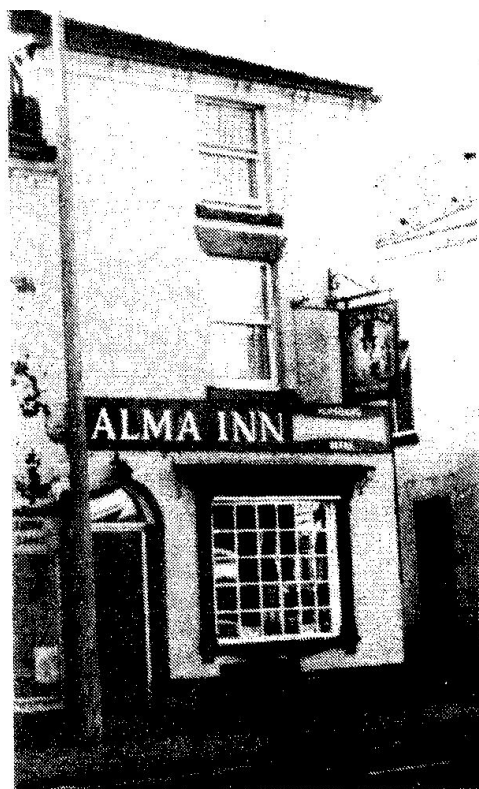


## Camra Bolton Branch and its Pubs as seen by the What's Doing Contributors 1981

What's Doing January 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

We start the year with a Bolton Pub on the front cover for the second year in a row.

ALL'S  
WELL  
AT  
THE  
ALMA



Greenalls peculiar policy of giving the customer what he wants – fewer pubs and keg beer in the ones that are left – has meant a dramatic drop in the number of real ale Greenalls pubs in Bolton. However, the Alma, Bradshawgate, has always been a pleasant town centre pub selling good real ale. It featured for many years in the Good Beer Guide, when the landlord was Tom Boyle. Some months ago Greenalls refused to spend money on improving the living quarters and put the Alma on the market. Burtonwoods stepped in and spent some £13,000 on improvements, giving the small one-roomed pub a complete facelift, including four new handpumps and an interesting selection of old photographs of Bolton.

The best improvement was to bring back Tom Boyle and his wife Edna, who had moved to the Dog & Pheasant in Westhoughton and then left the pub trade for a short time. There is a good chance that the Alma will be appearing in the 1982 Good Beer Guide.

The 1981 GBG (£3.50) Pubs were

Bolton – Derby Arms, Derby Street; Dog and Partridge, Manor Street; Globe, Higher Bridge Street; Howcroft, Pool Street; Peel, Higher Bridge Street; Sweet Green Tavern, Crook Street; York, Newport Street.

Farnworth – Market, Brackley Street, Original Halfway House, Worsley Road

Horwich – Bowling Green, Toll Bar

Little Lever – Three Crowns

Lostock – Duke of Wellington

Stoneclough – Lord Nelson

Westhoughton – White Lion

In Branch diary the January Branch meeting was at the Spread Eagle, Hulme Street on 6<sup>th</sup> with February one being at the Rawsons, Peel Street, Farnworth on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There was a meal organised at Cromptons Mule for January 17<sup>th</sup>, a Social on 21<sup>st</sup> at the Three Crowns, Deansgate and a social with BIT (Bolton Institute of Technology now University) Real Ale Society on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

What's Doing February 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

Cromptons Mule had switched from Theakstons Bitter to Draught Bass at 50p a pint, the only outlet in Bolton as it was no longer sold at the Unity Brook in Kearsley.

There was a new pub called Space City in the cellar of the Social Services building on back Spring Gardens, full of pool tables, space invader machines (20p a go) and Greenalls keg beer.

Chris, the landlord of the Sweet Green Tavern, Crook Street, has removed the pool table from the back room. He is a dominoes fanatic and did not want his domino room cluttered with dart boards so the pool room has now become the darts room. Let's hope that all those traditional tap rooms which have been ruined by pool tables return to their former glory. Join the campaign against the pool table!

In a quote in Pseuds Corner from Mersey Drinker Burtonwood Light Mild was described as – *An undiscovered simple pleasure for the cares of a complicated world. Treat yourself to a pint of one of life's traditional, but under-rated fine ales. Light Mild: impeccable balance, but unstinting taste. It won't knock you out, and you don't need a bank roll to afford it. A beer for today, that allows you to think for tomorrow.*

If the regulars in the York and elsewhere who actually drank it read this drivel, they would have almost certainly have switched to drinking something else.

