breweryhistory.com

Fancy a trip to Antwerp?

We have not had many replies about the putative Antwerp trip so here are the details again.

Our Visits Secretary Steve Elliott has been liaising with our friends at Crookham Travel to plan an overseas visit to Antwerp. This will aim to take place in October 2023. There are a number of breweries that we could visit and the team at Crookham are looking at various options. However, much will depend on the numbers of members who are interested in this event.

If you would like to be included in a three day trip around some of the breweries of Antwerp please let Steve know on visits@breweryhistory.com. The overall cost of the trip will not include travel to Antwerp. However, it will include accommodation if we have a sufficient numbers to be able to negotiate a better deal at one of the hotels in the city.

From the Chairman



Welcome to another BHS Newsletter, a significant milestone this time as we reach issue number 100. Over 30 years this has evolved from a photocopied sheet to the current full colour treasure trove of information. Elsewhere we take a look at its history. This also reminds me that 2023 marks 20 years since Tim Holt took over editing the

Journal and he has now produced 80 editions, a wonderful achievement. We are so fortunate to have two such talented and experienced editors.

We, and in particular Miles Jenner, our President, with Steve's Visits team, have been trying to build a visits programme for the forthcoming year and I am delighted to say that we have a number interesting offers on the table. We are still to assign dates to these so do please keep an eye on the web site. For those of you without access to the web perhaps you can see the BHS Diary through a friend or your local library. In the meantime where we do not yet know a date we shall try and schedule the visit to allow its announcement in the June Newsletter.

The recently launched *Brewers of the British Isles*, our flagship book and the follow up to 'Century', is selling well and may be purchased either directly from us or through Amazon – full details in the last Newsletter. It really is a stunning volume of 382 pages weighing in at over a kilo.

Last time we mentioned that Paul Travis will be stepping back from running the bookshop and it is planned to slim down its scope to reduce the need to hold very much in the way of stock. If anyone is interested in taking this role on do please drop me a line for a chat.

Membership Matters

I am very sorry to have to pass on the news that we have recently lost three long standing members. We offer our condolences to all of their families and friends, and thank them for their interest in and support of the BHS over the years. We shall miss them and their company.

Chris Excell will be well known to members who have attended our meeting over the years having been one of our early members and a frequent attendee at meetings, always immaculately turned out. A Kent man, he had a particular passion for the pubs and breweries of the County, along with a love of steam. He travelled widely in the pursuit of both passions. Chris also served on the committee of the CAMRA Members Investment Club for many years.

Edward Guinness CVO passed away in at the end of December aged 98. Having started his working life in the family brewery, at Park Royal, at the bottom, cleaning vats. He rose to become a main board director (where Ernest Saunders told him on a number of occasions that he regarded him as the conscience of the company) and chairman of Harp Lager. He also had a stint as Master of the Brewers' Company and was very active in his local community. Having read Geoff Dye's recent article on the Alton Brewery he wrote a generous and informative letter to us. He wrote *The Guinness Book of Guinness – the first 50 years of Park Royal*, and his memoirs, *A Brewer's Tale*, edited by David Hughes.

Sean Murphy, who left us on New Year's Day, was another very long standing BHS member, Sean was well known on Merseyside where he was very active in beer circles. He was the first chair of the CAMRA Members Investment Club and served on CAMRA's National Executive for a number of years.

Membership Renewals

Although I am writing this in January this will be the last Newsletter of the current membership year with renewals due in May. The last AGM left subscription levels unchanged and these are set out below. Please check your standing order if you pay this way as a number are still at an old rate.

Finally, although the next membership year doesn't start until May that will be before the next Newsletter so may I remind to check your standing order if that is how you pay. We do still have a number of people with an old payment rate set up. Current subscription rates will be found under Membership Matters.

I look forward to us meeting again in the not too distant future

Best wishes
 Jeff Sechiari
 chairman@breweryhistory.com

Our new membership category of electronic membership, which we thought may be of particular interest to our overseas members, has already attracted a number of members at home and abroad. This has a reduced subscription of £15 and offers PDF copies of each Journal and Newsletter throughout the year. The Newsletter page of the BHS web site now includes links to 'flipping book' versions of recent Newsletters. Certainly an option to consider in these increasingly difficult financial times.

New members

We welcome the following new and rejoining members and hope that you all enjoy your membership of the Society. Please spread the word amongst your friends and colleagues – we are always keen to have new members.

Individual Members:

Phil Babbs, Kent
 Mike Billingham, Leeds
 Philip Feakin, London
 Interests: London and East Midlands
 Graham Freeman, Norfolk
 Mark Jerman, Cornwall
 Interests: Home brewer interested in old established British brewers and brewery visits
 Craig Smith, Dumfriesshire

BHS Bank details

Please use your surname and post code as reference
 Bank Sort Code: 09-01-55 Account: 7979 4180

2022	UK	Overseas
Individual - full	£33	£45
- retired	£30	£45
Electronic	£15	£15
Additional (<i>at same address</i>)	£5	£5
RCB Corporate	£60	£115
Corporate	£115	-

Jeff Sechiari, Membership Secretary
 membership@breweryhistory.com
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The Big Six - The Story of Allied Breweries

The World's largest brewing group in the early 60s



In 1961, in a move which brought together three of the ten largest UK brewers, Edward Thompson persuaded two strong, but docile regional companies, Tetley Walker and Ansell's, to join his dynamic national company Ind Coope. The new company was easily the biggest brewer in the UK, and in asset terms, then the largest brewing group in the world. Though initially successful, after diversification of its activities, it lost ground as a brewer. As Allied-Lyons in 1981 and later as Allied Domecq the company grew ever larger as it absorbed more non beer companies. Widely seen as unwieldy and under-performing by the end of the 1980s, the company was dismantled during the 1990s. The breweries, pubs and much else were sold and it emerged after a troubled decade as an international spirits group, generating over 90% of its earnings outside the UK.

Ind Coope, was the oldest and largest of the three founding companies of Allied. The firm dated from 1799 when Edward Ind started brewing at Romford. Ind went into partnership with the Coope brothers in 1856 and the business of Ind Coope & Co Ltd was registered in 1886. In line with many other brewers, in 1856 it set up a second brewery in Burton on Trent to take advantage of the local water. In 1934 it merged with its Burton neighbour Samuel Allsopp & Sons Ltd., - only a wall separated the two.

Allsops, a long-established Burton brewer, was founded in 1742 by Benjamin Willson, senior - later

spelt 'Wilson'. It was continued after his death in 1800 aged eighty-five by the youngest of his three sons (also Benjamin) and then one of his grandsons, Samuel Allsopp. The latter bought the company outright from Benjamin Wilson, the younger, in 1807 after the complete collapse of the Baltic trade. Burton brewers had thrived on this trade as the Burton water supply had proved superior for brewing strong ale capable of withstanding, the long voyages involved. The 1807 collapse, caused by the Napoleonic blockade, forced Allsopp and other Burton brewers to seek alternative markets, though Allsops, in particular, persisted in trying to sustain some trade.

In 1822 Allsops made a determined effort to brew a bitter, sparkling, pale ale similar to that of the best-selling ale in India brewed by Hodgson's of London. Burton beers then were the traditional nut-brown colour. Several bottles of Hodgson's Ale were brought to Burton for examination and Job Goodhead, their head brewer, succeeded in producing the first Burton pale ale, which was marketed as 'India Pale Ale'. Encouraged by its success Bass and Salt followed suit in 1823.

After a series of partnerships, the firm was registered as Samuel Allsopp & Sons in 1887. It was once one of the largest brewing businesses in the UK rivalling Bass in size and reputation. But it had had a chequered history, suffering badly by over-investing, belatedly, in public houses and in an early attempt to introduce lager to an unreceptive public. This drove the firm into receivership from which it was rescued and revived in 1913 by James J Calder, who was put in to run the business. He progressively rebuilt the company and expanded its pub estate acquiring ten breweries across the UK. It was nevertheless the junior partner in *Ind Coope & Allsopp Ltd.*



Post 1945, the first large acquisition made was that of **Benskin's Watford Brewery** (above) with 636 pubs in 1957, Benskin's operated the Cannon Brewery at Watford from 1750 which by 1891 was producing 150,000 barrels of beer a year for an estate spread throughout Herefordshire and Buckinghamshire. It continued brewing after the takeover closing in 1972.

Some of its beers, like the well-known Colne Spring Ale survived the takeover.

The second large acquisition was that of **Taylor Walker** in 1959. Taylor Walker's origins dated from 1730 but the company was not formally registered until 1907. Based around central London and Essex, it grew to own 1,360 pubs. All brewing ceased within twelve months of Ind Coope & Allsopp's purchase.

Both additions were overshadowed in 1961 when the company merged with Tetley Walker & Ansells. At the time of the merger, the group was known as Ind Coope, Tetley Ansell Ltd., but this was simplified in 1963 to Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd. It was then, until the advent of Bass Charrington in 1967, the biggest national group in the UK with 9,500 public houses and three of the ten largest breweries of the day.



Friary Meux, Guildford Joshua Tetley, a maltster leased a brewery in Leeds in 1822 but the Armley maltings, remained until the 1860s the more important side of the business. The firm was registered as **Joshua Tetley & Son**, in 1897, by which time it had become the largest brewery in Yorkshire. Like Bass it came to prominence after establishing an agency network of distributors.

Tetley was a late starter on the acquisition trail taking over **Duncan Gilmour & Co** (Sheffield) in 1954; **Wm Whitaker** (Bradford) in 1959 and both **Melbourne Brewery (Leeds)** and **Walker Cain** (Burton, Liverpool and Warrington) in 1960. Walker Cain was an amalgamation of **Peter Walker & Son** (Warrington and Burton) and **Robert Cain & Sons**. and its merger with



Tetley only really took effect some years after the formation of Allied Breweries, due to differences in the style of management in the two companies. Tetley Walker grew to own 2,771 pubs.

The youngest of the Allied partners were originally Birmingham maltsters. They turned to brewing in 1881 and were registered in 1889 as **Joseph Ansell & Sons**. In the 1930s they acquired three local breweries

including the **Holt Brewery**, whose trademark was a red squirrel. This image, in profile, was subsequently adopted by Ansells (and later Allied) for their Ansell branded pubs and beers. Ansells added to their Midland based portfolio by taking over **Lloyds (Newport)** in 1952 and **Leicester Brewing & Malting Co** in 1952. Eventually its pub estate numbered 2,400.

In the period immediately prior to the 1961 merger the largest of the three, Ind Coope & Allsopp - also the largest property owner - had already sought to reduce its holdings of previously competing houses. Between 1959 and 1960 the company sold no fewer than 430 licensed outlets raising several million. Some of this was invested in property improvement as part of a 'fewer and better pubs' policy. By 1967 over 1,000 pubs had been sold and the tied estate reduced to 8,250 licensed houses, despite further acquisitions. By 1976 it had dropped again to 7,550 and by 1988 to 6,678.

The founding firms had grown by friendly acquisition of other brewers and came together at a time when the threat of unwelcome takeover bids from perceived outsiders, like the Canadian brewer E.P. Taylor and other company speculators, had prompted a surge in defensive mergers in the industry. Taylor had created *Canadian Breweries* as one of the largest brewing company in the world by a series of mergers and acquisitions in North America and aimed to repeat that process in the UK. Speculators like Charles Clore, on the other hand, merely wanted to exploit the vast undervalued properties held by the brewing industry in the context of a nationwide property boom after the 1947 and 1948 Companies Acts required the publication of the value of their assets. This revealed that a great many breweries had not valued their properties since the late 1920s - and provided a golden opportunity for the likes of Clore.

Neither Taylor nor the property developers seemed to pose a direct threat to Allied's three founding members - they were too large and better managed than most of the smaller brewers. But it did create a much more competitive market and a stimulus to become more efficient.

After the 1961 merger Allied continued to acquire breweries in the form of **Thomas Ramsden & Son** (Halifax) in 1964 and the major company of **Friary Meux** (Guildford) the same year. The Halifax brewery stopped brewing immediately, but Friary Meux became another of Allied's operating areas, for the area southern and most south easterly part of the UK.

Friary Meux was the 1956 combination of **Friary, Holroyd & Healy's Breweries** (Guildford) and the Horseshoe Brewery of **Meux's Brewery** (Wandsworth). The Guildford brewery ceased to brew in 1969, and the (new) Horseshoe brewery closed in 1964. Meux's original Horseshoe brewery on Tottenham Court Rd - now the site of the Dominion Theatre - was closed in 1921 and brewing operations transferred to the newly acquired Nine Elms Brewery of Thorne Bros Ltd., at Wandsworth.

By 1963 Allied had twelve breweries, owned 11 percent of the UK's pubs and through reciprocal trading agreements and the free trade, supplied 48 percent of the total trade outlets. This was particularly advantageous to *Double Diamond*, which blossomed after being launched as a keg beer in 1962. Allied were less fortunate with their lager brand, *Skol*, an early leader in the British lager boom of the 1960s, it fell behind, hampered by lack of continental pedigree. With the hope of creating a wider market, a consortium was formed in 1964 to brew *Skol* internationally. This was ultimately unsuccessful; at its peak *Skol* was brewed in eighteen countries but never threw off its homespun image in the UK.

