

BEER

Tony Wilson

THE NEWS that Bedford House and Staff House at Liverpool University had begun to serve Theakston's beer from Masham, Yorks, was received with much rejoicing in many quarters. Even the price of 33p a pint didn't seem too bad.

The celebrations were, however, short-lived. For it has been discovered that the beers are served under pressure. Perhaps the staff and post-graduates, to whom use of these bars is restricted, should now exert some of their own pressure to get these excellent beers served in their natural form.

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MEANWHILE the student body of the university are still restricted to the products of the 'Big Six' in fizz form — though the University Real Ale Society are pressing for real ale to be introduced into the Sphinx and Liver bars, and are hoping for a successful outcome.

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THE SAGA of the "Buck i' the Vine", Ormskirk, continues. The out-buildings (and Tetleys wish to demolish them) were the subject of a public inquiry last month. The decision now rests with the Secretary of State for the Environment.

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LATEST NEWS of the "Caledonia", recently reprieved from the dreaded fizz, is that the recently introduced home-made hot meat pies served at lunch time, are an ideal complement to Higson's excellent bitter.

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THE NATIONAL Good Beer Guide '76, listing 4,000 pubs from all parts of England, Scotland, Wales and IoM should be on sale as these words are read.

The pubs are listed under county

boundaries, and details are given of beers available, food, facilities etc for every pub.

There is also a comprehensive listing of every brewer still operating and description of their beers.

At £1.40 (£1.20 to CAMRA members) it's sure to sell well. Most book-sellers will have stocks, and certain of the listed pubs will be selling copies too. CAMRA Merseyside will also have a limited number for resale.

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HOT ON THE HEELS of the national guide will be CAMRA Merseyside's own local "Real Ale on Merseyside" — produced to satisfy the need for a complete list of Merseyside's real ale outlets.

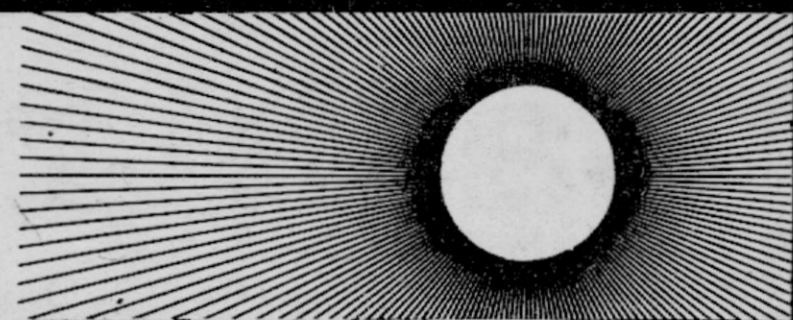
To save the national guide becoming telephone directory size, only the cream of pubs can be included (approx 70 in the case of Merseyside), thus with over 200 pubs, the local guide will be much more comprehensive, but probably still incomplete, as in an area so large as ours there will no doubt still be pubs which "escape the net". Selling price should be approx 30p and it will be available from bookstalls, pubs, and CAMRA Merseyside.

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IF YOU READ this column regularly and would like to find out even more about ale on Merseyside, may I recommend the CAMRA Merseyside monthly newspaper, "Mersey Drinker" which can be obtained from various pubs, bookshops or by subscription (£1 for six issues post paid) from the editor, Ian MacMillan, 59 Caldly Rd, Aintree, Liverpool 9.

● Details of CAMRA can be obtained from the writer at 9 Hooton Road Aintree, Liverpool, L9 4SF. (Tel: 521 5967).

INFORMER



Desolation Angel as performed by local musicians with words by Stan Reynolds. Based on the life of Jack Kerouac, leader of the 'Beat' generation it can be seen at Liberty Hall on Sunday, April 18th

ROCKNOTES

Mike Evans

IT'S AMAZING what a bit of well aimed publicity can do. For years there has been a myth that all the old Beatles singles — or at least the early ones — were long deleted by EMI. When the Beatles' double albums spanning '62-'70 were released a couple of years ago, there were streams of letters in the music press complaining that they might have released some of the "long unavailable" B-sides, songs like "She's a Woman", "I'm Down" and such. So, partly in response to such demand one supposes, the entire series of twenty-two singles — plus "Yesterday" that was never a single release in England first time round — have re-appeared on the market, in smart new covers depicting the Beatles as they were at the time of each particular platter.