*The Crofters Hotel, St Georges Road, now sells traditional Greenalls Bitter only; the Mild is keg.*

*What's Doing* readers with long memories will recall that back in January 1979 the Black Dog in Horwich was renamed Nibblers and admittance was restricted to gentlemen over 21 wearing ties or smart casual attire. After two years spent searching for a suitable CAMRA member to tread boldly, one was found. He would like it to be known to other suitable gentlemen that Bass Cask Bitter is on sale inside.

*In the Letters* section from Vic Balderstone licensee of Whitbreads the Derby Arms on Derby Street

*I've heard with alarm that Whitbread Special Cask Bitter was to be reduced in strength to make it more competitive with Trophy. Surely Trophy has enough competition from the regular bar bitters sold by each and every other brewer?*

*Special cask is a full, fruit, strong 'Best Bitter' in every sense of the word and should be promoted as such. To weaken or generally to mess about with it is tantamount to sacrilege. It deserves to be promoted in depth – telling licensees about it would be a start, for many of them do not know it exists. Put this beer where it is needed, in every house that is willing to try it.*

*I campaigned for six months to get Special Cask and during eighteen months selling it I have never had cause to regret it. Aside from CAMRA members, quite a number of customers now drink cask in fair quantities.*

*Why not leave this superb beer as it is? Why not give it the same promotion as is given to the weaker Chesters Bitter? These are questions that only the brewers in their wisdom can answer, and then not to our satisfaction.*

In Branch Diary the March meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> was at the George, Great Moor Street and there was a Sunday lunchtime (only 2 hours in those days) starting at the Howcroft, then Rock House, then the Globe followed by the Peel and lastly the Falcon. It would be a very quick and thirsty route today.

What's Doing March 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

Only the Branch Diary this month which included a Friday evening coach trip to Macclesfield on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The April branch meeting was at Gypsies Tent on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

April 1<sup>st</sup> featured a trip round Holts Brewery, this listing failed to mention the words - 'the outside of' as Holts did not do brewery trips then and for a long time afterwards either. Several members of other branches who turned up were disappointed apparently.

What's Doing April 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

*The ill-starred Swan, Bradshawgate, has recently been refurbished to a high standard. Visitors are warned that bouncers now patrol the plush lounge bar armed with torches looking for drinkers wearing denims, as these have been banned. Anyone be-denimed who succeeds in getting a drink is asked to leave and drink up in the adjoining bar. Real Ale drinkers wearing denims are now relegated to the Malt and Hops bar only. Beware also of the mini handpump serving Harp Lager.*

*As Burtonwood are obviously flush at the moment, perhaps they might like to provide a sign for the York on Newport Street. It really is a poor comparison to the Clifton, further down the street, which has been painted in the new Walker colours. However, the York is still one up on the Swan as it sells Burtonwood Light Mild.*

*Monday March 16<sup>th</sup> saw the Spread Eagle, Hulme Street serve its last pint. The landlord has moved to the nearby Falcon (another hand pumped Tetley house) apparently on condition that the brewery will not reopen the Spread. Harry and Nellie, former licensees of the Falcon, have called it a day and are moving to Westhoughton.*

*The Alma, Bradshawgate will be trying Burtonwood Light Mild as soon as the stillages arrive.*

*The Golden Lion, Gladstone Road, Farnworth, now sells hand pumped Tetley Mild and Bitter – a real ale gain for the area. Entertainment in the form of a live group or disco is featured most evenings.*

*The White Horse, Westhoughton (A6), has had new handpumps installed to serve a good pint of Wilsons mild and bitter*

In Branch Diary the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was now being held at the Gypsy's Tent. There was to be a patriotic St Georges day crawl starting at the Lodge Bank Tavern, Queen Elizabeth, Victoria (the other one on Bridgeman Street, not Fanny's which in those days was keg), Derby, George, Ancient Shepherd, Prince Bill and finally Old three Crowns.

What's Doing May 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

In Branch Diary the May Branch meeting was held at the York on the 6<sup>th</sup>, with the June one being at the Gaiety on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was a social at Cromptons Mule on May 21<sup>st</sup> and in June it was at the Old Three Crowns on 16<sup>th</sup>.