The final set of brewery acquisitions were the **Aylesbury Brewery Co** in 1972 and **Usher's Brewery** (Edinburgh) in 1980. The former had ceased brewing in 1937 and bought in its beer. Allied then used it as regional offices until around 1989. Usher's Park Brewery was closed within twelve months of purchase, Allied then supplied beer to their 214 former *Lorimer & Clark* pubs

Centralisation, Diversification and Decline

The key event in Allied's transformation from a brewer to a lacklustre conglomerate of disparate businesses was the 1968 takeover of **Showersings, Vine Products and Whiteway's** (SVPW). Under Edward Thompson, Allied was run as a loose federation of its three founders, a 'Commonwealth of brewers', and enjoyed a degree of success with an increase in pre-tax profits of 22 % in real terms in six years.

After Thompson's retirement, centralised management was adopted. The prime motivation being to facilitate the growth of national beers, but the move was not a success. The division was slow to respond to market changes with little synergy between production and sales. Allied had lost 15 percent of its share of the beer market. Sales of *Double Diamond* dropped by 60% during the 1970s, the losses being particularly severe in the Tetley and Ansell's trading areas. This brought about a reversal of policy in 1978 and a devolved, profit-centred, approach was introduced.

These were responsible for all activities in a geographical area. These were: *Alloa* (Scotland), *Aylesbury Brewery Co.*, *Ansell's* (including Wrexham), *Benskin's* (Bucks, Cambridge and Herts), *Friary Meux*

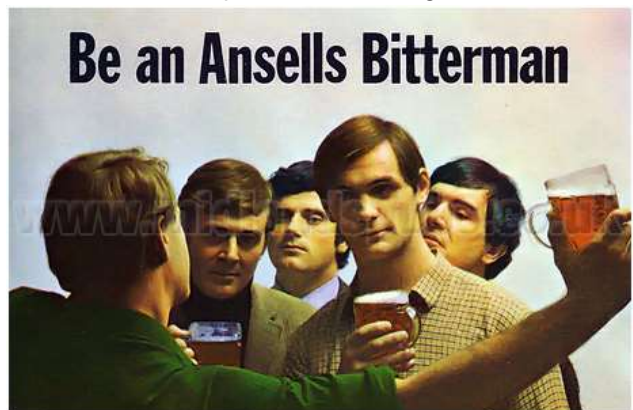


Ramsden's Stone Trough Brewery at Halifax and an 1896 photograph of Ind Coope at Romford

(Southeast England), *Ind Coope East Anglia* (Romford), *Ind Coope East Midlands* (Burton), *Halls* (Oxford and the West Country), *Joshua Tetley* (Leeds & NE England), *Taylor Walker* (London) & *Tetley Walker* (NW England including Warrington).

The largest of these was *Ind Coope Burton Brewery Ltd* (ICBB). Its task was to brew just under half of all Allied's beer and lager, including cans of *Long Life*, and the new *Draught Burton Ale (DBA)* - in 1990, this beer won CAMRA's prestigious 'Champion Beer of Britain'.

Unlike other members of the Big Six who opted to construct purpose-built mega breweries on new sites to achieve greater efficiencies, Allied, a decade later, when beer consumption was declining, chose to



redevelop an existing site to streamline their brewing operations. In 1982 ICBB embarked on a 'green field' project which was targeted to produce a high volume of diverse products (instead of concentrating on a volume production of just a few products), whilst at the same time creating a more flexible work force. The project aimed to cut the labour force by a third. The overall cost to Allied, on completion in 1988, was £45m, including £15m for 550 redundancies, with a cash payback of seven years.

But it was to no avail and the decline in market share continued compounded by major brewery strikes in 1979 at Warrington (Tetley Walker) and 1981 at Birmingham (Ansell). The Ansell's closure was the culmination of five years of industrial action at the Aston Cross brewery and resulted in the loss of over 600 jobs. Ansell beers were subsequently brewed at Burton, to





the chagrin of some Ansell workers who once claimed Burton would never be able to reproduce the 'nutty' taste of their beer. But the transfer went well and to rub it in, Burton produced *Ansell's Mild* went on to win awards. Warrington suffered from much the same level of Merseyside militancy in terms of labour relations that afflicted Bass Charrington at nearby Runcorn but survived another seventeen years.

The purchase of SVPW brought with it *Babycham* (a sparkling perry) *Cockburn's* port, *Harvey's* sherry, *Whiteway's* cider and many other brands. Adding these products to Allied's wine shipper and wholesaler *Grants of St James'* and its off-licence chain, made the company the UK's largest wholesaler and retailer of wines and spirits. When Keith Showering became chairman in 1975 the shift from brewing gathered momentum. A crucial move was the purchase of *Lyons* (ice cream, tea, etc) in 1978. Leading to the renaming of the company in 1981 as **Allied-Lyons plc**.

After Sir Keith's death in 1982 diversification continued. These acquisitions were not viewed well in the City and when the company's loss of £147m in foreign currency dealings in 1991 prompted changes at the top, rationalisation became the prime objective. Cider, perry, British wines, speciality drinks and Lyons Maid ice cream had all gone by February 1992. The original Ind Coope brewery in Romford was closed in 1992 and Tetley's Warrington brewery in 1996.

Divestment of brewing interests took longer. After separating the pubs from production in the wake of the Beer Orders of 1989, which restricted pub ownership by brewers, Allied off-loaded a 50 percent stake in its breweries to Carlsberg in 1993 (their UK operation was known as **Carlsberg-Tetley**) and the remainder in

1997, following the blockage by the newly-elected government of the proposed merger of C-T with Bass.

The final blow fell when C-T, in the light of decreasing market share, announced a major scaling down of its activities including brewery closures at Alloa (the old Archibald Arrol brewery) in 1998 and Wrexham in 2000. The Burton plant was sold to Bass, whose own brewery was adjacent. The company reverted to just **Carlsberg UK** in 2004. The former Tetley brewery in Leeds was closed in 2011, leaving just one brewery at Northampton.

The drinks company Pedro Domecq was purchased in 1994 and **Allied-Lyons plc** was renamed **Allied Domecq plc**. In 1999 in a final break with Allied's brewing past, the pubs were sold off to Punch Taverns who paid £2.8 billion for 5,000 pubs, but only after Bass had paid £1 billion for 550 of the best managed houses.

As a footnote, the Burton plant had been much upgraded in the late 80s and there were talks between Carlsberg and Bass soon after Carlsberg Tetley was formed but the government would not agree to a take over of all UK breweries. However, the Burton plant was sold to Bass in 1997. Two breweries continued as Burton South (Bass) and North (Ind Coope) until 2019 when South was closed and all Burton production moved to the old Ind Coope site.

Ray Anderson and John Arguile (to be cont'd)

In the next issue we have time lines for Taylor Walker, Ansell's, Friary Meux, Tetley and Walker-Cain as well as some notable Allied characters and its beers.

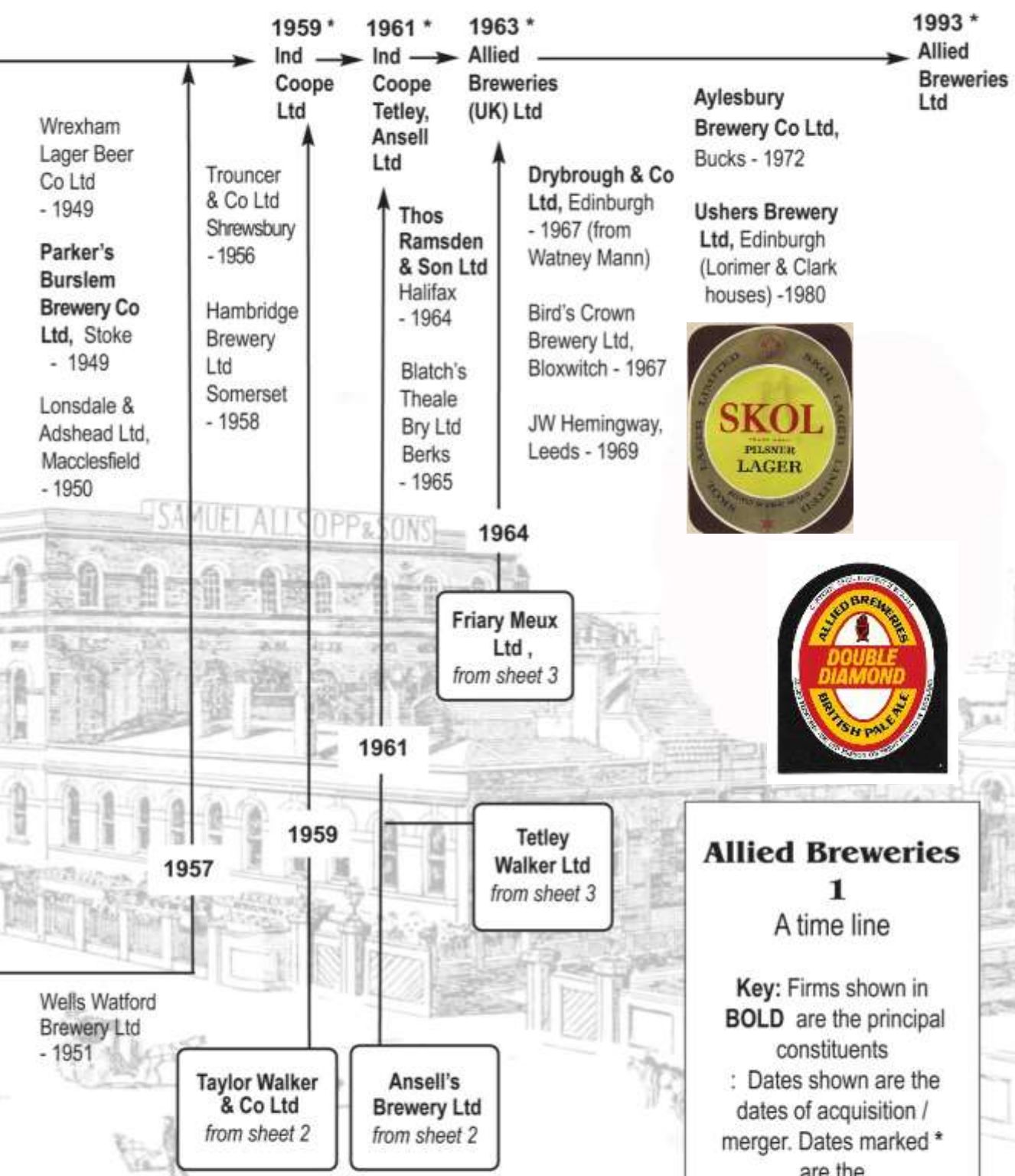
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	at 1900	1901 - 1910	1911 - 1920	1921 - 1930	1931 - 1940
IND COOPE Ind Coope & Co Romford & Burton on Trent (est 1845)	1886 * Ind Coope & Co Ltd	J Hill & Co Brentwood - 1901 Leeds & Batley Breweries Ltd Batley - 1900	1912 * Ind Coope & Co (1912) Ltd Hooson & Co Sheffield - 1914 Bindley & Co Ltd Burton-o-T - 1914 Robert Roberts Ruthin - 1917 Robinson's Brewery Ltd, Burton-o-T - 1920	1923 * Ind Coope & Co Ltd Woolf's Ltd Crewe - 1923 Colchester Brewing Co Ltd, Ipswich - 1924 Oliver A Burgham Glos - 1923 Burton Brewery Co Ltd, Burton - 1928 All Saints Brewery Co (Leicester) Ltd - 1929	1934 * Ind Coope & Allsopp Ltd Buddon & Biggs Bry Ltd Kent - 1931 Leeds City Brewery Ltd Leeds - 1931 Heaver Bros Ltd Cheshire - 1934 Houlding's Brewery Co Ltd Liverpool - 1939
	ALLSOPP The Brewery Burton on Trent (est 1740s)	1887 * Samuel Allsopp & Sons Ltd	Winchester Brewery Co Camberwell - 1907	New Black Lion Brewery Co Ltd, Aberdare - 1912 AS Pleace Aberdare - 1913 Showell's Brewery Co Ltd West Mids - 1914 New Bedford Brewery (Plymouth) Ltd - 1919 New Victoria Brewery Ltd, Plymouth - 1920	Hall's Oxford Brewery Ltd, Oxford - 1926 Stretton's Derby Bry Co Ltd - 1927 Archibald Arrol & Sons Ltd, Alloa - 1930 Lichfield Brewery Co Ltd, Staffs - 1930
BENSKINS Cannon Brewery Watford (est 1750)	1884 * Benskin's Watford Brewery Ltd	- Hawkes & Co Bishop's Stortford - 1898	Locke & Smith Ltd Herts - 1913 Bailey Bros, Bishop's Stortford - 1915 Walter H Pullen Bucks - 1915 Prior, Reid & Co Hatfield - 1920 Hatfield & Harpenden Breweries Ltd - 1920	JW & JL Taylor Essex - 1920 MA Sedgwick & Co, Watford - 1923 Roberts & Wilson, Ltd, Bucks - 1927 Wm & Geo Weller Amersham - 1930	

1941 - 1950	1951 - 1960	1961 - 1965	1966 - 1970	1971 - 1980	1981 +
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Allied Breweries
1
 A time line

Key: Firms shown in **BOLD** are the principal constituents
 : Dates shown are the dates of acquisition / merger. Dates marked * are the dates of registration

Allsopp & Son's New Brewery, Burton-on-Trent (Barnard 1890)

East Cornwall Steam Brewery

D Venning & Son at Liskeard, Cornwall



The 1858 Steam Brewery, perhaps somewhat exaggerated in scale

It is a bit of a miracle that this small Cornish brewery survived for about 130 years. A drastic modernisation and expansion in 1858 came at the worst possible time when the boom in the local mining industry collapsed. Teetotalism became more entrenched and the sons of the family went into the professions with little interest in the business.

