

75p



**CAMRA** coined the term  
**'Real Ale'** to describe beer  
brewed from traditional  
ingredients-malted barley  
hops and yeast-kept in casks  
which allow it to continue  
**'working'** in the pub cellar and  
dispensed by any method that  
does not involve the beer  
being kept in contact  
with carbon dioxide.



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# Contents

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Real Beer in London lists every known traditional draught ale outlet in the capital at the time of going to press—regardless of the quality of the beer or the pub.

Please note that although every attempt has been made to ensure that the information contained with-

in this guide was as accurate as possible at the time of compilation, constant changes of pub management, closures, reconstruction together with a present weekly increase of 8-10 pubs installing real ale in the Greater London area, makes complete accuracy or comprehensiveness impossible.

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# How to use this Guide

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## Hours

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The times shown after the area names are the normal Monday-to-Saturday hours. The letters F,S refer to extensions on Friday and Saturday. Opening hours on Sunday are normally 12 noon to 2 pm and 7 pm to 10.30 pm. Individual variations from the normal opening hours are shown after pubs' addresses.

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## Dispense

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G by gravity — direct from the cask  
H by handpump  
E by electric pump

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## Pub facilities

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Practically all pubs provide food of some description or other and many pubs, particularly outside of the City and West End can offer pub games, usually darts.

At the back of the book you will find a list of pubs or hotels which offer full restaurant facilities and those which offer accommodation.

## Areas

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The pubs are listed under postal districts or, outside the London postal area, under the names of the locality. The Greater London map on page 74 shows where each district is. At the back of the guide you will find a comprehensive set of maps showing the location of all pubs selling real ale in central London. This is preceded by a key map which shows the layout of central London and has, superimposed upon it, the areas covered by each of the following detailed street maps. Throughout the guide you will also find further maps, showing the location of pubs in areas where real ale pubs are plentiful.

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## The beer

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An appreciation of the real ale scene in London as it exists today, together with background information on each of the brewers whose products are available in London, can be found at the front of the guide.



Locality  
Permitted opening hours  
Pub name  
Map number  
Pub number

Address  
Draught beers —  
Method of dispense  
Description of pub



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# Introduction

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One thousand five hundred pubs and beer from twenty eight brewers! Such a situation would have seemed like Utopia to anyone seeking out real ale in London in 1974. At that time only five hundred and fifty of London's six thousand pubs sold real ale and four hundred of these were controlled by the big six brewers who saw no future in real beer.

There seemed little sign of any improvement. Charrington who had some three hundred of the pubs continued taking out handpumps while Scottish and Newcastle were speedily retreating from the real ale market altogether. Only Youngs, the South West London independents with their firm commitment to traditional beer offered any hope. Fullers, the other independent, had handpumps in only seven of their hundred and ten pubs and were still unenthusiastic about increasing this number.

Yes, things have got a lot better, but while six national breweries still control 90% of London pubs, by sheer force of numbers they can still dictate the drinking habits of many. For years they dismissed real beer as a short-lived novelty and it was left to independent brewers to supply the growing number of free houses selling real ale. Only after seeing the popularity of pubs offering an alternative to the bland national brews did they begin to change their position. First Courage Directors, a much respected brew, which had all but been phased out was re-introduced. Then early in 1976 Watneys who had borne much of the brunt of CAMRA's early wrath

introduced a cask-conditioned beer in London, their first in the area for decades. Ind Coope followed with Burton Ale, and Charringtons and Whitbread to some extent have started to re-introduce handpumps and cask-conditioned beer.

There is of course no reason to think that the 'real ale revolution' has come about because the brewers decided they were wrong to deny the drinker a choice; far more likely is that they were persuaded by commercial considerations. For it can be shown that the beers introduced to London since 1974 now cost on average 5-6p a pint more than those beers indigenous to the area. If the demand for real ale was to relax, then by their control of outlets, they would lose little by once again denying the drinker a choice.

CAMRA's short term objective of getting a choice of beers to everyone has begun well in the South East, and in London in particular, but outside this area the picture is quite different. Real ale seeps into the market here and there, usually selling very well, but many parts of the country don't get even that as they are completely dominated by one or two breweries who exploit their position and offer processed beers exclusively.

CAMRA's main objective is to see the brewing industry reorganised by a legislation that will prevent situations where a brewer can dictate drinking trends. Submissions have been made to the Monopolies Commission concerning some regional monopolies which exist but the wheels of

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# Introduction

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bureaucracy take a long time to turn.

Some hope can be taken from the recent report of the Prices Commission which concluded that the large brewers are less efficient than the smaller ones and therefore do not operate in the public interest. Something which CAMRA has been saying for years!

Further benefit to the drinker could come from the implementation of parts of the recently published Food Standards Committee report on beer. They recommend regulations to control the composition, definition and labelling of beer so the drinker could know what he is

buying before he pays for it.

CAMRA made submissions to all the committees mentioned above and is determined that their recommendations do not follow so many previous reports on the brewing industry which now lie gathering dust on some governmental shelf.