This month (finally?) included the centre page pull out listing of the Real Ale Pubs in Bolton. Just about every other area of Greater Manchester and beyond had already been covered at least once. Full Details are below

# BEER IN BOLTON

At last! This is your opportunity to visit all 100 real ale pubs in Bolton. Within the Bolton Metro boundaries there are fourteen different breweries supplying thirty different beers. However, as the following table shows, it is not a glowing picture of over-abundance of real ale:-

	Bolton & Little Lever		Farnworth & Kearsley		Westhoughton		Horwich & Blackrod		TOTAL		
	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	R	NR	%
Tetley	14	40	5	8	3	8	1	2	23	58	28%
Greenalls	19	23	5	3	5	4	3	10	32	40	44%
Whitbread	2	38	-	5	-	1	-	3	2	47	4%
Bass	3	8	-	7	-	-	-	-	3	15	16%
Lion	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	7	12%
Thwaites	3	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	83%
Burtonwood	3	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	6	2	75%
Wilsons	11	4	2	-	1	1	-	-	14	5	71%
Free	2	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	4	2	66%
Vaux	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	100%
Boddingtons	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	100%
Lees	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	100%
Holts	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	100%
Sam Smiths	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	100%
Hydes	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	100%
John Smiths	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	NIL
TOTAL	62	123	18	24	13	14	7	17	100	178	
% Real Ale	33.5%		42.9%		48.1%		29.1%		36%		

Analysis of the figures leads to several basic conclusions on the overall situation:

1. The Bolton Big Five breweries (Tetley, Greenalls, Whitbread, Bass & Wilsons) own a massive 83% of all pubs.
2. Six of the fifteen breweries have only one pub each, just 2%
3. There are only four true free houses
4. The Bolton Big Five supply only 31% of their pubs with real ale.
5. Only Wilsons of the Bolton Big Five supply anything like an acceptable percentage of their pubs with real ale.

When it comes down to it, your chance of drinking real ale in a pub in Bolton is in the hands of five brewery sales executives, out of touch with consumer preferences and fed on economic tanker delivery routes and similar irrelevant criteria. Thank goodness at least one of them has seen the light.

Now let's see how some of the breweries fare:-

## TETLEY

With the largest number of pubs in Bolton, and only 28% of them serving real ale, it is abundantly clear that this is a pathetic showing. The expensive, albeit higher gravity, Warrington Ale has been and gone in around half a dozen tank outlets - mainly due to the price, poor quality and poor selection of outlets.

A large proportion of the non-real ale pubs sell keg beers which, in sharp contrast to the cask beers, are positively insipid. It is hard to believe that Tetleys have such a high proportion of cellars unsuitable for cask beers and/or incapable landlords. If cask beer was returned to all low and medium turnover pubs, Tetleys beers would once again command the respect they deserve. It's no good just changing the name of the brewery, what's needed is a significant change to a decent cask product as well.

#### GREENALL WHITLEY

Greenalls are the second largest pub owners in Bolton, and still haven't been forgiven for their quick ending of their light mild, which was very popular in the town. Out of the 32 pubs serving cask beer, only a handful can be credited with serving the beer consistently well; both the mild and the bitter are often barely acceptable drinks. One wonders if the brewery is trying to lower the standard of the cask beers to that of the tank and keg beer, in an attempt to confuse the public. If the brewery tried to provide a decent (ie quality cask) pint, rather than aspiring to a takeover-gear'd leisure group, then Bolton would be a better place to drink in. Right Fred?

The brewery has also been the main culprit in converting pubs to bright beer, especially in Blackrod and Horwich. They also have the unpleasant habit of closing pubs, though luckily most of these have been snapped up by Burtonwood and Thwaites.

#### WHITBREAD

No Chesters cask bitter or mild has reached Bolton. Would Samlesbury please hurry up and bring in the Duttons at an acceptable price?

#### BASS

A really abysmal showing this; three outlets serving cask beer. Bass policy on cask beer must be questioned when whole areas are virtually devoid of the stuff. As with Tetleys, pub cellars and/or poor landlords can hardly be an excuse in all the pubs -it's more like a lack of basic commitment by the brewery itself.

#### MATTHEW BROWN

If it wasn't for one pub virtually in Wigan, there would be no cask Lion in Bolton. This would rank the brewery on a par with John (Wash Your Mouth Out) Smiths, which would be unfair to any brewery producing cask beer. How about a few more outlets then?

#### WILSONS

With three conversions to real ale recently, a continuation of the trend in the area would be appreciated.

Don Chattwood

Note the three storey York on the Front Cover of the Guide.