The story starts with Edmund Venning, 1783-1842, who was apprenticed as a maltster to his father George at the family farm and maltings at Trebant Barton, Altarnun on the northern edge of Bodmin Moor in Cornwall. When the property was put up for sale in 1816 the malthouse was 'sufficiently extensive for the making of upwards of 1000 bushels of malt annually' according to the sale particulars. At some point Edmund moved to Liskeard and set up as a maltster and brewer in Bay Tree Hill, possibly after the attempted sale of Trebant in 1816, his marriage that year in Altarnun and his father's death in 1817.

The Brewery History Society records state that the Liskeard brewery began in about 1773 and was acquired by Edmund Venning in 1830. The earliest date



we can associate with Edmund is 1828, based on an envelope of that date addressed to him in Liskeard which was a receipt for hops

(bottom left). But we know he owned the brewery by 1832. On 13th September 1832 a newspaper article described a fire in the malt house of Mr Edmund Venning of Liskeard. *'The flames were spreading rapidly towards the dwelling house, when the two engines arrived which very soon...got the flames under control and in about half an hour after their arrival, the flames were completely extinguished.'* It was helped by the fact that there was a well on the site.

On 31st March 1836 at Cornish Assizes Messrs Wright, brewers of Bodmin, successfully sued Edmund Venning, 'brewer and maltster of Liskeard', for slander for having claimed there were toads in his beer. He was fined

£5. And in 1839 Robson's Directory lists him as a brewer and maltster. It seems likely the brewery was a fairly small scale operation.

In 1845, three years after Edmund's death, the brewhouse, malthouse and attached Union Inn were put up for sale. Interestingly the inn, malthouse and brewhouse had recently been 'rebuilt', bearing in mind that Daniel Venning opened a 'new' brewery on the site only 13 years later. The brewery cannot have sold. The inn was tenanted, but was presumably a separate entity from the brewing and malting on the same site.

Edmund died in Liskeard on 6th October 1842, and left a will listing his possessions. The principal freehold property is 'my dwelling house and malthouse and brewhouse and stable and cellars situate in Bay Tree Hill'. This passed to his son Daniel Venning, 1818-1894, who was presumably already working in the family business. He also left a freehold public house in the parish of Linkinhorne 'well known by the name of Upton' to his daughter, Anna Maria. He also left the public house, stable and coach house called the King's Arms, in Liskeard, to his younger son John (which was mortgaged). Numerous references to The King's Arms appear in local newspapers as it is the place where auctions were held and details of sales elsewhere were available. It was demolished to make way for two houses, a savings bank and lecture room possibly before or soon after Edmund's death.

In 1847 Daniel Venning married Amelia Willmott Beal. The Beals were a well educated family, with two of Amelia's distinguished brothers featuring in the Dictionary of National Biography. This would have

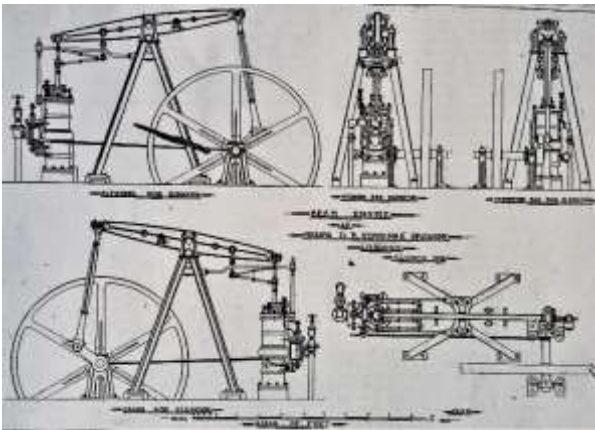


The Vennings - Daniel (1818-1894), Edmund (1849-1904) and Riley (1882-1956)

enhanced the status of the Vennings, but would also help explain why Daniel's three sons all trained for the professions.

The new Steam Brewery

The 1851 Census shows Daniel Venning as a maltster and brewer employing four men. It was in 1856 that he began planning his new brewery. According to an article in the *West Briton* of 5th November 1858 he first visited 'most of the great breweries in the kingdom' to make sure he adopted all the best practices. The cost was about £3,000.



The mine engine which powered the brewery

It would be operated by a single steam powered beam engine, and covered 4,000 sq ft. It was initially called the East Cornwall Steam Brewery, later D.Venning and Son.



An invitation to the opening luncheon

The 12 hp beam engine started life at the Mary Ann Mine near Menheniot in 1840 before being moved to the brewery. It was measured and recorded in 1931 and was still in place in the 1950s.

The 'New Brewery' was opened on 2nd November 1858 with a formal dinner at which 250 people were present. They included 'the greater portion of the

respectable inhabitants of the town', according to *The West Briton*. The brewery was decorated with flags and evergreens, there was a gallery for the ladies and a band played.

By the 1861 Census the brewery was employing six men and one boy. As it turned out it was the worst possible time to open what was quite a substantial operation. The Cornish mining economy, having been booming, was in trouble and in Liskeard the teetotal movement was gaining political strength.

In the 1850s Liskeard, an ancient stannary town, was developing as a thriving Victorian commercial centre partly because of a boom in the local mining industry. But in 1866, eight years after the opening of the brewery, the world price of copper collapsed. 'The impact on the town was as dramatic as the earlier boom years of the 1840s.' [Liskeard and its People, by Bernard Deacon. 1989]. The copper and lead miners in the neighbouring villages emigrated, and there were many bankruptcies in the town, including publicans. The population of Liskeard dropped by a quarter in the 1870s and 80s, and it reverted to being a centre of a farming community.

In 1847 there had been at least 16 inns, pubs, and beer houses within the parish boundary. An active and powerful Temperance Society pressed for new restrictions on the pubs, which by the 1860s had become a live political issue. This was in part because of the strength of Methodism. Daniel Venning and the brewery were very much caught up in this.

Even though Daniel was a lifelong Methodist himself, he came into increasing conflict with supporters of the temperance movement, including fellow Council members, as a result of his occupation. In 1871 with much rejoicing they succeeded in ousting him from his Council seat. However he was back again three years later. Not surprisingly considerable opposition to the brewery remained.

It was in that year that Daniel Venning and his brother John both became agents of the Licensed Victuallers Tea Association. This odd sounding body had been set up in 1867 because grocers had started selling wine. So agents of the Association sold packets of tea and coffee. The natural person to take over the brewery was Daniel's eldest son, Edmund, who was born in 1849. But he was set on a medical career, studying at University College Hospital, London, qualifying in 1867. He was awarded a silver medal for midwifery, and 'first certificate of honour'. But it was not to be.





The brewery on Bay Tree Hill in Liskeard and wagons waiting at the railway station.

At this point he was required to return to Liskeard to help run the brewery which he did, by tradition very reluctantly, for the rest of his life. It was also the worst possible time for the brewery for the reasons given above. One can imagine Edmund's lack of enthusiasm for the business. It seems he devoted much of his time to Masonic interests with the brewery very much in second place. He died in 1904 aged only 54. The brewery passed to his oldest son, Daniel Riley Venning, 1882-1956.

Riley Venning, as he was known, had already started helping with the brewery shortly before his father's death and then became Managing Director. The other directors were his mother, sister, and younger brother Gilbert. Gilbert initially also worked for the brewery but later moved to E & H Kelsey, brewers of Tunbridge Wells, becoming chairman in 1949.

In the 20th century the brewery supplied eleven tied houses and several free houses in and around Liskeard and Looe. Two well-known tied houses in Looe were The Salutation, home of the Shark Angling Club of Great Britain (East Looe), and also The Jolly Sailor (West Looe). The other tied houses were The White Horse, Albion Inn and Victoria Inn, Liskeard. Also the London Inn, St Neot; Caradon Inn, Upton Cross; Manor Inn, Rilla Mill; Fishermans Arms and Bullers Arms., East Looe and the White Hart, Menheniot.

In 1920 the brewery transferred from horse drawn deliveries to lorries and sold off two cart horses, two wagons, various carts and other accessories. From Victorian times the railway station in Liskeard allowed deliveries over quite a large area, including the fishermen of Looe who used to swear by pilchards and 'a pint of Danl Venning'.

In 1923 there was a serious industrial accident at the brewery. Three workmen, enamelling the inside of a large vat, were overcome with fumes and two were found unconscious at the bottom. Fortunately they recovered in the cottage hospital.

Though the brewery continued as a relatively small scale operation, minor improvements took place. A new bottle store was built in 1936. A year later the brewery

invited tenders to construct a block of three shops with flats over in Bay Tree Hill, presumably on land already owned by the brewery.

Tragedy struck on 18th November 1942. The brewery was all but destroyed in a devastating fire. It was a pure accident and unrelated to enemy action.

In the early afternoon smoke was seen coming from the building: the boiler house was on fire. 'A great sheet of flame rose high in the air and clouds of steam issued from the exploding bottles of beer and spirits',



The burned out brewery in

according to *The Western Morning News*. Volunteers helped removing stock from the blazing building. Three fire brigades fought the blaze. One of the fireman fell from the roof as it collapsed but fortunately broke no bones. By 5pm the fire was under control, but thousands of pounds worth of damage had resulted.

In time the premises were repaired and rebuilt but all brewing had come to an end and was not revived. From then it simply became a bottling plant with the wine and spirit business on the side.

Riley Venning continued running the brewery after the war. But his only son, Roger, had died aged 36 in 1953. With no one to take on the business, which was only a shadow of its pre war state, he must have felt there was little future for it. In December 1954 it was sold to Watney Mann.

Watneys sold it in September 1962, apparently affecting 40 employees [*Cornish Guardian 20th Sept 1962*]. Since then it has been partially used, rather unsatisfactorily.

Philip Venning

Philip is the great great great grandson of Edmund Venning

150 years of the Melbourn All Saints Brewery at Stamford – Part 2



Recording gravities in 1974

From 1938, in anticipation of war, wine and spirit stocks were built up and dispersed throughout the pubs in case of enemy action. The company was always on the lookout for auction sales where they contained cellar bottles. At one such sale the company purchased what was described as 12 bottles of Port, age unknown. When these were examined they were found to be malt whisky some 20/30 years old smooth and mellow, well worth the cheap price paid.

Very soon after the start of the war French Brandy and Caribbean Rum was almost impossible to obtain whilst supplies of whisky and gin became very limited. Right up to the end of the Second World War price lists showed some 80/100 lines of wines and spirits. During the war the company was able to purchase The Blue Bell at Pickworth. This was a very basic house, the ale being dispensed in the kitchen and the customers sat along two high backed wooden benches either side of an old fashioned kitchen range which Mrs Topp, the licensee used to cook on. There was another licensed room but this was her parlour and woe betide any customer who dared set foot in it!

Soon after the war Herbert's widow died and once again the company came under the Melbourn family's control passing to Max and Christine, great nephew and niece and their cousin Margaret Hartwell with the rest of the old estate of Herbert being held in trust. During the following 11 years, starting in 1947, The Plough Sleaford was added, in 1954 The Black Horse at Grimsthorpe (leasehold), in 1955 The Five Bells at Edenham and 1958 The Red Lion at Haconby but

generally the number of houses remained constant as others were also sold or closed.

In 1950 the first major prize was won for the company's bottled beer Pinnacle Pale Ale which won a Gold Medal in the Supreme Championship for bottle beers (1038-1048OG). In 1953 the brewery brewed and bottled a Coronation Ale which was distributed as a gift to tenants and customers. This brew was so strong and well brewed that samples opened in 1965 were still good.

During the 1950s the company set about updating many houses which had become rather basic. The Crown at Casterton was modernised in 1957 and the following year the toilet block was rebuilt. The Bull and Swan at Stamford, an old coaching inn was refurbished in 1958 to include a dining room with new bars. During the 1960s the company decided on a policy of all the houses having pictorial signs, this was an ongoing plan that took some ten years or more to complete. In 1960 they won 3rd prize for bottled Pale Ale (1047 to 1055).