But here's the joke — none of the singles have ever been deleted. They've always been in the EMI catalogue and available to any shop or customer who bothered to order them, hence the 'new' issue still carries the original catalogue numbers.

It's merely been a question of timely re-promotion, and pressing a few thousand more copies in readiness for the subsequent mini-Beatlemania to carry at least some of them into the 1976 charts.

Pity for the Beatles themselves that the publishing royalties, in Northern Songs, will go to the present owners of the rights, Lew Grade's giant ATV empire.

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LOCAL writer Spencer Leigh has a book just out called "Presley Nation" (Raven Books, 30p) culled from conversations and correspondence with various Elvis fanatics.

Primarily that means Maria Davies and her sister, local fan club secretaries, who have made three trips to the States to see a total of thirty-six live appearances by the King. Her anecdotes and comments, plus those of similar devotees, make up a lean but amusing volume, a supplement to the full biographies already available of Presley. And for Elvis freaks the most useful part of the book is a run-down of all his films, from the lukewarm "Love me Tender" of 1956 to the 'seventies on-stage documentaries, with all the memorable an immemorable movies in between.

QUICKIES: ... following the Royal Iris rock'n'roll cruise, a trad one for the summer? ... Musicians' Union stamping on discos that don't use live bands — about time too ... Alan Williams touring Wales with his "Man Who Gave the Beatles Away" lectures ... Sandra Bright leaving Deaf School — shame, shame ... catch Shoo Be Doo, vintage rock with the Sheik of Shake, Carl Terry ... speak to us Pete, conversation was your greatest asset ... the Southport Elvis Rockumentary on the 7th promises some sensational film ... Supercharge album soon? ... Ofanchi single on Pye not getting much local airplay ... something about Sovereign City, though I'm not sure what ... Henri's Bistro Poets starting again, upstairs in the Chauffeurs' Club ... Scaffold and Deaf School appearing together at the Philharmonic.

WHAT'S ON...

Wed April 14: Maddy Prior/June Tabor — Bailey's.
Thur April 22: Willie Nelson — Empire.
Tues April 27: P.F.M. — Empire.
Fri April 30: Rick Wakeman — Empire.

SMALL ADS

Rate: 3p per word

TEACHER in Princes Park area with 7-year-old daughter and baby needs au pair, with or without own child. £10 per week plus board and lodging. Phone 733 1055 evenings.

BODHRANS. Traditional Irish drums as used by Chieftains, Planxty, etc. Prices £12-£20 dependant on diameter (12 inches — 20 inches); beater included, case extra. From Gorphwysfa, 3 Hadassah Grove, Lark Lane, Liverpool 17.

FREE PLAY: We would like to organise non-directive, free play facilities for our 3½-year-old daughter in co-operation with other children (of similar age) and parents. If interested please contact Di and Rob Gilbert, Flat 2, 20 Fairfield Crescent, Liverpool 6.

LENIN Sweeps the World (V. Denl). Large 3-colour litho. Printed and published by CPB(M-L). Only 30p each from October Books, 4b Temple Court, Liverpool 2.

THIRD PERSON wanted to share house, off Lawrence Road, Liverpool 15. Contact Stephanie Clark. Tel 263 3421 (work).

LITTLE BIRD. Monthly information package of leaflets/documents from Merseyside and elsewhere. Forthcoming political/community/educational events. 50p for six issues. Write: News from Nowhere, 48 Manchester St., L'pool 1.

ACCOUNTANT offers book-keeping service, full or part-time. —Taunton (051 228 4530).

FREE YOGA classes. Tues: relaxation Yoga postures. Wed: open spiritual conference (introduction to meditation). Thurs: philosophy (theory of Yoga). All at 7.30. Ananda Marga, 8 Ullet Road, Liverpool 8. (708 7335).

THE WORKER. Fortnightly newspaper of CPB(M-L). Obtainable from October Books, 4b Temple Court, Liverpool 2.

ONE-TON van and 11-stone driver for hire. Very reasonable. Distance no object. Andy: 708 0860 or 708 7174.

SILK-SCREEN printing. Pretty cheap. Especially for community and Left groups. Posters, banners, T-shirts, cards. Anything unusual considered. Billy, Andy, Rick 708 7174; 708 0860.

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)

ARTWORK from China. Posters, book-marks, handcrafts, greetings cards. Obtainable only at October Books, 4b Temple Court, Liverpool 2.

POLITICS

RED FESTIVAL. May 22 and 23. A weekend of political, social and cultural events in London for young people. Coach being organised from Liverpool. For more details phone 207 0280. (Organised by Young Communist League).

