

**BEER**

**Tony Wilson**

ABOUT 75% of Britain's pubs sell beers produced by one of six large brewing combines — Allied Breweries, Bass Charrington, Courage, Scottish & Newcastle, Watneys and Whitbread.

Of these, Allied have the largest share of Merseyside pubs — trading under their Tetley constituent and a good proportion of their houses sell natural, unpressurised Tetley bitter and mild, and still to be found in a dwindling number of pubs is the old Walker's bitter.

Bass Charrington have a large number of houses in our area and natural beer is quite widespread, including Burton Bass, Brew Ten, Worthington BB, 4X Mild and M&B mild.

Whitbread, "the pint that thinks it's called beer" have now completely ceased to supply naturally conditioned beer to any of their Merseyside outlets (indeed over the whole of north-west England).

Courage usually use their John Smith disguise and likewise supply no real ale to Merseyside.

Watneys, to the best of my knowledge do not supply the real stuff in this area, though the excellent beers produced by their Wilson's brewery are available further towards Manchester.

The discerning drinker of S & N's products must travel to Wigan or Raby Mere to sample Younger's IPA, meanwhile the revolting Tartan continues to make it worthwhile hurrying past all pubs selling it.

Beers produced by a fair number of independents can be found in our area. Greenall Whitley are spread well through the county and a lot of their pubs sell genuine bitter and dark mild (light mild can be found if you look hard enough) mostly through electric slider pumps.

The only brewery still active within Liverpool is Higsons whose distinctively flavoured bitter and mild are deservedly popular. Higson's is the strongest local bitter (1038.8 original gravity) and also the cheap-



est — an increasingly important factor in these inflationary times. At least half Higson's 170 pubs sell real beer, largely via handpumps.

Thwaites of Blackburn and Burtonwood of Newton-le-Willows have a few outlets on Merseyside — they are worth seeking out and both produce highly palatable bitters and milds, mostly without pressure.

Boddington's of Salford, with 280 pubs — all selling natural, non-gassed beer are available on the fringe of Merseyside around St Helens and Skelmersdale.

**IN BRIEF...**

*OUTBUILDINGS of "Buck i' the Vine", Ormskirk are now listed buildings, but Tetleys are reported to be wanting to sell the pub.*

**DD IS O LIKE A.L.**

*AUSTRALIAN quote of the month: "Beer is our national drink. We can't drink water — fish fornicate in it."*

**MERSEYSIDE** day trippers to Llandudno on Sundays will now be able to get a drink as the area became "wet" as a result of the November referendum.

*A REMINDER that all pubs should now be displaying easily seen price lists (as from December 1).*

To join CAMRA send £2 to 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts. For local events contact Tony Wilson at 9 Hooton Road, Liverpool L9 4SF (521 5967).

**INFORMER**



A rare chance to see theatre outside the city centre when the Red Ladder Theatre visit Merseyside this month.

The show "A Woman's Work is Never Done" is the story of an ordinary woman, Helen, faced with all the problems of trying to look after a family, and going out to work at the same time.

The theme is serious — as many women know only too well — but there's plenty of laughs and songs in this 90-minute show.

**RED LADDER PERFORMANCES:**  
 Mon Dec 8. Speke Community Centre (off North Parade), 7.30.  
 Tues Dec 9. Rialto Community Centre, 70-74 Upper Parliament Street, Liverpool 8. (8 p.m.)

Thurs Dec 11. Vauxhall Community Centre, Sylvester Street. (7.30)  
 Fri Dec 12. Skelmersdale Town Hall (old town). (7.30)  
 Sun Dec 14. YMCA, Market Street, Hoylake. (7.30)

**WOMEN'S LIBERATION**

**MEETINGS** of Merseyside Women's Liberation Movement are held at 49 Seel Street, Liverpool 1.

Dec 3: General business  
 Dec 10: Discussion  
 Dec 17: Women's Centre meeting.

(National Abortion Campaign meetings alternate Mondays from Dec 1st. Working Women's Charter group in between).

**WOMEN'S WEEK OF ACTION** (in conjunction with Red Ladder)  
 Dec 7: Women and Ireland conference.

Stanley House, Upper Parliament Street, 2-5 p.m.  
 Dec 10: Women in Chile meeting with film and speakers. McAusland Lounge, University Students' Union, 7 p.m.

Dec 13: Conference on women's rights, with workshops. Royal Institution, Colquitt Street (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and social with Northern Women's Rock Band, The Long Grass, 2 Mount Pleasant. 8 p.m.

**JAZZ**

IT ALL seems to be happening on a Wednesday night for Jazz fans.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY:** Merseyside Jazz Band at the Sportsman in St John's Precinct.

Don May in Victoria Hotel, Heswall.  
 Panama Jazz Band at Black Horse Hotel, West Kirby.