In 1961 the Borough of Stamford celebrated 500 years of its town Charter. A local exhibition was arranged in the town and the brewery had a stand with a model brewery and a projection theatre whilst a special brew was added to the bottled range. At first sales of this beer were good but the rate of duty meant that eventually it became uneconomic to brew and was subsequently dropped. In 1966 the company purchased two cottages next door to The Waggon and Horses in Lincoln, demolished them to make a car park and considerably rebuilt the pub. During 1967 The Boot and Shoe at South Luffenham was enlarged with the conversion of the bakehouse into a bar while the White Horse at Morcott was also refurbished. 1968 saw another medal - First prize for bottled Mild in the 1036 to 1041 range and in 1969 it was the turn of The Ingleby Arms Marton to be refurbished. The third special brew that the company produced came in 1970 when to celebrate one hundred years a Centenary ale was distributed free to staff, tenants and customers.

As in line with other breweries, mild sales had fallen by 1970 with an IPA accounting for about a half of all sales but as the Company still sold its beers in wooden casks they were becoming quite popular due to drinkers seeking them out. In this special year The Kings Head at Navenby had a restaurant added and a number of events were organised for the Company centenary. It was decided that the celebrations would be a family occasion with an open day for staff, tenants and families and a visit by the Mayor of Stamford. Visitors were treated to a conducted tour of the brewery and then provided with tea. This was followed by a presentation to the ladies of flowers whilst the men had

the Centenary brew. Afterwards all the brewery staff had dinner and bonuses were given out depending on the length of service. The following year the Wheatsheaf at Oakham was extended at a cost of £12,000 and The Brewery Inn Stamford was renamed The Jolly Brewer. As a permanent advert, the front of the brewery was cleaned and restored to the appearance it was 100 years ago.

This time of celebration was also eventful in that the current members of the Melbourn family decided to retire so early in 1971 they invited tenders on the open market for the share capital of the company. This was a very stressful period for the staff but relief came when it was found that two local people were the successful bidders, The Earl of Gainsborough and his son in law the Earl of Liverpool. Changes took place almost immediately with Lord Gainsborough becoming Chairman and Lord Liverpool Managing Director. The Company's name was changed in November to Melbourn's Brewery Limited. Beers at the time were two beers in wooden casks, (Bitter and a Dark Mild). These were also kegged as Melbourn Keg (the Bitter) and Keg Brown (the Mild). Bottled beers were IPA, Dinner Ale (brown and weak), Nut Brown Ale (dark and stronger) and Double Stout (sweet). Doublet was introduced in 1972 (strong pale ale).

A series of pub purchases was embarked upon, first came The Cuckoo Inn at Wing close to the new reservoir at Empingham. Next came The Golden Lion at Bourne which was leased from Samuel Smiths. The White Heather Restaurant opposite the brewery was purchased having been established in the early 1950s. This restaurant could seat some 200 people on three levels and was run as a separate subsidiary. Another acquisition was The Crown Hotel nearby, a family hotel of some eighteen bedrooms, dining room, public bar and lounges. Major alterations took place at The George, Weldon and The Six Bells at Witham. New designs were given to the bottled labels and the keg beer was renamed Crest with beer mats being produced to advertise the product. A new bottling line was introduced and an automatic labeller installed. The offices were moved to the former Brewery house at the rear of the brewery. After some sixteen months from the purchase there were 32 fully-licensed houses, two off licences and six unlicensed properties owned by the company.

The period in the early 1970s was a time of rampant inflation; costs were going up almost on a daily basis and money borrowed from banks in 1972 at 6% interest had by 1974 increased to 13%. The brewing plant was in need of updating and very labour intensive. Costs per barrel had increased considerably and in spite of an increase of 8.5% in the barrels brewed in the year ending 31st March 1974, the foreign beers sold in the tied houses had increased by some 18%.

In light of all these costs, the current Directors numbering five, the original two plus their wives and Percy William Wakefield, who also held the post of Company Secretary and previously Cashier, made a decision to cease brewing in June 1974. Supplies of beer were to come from Sam Smith's Old Brewery of Tadcaster, a company with a similar outlook to Melbourn Brewery and one that the Company already had connections to. Sam Smiths took over part of the brewery to supply the brewery's pubs and used it as a local depot. The plan was for the brewery to be a museum and brew a special beer every year for the pubs. At the time of the closure the head brewer was Mr D. Walmsley and was the last in a line of only four head brewers between 1869 and 1974, two of these were father and son, a demonstration of the loyalty of the workforce. The condemned boiler was removed after brewing ceased and later replaced. A pair of Sam Smiths shire horses were used to deliver to local pubs and much publicised their beers in South Lincolnshire.

The brewery still traded as Melbourn Brewery until in 1987 when the Directors decided to sell the pubs to Camerons brewery of Hartlepool. They retained ownership of the brewery and their restaurant and by 1993 Sam Smiths were again brewing; this time apricot, cherry and strawberry beers in the winter months using spontaneous fermentation as in the summer there are too many wild yeasts around the All Saints Brewery. After brewing, the fruit beers are bottled at Tadcaster and available in Sam Smiths pubs across Britain including London where they own several pubs. These bottled beers have subsequently achieved medals in the world beer championships. The brewery itself is a Museum that can be visited at least up to the time of *Coronavirus*. Perhaps a BHS visit would be a good idea?

Geoff Dye



Sources

Unpublished history of the company by P.W. Wakefield Company Secretary, The first 100 years. Brewing Trade Review July 1970. Photographs taken of the brewery inside on closure in June 1974 by Geoff Dye.

Looking for the Wottons – Part 2



Ramsgate Brewery, Queen Street, c1880s. One is tempted to wonder whether, of the two gentlemen in the foreground, the one in the top hat might be a Tomson, and the one in the bowler might be a Wotton

It has occurred to me that I have never known how, or when, the other family in the business became 'Martin Tomsons', as opposed to simply 'Tomsons'. It seems that the name change, if indeed that it what it was, occurred prior to 1916, as the following newspaper reports show:

'FLYING OFFICERS FATE. LT. MARTIN TOMSON MISSING. Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. R. Tomson, of Court Stairs, Pegwell, are in a state of anxiety concerning the fate of their only son, Flight-Lieut. William G. Martin Tomson, who has been missing since July 10th. Flight-Lieut. Martin Tomson was that day on reconnoitering duty, when his machine was seen to come down about two miles behind the German lines, probably hit by anti-aircraft guns, but it was impossible to know what really happened. The machine however, came down slowly. The young officer joined up some months ago and rapidly secured his 'wings'. He was home for a few days in May before taking up active flying service across the water.' (*Thanet Advertiser*, 22nd July 1916)

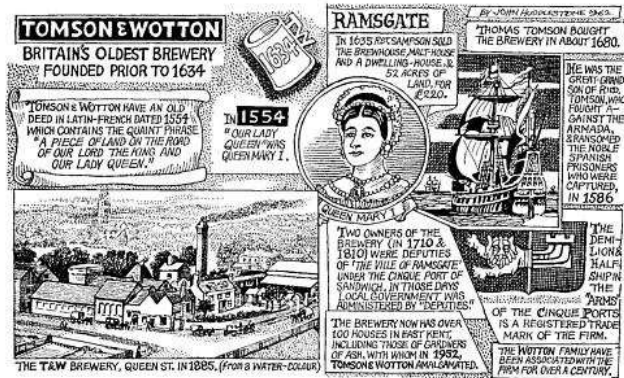
One week later, the same newspaper reported **'FLYING OFFICER SAFE.** Flight-Lieutenant W. G. Martin Tomson, first reported missing since 10th July, is now reported wounded and a prisoner of war in a German hospital'.

The airman was born on 6th January 1889, and his birth was registered as 'Tomson, William John M'. He is listed in the 1911 census, which is in his father's handwriting, as simply William Tomson, aged 22, single, and a 'Student, B.A. Cambridge'. (Readers will be aware that increasing levels of literacy allowed householders to fill in their own census for the first time. Ed) So presumably it was his personal choice to use his father's forename like a second surname. William married American-born Delphine Augustine Toby in Paddington in 1928 and their only child, David J. Martin Tomson, was born in 1930. David followed his father, grandfather et al into the brewery... he was, in fact, the ninth generation of his family to be involved!

Squadron Leader Martin Tomson maintained his aviation links; in 1932, as Chairman of the organising committee of the Ramsgate Gala Week, he ensured that the chief guests were Mr. & Mrs. Jim Mollison. This couple, known as the 'Flying Sweethearts' were hugely popular at this time having only married in July of that year. Glasgow-born Jim Mollison had broken flying records from Australia to England and England to South Africa, and Mrs. Mollison was, of course, better known as the Hull lass and famous aviatrix, Amy Johnson. They sent their apologies the following year, being off on another of their epic flights; the chief guest for 1933 was Irishman, Mr. Kaye Don (real name Donsky, born in Dublin of Polish ancestry). Don was a famous racing driver, erstwhile holder of the Brooklands Outer Circuit speed record at 137.59mph, he had also broken the world speed record on water in 1931.

Sqn Ldr Martin Tomson was District Commissioner for the Boy Scouts in the 1930s, and in 1939 organised the boys to collect waste paper and cardboard on behalf of the Paper Control Board. His Scouting experience, together with his background in the Royal Flying Corps and later the R.A.F., put him in a perfect position to take on the post of District Inspecting Officer when the Air Training Corps was established in 1941. He was responsible for 45 squadrons and 20 attached flights, totaling some 5000 cadets. When he retired from the post in January of 1946, he told the *Thanet Advertiser* that "It has meant plenty of work, but I have enjoyed every minute of it... at the other end of Kent – in the famous Biggin Hill station – I met some of our air aces, grand fellows, including Wing Commander Cunningham, the renowned night fighter." Martin Tomson and his wife continued their youth work into the 1950s, regularly throwing open the gardens of their house 'Lerryn', in Convent Road, Kingsgate, in aid of the Church of England Childrens Society.

As might be expected, due to his public-spirited nature, he featured very often in the local newspapers, always being referred to as Mr., or Squadron Leader, W. J. Martin Tomson, sometimes with a hyphen, sometimes



Postcard from 1962. Note that the Wotton family are relegated to the bottom righthand corner!



without. He lived a long, busy and prosperous life; he was still the Chairman of the company when it was sold in 1968. He died in 1977 at the age of eighty-eight years.

David Martin Tomson, as might be expected, followed his father into the brewing business. Having visited the Carlsberg brewery while holidaying in Copenhagen in 1953, he returned there three years later to work for six weeks, learning the operations of the various departments (*East Kent Times & Mail*, 11 January 1957) By 1968 he was the joint Managing Director, with Bill Wotton, and it fell to him to talk to the press regarding the closure of the brewery. 'Some of the 105 employees are disappointed and angry at the possibility of being put out of work, but a Director of the Tomson and Wotton company, Mr. D. J. Martin-Tomson said that Whitbread will offer many of the men new jobs. For the average drinker, the takeover will mean very little, says Mr. Martin-Tomson. 'Brewing is likely to be transferred to Fremlins at Faversham or Maidstone, and

luckily I think, Tomson and Wotton beers and Fremlins are very much alike in taste'. Though there are obviously one or two despondent faces at the brewery, which has an impelling (sic) blend of quaintness and modern efficiency, the brewing of thousands of gallons of beer goes on – at least until the autumn.' (*Thanet Times*, 2nd July 1968)

This article reveals that the Head Brewer at the time of closure was Yorkshireman, Mr. C. A. Milner... there is even a photograph of him. This directly contradicts my assertion on page 263 that a Mr. A. Fearn occupied that position. It seems that Fearn was Milner's predecessor, certainly he was the Head Brewer in 1957 when T&W's Oatmeal Stout won a diploma at the Brewers and Allied Traders Exhibition at Olympia. (*East Kent Times and Mail*, 9th October 1957. Drinkers who might prefer a sweeter and stronger stout were recommended to try Sampson from the T&W bottled range.

In a statement issued by the Directors, they said that 'We feel sure it will be understood that this was not an easy decision to make. The Ramsgate brewery is the oldest still brewing in Great Britain, with its origins dating back to 1634. The Tomson and Wotton families have been connected with it for a total of nearly 400 years. The closure of the brewery must lead inevitably to dislocating many peoples' lives. The Directors point out that, unfortunately, modern economic pressures are against the smaller brewery, particularly when it is at the seaside and seasonal. We originally invited Whitbread to take an interest in us in 1957 because of their high reputation in the brewing industry. We are now pleased that it is they who are to take on the responsibility for the continuance of the tradition of our company. The Whitbread tankard trade mark will now supersede ours in this district but, although the date on the Whitbread one may be a century later, the name on it is second-to-none in the standards it implies.' (*East Kent Times and Mail*, 31st May 1968). Of the 105 staff, only three chose to transfer to Whitbread. (*East Kent Times and Mail*, 14th August 1968)

Peter Moynihan



The 22qtr mash tun dating from 1890 and still going strong in 1963. On the right is the open direct fired copper

Out of the past - News from fifty years ago – 1973

Compiled by Terry Hanstock

Stateless brewery

The Carlisle and District State Management Scheme is finally wound up and the Carlisle Old Brewery is sold to 'jet-setting' businessman Peter Lewis. He intends to brew 'good quality beer' via a new company, Lakeland Breweries, but the sale falls through and the brewery is eventually auctioned off to Manchester builders, Holland & Threlfall. The former head brewer moves to Jennings Brothers (Cockermouth) who also take on some of the Scheme's licensed premises. Most of the remainder are sold to Scottish & Newcastle, John Smith's and Greenall Whitley. Prices increase shortly afterwards, with an anonymous new owner pointing out that 'Carlisle drinkers have been getting away with murder for over half a century as far as beer prices are concerned. They are now being brought into line with the rest of the country...'