CAMPAIGN AGAINST NUCLEAR ENERGY. Are you concerned about the recent deal with Japan to reprocess her nuclear waste? Do you regard nuclear power as a dangerous 'white elephant'? Are you in favour of developing alternative sources of energy? If you would like to join C.A.N.E. please contact Peter Murray, 6 Southway, Liverpool 15. (Tel: 722 4328) or come along to one of our weekly meetings. We meet every Tuesday, 8 p.m. at the above address.

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH are running a campaign on nuclear power policy, focused on April 24, when three major rallies will be held. There is a special train for one of these rallies, which will be held at Windscale plant in Cumbria. Train stops locally at Crewe and Warrington.

Details from Czech Conroy, FoE, 9 Poland Street, London W1. (01-636 4030).

MERSEYSIDE PORTUGAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE. Week of action in support of Spanish and Portuguese working class. Starting May 17. Films of struggles in both countries, meetings etc. Details: 734 0194.

ALL LIBERTARIANS welcome to meet comrades from Spain and Portugal talking on "the current situation". Early May. Details from Bob, News from Nowhere, 227 2514.

THE ABORTION BILL

JAMES WHITE, a Labour MP, last year introduced a Bill into Parliament trying to restrict abortion facilities. If his proposals become law only women with 'serious medical grounds' would be given an abortion legally. This completely ignores all the women living in bad housing conditions; those who already have more kids than they can cope with; those whose income is inadequate without another mouth to feed or those who quite simply choose not to have a child.

As there was not enough time for James White's Bill to be passed in Parliament, anti-abortion MPs got the government to set up a Select Committee to discuss further 'recommendations'.

Recently even the members of that committee decided no point could be served by more proposals to make abortion more difficult to obtain, and six committee members have resigned. The committee is now functioning with only three members — all anti-abortionists.

The National Abortion Campaign is fighting for women to have free abortion on demand. They believe it should be a woman's right to choose whether or not to have a child. They plan to boycott the Select Committee in support of the MPs who resigned, and have refused to give evidence.

Instead, they intend to rely on public support to put pressure on the Government, not only to stop the proposals of the Select Committee, but to extend the abortion facilities that already exist.

If you want to join in the campaign, contact Merseyside Women's Centre, 49 Seel Street, Liverpool 1. Tel: 709 4141.

KIDS' STUFF

Fri 23 April. CHILDREN'S CONCERTS. 10 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. Bluecoat Society of Arts, Bluecoat Hall. Liverpool Baroque Ensemble. Kids 25p, adults 30p.

Sat 24 April. ATARAH'S BAND. 11 a.m. Philharmonic Hall. Singing, Happy Stories... Meet the woodwind, brass, guitars and drums. Don't tell the kids, but it's partly educational! Introduced by Atarah Ben-Tovim.

SOUTHPORT ARTS CENTRE Lord St., Southport. Tel: S'port 40011. April 12, 13, 15, 16, 17. SOOTY'S DREAM SHOW. Family entertainment with Sooty, Sweep and guest artiste Connie Creighton. All seats 55p. April 21-24. PAUL HANSARD'S PUPPETS present "Spellbound", a new fairy tale featuring The Princess,

Winnie the Witch, Signor Salvador Gelati and many others. Especially recommended for children under 12. Daily at 11 a.m. Adults 50p, kids 25p. April 21 and 22. PAUL HANSARD'S PUPPETS in "Snoop or the Case of the Yellow Judge". Lavish entertainment to intrigue, mystify and delight children and adults of all ages. 7.30 Adults 50p, kids 25p.

Events are listed free of charge on these pages. Will organisers please send details to Liverpool Free Press, 48 Manchester St., Liverpool 1 or phone 227 2514. Details of community events especially welcome.

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THE ROCK MAGAZINE

APRIL ISSUE: 10cc., James Burton, Graham Parsons, Kaleidoscope, Nick Kent, Joe MacDonald.

25p MONTHLY

Order from your local newsagent

COMMUNITY

IF YOU THINK you can help make the Tower Hill Community Festival make a Latin American Carnival look like Kirkby dole queue, your help is needed.

This year's festival will take place from 1-14 August and they need singers, dancers, theatre groups, musicians, children's entertainers as well as materials and anybody with the time and enthusiasm to help out during the two weeks.

Contact the festival organisers at the Community Centre, Heathfield, Tower Hill, Kirkby. Tel: 546 9575.