**JAZZAMATAZZ** with Clive Burrows (9-10, Radio City)  
**JAZZ PANORAMA** with Steve Voce (8.05-9.00, Radio Merseyside).

**EVERY TUESDAY:** Coffee House Pub, by Picton Clock, Wavertree. Blue Magnolia Jazz Orchestra.

**FRIDAY** Dec 5 at Southport Arts Centre, Lord Street. SOS — a jazz trio made up by John Surman, Mike Osborne and Alan Skidmore. Music with roots in folk, calypso, jigs and the classics. 75p, students & pensioners 60p.

**POETRY**

**GAZEBO:** Bottom of Duke Street, Liverpool 1. Third Tues every month.

**WINDOWS:** HALEWOOD LIBRARY Details from David Ward, 46 Elsinore Heights, Halewood. Tel: 486 2172. (Normally last Wed each month, but some variations).

**SOUTHPORT ARTS CENTRE.** Normally last Fri each month. Phone Alistair Patterson 709 6022 ext 3047 for details.

**POLITICS**

**TO DIE IN MADRID.** French film (1962). Story of the Spanish Civil War, using newsreel, most of which has not been seen before. Fri Dec 5, Leo McGree Centre, 39 Shaw Street, Tickets: 25p.

**SPEKE Area Trade Union Committee.** Next meeting: Dove and Olive, Hale Road, Speke. Sunday Dec 14 at 11 a.m. Any branch/factory/workplace not affiliated are asked to send a delegate.

**MARXIST—Leninist Quarterly.** Journal of the Communist Federation of Britain, 6 Bentley Road, Liverpool 8. Price: 25p.

Our thanks to the Merseyside Arts Association for their help in compiling much of the information on these pages.

**SMALL ADS**

Rate: 3p per word

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**THE MERSEYSIDE Gay Women's Group** (for homosexual and bisexual women) meets each Tuesday, 8.00 for informal discussions and socialising. Ring Friend Merseyside 708 9552.

**£5-£10** for your fur coat. Cash for pre-1950s clothing at Oilly's, Aunty Twacky's Bazaar, 18 Mathew Street, Liverpool. Tel: 227 1672.

**ONE WEEK'S** holiday in Wales. Organised walking and general good time. Includes New Year's party. Apply: Jim Lyon, 127 Greenhill Road, Liverpool L18 7HQ.

**TIME** on your hands? Then why not come along to a free improvised activity workshop? Every Monday at 4 p.m. and Tues at 7.45. Theatre Studio, top floor, 19 Williamson Street (off Church Street) Liverpool. Tel: 724 4369.

**CHEAP REMOVALS** and haulage. Cheap for community groups. Tel: Ananda Marga, 728 8242.

**CHILDREN'S** toys and games and nursery equipment is urgently needed for kind of kindergarten. Van available for collection. Tel: Ananda Marga, 728 8242.

**PHOTO-COPYING.** A4 and foolscap. 10 copies 30p; 25 copies 75p; 60 copies £1.20; 100 copies £1.60. — Impact Resource Centre, Waterloo Building, Cases Street, Liverpool 1. (051-708 7172)

**HELP**

**NIGHTLINE** Student Telephone Service. A good Samaritan hot-line for students, financed by a grant from the students' union. Gives advice on practical, personal and social problems from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tel: 733 4178.

**FRIEND MERSEYSIDE.** 708 9552. Telephone advisory service for homosexuals. 7-10 every evening.

**CHECK!** Rights centre. 73 Canning St., Liverpool 8. (Tel 708 9665). Serves mainly the south city area but will provide information and advice on welfare rights on a wider basis when possible.

**CHILDWALL** Advice and Information Centre, Hartsbourne Ave, Childwall. Open every Wednesday, 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.. Run by Childwall Valley Residents' Association.

**COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES.** 25 St. Andrews Gardens, Liverpool. Free advice on legal or welfare matters. Tel: 708 0242.

**THEATRE**

**PLAYHOUSE** 709 8363  
 Until Dec 13. **WALK ON, WALK ON** by Willis Hall. World premiere of a specially commissioned play that takes a fascinating look behind the scenes of Association Football. [No perf. Dec 11]

Dec 17 for a season. **CABARET** by Masteroff, Kander and Ebb. Dilys Watling, Robert Swann and Leslie Lawton in the great international hit musical. "The staging is unique, the music is exciting and the total experience is stylish and exhilarating."

**PLAYHOUSE UPSTAIRS** 709 8363  
 Until Dec 13. Linda Polan in **TWO PARTS.** Sophisticated, adult one-woman show. "The product is funny, sad, rude, boisterous."

**EVERYMAN** 709 4776  
 Dec 3-13. **ANDROCLES AND THE LION** by George Bernard Shaw. Pre-Christmas musical treat for fun-loving adults — and kids.

Dec 17 for a season. **HOOLEY'S HOPE STREET WAKE.** Not so much a show, more a celebration! Everyman's Christmas final offering in the old 'Hope Hall'.