Takeovers

Workington Brewery is bought by Mount Charlotte Investments, who also express interest in Jennings Brothers (Cockermouth). The latter remains independent and is officially recognised as an 'attraction' by the British Tourist Authority on account of the quality of its beer. Scottish & Newcastle Breweries deny takeover rumours.

Into Europe

With the UK joining the European Economic Community on 1 January, breweries start to explore continental opportunities. Courage (Central)'s Reading Brewery is already sending five lorryloads of Bulldog beer to Antwerp each week. Its shares already quoted in Amsterdam, Allied Breweries applies for listings on the Brussels and Antwerp stock exchanges. It also signs a deal with Brasserie Wielemans-Ceuppens (Brussels) for the bottling and distribution of Double Diamond in Belgium. Watney Mann buys a controlling stake in Stern Brauerei Carl Funke AG (Cologne).

Conflagrations

A large fire breaks out on the site of Bass Charrington's new Runcorn brewery, severely damaging the bottling and packaging plant and further delaying construction. Fire destroys the old Isleworth Brewery, used by Watney Mann as a bottling plant.

Buildings

Former breweries sold for redevelopment or demolition include: Hunt, Edmunds & Co (Banbury) - partly for retail with the remainder forming the HQ of Bass Charrington's Crest Hotels subsidiary; Style & Winch's Medway Brewery (Maidstone) - to be replaced by a traffic roundabout; Evan Evans Bevan's Vale of Neath Brewery (Cadoxton) - Whitbread Wales plan to build housing on the site whereas Glamorgan County Council want to use it for industrial development; Truman, Hanbury, Buxton & Co's Black Eagle Brewery (Burton on Trent) is demolished.

The empty Flowers Brewery (Stratford-upon-Avon) has a narrow escape when schoolboys, using a mixture of weedkiller and sugar packed in a copper pipe, cause an explosion on top of the brewery tower. It survives and plans are later submitted for either a 200 room hotel or warehouses and offices to be built on the site.

Some buildings attract interest from conservationists: the old Charlton Brewery Co building (Shepton Mallet) - currently used as a depot by Courage - might form part of a proposed conservation area; the site of Frome & Lamb's Badcox Brewery (Frome) would make an ideal town hall and community centre, according to a local resident; plans to replace Worthington & Co's offices (Burton on Trent) with a leisure centre are withdrawn because of the building's listed status.

Allied Breweries opens distribution centres in Aldridge and Fordingbridge and plans new storage depots at Bourne and in County Durham. Whitbread applies for planning permission for a new lager brewery at Magor, Gwent. Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries extend the Park Brewery (Wolverhampton) and put out a contract for a new bottling hall and stores. Bass Production opens a transport centre built on its former cooperage and maltings sites in Burton on Trent. Ansells Brewery (Birmingham) extends its keg lines and installs new fermenting vessels and processing equipment.

Under threat

Bass, Mitchells & Butlers' proposed lorry park at Edgbaston is refused planning permission, allegedly threatening the future of the Cape Hill Brewery (Smethwick). Courage start looking for a new centralised site as its breweries in Bristol (formerly the Bristol Brewery Georges & Co's Old Porter Brewery) and Reading (formerly H & G Simonds) are working to full capacity and have no room to expand. It also plans to close the Barnsley Brewery. Whitbread announce that brewing at the former Dutton's Brewery (Blackburn) and Threlfall Chesters' breweries at Cook Street (Salford) and Liverpool will cease by the end of 1975. Some of the workforce may be transferred to Whitbread West Pennines' brewery at Samesbury, recently expanded to enable the production of Tankard and Whitbread Pale Ale alongside Heineken.

Keg vs cask

Keg beer consumption grows apace despite being described as 'oxygenated swill' (Roy Mason, MP); 'beer out of sealed dustbins' (Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood); 'a bright, chilled, fairly fizzy, moderately expensive, bland tasting beer of average strength' (Consumers Association). CAMRA accuses breweries of reducing beer strength in order to save on tax, a claim supported by HM Customs and Excise which reveals that brewers are increasingly using malt and hop substitutes and that the number of brands has halved from 3000 over the past decade following the closure of local breweries and the promotion of keg and

lager. The promotion appears to be working as Allied Breweries predicts that 1,353,600,000 pints of lager will be consumed during the year.

The Sunday People reports on the difficulty of finding cask beer and concludes that 'you can have any beer that you like as long as you choose keg'. The Brewers Society's response: 'There are few people who want to drink the really strong local beers of the past - there is more to going to the pub now than getting drunk.' Some disagree. Tollemache & Cobbold Breweries (Ipswich) celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of Cobbold & Co by brewing a special strong pale ale called 250. The Northern Clubs Federation Brewery (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) launch Festival Ale 73. A strong bottled beer with an OG of 73, a half pint is claimed to be stronger than a double whisky. Whitbread Fremlins (Faversham) produces Trophy Bitter, 'a stronger bitter with more character and a traditional Kentish flavour.' Also in Faversham, Shepherd Neame pledges to continue brewing 'traditional draught beer.' Not so in the West Midlands where Allied Breweries plan to replace Ansells traditional mild with keg mild. On a cheerier note, Courage claim that British beer is the cheapest in the world, taking the average working man only 12 minutes to earn enough to pay for a pint.

Visiting time

Breweries open their gates to the public. Bass Production (Burton on Trent) advertise for a 'smart and intelligent young lady...to arrange, organise and conduct brewery visits.' In Reading, Courage (Central) want a 'mature lady' to act as a brewery guide, her desirable attributes being 'a neat appearance, ability to speak in public and [to be] a good mixer.' Meanwhile, back in Burton, Marston, Thompson & Evershed need an 'active lady' to prepare and serve teas to parties visiting the brewery.

And finally

Whitbread (London) release 'Swinging at the White Hart Inn' - jazz and swing classics performed by the Sonny Dee All-Star Band, the LP cover featuring a giant foaming pint of Whitbread Tankard. 'Roll out the barrel' isn't one of the featured classics



Out and about

Nimmo's Board Room table restored



The table and its chairs made by Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson were in a sorry state when Barnard Castle antiques dealer Paul Ing discovered them in a Liverpool auction room's catalogue, where it was described as having belonged to an Isle of Man brewery. Research showed otherwise and brewery expert John Emerson revealed more about the history of Nimmo Brewery, which had commissioned famed joiner Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson to produce the set back in 1952 to celebrate the life of William John Nimmo who was born in 1890 the great grandson of John Nimmo who started brewing in 1826 at Castle Eden. In its heyday, Nimmos brewed

75,000 barrels a year and had 125 pubs. The picture shows Paul Ing and John Emerson with the Robert 'Mouseman' Thomas board room table and perhaps rather uncomfortable chairs – Nimmo's Board meetings may have been short!

Vietnam beer vending machine with a difference

Ho Chi Minh City has an unusual beer vending machine. Courtesy of local craft brewer Belgo it does not want currency but asks customers to deposit a mainstream beer into the machine in exchange for a premium Belgo. The aim was to drive awareness of Belgo in a market dominated by big brands such as Tiger, Heineken, Bia Saigon and 333. In the pub Belgo is eight times the price so we hope people enjoy their sample. Beer is apparently as cheap as water and some 91% of alcohol sales are as beer.



Home Brewery still for sale

The Nottingham Post ran a piece about the old Home Brewery buildings at Daybrook which the local authority is trying to sell. A potted history of the site was included.

The founding father of The Home Brewery Co was Thomas Robinson, a farmer from Arnold with a malting business. His youngest son John took over the business and half of the farm. By adding more property John and his brother opened the Daybrook Laundry before going on to found the brewery in 1877 which was named after his Home Farm at Bestbrook. It was incorporated in 1890 and operations expanded with the takeovers of W H Hutchinson in New Basford in 1914 and George Green's Brewery on Howard Street in 1921.



Plans for the present brewery were drawn up in 1938 by Nottingham architect Cecil Howitt who had also designed many of the brewery pubs. Building work began the same year but was put on hold after war broke out. There was a significant delay in the building work and the central tower was not completed until the 1950s. The building has an unusual feature made by the sculptor Charles Doman along the front wall showing cherubs taking part in the brewing process and drinking the product.

The brewery, valued at around £120m was acquired by Scottish & Newcastle in 1986 when it owned 447 pubs. The buildings were Grade II listed in 1993 and brewing ceased in 1996. Home beers were brewed elsewhere for a while but soon disappeared from the S&N portfolio. Part of the site

was converted to council offices and in 2018, the Council announced it was thinking of selling the building and converting it back into viable commercial use.

Oxford Brookes celebrates

The National Brewing Library at Oxford Brookes University is celebrating its 20th anniversary with an exhibition focusing on the women of the brewing industry. The collection was started in 2002 by Prof Katherine Smart and the Brookes Library service which brought together the libraries of The Institute and Guild of Brewing and The British Beer and Pub Association.

Oxford brewer Tess Taylor gave a lecture to open the exhibition on the subject of her craft brewery at the Tap Social Movement which is a social enterprise providing employment for local ex-offenders which she co-founded back in 2016. It now has a brewery, bakery and three popular hospitality venues. The can graphics were produced by the art classes at HMP Huntercombe nearby. The exhibition at the John Henry Brookes Lecture Theatre in Headington will be open to the public for the whole academic year



Alton models find a home



A pair of models of the Molson Coors brewery in Alton were recovered before the demolition by local history buff Jane Hurst. She tried to find a home for them in the Alton Museum but they were just too large. Hannam's Auctioneers in Selborne took over and sold the keggling hall model for £10 and a general brewing process model for £170.

Long's bottle store gets bigger

Brewery House on Hambrook Street in Southsea is to be transformed into 17 flats in a £4m development. The scheme adds an extra storey and creates bike storage in the basement. As is usual these days, no car parking is provided. Brewery House used to be the bottling store for the Long & Co Brewery across the street, which was destroyed during the Second World War. Until recently it had been used as a Scout Hall



Grahams Golden Lager rail tanker

The Chairman spotted an article from the Historic Model Railway Society whilst browsing the mountain of old magazines in the Isle of Wight Steam Railway volunteers mess room. There were six pictures of railway tankers belonging to Archibald Arrol of Alloa which merged with Ind Coope of Burton and Romford in 1930. We assume they were used to transport the beer south for bottling in Burton but they were occasionally seen running to Wrexham. 117 illustrated here is a two compartment affair but no volume is mentioned. The three black stars indicate that the tanker can be attached to a passenger train perhaps to get the beer to its destination faster. It was built by Charles Roberts of Horbury Junction, Wakefield probably in 1947.



Mike's meanderings – Low Down on Low Street and Leeming

Low Street, Kirkby Fleetham

In 1803 John Plews mentioned as a brewer in North Cowton. He died November 1828 with execs Christopher Robinson and Thomas Plews, the latter may have continued there until around 1870. Then in 1823 a John Plews was living at Fleetham Lodge with a good brewhouse, malt kiln, drying kiln and other out buildings in good repair.

In 1839 John Lumley shown as a brewer here. Then in 1840 partnership dissolved as spirit merchants with Christopher Pybus and John Bowman, when the latter left, and October the partnership with Pybus was dissolved. Bowman was at the Old Salutation until his death in 1860, when it was to let with malt kiln, brew house and wholesale spirit business.

In July 1842 Lumley was a bankrupt brewer, Low Street. To let September and on 12th October furniture etc under assignment, "Late" Lumley; however, he then seems to have entered into a partnership at Northallerton with John Bowe, a common brewer there in 1851. Though:

Partnership hitherto carried on between us John Lumley and John Bowe, of Northallerton, Common Brewers and Maltsters, was dissolved by mutual consent on this day. 27th day of September, 1855.

In October 1857 Lumley was looking to leave Northallerton and letting a malting at the rear of H Hirst's house. This would seem to be the same property which had been for sale 25th March 1847, with wine and spirit business, brew house and malting, and which may have been that mentioned in *Brewers of British Isles (BoBI)*. John, brewer aged 70, died 25th June 1860 at Northallerton, despite still being listed in 1871. In 1862 a John Lumley was a brewer and maltster at Yarm when his daughter married, but 24th March subject to an indenture. He may have later been an auctioneer and possibly a son?