# REAL ALE in BOLTON





# **BOLTON**

1 Ainsworth Arms	606 Halliwell Road	Halliwell	Tetley M, Walker B(H)
2 Alma	152 Bradshawgate	Centre	Burtonwood LM, DM, B(H)
3 Ancient Shepherd	Bald Street	Centre	Thwaites BM, B(H)
4 Bolton Inst. Tech. (Students' Bar)	Derby St/Deane Road	Centre	Thwaites M, B(H) Tetley WA(H)
5 Black Swan	Hough Fold Way	Bradshaw	Greenalls M, B(E)
6 Boars Head	39 Churchgate	Centre	Greenalls M, B(E)
7 Bowling Green	97 Eskrick Street	Halliwell	Greenalls M, B(E)
8 Bowling Green	271 Bury Road	Tonge Fold	Wilsons M, B(H)
9 Bobs Smithy	1448 Chorley Old Road	B6226	Tetley M, Walker B (E)
10 Bradford Arms	107 Bradford Street	Centre	Tetley M, B(H)
11 Church	Crook Street	Centre	Tetley WA(H)
12 Clifton Arms	94 Newport Street	Centre	Tetley M, B(H)
13 Craven Heifer	452 Blackburn Road	Astley Bridge	Thwaites M, B(E)
14 Crofters Arms	494 Halliwell Road	Halliwell	Greenalls M, B(E)
15 Crofters Hotel	St Georges Road	Centre	Greenalls M, B(E)
16 Cromptons Mule	Spa Road	Centre	Free (Restaurant Lic.) Bass(H)
17 Cross Guns	Blackburn Road	Egerton A666	Whitbread Cask(H)
18 Derby	Halliwell Road	Halliwell	Tetley M, B(E)
19 Derby Arms	98 Derby Street	Centre	Whitbread Cask(H)
19a Dog & Partridge	28 Manor Street	Centre	Thwaites M, B(H)
20 Dunscair Arms	547 Darwen Road	Dunscair	Wilsons M, B(E)
21 Falcon	90 Kay Street	Centre	Tetley M, B(H)
22 Finishers Arms	487 Higher Church Road	Doffcocker	Greenalls M, B(E)
23 Gaiety	Bradshawgate	Centre	Vaux Samson(H)
24 Gardners Arms	1 Vallets Lane (off Ivy Road B6226)	Centre	Tetley M, B(H)
25 General Havelock	110 Sidney Street	Great Lever	Bass 4X(E)
26 George	92 Great Moor Street	Centre	Wilsons M, B(E)
27 Gibraltar Rock	244 Deane Road	A676	Greenalls M, B(E)
28 Gilnow Arms	Deane Road	A676	Boddingtons M, B(E)
28a Gipsy's Tent	178 Deansgate	Centre	Tetley M, B(H)
29 Globe	76 Higher Bridge Street	Centre A666	Wilsons M, B(H)
30 Globe Inn	272 Blackburn Road	Egerton A666	Wilsons M, B(H)
31 Greyhound	146 Deansgate	Centre	Bass 4X(E)
32 Halliwell Lodge	Mornington Road	off A673	Greenalls M, B(E)
33 Howcroft	36 Pool Street	Centre	Tetley M, Walkers B (H)
34 Jolly Miller	Chorley Old Road	B6226	Wilsons M, B(H)
35 Jolly Ploughman	2 Doffcocker Lane	Doffcocker	Wilsons M, B(E)
36 Kings Arms	177 Chorley Old Road	B6226	Tetley M, B(E)
37 Lamb Hotel	Halliwell Road	Halliwell	Greenalls M, B(E)
38 Lodge Bank Tavern	260 Bridgeman Street	Centre	Lees BM, B(H)
39 Lord Clyde	Folds Road	A676	Bass 4X (E)
40 New Zealand Chief	5 Great Moor Street	Centre	Greenalls M, B(E)
41 Old Three Crowns	14 Deansgate	Centre	Wilsons M, B(H)
42 Peel Hotel	52 Higher Bridge Street	Centre	Greenalls M, B(E)
43 Prince William	11 Bradshawgate	Centre	Boddingtons M, B(E)
44 Queen Elizabeth	230 Fletcher Street	Great Lever	Greenalls M, B(E)
45 Rams Head	275 Derby Street	Daubhill	Greenalls M, B(E)
46 Rock House	65 Duke Street	Centre	Wilsons M, B(E)
47 Rose Hill	122 Manchester Road	Centre	Greenalls M, B(E)
48 Royal Oak	Bradshaw Brow	Bradshaw	Greenalls M, B(E)
49 Stork Tavern	548 Halliwell Road	Halliwell	Tetley M, B(H)
50 Stanley Arms	99 Chorley Old Road	B6226	Tetley M, B(H)
51 Sunnyside	1 Bloom Street	Daubhill	Tetley M, B(E)
52 Swan Hotel	2 Churchgate	Centre	Burtonwood DM, B(H)
53 Sweet Green Tavern	127 Crook Street	Centre	Tetley M, Walker B, WA(H)



