

east london newsletter



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Real ale in Wonderland

THE LATEST City pub to go real is part of Big Six brewers Charrington's latest project there, a pub/wine bar/restaurant complex on the site of a run-down market workers' pub opposite Billingsgate Market.

The complex, on the corner of Lovat Lane and Monument Street, EC3, has an Alice-in-Wonderland theme, and the pub is now called the Walrus and the Carpenter. It sells hand-pumped Charrington IPA and Draught Bass.

SATURDAY NIGHT OUT

Forest Gate's newest convert to real beer is an excellent place for a traditional Saturday night out. Patrons of the Forest Gate Hotel in Tylney Road, near Wanstead Flats, can sing along and dance to an excellent pianist and now have the chance to sample Ind Coope Burton Ale.

ADNAMS

Adnams Bitter, brewed in the seaside town of Southwold, is now on sale in the Marksman in Hackney Road, E2, where it has replaced Godsons Anchor Bitter. Burton-brewed Everards Tiger Bitter and Old Original are still available there.

DIRECTORS

Not far away another free house, the Marquis of Lansdowne in Cremer Street, Shoreditch, now sells two real ales: Marlow-brewed

Charringtons push 'traditional' beer

EAST London's most commonly available real beer, Charringtons IPA, is currently the subject of a belated advertising campaign by the brewery, who are promoting it as "traditional draught beer".

But is IPA always so "traditional"? True, it is a cask-conditioned beer, and hundreds of London pubs sell excellent IPA from traditional beer engines. But Charringtons are promoting IPA as "traditional" regardless of the method of dispense used and the majority of their pubs do not use handpumps.

The bar fittings used instead of handpumps disguise three different methods of dispense - air-pressure, carbon dioxide primed electric pumps, and top-pressure carbon dioxide dispense - all of which tend to mask the full flavour of the beer.

Carbon dioxide top-

pressure dispense has a particularly disastrous effect, making the beer gassy and giving it a carbonic acid flavour, but fortunately Charringtons do not use this method in many pubs.

The message for drinkers is clear: for a truly traditional pint of IPA stick to pubs with handpumps, all of which you will find listed in "Real Beer in London".

Don't let Northern names fool you

LONDON drinkers searching for a pint of traditional English bitter among the array of foreign-sounding keg lagers on sale in the Capital's pubs may think they have found what they are looking for when they encounter one of the range of beers bearing the names of famous Northern brewers which are now appearing in London pubs.

But be warned: Wilsons Great Northern Bitter, Stones Bitter and John Smiths Yorkshire Bitter are all keg beers, poor processed reflections of the hoppy cask-conditioned beers found in the North of England, and the once proudly independent breweries which bore these names are now subsidiaries of Big Six breweries Watneys, Bass Charrington and Courage.

Pub guide

CAMRA's latest publication, Real Beer in London, lists 1600 pubs in London selling unpressurized beer. It is still available for £1 from RBIL, Flat 5, 2 Talbot Road, W2 (cheques payable to CAMRA London).

Wethereds Bitter and London-brewed Courage Directors Bitter.



East London & City Branch

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FREE

The Isle that went to the Dogs

ANYONE thinking that the battle for traditional beer is almost won in London need only contemplate the situation in the large E14 postal district to realize that CAMRA has a lot of fighting to do still. Out of a total of over 70 pubs in E14 there are only seven which sell real ale.

SOUTHERNMOST

True, the situation is not quite as bad as it was. Three years ago there were

and Stepney East, with none at all in Poplar. Two of the Limehouse pubs are situated at the Northern end of West India Dock Road, on opposite sides of the road. They are the Blue Posts, which sells Ind Coope Burton Ale, and Charlie Brown's, where you can drink handpumped Charringtons IPA.