On 11th April 1843 Low Street was for sale '*recently built trading many years*', and in the July Messrs Linton advertised for a working brewer. In 1853 mention of G Linton at Fleetham and in 1859 George Linton was at the brewery, with mention of Brewery Farm. In 1871 George was a brewer and landowner, with David, aged 33 a brewer's traveller, and John, aged 36, a maltster. George senior died 24th June 1874, aged 79, brewer and spirit merchant and in July John and David mentioned as at Low Street. In May 1875 selling two copper boilers and June 1881 selling a 4hp engine and boiler. That year brewer John (46) with sons David (15) and George (18) were supplying the Old Salutation. In 1883 John and David Linton to around 1889, confusingly sometimes referred to as the 'Bedale Brewery'. Then 1891/1901 George T Linton, brewer Great Fencote with father John; however, George died in 1909. The business was for sale 24th February 1914, but the brewery was withdrawn at £1500; Lot 2 Fleetham Lodge Farm occupied by Mrs Elizabeth Linton; Lot 4 Three Horseshoes, Catterick; Lot 5

Railway, Leeming Lane withdrawn at £2250. It was for sale again in May and presumably ceased brewing. David aged 85 died 28th April.

The 1857 Ordnance Survey map shows it as the Lane End Brewery just north of Fleetham Lodge, on the 1911 map as the Low Street Brewery, which by 1927 was Melton House. Some parts remain:

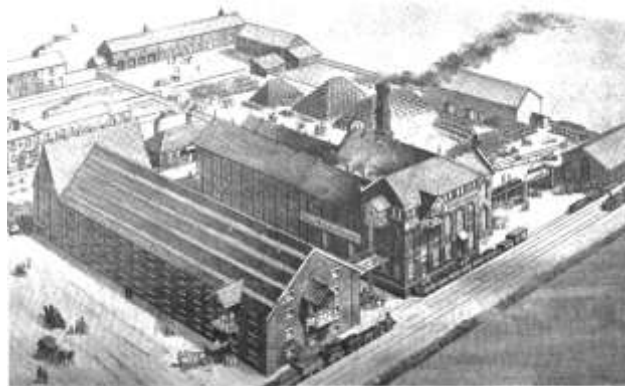


Low Street Hop House

Plews Vale of Mowbray Brewery, Bedale and then Leeming Bar

Probate of Thomas Plews of Thornton Watlass 2 March 1802; copy will of Henry Plews of Bedale, mentioning a house and lands at Crakehall and farm stock and brewing concern at Bedale (1821)

The brewery is covered in Vol 4 of Barnard (p 411) In 1796 Thomas Plews was an overseer at Thornton Watlass, then 1798 Henry providing sureties for alehouses at Aiskew and John similarly at Kirkby Fleetham. They are thought to have started as common brewers around 1795 in Bedale Market Place. Henry, born 1759 in Thornton Watlass, in 1809 was at Bedale, 1811 living Rand House, died 7th Mar 1821. Then 1832 Henry, presumably the son, was mentioned as a brewer and 1841 a maltster. In 1830 his brother Thomas was in Edinburgh, mentioned as a chemist, though later described as involved with brewing there. By 1839 he had returned to Bedale after the death of his wife and in 1842 was a brewer wine & spirit merchant. In 1850 Messrs Plews were shown as



VIEW OF THE VALE OF MOWBRAY BREWERY, LEEMING LANE, FROM THE EAST

maltsters and as H Plews & Co in October 1852 advertising for a maltster.

In 1857 letting the Buffalo, Pickhill; however, brewer Henry Plews of Bedale died in 1858 and their partnership was dissolved:

Partnership heretofore subsisting between the undersigned, Henry Plews, Thomas Plews, and John Mackay Plews, as Common Brewers and Wine and Spirit Merchants, at Bedale, in the county of York, under the firm of Henry Plews and Co., was dissolved on the 13th day of May, 1859, so far as regards the undersigned, Henry Plews only. The said businesses have since that day been, and still are, carried on by the said Thomas Plews and John Mackay Plews only, under the same style or firm of Henry Plews and Co. As witness our hands this 23rd day of April, 1860.

Barnard states that JMP, second son of Thomas, had been running the business from 1850, though this doesn't fit with other reports, since he is thought to have been born around 1833. He married in 1861, then:

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Partnership between us the undersigned, Thomas Plews and John Mackay Plews, carrying on business at Bedale, in the county of York, as Ale and Porter Brewers and Wine and Spirit Merchants, under the firm, of Henry Plews and Company, was dissolved on the 1st day of November, 1863; and that the said business has since that date been carried on, and will be continued, by the said John Mackay Plews on his own account, under the firm of Henry Plews and Company. —Witness our hands this 7th day of January, 1867. Thomas Plews. John Mackay Plews

In November 1866 the Black Swan, Westgate, Ripon from Thomas Wintersgill to Thomas Plews, Bedale. In April 1867 there was an advert for a brewery and malting to let at Romalldkirk, occupants Plews & Wilkinson (Richmond & Ripon Chronicle 7th April p1). Although there are no clear links, in December 1867 Plews requested tenders for a new brewery. In December 1869 gales damaged the nearly completed new brewery near Leeming Bar station (see also Lynn Pearson: British Breweries- Architectural History).

HENRY PLEWS AND CO.
BE G to intimate that after the 6th of April next their Principal Offices will be at "The Vale of Mowbray Brewery," Leeming Lane Station, Bedale, but **BUSINESS WILL BE CONTINUED AS HITHERTO IN BEDALE — OFFICES AND STORES IN THE WYND—**where a Clerk will reside and receive Orders for Ales, Wines, and Spirits, which will be promptly executed.
Letters to be addressed to the Firm at "The Vale of Mowbray Brewery, Bedale."
Bedale, March 6th, 1872. (b)

In 1872 they were advertising for a cooper and by 1877 trading as Plews & Son. In 1873 John Mackay Plews was living at Fencote Hall. In 1879 they were letting the White Swan, Middleham and the Fleece, Bedale. Thomas Plews, home Leeming Bar, was described as the principal traveller for the firm. In March 1881 they

were letting the Royal Oak, Bedale and the Royal Hotel, Stockton on Tees, and in December the Woodman, Burneston.

William Harrison, Bedale, innkeeper, to John Mackay Plews of Fencote Hall par Kirby Fleetham, brewer and wine and spirit merchant - Strip of land adjoining National School 20 May 1884

April 1886 letting the Railway Hotel, Northallerton and May 1889 the Malt Shovel at Aiskew. John Mackay Plews, aged 57, died December 1889 at Fencote Hall, having 30 years previously succeeded his uncle Henry and recently acquired his late brother TRM Plews's business at Darlington etc. Another brother Henry Taylor Plews, engineer, died 1886 in Norwood.

In 1890 shown as Plews and Sons brewers, maltsters, wine and spirit merchants The Vale of Mowbray Brewery Leeming Lane station, with T Plews commercial traveller and B G King the cashier. In July 1891 head brewer Arthur T Thornewill, of the Burton on Trent family, married at Faversham. November 1893 and December 1894 saw yet further gale damage. August 1894 Plews & Son letting Majestic Inn, Darlington - being Elizabeth Ann Plews, widow Fencote Hall; William Robinson and Henry Plews of Darlington; John Plews of Northallerton and Walter Edward Plews of Fencote Hall. In 1895 Fleetham Lodge burnt down 20th February. Henry Plews of Darlington, died 24th December 1898, aged 35, execs being his brothers William John and Walter Edward, and cousin Thomas Walter Plews.

In 1900 under brewer WJ Rogers left for war service. In 1905 Plews & Son was registered by WJP, WEP, and TWP. However, in 1907 Walter Edward the MD was seriously injured when thrown from a dog-cart.



Plews labels courtesy Keith Osbourne

In July 1925 the business, including around 100 pubs, was sold to Camerons of Hartlepool, for £250,000. The 16 acre site with two lofty buildings was bought by Rider Bros of Northallerton and became the Vale of Mowbray bacon factory. The remaining buildings burnt down 2000, but the photos from the late David Parry and myself show the site before the fire.

Darlington and elsewhere

Mainly to resolve some listings, since these operations, as shown above, were depots rather than breweries, though Darlington included a maltings. See also Brian



Photos of the bacon factory by the late David Parry before the 2000 fire and (right) the old bonded stores still extant

Bennison's Brewers of N Eastern England (BHS publications)

Around 1833 Nathaniel Plews, brother of Henry, was a porter merchant in Hungate, Darlington, having been a clerk in Backhouse's bank. He later added the wine and spirit business. His premises occupied an acre or so of ground. In the 1960s some of the building was the Old Coaching House, closed 1983.

In 1841 Nathaniel's daughter married Alfred Compton Birchall. In 1849 Thomas Robert Maddison Plews (TRM), the son of Thomas and born in Edinburgh joined uncle Nathaniel, becoming a partner 1st January 1856. In November 1856 Plews, Birchall & Plews wine merchants letting Black Lion at West Hartlepool and the Royal Hotel, Middlesbrough. They opened a branch in Middlesbrough in 1869 and Durham in 1875. Nathaniel died 12th November 1859, aged 62, described as involved with banking and railway companies, as well as being a JP involved in local politics.

Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, Thomas Plews, Alfred Compton Birchall and Thomas Robert Maddison Plews, at Darlington, in

the county of Durham, as Ale, Wine and Spirit Merchants, under the firm of Plews, Birchall and Plews, was on the day of the date hereof duly dissolved; the said businesses are now, and will be in future, carried on by the said Thomas Plews and Thomas Robert Maddison Plews, under the firm of Plews and Son, and they will receive and pay all debts due to and from the said late partnership firm. 23rd April, 1860.

Then in 1863 Thomas retired and it was continued by his son until January 1867 when the partnership was dissolved. In 1872 appointed sole agents for Truman's London porter and stout.

In November 1874 new 200qtr malting for Plews & 'Macfarlane', being TRM with brother in law Walter Macfarlane. The premises were known as the 'North of England Maltings' located in Neasham Road and occupied over seven acres. TRM died 1885. In 1904 fire destroyed 1/3rd of the building, when being operated by J P Simpson & Co. Site later Matalan trading estate. Parts of the bonded warehouse, shown in Barnard, remain.

Mike Brown

Brewery closures during 2022

Including founding date

1 More Than 2 Brew Ltd	2020	Chapeau Brewery Co	2017
4 Chaps Brewery	2021	Constellation Brewery	2020
81 Artisan	2017	Corvedale Brewery	1999
Atomic Brewery	2006	Coul Brewing Co Ltd	2018
Aye Been Brewing Company	2019	Crafty Beers	2016
Bad Co Brewing	2014	Crankshaft Brewery	2017
Bad Seed	2013	Dark Star Brewing	2010
Bartleby's Brewery	2020	Dartford Wobbler	2016
Beat Ales	2018	Darwin Brewery,	2002
Beatnikz Republic Brewing Co	2017	Deeside Brewery	2006
Beer Nouveau	2014	Dig Brew Co	2017
Big Bang Brewery	2021	Enfield Brewery	2016
Big Stone Brewery	2020	Errant Brewery	2017
Bishop Auckland Brewing Co Ltd	2021	Exe Valley Brewery, (Barron to 1991)	1984
Bloodline Brewing NI Ltd	2020	Fat Belly Ales	2019
Blunt Chisel Brewery	2018	Fat Pig Brewery	2013
Boss Brewing	2015	Fierce Beer Co	2016
Boutilliers Ltd	2016	Five Towns Brewery	2008
Brewhouse & Kitchen (Wilmslow)	2016	Gorgeous Brewery - became Nomad	2016
Broadtown Brewery	2019	Hardworking Brewery	2021
Brumaison	2017	Hawkshead Brewery	2018
Burton Town Brewery Ltd	2015	High Weald Brewery	2021
Caffle Brewery	2013	Hops & Dots Brewing	2019
Canopy Beer Cos	2014	Hop Studio	2012

Izaak Walton Brewhouse	2017	Solvay Society Brewery	2021
Jefferson's Brewery	2017	Steel Brew Co Ltd	2019
Kelham Island Brewery	1990	Strathaven Ales	2005
Laines Brewery (Hackney)	2014	Stubborn Mule Brewery	2015
Leeds Brewery	2007	Swan Brewery LLP	2016
Litchborough Artisan Brewery	2019	Tartarus Beers	2020
Manchester Brewing Co	2016	Three Castles Brewery Ltd	2006
Market Bosworth Brewery	2016	Top Out Brewery	2013
Marko Paulo Brewpub	2016	Townhouse Brewery	2002
Modern Day Monks Brewery	2021	Treboom Brewery	2011
Mouselow Farm Brewery	2013	Twisted Wheel	2020
Newtown Park Brewery	2020	Verse Brewing	2020
Nomadic Beer Co	2018	Wild Beer	2012
North Brewing (Field Recordings)	2020	Withnell's Brewing Co	2016
North Yorkshire Brewing Co	2017	Wood Brewery	1980
Old Boot Brewing Co	2019	Worsthorne Brewery	2011
Plot Five Brewery	2019	Yeovil Ales Ltd	2006
Prospect Brewery Ltd	2017	Yetman's Brewery	2005
Ride Brewery	2016	Yorkshire Coast Brewery	2019
Rival Brewing Co	2017		
Ryedale Brewing Co Ltd	2019		
Slater's Brewery, Eccleshall	2006		
SlyBeast Brewing Co	2019		

Compiled by Ian Mackey

New Brews News

This information is kindly supplied by Ian Mackey. It is sorted into 1974 county order so that readers may more readily see activity in their own area. Ian writes "I make every effort to keep up to date with brewery openings and as much as possible closures. But if you spot something not here, or hear of a closure in your area please e-mail me so the society records are up to date – *E mail address withheld*.