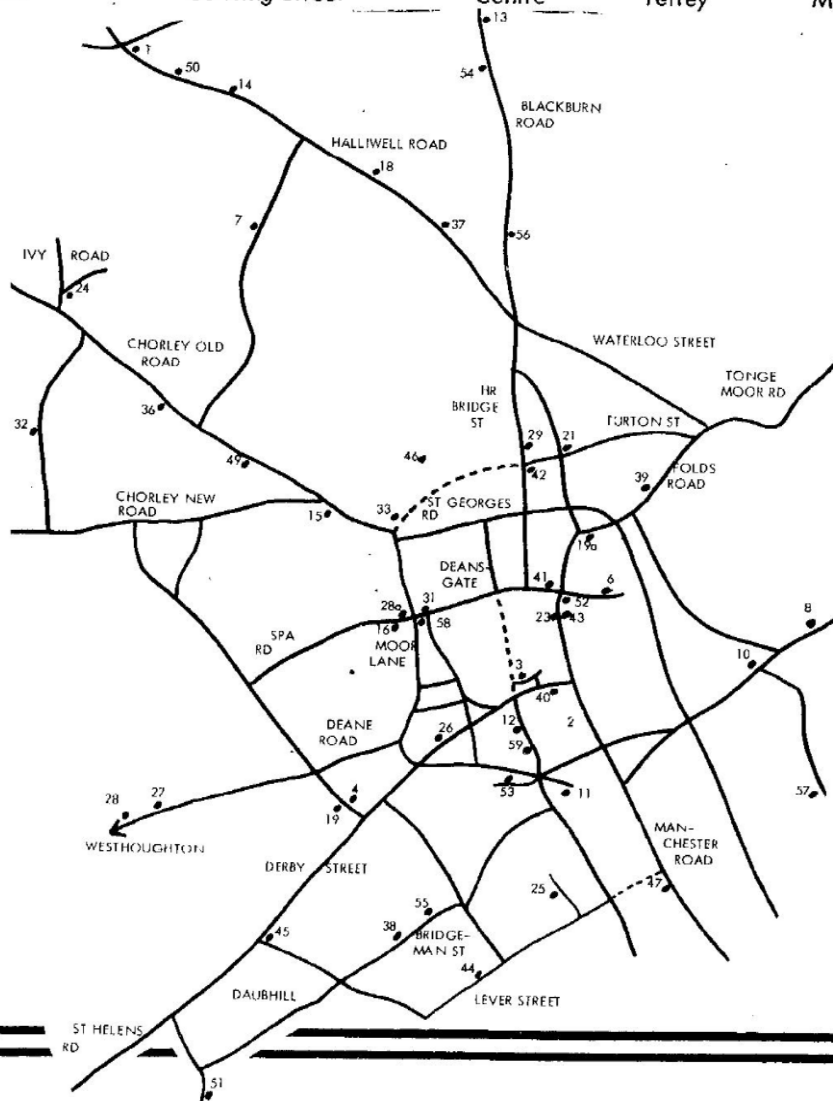
54 Tramways	307 Blackburn Road	A666	Greenalls	M, B(E)
55 Victoria	238 Bridgeman Street	Centre	Greenalls	M, B(E)
56 Victoria British Queen	124 Blackburn Road	A666	Greenalls	M, B(E)
57 Volunteer	276 Radcliffe Road	Darcy Lever	Greenalls	M, B(E)
58 White Lion	171 Deansgate	Centre	Wilsons	M, B(E)
59 York	112 Newport Street	Centre	Burtonwood	LM, DM, B(E)