CAMRA is already well known to the relevant bodies and has a strong lobby in Parliament but if it is to have the influence to ensure that its objectives are achieved CAMRA must be seen to be strong, which is why it is so important that any silent sympathisers become active and join the Campaign.



Full membership costs £4 annually and includes twelve editions of 'Whats Brewing' - the Campaign's monthly newspaper which takes a broad and critical look at all sorts of developments in the world of beer and pubs, and keeps members closely informed.

What's brewing is sent free to all full members. Associate membership cost £1. Associate members receive one copy of 'Whats Brewing' and a card which allows holders to join local branches. Joint husband and wife membership costs £5 and entitles both to the same rights as a full member.

All memberships are available from **Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St. Albans, Herts, AL1 3BW** Cheques should be made payable to 'Campaign for Real Ale Ltd'. Please allow three weeks for processing your application.

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# The Brewers

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**Note** following the name is the original gravity of the brew eg Bitter (1035). The original gravity is a measure of fermentable material used for brewing the beer and gives an indication of strength and body. For example a beer of gravity 1052 will be heavier and stronger than our 1035 bitter and may also have a tendency to be sweeter.

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## ADNAM

Adnams & Co Ltd, Sole Bay Brewery, Southwold, Suffolk.

The availability of Adnams Southwold Ales is generally confined to an area close to the brewery on the east coast of Suffolk. However this distinctive and much sought after beer is now finding its way into the free trade, the Bitter (1036) being available in a few of London's free houses.

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## ARKELL

J Arkell & Sons Ltd, Kingsdown Brewery, Upper Stratton, Swindon.

Sixty four tied houses in and around Swindon but only a third of which sell unpressurised beer. Their expanding free trade has brought BBB (1038.2), Bitter (1033.2) and Kingsdown Ale (1060) into London where they are served traditionally in all outlets.

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## BASS

Bass Worthington Ltd, Burton-on-Trent.

A subsidiary of Bass Charrington.

Probably one of the best known beers in the country having been popular in the free trade for many years Bass (or Worthington E) (1044) can be found in several London free houses as well as many of the Charrington tied pubs, but beware of the keg version which is a different product.

Bottled Worthington White Shield (1051.4), one of only a few naturally conditioned bottled beers, is found in a large number of pubs and can often come to the rescue of the drinker surrounded by a wasteland of keg.

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## BRAKSPEAR

W H Brakspear & Son Ltd, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire.

Founded in 1799 by the Brakspear family, the brewery in Henley on Thames still produces beer today that could well have been produced then. Their 130 pubs, practically all of which sell unpressurised beer, are found in the unspoilt countryside of the Thames valley. It is only recently that their beer has begun to travel the 36 miles into London where it is found to be deservedly popular in several free houses. Bitter (1035), Special Bitter (1043), XXX Mild (1031), XXXX Old (1043).

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## CHARRINGTON

Charrington & Co Ltd, Anchor Brewery, Mild End, London E1. A subsidiary of Bass Charrington.

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# The Brewers

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Charrington have long been established in London, brewing having commenced at Mile End in the eighteenth century. In 1975 the brewery was closed down and the London trade is now supplied from Mitchell's & Butler's brewery at Cape Hill, Birmingham. Although Charrington supply some 1000 London pubs, Crown Bitter (1035.8) in its traditional form is now only available in a small handful of pubs. More commonly available is IPA (1038.9) which can be found in some 250 pubs scattered around London.

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## COURAGE

Courage (Eastern) Ltd, Anchor Brewhouse, Horselydown, London SE1.

A subsidiary of the Imperial Group.

Until recently pubs selling Courage beers traditionally were very thin on the ground in London, then two years ago the almost defunct Directors Bitter (1047) was re-introduced to several London pubs for a trial period. The success of that trial gave Directors a new lease of life and a permanent place in some London pubs.

In many cases the success of Directors led to publicans adding Best Bitter (1039) and Mild (1037.5) by traditional means.

Despite this improvement Courage beers sold without the use of gas pressure are found in only a fraction of their London outlets.

Also available is Imperial Russian Stout (1101.8), a naturally conditioned bottled beer sold in nips

which carry a label denoting the year in which it was brewed.

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## ELDRIDGE POPE

Eldridge Pope & Co Ltd, The Dorchester Brewery, Dorchester, Dorset.

'Huntsman' ales can be found in 180 pubs in and around Dorset, but two thirds of these sell only pressurised beer. IPA (1041) and the popular Royal Oak (1048), two of the four draught beers brewed by the company, can be found in London as can the occasional bottle of Thomas Hardy Ale (1120). This is a naturally conditioned bottled beer said to be one of the strongest beers in the world.

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## EVERARD

Everards Brewery Ltd, Tiger Brewery, Burton-on-Trent.

The majority of this brewery's tied houses are to be found in the Leicester area, but most serve only pressurised beer. Old Original (1050), the company's only beer which is regularly served traditionally, can be found in one or two London outlets.

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## FELINFOEL

Felinfoel Brewery Co Ltd, Llanelli, Dyfed.

Felinfoel beers have been available in London for some time but only in canned form. (This brewery has the