ARGYLL & BUTE

Gigha Brewing, Croft 3, Druimyeonbeg, Isle of Gigha, PA41 7AA

W: www.isleofgighabrewing.co.uk

Micro 50L brewery started in summer of 2022 on this Hebridean Island.

BEDFORDSHIRE

March Hare Brewpub, 34 High Street, Dunton, Biggleswade SG18 8RN

John and Janice Pritchett bought an American brewpub and started brewing in late 2022.



BERKSHIRE

Two Flints Brewery, 25-26 The Arches, Windsor SL4 1QZ

W: www.twoflintsbrewery.com

Established in late 2022 in railway arches near Windsor Central station. The brewery and taproom are on the same site. The brewery was not commissioned by late Dec 22. Beers were brewed at FLOC and Little Monster.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Wheatsheaf Brewery, 17 Halcyon Court, St Margaret's Way, Huntingdon PE29 6DG

W: www.wheatsheafbrewery.co.uk

Started by Frank and Jon Gillham using a 1000L plant, the first brew was produced in October 2022.

Bottled beer only at present with cask beer in the future.

CORNWALL

Mine Brewery, Consols, St Ives TR26 2HW

W: www.minebrewing.com

Established by James Worrall and Shane Andrews, brewing commenced May 2022 in a converted shipping container. Andre Hitchinson joined the team later.

CUMBRIA

Coastline Brewery Ltd, Far South End Cottage, Walney Island, Barrow in Furness LA14 3YO

Established in January 2023.

DERBYSHIRE

The 14 Lock Brewery, The Canal Inn, 30 Bullbridge Hill, Bullbridge DE56 2EW

W: www.thecanalatbullbridge.co.uk

Brewing commenced at this pub in July 2022. The Canal was built with four tunnels and 14 locks, hence the brewery name.

DEVON

Tavistock Brewery, The Old Root House, Peter Tavy, Tavistock PL19 9JR

W: www.tavistockbrewery.co.uk

After five years training and planning, Tavistock commenced brewing in the summer of 2022. A four-barrel plant is used.



CO DURHAM

Dark Sky Brewery, Barclays Bank House, Market Place, Middleton-in Teesdale, Barnard Castle DL12 0QG

W: www.dskyb.co.uk

Established summer 2022 by Steve White, previously acting police and crime commissioner for the county.

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

Belschnickel Brewery, 146 Ella Street, Hull HU5 3AU

W: www.belschnickel.co.uk

Established in spring 2022 by Kevin and Rachel, they brew on a 50L kit.



EAST SUSSEX

Flying Trunk Brewery, Highgate Works, Tomtits Lane, Forest Row RH18 5AT

A nano brewery commenced autumn 2022.

Route 21 Brewing, 145 Bridgemere Road, Eastbourne BN22 8TY

W: www.route21brewing.co.uk

Home brewers Gavin Wiseman and Mark Potter commenced commercial sales in late 2020.

ESSEX



Neolithic Brew Co Ltd, East End Road, Bradwell on Sea, Southminster CM0 7PS
W: www.neolithicbrew.co.uk
Established late 2019, brewing commenced early 2020 by Matt and Amanda Jenkins.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The Forest Brewery, The Old Workshop, Lydney Park Estate, Lydney GL15 6BU

W: www.theforestbrewery.co.uk

Brewery established when Brythonic moved and changed their name in 2020.

ViBiSh Brewery Ltd, Nightingale Way, South Cerney, Cirencester GL7 5WA

W: www.vibishbrewing.co.uk

Three friends who were home brewers went commercial in early 2022.

GREATER LONDON

Hammersmith Brewery, Ground Floor, Lower, 106 Fulham Palace Rd, London W6 9PL

W: www.hammersmithbrewery.co.uk

Small keg focused Brewpub opened autumn 2022.

Dog's Grandad Brewery, 550 Arches, Brixton Station Road, London SW9 8PF

W: www.dogsgrandadbrewery.co.uk

Brewing commenced in spring 2021.

The Roundwood Project Ltd, 24 Excelsior Studios, Sunbeam Road, Park Royal NW10 6JP

W: www.theroundwoodproject.com

Established by Shem Wallis-Jones in summer 2022, primarily brewing for bottling.

Brewdog Outpost (Waterloo), Unit G01, The Sidings, Waterloo Station, London SE1 7BH

Brewing commenced autumn 2022.

Mash Paddle Brewery, Railway Arch, 92 Enid Street, London SE16 3RA

W: www.mashpaddlebrewery.com

Established spring 2022, this is a taproom with brewery, where you can also brew your own beers.

Old Street Brewery, Unit 1, Queens Yard, London E9 5EN

W: www.oldstreetbrewery.com

This second site opened in autumn 2020. In 2021 the other site closed.

Great Beyond Brewing Co, 417 Union Walk, Hoxton, London E2 8HP

W: www.greatbeyond.beer

Brewing commenced in October 2022.

GREATER MANCHESTER

State of King Brew Co, Unit 4, Hemfield Court, Wigan WN2 2ER

W: www.stateofkindbrew.co

As a gypsy brewery they started in spring 2021. In summer 2022 they opened their own brewery and tap room.

Mount Crescent Brewing Co, The Magnet Inn, 51 Wellington Street North, Stockport. SK4 1HJ

Brewing was resurrected in late 2022 at this pub. It was previously called Watt's Brewing. The street is no longer called Mount Crescent, but the name is visible above the front of the pub.

Assembly Brew Co, Unit 5 Spur Mill, Broadstone Hall Road South, Stockport SK5 7BY

W: www.assemblybrew.co

Established in September 2021.

Temperance Street Brewery Ltd, 75 North Western Street, Manchester M12 6DY

W: www.temperancestreet.co.uk

Established originally as a cuckoo brewer. When Beer Nouveau closed, they took over the site commencing in autumn 2022.

HAMPSHIRE

Dummer Down Brewery Ltd, Dummer Down Farm, Dummer, Basingstoke RG25 2AR

W: www.dummerdownfarm.com

Brewing started in autumn 2022 using a 500 litre kit.

HEREFORDSHIRE

Woofy's Brewery, Strangford End, Strangford, Ross on Wye, HR9 6QT

W: www.woofysbrewery.com

Brewing started summer 2021.



LANCASHIRE

JimBrew Brewing Company,

Provender House, Clifton Fields, Lytham Road, Clifton, Preston PR4 0XG

W: www.jimbrew.co.uk

Established in November 2022 by Jim Cuffe. Initially beers were just served in their taproom

Hex Brewing Company Limited, 66a Eastbourne Road, Southport PR8 4DU

W: www.hexbrewing.co.uk

Brewing commenced in summer 2022, run by Paul and Chris Hopkins.

MIDLOTHIAN

Yikes Brew Co., 13 New Broompark, Edinburgh, EH5 1RS

W: www.yikesbrew.co

Established in summer 2022 to produce canned 'juicy' sours!

NORFOLK

Drenchfoot Brewery, Vicarage Road, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2LW

W: www.drenchfoot.co.uk
Established in 2018 by Paul and Caroline Foot, beers sold in cask and bottle.

Steam Shed Brewing, The Train Shed, Station Street, Swaffham PE37 7HP
Established late in 2021.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Reckless Dweeb Brew Co, Forest Link, Bilsthorpe, Newark NG22 8UD

W: www.recklessdweeb.com
A home brewer, Ben Swinburn, who started commercial sales late in 2020. A 200L kit is used.

Jacaranda Brewing Company Limited, Brinkley Farm, Brinkley, Southwell NG25 0TW
Brewing commenced May 2022. Beers are bottled.

POWYS

Antur Brew Co, Workshop & Premises, Three Cocks, Brecon, LD3 0SL

W: www.anturbrew.com
Established by Lance van Dijk in April 2022. Antur is Welsh for adventure/venture, it also means business enterprise in Welsh. Beers are mainly sold in bottles or in the onsite taproom. Lance brews mainly German style beers on a 500L plant.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Pig Barn Brewery, The Pig Barn, Low Hall Road, East Lound, Haxey, Doncaster, N. Lincs. DN9 2LU
Established in summer 2020 in a converted piggery.

STAFFORDSHIRE

Wilsons of Warslow Brewing Co, The Greyhound Inn, Warslow, Buxton, SK17 0JN

In Jan 2023 brewing on a two barrel plant started at this pub. They initially focus on cask beers.

SURREY

Godalming Beerworks, The Star Inn, 17 Church Street, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1EL

W: www.godalming.beer
Brewery established in April 2022 at the Star pub. Run by Andy landlord of the Star and Phil.



TYNE & WEAR

Blockyard Brew Co Ltd, Queen Harbour Hotel, Harbour View, Sunderland SR6 0PQ

W: www.blockyardbrew.co.uk
Established by James Gallagher in November 2022 using the two and a half barrel plant last used at 1 More Than 2 Brew.

Thirsty Moose Brewing Co, Unit 5c, Galaxy Business Park, Newburn Bridge Road, Blaydon on Tyne, NE21 4SQ
W: www.thirstymoosbrewingco.com
Established in August 2022.

WEST SUSSEX

Escapist Brew Co Ltd, Hambrook Business Centre, Cheesemans Lane, Hambrook, Chichester PO18 8XP

W: www.theescapistchichester.co.uk
Brewing commenced in July 2022. This is a bar with its own beers on sale among many others.

Little Monster Brewing Co, The Courtyard, Crows Hall Farm, Lavant, Chichester PO18 9HW

W: www.liitlemonsterbrew.com
Established by Brenden Quinn, Ex Gipsy Hill, Fourpure and Arundel. Beers were initially brewed at different locations in Sussex. In Spring 2022 they started brewing on their own plant.

Wingtip Brewing Co Ltd, The Grain Shed, Ford Lane, Ashurst, Steyning BN44 3AT

W: www.wingtipbrewing.com
Established by Simon and Chris Tripp, initially cuckoo brewing at Andwell in 2015. In 2019 they set up their own brewery.



Brewery 288 Ltd, Burton Park Road, Petworth GU28 0JU

W: www.brewery288.co.uk
A home brewer, Michael Pengilly, went commercial in late 2021.

WILTSHIRE

Drink Valley Brewpub, Unit C, Fleet Square, Swindon SN1 1RU

W: www.thedrinkvalley.com
A brewery and tap room established late in 2021.

Hop Kettle Brewery, Unit 4, Newcombe Drive, Hawksworth Industrial Estate, Swindon SN2 1DZ
Established as the main brewery in Summer 2016. The smaller Cricklade plant remains in use, even after pub was purchased by St Austell Brewery,

Hop Tap & Brew, 51 Devizes Road, Swindon SN1 4BG
An experimental / small scale plant was established by Hop Kettle Brewery in Summer 2020.

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Gleanings – tomorrow's history today!

Adnams 150

Adnams is 150 years old and is celebrating with a 11%ABV wood aged beer. The hops are Mosaic plus orange peel and coriander seeds in the copper and local blackcurrants were added to the beer in red wine barrels from Sichel, in Bordeaux. A 330mL numbered bottle will cost you £7.49. The label is intriguing as the design house has incorporated narrow strips from 150 years of promotional material so that each bottle is unique.



Black Sheep is 30

Black Sheep Brewery at Masham is only 30 and has brought a year of celebration to a close with a 9%ABV barrel aged beer. This one is a gingerbread infused imperial stout. Drinkers on Yorkshire Day, which you all know is August 1st were treated to Best Bitter at 1972 prices.



The pub crawl is no more

According to CAMRA, drinkers should avoid saying 'pub crawl' and 'happy hour' if they want to be inclusive. Members are urged to have a 'pub tour' where they 'will savour a pint'. Phrases such as 'join the lads for a few after work' comes under fire as off-putting to women. Its website urged members to avoid lad culture overtones which can be alienating to many. Not everybody was in favour of the changes.

G-K offers free beer

G-K supplied free beer to customers on 11th January in a bid to tackle loneliness and bolster community spirit. A study by the pubco revealed that almost half of Brits felt lonely once a week or more since the lockdown ended while 17% said a

strong sense of community spirit was lacking in their area. 564 pubs participated from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. when customers could bring a neighbour along who would get a free drink after exchanging a codeword. These pubs also offered a Tub2Pub appeal for the third year to encourage customers to recycle empty large plastic sweet and biscuit tubs. Some 24000 tubs were saved from landfill last year.