#### LITTLE LEVER

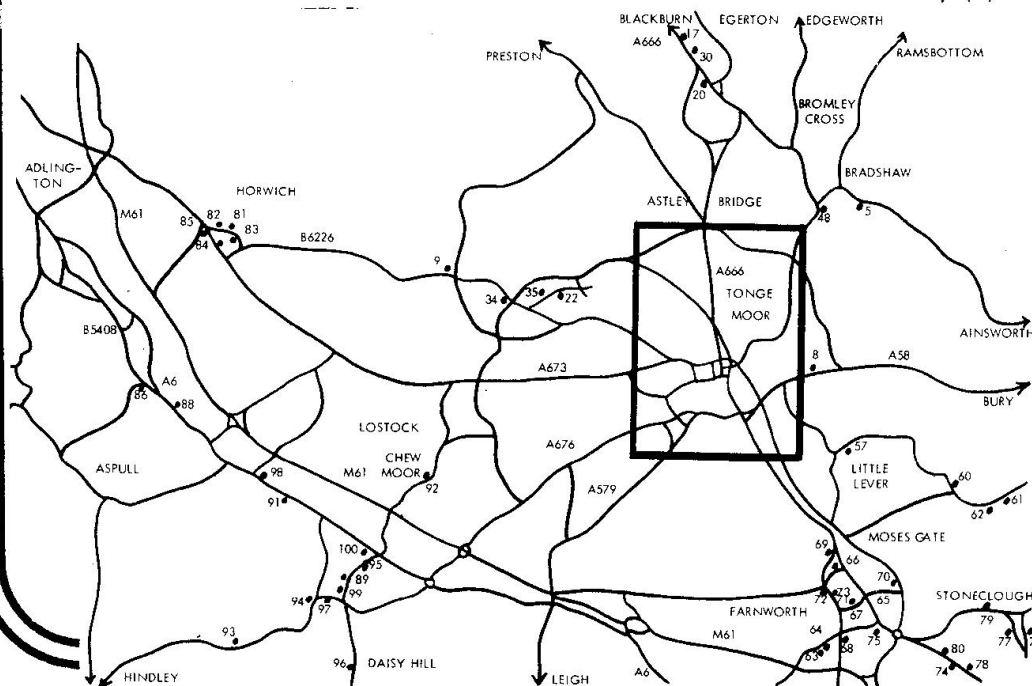
60 Horseshoe	71 Lever Street	Centre	Hydes	M, B(E)
61 Queen Anne	26 High Street	Centre	Thwaites	M, B(H)
62 Three Crowns	7 Fletcher Street	Centre	Wilsons	M, B(H)

#### FARNWORTH

63 Bradford Arms	47 Buckley Lane	A5082	Boddingtons	M, B(E)
64 Bridgewater	27 Buckley Lane	A5082	Sam Smiths	B(H)
65 Church Hotel	Church Road	Centre	Greenalls	M, B(E)
66 Golden Lion	Gladstone Road	A575	Tetley	M, B(H)
67 Market	11 Brackley Street	Centre	Tetley M, Walker	B(H)
68 Old Original Half Way House	69 Worsley Rd	A575	Boddingtons	M, B(H)
69 Railway	2 Egerton Street	Moses Gate	Greenalls	M, B(E)
70 Rawsons Arms	133 Peel Street	Centre	Burtonwood	DM, B(E)
71 Saddle	53 King Street	Centre	Tetley	M, B(H)



72 Shakespeare	1 Glynne Street	Centre A575	Greenalls	M, B(E)
73 White Hart	67 Albert Road	Centre A575	Tetley	M, B(E)
<b>KEARSLEY &amp; STONECLOUGH</b>				
74 Antelope	Manchester Road	A666	Greenalls	M, B(E)
75 Clockface	65 Old Hall Street	Centre	Tetley	M, B(H)
76 Horseshoe	395 Folds Road	Stoneclough	Thwaites	B, M, B(E)
77 Lord Nelson	Ringley Road	Stoneclough	Thwaites	B, M, B(H)
78 Man and Scythe	245 Manchester Road	A666	Greenalls	B(E)
79 Market Street Tavern	Market Street	Stoneclough	Wilsons	M, B(E)
80 Moss Rose Inn	Manchester Road	A666	Wilsons	M, B(H)
<b>HORWICH</b>				
81 Bay Horse	141 Lee Lane B6226	Centre	Greenalls	M, B(E)
82 Bowling Green	175 Lee Lane B6226	Centre	Tetley	M, B(H)
83 Brown Cow	Church Street	Centre	Greenalls	M, B(E)
84 Nibblers	181 Chorley New Road	Centre A673	Free Bass Cask	(E)
85 Toll Bar	2 Chorley New Road	Centre A673	Thwaites	B, M, B(E)
<b>BLACKROD</b>				
86 Poacher	Scot Lane	B5238	Burtonwood	D, M, B(H)
87 Victoria	141 New Street	B5408	Greenalls	M, B(E)
<b>WESTHOUGHTON</b>				
88 Brinsop Arms	Chorley Road	A6	Bass	Bass, 4X(H)
89 Cross Guns	Bolton Road	Centre	Pollards B, Boddingtons	B(H)
90 Daisy Hill Hotel	Lower Leigh Road	Daisyhill	Tetley M, Walker	B(E)
91 Dog & Pheasant	Chorley Road	A6	Greenalls	M, B(E)
92 Duke of Wellington	60 St Johns Road	Chew Moor	Tetley M, Walker	B(H)
93 Hart Common	Wigan Road	A58	Lion	M, B(E)
94 Red Lion	4 Wigan Road	A58 Centre	Greenalls	M, B(E)
95 Rose & Crown	222 Bolton Road	off A6	Greenalls	M, B(E)
96 Three Crowns	Leigh Road	Daisyhill	Tetley M, Walker	B(H)
97 Victoria	27 Market Street	Centre	Greenalls	M, B(E)
98 Waggon & Horses	Chorley Road	A6	Burtonwood	D, M, B(E)
99 White Lion	2 Market Street	Centre	Holts	M, B(H)
100 White Horse	Manchester Road	A6	Wilsons	M, B(H)