**ROYAL COURT** 709 5163  
 Dec 1-13. **D'OYLY CARTE OPERA COMPANY** celebrating 100 years of the company and of Gilbert and Sullivan. The Mikado — Dec 1, 4, 10 & 11; The Yeomen of the Guard — Dec 2 & 8; Pirates of Penzance — Dec 3 & 13; Ruddigore — Dec 5 & 9; Iolanthe — Dec 6 & 12. Evenings, 7.30. matinees Weds and Sats at 2.30.

**NEPTUNE (Amateur)** 709 7844  
 Dec 5 & 6. **New Electron Players** in **I'LL GET MY MAN** by Philip King. 7.30 p.m.

**EXHIBITIONS**

Until Dec 23. **Christmas Exhibition 1975.** New work by Graham Ackroyd, Dorothy Bradford, Maurice Cockrill, Stan Dobbin, George Drought, Nicholas Horsfield, George Jardine, John Lee, Peter Mousdale, Dave Pearson, Peter Prendergast, E. Scott Jones. —Bluecoat Gallery.

Until Dec 12. **Paintings by Sam Walsh.** Academy Gallery.

Dec 16-31. **White Christmas.** Harry White and Rosie Christmas present a seasonal exhibition with just a touch of Bing Crosby. —Academy.

Until Jan 4. **Body and Soul.** (Peter Moores Liverpool Project 3). Exhibition devoted to art about people. Includes work by Francis Bacon, Mark Boyle, Edward Burra, David Hockney, Allen Jones and L.S. Lowry. —Walker Art Gallery.

Until Dec. 24. **Christmas Show.** Oil, watercolours and prints with Christmas in mind. Includes etchings by Anthony Gross and Robin Tanner, woodcuts by Eric Gill etc. —Allerton Gallery.

Dec 1-Jan 22. **Victorian Town Halls.** A North West Museum and Art Gallery Service exhibition. — Atkinson Art Gallery.

Dec 6-31. **Photography — Royston.** Jones and Neil McGowell. —Atkinson Art Gallery.

Dec 13-Jan 10. **Paintings — Taylor A.** Earnshaw. —Atkinson Art Gallery.

Dec 1-Jan 2. **E.V. Wignall — paintings.** —Neptune Theatre Gallery.

Dec 1-Jan 14. **The Camera and the Sailing Ship.** — Bootle Library.

Dec 18-Jan 21. **Creative Ceramics.** —Bootle Library.

Until Dec 28. **New Shippieries Exhibition.** Ship models, relics, paintings and documents. —County Museum.

Until April 4. **ABC of Minerals.** —County Museum.

Until January 6. **Nature in Towns.** Touring exhibition arranged by Manchester University Museum. — Grosvenor Museum, 27 Grosvenor St, Chester. Tel: Chester 21616.

Dec 30 and Jan 2 only. **Stones, Bones and Butterflies.** Chance to examine rocks, fossils, insects, animals and plants from the reserve collections. —Grosvenor Museum (Tel: Chester 21616).

Until Dec 6. **Exhibition Ceramics** by Julia Carter-Preston. Also permanent display of work for sale by British artist/craftsmen. —Bluecoat Display Centre.

**WHERE**

**ACADEMY GALLERY**  
 65 Renshaw Street, Liverpool. 709 4088.

**ALLERTON GALLERY**  
 117 Allerton Road, L'pool 18. 724 5206. Open Mon-Fri 10.00-6.00, Wed and Sat 10.00-1.00

**BLUECOAT HALL**  
 School Lane, Liverpool 709 5689. Tues-Fri 10.30-5.00. Sat 10.00-2.30. (Display Centre open Tues-Fri 10.30-5.30; Sat 10.30-2.30)

**BOOTLE LIBRARY**  
 Oriol Road, Bootle. 922 4040. Mon-Fri 9.00-7.00; Sat 9.00-1.00.

**COUNTY MUSEUM**  
 William Brown Street, Liverpool. 207 0001. Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00; Sun 2.00-5.00.

**CROSBY LIBRARY**  
 Crosby Road North. 928 6487. Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 9.30-8.00; Thurs 9.30-1.00; Sat 9.30-5.00.

**NEPTUNE GALLERY**  
 Neptune Theatre, Hanover Street, Liverpool. 709 7844. Mon-Fri 10.00-2.30; Sat 10.00-12.00.

**SUDLEY ART GALLERY**  
 Mossley Hill Road, Liverpool 18. 724 3245. Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00; Sun 2.00-5.00.

**WALKER ART GALLERY**  
 William Brown Street, Liverpool. 207 1371. Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00. (Open till 8 p.m. Thurs); Sun 2.00-5.00.

**WILLIAMSON ART GALLERY**  
 Slaty Road, Birkenhead. Mon-Sat 10.00-5.00 (Thurs till 9 p.m.); Sun 2.00-5.00.