The Company has also announced a seven figure investment in a population of pin sized casks for its seasonal range. At 36 pints and half the size of the ubiquitous firkin, they will help keep the age on sale of a broached cask below three days; we wonder what the cask loss rate will be without a deposit system in place.

St Austell takes a share in Harbour

St Austell Brewery has taken a minority share in Cornwall's Harbour Brewing. Harbour was founded in 2012 at Kirland near Bodmin and its distribution has been helped along by its larger neighbour. Details of the deal were not made public.



Germany's highest brewery in trouble

The authorities know that schnapps and beer are produced at the mountain station of the Karwendelbahn despite a building ban. Inspectors do not know what exactly happens at an altitude of 2,244m as they have trouble getting to the top. The distillery started up in 2021 but permission was not granted for a brewery to be added. It was and 2500L was sold in its inaugural week before last Christmas. Building inspectors have not been allowed into the gondolas of the Karwendelbahn and are reluctant to take a walk to the top!



SIBA's Brewery Tracker

UK's SIBA has devised a *Brewery Tracker* which is compiled every

quarter and cross checked by its eight Regional Directors. A brewery has to be an active operation that makes beer and has its own brewing equipment, thus cuckoo brewers and other beer cos are excluded bringing the January total to 1828. We are told some 90 odd closed in 2022 and 42 opened.

Cask top ten

According to market gurus CGA, UK's biggest cask brands are....

These annual volumes are in hL.

Doom Bar	163,281
Landlord	103,599
G-K IPA	91,884
London Pride	72,242
G-K Abbot	50,982
Tribute	40,698
Wainwright	40,628
Pedigree	33,298
Proper Job	23,946
6X	22,005

S. eubayanus found in Ireland

Lager yeast - *Saccharomyces pastorianus* is a hybrid with DNA from two ancestral species, the ale yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and a cryo tolerant component named *S. eubayanus*.

The latter was first detected in the Patagonian Andes in 2011 and has subsequently been found in North America, China and New Zealand. Boffins were puzzled about how the hybridisation could have occurred for use in Bavarian caves if the species had never been found in Europe. Now Geraldine Butler at University College Dublin found it in the wooded area of their university campus in Ireland.

Professor Narziss dies

Professor Ludwig Narziss, Germany's foremost brewing scientist has passed away at the age of 97. Son of a brewery director, he studied brewing science at the Technical University of Munich in Weihenstephan. He received his doctorate on the influence of yeast on the properties of beer in 1956 and became master brewer at Löwenbräu until 1964 when he returned to Weihenstephan to take the chair in Brewing Science which he held until he retired in 1992. A good friend to many brewers worldwide, he will be sadly missed.

300 homes for Burton

The site of the former Bass brewery on Station Street in Burton on Trent could be converted into 300 apartments and a 150 room hotel. The plant was closed in 2017 and production transferred to the 'North' site on the opposite side of the road.



The four acre plot is now vandalised and derelict. Day Dako Developments plans also reveal shops, restaurants and leisure facilities in the middle of the site and 280 car parking spaces. A pair of Grade-II listed buildings are also incorporated.

Deya buys peatland

Cheltenham based Deya Brewing Company has invested some £60,000 in restoring 65 hectares of peatland in Snowdonia in a bid to offset some of its emissions and reduce its carbon footprint. The company declares its carbon footprint on each can of beer and admits it is not helped by getting most of its hops from the US and New Zealand.

WFP

Horsforth Brewery in Leeds has opened up its tap room to enable people to use it is a warm place to work as home energy bills mount. You need to book up in advance but generously the brewery does not charge.

Sullivan's seeks funds for brewery

Kilkenny-based Sullivan's Brewing Co. is actively looking to build or acquire a 100hL commercial brewery in a €6m funding round to buy the new kit and stabilise its current stretched balance sheet.

Sullivan's is backed by members of the Smithwick family and hopes to produce 18,000hL this year. Diageo closed the old Kilkenny plant in 2013.

Argies get Qatar beer

After the Qatari ruling family changed the rules over alcohol sales around the grounds at the World Cup, sponsors Budweiser were left with huge amounts of stock. Rather than

destroying it *in situ*, the Company decided to donate it to the winning country. While Bud is in talks with FIFA about the changed contract looking to cut \$47m from its sponsorship deal, lucky Argentina fans were given three 410mL cans each.

Interestingly the footy fans seem to have managed perfectly well without regular infusions of beer and we do not believe there was any crowd trouble, mind you in was hot!

100 homes at Devizes

Wiltshire housebuilder Backhouse plans around 100 new homes at the Wadworth brewery site in Devizes as



production is relocated to the London Road 2.5km away. The Grade II listed brewery tower will be incorporated. The new brewery costing £10m will be opening in late spring this year and promises improved efficiencies and a 15bbl minimum brewlength against 70 in the old plant.

Pub left out of GBG for being too busy

The Holly Bush in Makeney in Derbyshire has featured in 36 of the last 42 editions of CAMRA's Good Beer Guide but not the 50th anniversary 2023 edition. The bemused landlady discovered from the local branch it was "because we were too busy and that they could not get served straight away!" The sale of food and the presence of children was also mentioned. CAMRA members vote for these best pubs so if they do not use them.....

Recovery of keg CO₂

Core Components from Ireland is using techniques that are to be used to recycle air for the Mars Space Mission to recover carbon dioxide from beer kegs. Each keg after emptying will be full of pressurised CO₂ or a CO₂ nitrogen mix, now a pub scale device can collect the gas and reuse it to dispense more beer. The price of carbon dioxide has soared in recent times due to the closure of several fertiliser sites due to the cost of gas supplies.

Green hops for Hawaii

Green hop brews are a staple of many an autumn seasonal beer calendar. They do need to be transported quickly to a waiting kettle of almost boiling wort; difficult if your brewery is



in Anchorage, Alaska or Maui in Hawaii. Step up Jake Spotts who works with the Alaskan Airways cargo team and likes hoppy beers. He persuaded the firm to fly 1287lb of wet hops from Seattle, after all the airline ships Alaskan salmon to the other part of the United States he argued.

Packaging developments

Japan's Kirin has a one third share in cosmetics maker Fancl and is working with them to produce more environmentally friendly packaging. Plastic PET has now been replaced by hemicellulose derivatives from brewers spent grains.



Meanwhile AB InBev and Sustainable Fiber Technologies in Belgium are testing a beer carton made from barley straw for its Corona brand.

Yorkshire pudding beer wins with Aldi

Malton Brewery in North Yorkshire was featured on Channel 4's Next Big Thing where supermarket Aldi was hunting for new products. It was joint winner with a chocolatier which employed people with autism. The 3.6%ABV pale ale with half a Yorkshire pud in each bottle costs £1.49.



Questions and occasionally the odd answer

A gun lesson from Bryan Betts

Further to the entertaining East End Walk article in NL 99, the pistol known as a Peter the Painter was not a Luger but a Mauser - specifically the C96 or 'Broomhandle' Mauser.

This long-barrelled semi-automatic weapon was very widely used in the early decades of the 20th century. Well over a million were made, including unlicensed copies in Spain and warlord-era China. Along with the IRA and the eponymous anarchist gangster Peter Piaktow, notable owners included Winston Churchill (at Omdurman and in the Boer War) and T.E. Lawrence. The Broomhandle Mauser had a wooden carry-case which also doubled as a holster and could, as Eddie Bourke notes, be clipped on as a stock. This and its powerful cartridge turned it into almost the assault rifle or sub-machine gun of its time.

Saskia Rutten has a Bass plaque



Saskia writes from Amsterdam that she inherited a metal tablet of Bass Ratcliff & Gretton from her aunt. Since it is one of the very few tangible memories of her, Saskia would like to learn a little bit more about the tablet: Is it old? Is it rare or were they mass produced? What was it used for in a pub? It measures about 65cm x 50cm. Can anybody help?

NL99 updates from Terry Hanstock

Ins and outs at the Eagle pt 2 p15

Henry Philip Athawes

(Loughton, Buckinghamshire 1841-1901, Stone, Buckinghamshire) went into agriculture after his involvement with the Eagle Brewery. He was a farm bailiff at Mursley, Buckinghamshire, in 1871, taking over as farmer in 1881. By 1891 he was farming at Great Horwood, Buckinghamshire, but in 1894 he was a patient in the County Lunatic Asylum, Stone, Buckinghamshire. Described as a 'lunatic' in the Census, he died there in 1901.

Samuel Horton p24

He was baptised at Wrangle in November 1816 so would have been 65 on his death in January 1882. (His memorial in Wrangle churchyard records that he "peacefully fell asleep"). He died at Matlock Bath so I wonder if he was visiting the town for health reasons. Incidentally, the previous July he had been charged with selling beer adulterated with salt, although the case was dismissed by the magistrate.

Flip p29

Oxford English Dictionary's earliest reference to Flip is in Act 3 of William Congreve's 1695 play, *Love for love* - 'Thus we live at Sea; eat Bisket, and drink Flip.'

Swallow Brewery, Billingshurst p29

A map of c1911 shows an unnamed brewery situated on what is now the High Street, Billingshurst. It appears to adjoin what later became the Maltings Hotel. The 1921 Census records The Maltings, High Street, as being occupied by Edward Bateman, a maltster employed by G S Constable & Sons. His place of work is given as The Maltings, Station Road, where the company had a branch office. By 1930 the High Street Maltings was a guest house with luncheon and tea rooms run by Gladys Abercromby and the Station Road Maltings was a private residence. Gladys died in 1931 and her widower, Major Robert Ogilvie Abercromby, put The Maltings and its contents up for auction. Advertised as a genuine 15th century Tudor building with the original oast house, it was bought in 1933 and became the Maltings Hotel. In 1938 it was recorded as being owned by Margarite Evelyn Jude, and offering luncheons, teas and suppers. It also had a club licence.

John Edmund Bedwell Tetley p29

(Leeds, 1905-1973, Wool, Dorset) was one of the thousand Guernsey inhabitants deported to Internment Camp Ilag VII, Laufen, Germany, in September 1942. (After the War he gave a talk to Horsham Rotarians describing the grim conditions he endured there.) He was reported as living at Goodwyns Place, Dorking between 1947 and 1953 and described as a brewer. Tetley's wife died in 1950 and at some point he moved to Dorset, living at Merry Cottage, Wool, dying there in 1973. A plaque in the Church of the Holy Rood, Wool, records Tetley's enlargement of the vestry in memory of his wife.

Simon Fowler queries a 'licensed brewery'

Simon is researching breweries in South Shropshire and has come across the Three Tuns in Bishop's Castle which claims to be Britain's oldest 'licensed brewery' founded back in 1642. He has not come across that term before and he suspects that very little was licensed in the 1640s at least in the modern sense. It could be that 1642 refers to the licensing of a public house called the Three Tuns. Any ideas?

Katie Crowson has a little cask



Katie Crowson works at the Ancient House Museum in Thetford, Norfolk. There is an object in its collection listed as a 'harvest barrel' and they are not sure of its purpose or whether it is connected with brewing. It is 137mm high and 105mm diameter.



Susan Chisholm observes it does not seem to have a keystone hole for a tap to be fitted. The hole that might be the shive hole is very reinforced for some reason too. She suggested the Museum of East Anglian Life may be able to help

BREWERS OF THE BRITISH ISLES – 1890 to 2021

380 A4 Black & White pages with colour cover

Town Index covering 3,766 locations

Index covering 10,692 individuals and companies brewing in this period.

The BHS Publications Team relaunched its flagship publication at The Oxford Brookes Brewing Library 20th anniversary celebrations last month. 'A Century of British Brewers' has been revamped, reviewed and restructured into a new volume called 'The Brewers of the British Isles'.

The content of the previous edition has been extensively reviewed in the light of recent and extensive research and combined into the new version. The opportunity to update the stories of the modern microbreweries has been taken as well as a consolidation of many of the numerous home brew pubs recorded in early versions of the book.

This edition is a massive research document that can springboard members and the general public, into further research. A route into uncovering the detailed individual histories of the brewers both old and new that made the British brewing industry the formidable force it once was as well as the important development it still is today.

The Publications team are using the power and flexibility of Amazon's Kindle Print on Demand system to reduce capital spend and removed complex storage problems.

The base statistics detailed above speak for themselves as far as the length and breadth of this work is concerned. If you wish to buy a copy there are two methods to get your hand on this key resource in the search for brewing history information.

1. Go to Amazon and enter the full title of 'Brewers of the British Isles 1890 to 2021'. The cost is £19.95 plus £3.99 delivery if you are not on Prime. Currently we are exploring the option to have a Kindle version available for you to load into your reader.
2. Send a request to publications@breweryhistory.com and we will arrange a payment method and send you a copy the old fashioned way. Here the cost will be £19.95 and postage will be £3.35.

More vintage brewery vehicles



Photos from Facebook and the Beautiful World of Classic Transport.

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Marstons in Burton on Trent during a visit in January 2006