What's Doing June 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

Slightly less Bolton coverage this month

*The Brinsop Arms on the Westhoughton/Blackrod boundary is one of the few free houses in the Bolton area to offer a selection of traditional beers. The pub has recently dropped Pollards Bitter (as listed in the Bolton Pub Guide) in favour of Hartleys XB bitter, which is a new brew for the Bolton area.*

*Also, in Westhoughton, the Royal Oak (Wilsons) now sells hand pumped mild and bitter.*

*In branch diary the June meeting at the Gaiety had been moved to the 23rd as the Vaux Area Manager, Chris Brown was to be guest speaker.*

*There was also to be a guest speaker from Tetley at the July branch meeting on 8<sup>th</sup>.*

What's Doing July 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

Duttons Cask Bitter was being introduced into 55 pubs in the Blackburn distribution area, in Bolton these were

New Outlets

The Canary (now Kings Arms) and Moses Gate Farnworth

Three Pigeons, Astley Bridge, Black Horse, Bury Road and Wilton Arms Belmont Road.

Transfers from Special Cask to Duttons Bitter (in Whitbread theory)

Bulls Head, Bradshaw Road, Derby Arms, Derby Street (Landlord Vic's appeal in February WD to keep Special Cask obviously fell on deaf ears), Railway Inn, St Helens Road, (It hadn't sold Special Cask for 2 years), Cross Guns, Bromley Cross, Tippings Arms, Blackburn Road, (which hadn't sold Special Cask for quite some time).



An unused voucher, can't think why!

In Branch Diary on the 29<sup>th</sup> there was a Get away from the Wedding (Charles and Diana) Awayday but no details, but contact Bert Kerks. The August branch meeting was at the York on 12<sup>th</sup> with a possibility of a speaker from Burtonwood.

What's Doing August 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

*Tetleys have decided to close the Gipsys Tent within a few weeks and it is expected that the Sunnyside, Daubhill, will face the chop soon.*

There was a high-level meeting between Camra and Burtonwood regarding their Light Mild which resulted in their being a review in 6 months, however new outlets were no longer banned as had been historically the case.

In Branch Diary there was no mention of the Burtonwood speaker.

What's Doing September 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

And on the front page

# LIGHT MILD GAIN



The Rawsons Arms, Peel Street, Farnworth (near the station) is now selling Burtonwood light mild. Alongside the electric pumps for bitter and dark mild is a light mild handpump, provided by CAMRA as part of the campaign to promote this excellent beer. The brewery intended to drop the beer but, after protests from CAMRA, have deferred their decision for six months, depending on how it goes. The Rawsons Arms is a many-roomed pub which has recently been recarpeted and decorated and is well worth a visit.

*Tetley have reassessed the Gypsies Tent and a new tenant has moved in. Closure plans would appear to have been put off for the time being.*

In Branch Diary there was a light mild night at the Rawsons on September 15<sup>th</sup>, followed on the 24<sup>th</sup> by a meal at Cromptons Mule followed by a short pub crawl starting at the Gypsies Tent and a Sunday Lunchtime social on the 27<sup>th</sup> at the Three Crowns, Daisyhill.

What's Doing October 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

*Scamps night club has started selling Cask Beer. That's the good news now for the bad – it costs 70p a pint and its Greenalls (bitter).*

*The policy of painting the exterior of their pubs in the new Walkers livery, is no guarantee that the customer will find cask Walkers Beers or even Tetleys cask beers, on sale inside. Visitors to the Grey Mare, Bolton Road, Westhoughton are still being fobbed off with keg beers, even though the handpumps remain on the bar. It does seem a waste, painting up the outside and leaving the staple*



*product of a local such as this in a state of fizz. Things may be improving as Tetley Walker are currently looking for a Project Accountant, 'to conduct special investigations into areas of profitability' (and presumably losses) as well as 'fixed asset utilisation.' With a bit of luck, they'll prove once and for all that keg beer is less profitable than cask beer, just like Wilsons did a couple of years ago and initiate the conversion of pubs back to real ale.*

*The Moses Gate, Farnworth, may soon be selling Hartleys bitter alongside the Duttons.*

*The Wilton Arms, 883 Belmont Road, is now selling Hartleys XB and Bulmers Cider on handpumps in addition to the Duttons Bitter.*

Burtonwood provided a list of their outlets those in Bolton were

Alma, Bradshawgate, Sportsmans Arms, Chorley Old Road, Swan, Churchgate, York, Newport Street, Poacher, Blackrod, Alexandra, Westhoughton, Waggon and Horses, Westhoughton, Rawsons Farnworth which all sold cask beer, whilst the Stags Head Junction Road did not.