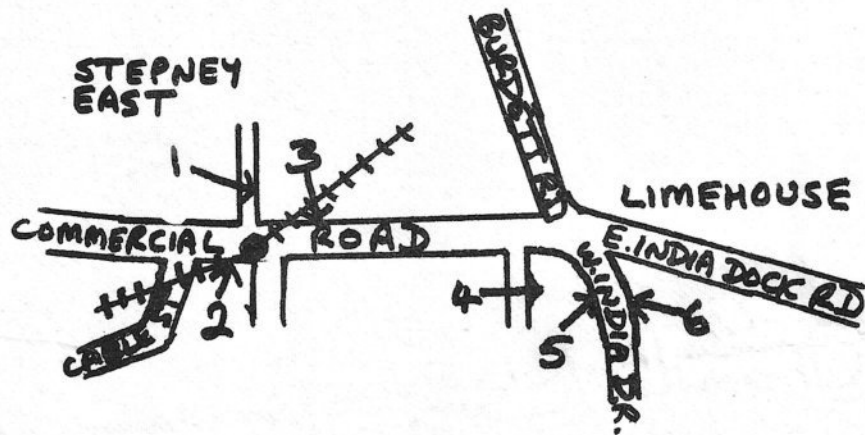
Charlie Brown's has declined considerably since the death of the one-time owner after whom it is now named. Charlie Brown was

the impressive church of St Anne, it was recently redecorated with tea chests and other nautical memorabilia and equipped with handpumps to dispense Ind Coope Bitter and Burton Ale.

Of the three pubs adjacent to Stepney East station the newest recruit to real ale also offers Burton Ale. This is the Crown, a one-bar Ind Coope pub situated just East of the station on the northern side of Commercial Road, while on the other side of the road and the other side of the station the Railway Tavern offers handpumped Charringtons IPA in a traditional and comfortable atmosphere.

GEORGIAN COTTAGES

Last but by no means least among the E14 real-ale pubs is a Youngs house, the Queen's Head in Flamborough Street, situated in a square of restored Georgian cottages just north of Commercial Road. Youngs have done more than any other London brewery to retain the traditional atmosphere in their pubs, and the Queen's Head has benefited from this policy. It sells three cask-conditioned beers, the Ordinary and Special bitters and Winter Warmer, a strong dark beer sold only during the winter months.



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|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Queen's Head | 2. Railway Tavern | 3. Crown |
| 4. Five Bells | 5. Charlie Brown's | 6. Blue Posts |

only three real-ale pubs in E14 and until recently there were none at all on the Isle of Dogs. It is with great pleasure, therefore, that we can now welcome East London's southernmost real-ale pub, the Waterman's Arms in Glenaffric Avenue, Cubitt Town, which has recently installed handpumps to serve Ind Coope Burton Ale.

CURIOS

The remaining real-ale pubs in E14 are divided evenly between Limehouse

famous for his huge collection of curios brought to him from all over the world by the many sailors who patronized his pub, and his passing was mourned by the whole population of the East End, who held a huge funeral procession for him.

TEA CHESTS

The third Limehouse pub, the Five Bells and Bladebone, also reflects the area's nautical past. Situated in Three Colt Street, a back street adjacent to

DIARY

TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER, 7.30
Branch Meeting with address from CAMRA Chairman Joe Goodwin at Edward VII, Stratford Broadway.

TUESDAY 23 OCTOBER, 5.30
City Social at the Hatchet, Garlick Hill, EC4 (near Mansion House station).

SATURDAY 17 ~~OCTOBER~~ NOVEMBER, 8.30
Social at the Railway, Bridge Road, Stratford.

TUESDAY 20 NOVEMBER, 7.30
Branch Meeting at the Town of Ramsgate, Wapping High Street (Wapping tube, 22a bus).

TUESDAY 27 NOVEMBER, 5.30
City Social at Crowder's Well, Wood Street, EC2.

PROTECT YOUR PINT

Join Now!

Application for membership

I/We wish to become a member(s) of the Campaign for Real Ale Limited. I/We agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the campaign.

I enclose £4 (£6 Overseas) for full membership
We enclose £5 for husband and wife membership

(Any additional amount will be welcomed as a donation).

Application for Associateship

I wish to become an Associate of CAMRA Ltd. I agree to abide by the aims of the organisation and enclose my fee of £1

FULL NAME (Block capitals)

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS (Block capitals)

SIGNATURE..... DATE

Cheques should be made payable to Campaign for Real Ale Limited. Applications should be sent to Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts. AL1 3BW.