In Branch Diary the branch meeting was at the York on the 7<sup>th</sup> with Mr Montgomerie from Burtonwood as guest speaker. On the 18<sup>th</sup> there was a Sunday lunchtime social at the Poacher. On November 5<sup>th</sup> there was a get away from Guy Fawkes night trip to Tetley Warrington.

What's Doing November 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

#### **GREENALL GRUMBLINGS**

Nigel Park, Landlord of the Dog and Pheasant, Manchester Road, Westhoughton, is moving to the White Crow, Worthington, near Standish. The Dog & Pheasant is to be leased to someone who wants to turn it into a "Fun Pub". This exciting new concept will involve making the lounge into one big room, moving the bar to the back wall and, of course, replacing the cask beer by keg. Sounds like a barrel of laughs eh, Fred? - Yet another case of Smile Please, You're in Greenall Whitley Land?

# **BRIGHT SAID FRED**



At the time Fred was advertising for Greenall Whitley with the caption of RIGHT SAID FRED, though What's Doings version was more accurate. He also had his Traction Engine trailer painted out in Greenalls Green. It was quite widely known that he didn't like Greenalls and preferred Tetleys and drank in the Lever Bridge on Radcliffe Road, which was then a keg pub, so possibly slightly odd that he has a cask beer (which could be) inspired by him and his Flat Cap.



The Dog and Pheasant became Amigo's and later the Loose Goose, it is now La Scala.

#### POACHER

The Poacher, Scot Lane, Blackrod is now selling, for a trial period, Burtonwood light mild. The pub was acquired by Burtonwood a year or so ago from Greenalls, when it was called the Scot Lane Inn. Trade has been steadily improving and excellent lunchtime and evening meals and snacks are available. The Poacher is the third pub in the Bolton branch area to give light mild a try. The pub is at the south end of the village, at the junction of Scot Lane and Manchester Road, about 10 minutes walk from Blackrod Station and the 313, 616 and 618 buses pass the door

In Branch Diary hot on the heels of the Tetley trip on the 5<sup>th</sup> was a Lees brewery trip on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Sunday lunchtime on 15<sup>th</sup> was at the Queens in Bradley Fold (ROB pub). The AGM was at the George on 18<sup>th</sup>. There was a crawl on 28<sup>th</sup> starting at the York, then Ancient Shepherd, then the Gaiety. The December branch meeting was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Lodge Bank Tavern when the guest speaker was Giles Dennis the new Lees Head Brewer, Peter Coles having left to be managing director of Yates and Jacksons in Lancaster. There was a Moses Gate/Farnworth walkabout on 11<sup>th</sup> starting at the Moses Gate and later the Shakespeare. December 16<sup>th</sup> was a social/meal at Cromptons Mule.

What's Doing December 1981 <https://greatermanchester.camra.org.uk/branch-magazines/whats-doing/#1981>

*The Moses Gate Hotel, Farnworth, is now a Duttons house with the added attraction of Hartleys XB and Castle Eden bitter. The pub has been revamped, with split level seating and partitions, a vast improvement. The redecoration is, however, reminiscent of the 'Victorianising' which Watneys inflicted on some Wilsons pubs some years ago, poor ventilation means that the lounge tends to get smoky and stuffy.*



#### NEW VIC BEER

The Victoria Inn, Chorley New Road, Horwich, now has Duttons bitter on handpumps. The Vic is a well-preserved ex-Threlfalls pub with an unchanged wood and tile interior. Well worth a visit.

Branch Diary for Bolton was an empty space at the bottom of the page, too many Christmas Celebrations perhaps?

## Appendix

### Camra Bolton Branch Accounts to 31/10/1981

<u>Income</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>£</u>
Cash B/Fwd	5.34	Postage on Extra What's Brewings	17.49
Bank A/C B/Fwd	29.92	What's Doings Payments	117.20
What's Doing Sales	96.40	Meeting Food	15.40
Income From Raffles	19.80	Postage and Other Expenses	8.97
GBG Sales	123.00	GBG payments	110.00
Other Guide sales	96.10	Other Guide Payments	102.55
County Guide Sales	39.70	County Guide Payment	29.20
Coach/Brewery Trips	22.00	Donation to Camra Ltd	10.00
		Cash C/Fwd	11.24
		Bank A/C C/fwd	10.21
Total	<u>432.26</u>		<u>432.26</u>