

G'day folks!

This second update to the 2019 edition of *Kentish Brewers and the Brewers of Kent* contains more information on brewers in Anerley, Beckenham, Boxley, Broadstairs, Bromley, Canterbury, Charing, Chatham, Deptford, Dover, Faversham, Folkestone, Greenwich, Lewisham, Lydd, Margate, Milton Regis, Queenborough, Sheerness, Strood, Tenterden, Tonbridge, Welling, Whitstable and Wye, as well as another miscellaneous reference. Some of this may seem familiar to those who follow the Facebook group as I have taken the opportunity to include all of the updates which I have posted as files during the past year. Those files will now disappear from the 'files' menu in due course.

Thank you to everybody who has contributed during the year, I couldn't do it without you! I would of course be grateful to receive any further information about Kentish brewers, old or new. You will appreciate that I have quite some task, especially keeping up with the microbrewery scene, from the opposite side of the planet! I can be contacted via Facebook Messenger, or E-mail on peter.moynihan.oz@gmail.com

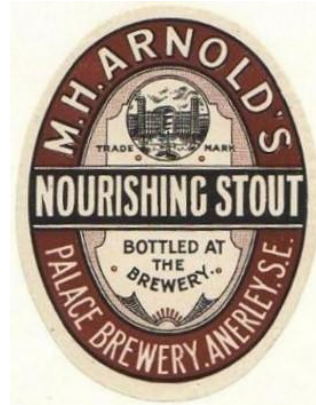
Stay safe in these troubled times, regards from down under...

Peter Moynihan

Kings Langley
NSW 2147
Australia

ANERLEY

Maurice Hayward Arnold, *Palace Brewery, Madeline Road*
Thanks to Richard Symonds for this label, c1892-98.



BECKENHAM

Pontifex & Hall, *West Kent Brewery, Elmers End Road*

George Henry Hall, was born in Peckham, although his father was a Wool Broker in Leeds. George was the junior partner, with Ernest Pontifex, a scion of the Pontifex coppersmiths and back-making family, in Messrs. Pontifex & Hall, which acquired the remaining lease on the West Kent Brewery in Elmers End, Beckenham, after the bankruptcy of Arthur Peacock in 1875. When Pontifex left the partnership, due to his bankruptcy in 1882 as a brewer in Hackney Road, Middlesex, where he traded under the style James Mills & Company, Hall continued the West Kent Brewery alone. In April of 1888 an attempt was made, with others, to convert the firm into a limited liability company – the West Kent Breweries Company, Limited.

The prospectus stated that the directors were to be William Caleb Benjamin Bellamy, of the King & Queen Granaries, Rotherhithe, and the Old Corn Exchange, Mark Lane; Alfred Harry Wilson, of the Castle Brewery, Southwark; Alfred A. Davis, of Messrs. Davis & Littlewood, 11 Queen Victoria Street, EC; Frederick William Brooke, of the Norwood Brewery, Norwood; and George Henry Hall, of the West Kent Brewery, Elmers End, Beckenham. Bellamy would be the chairman, and Brooke and Hall joint managing directors. Share capital was to be £60,000 and such was the enthusiasm of the promoters that dividends of 10% per annum were confidently predicted.

According to the prospectus, the company was to be formed 'for the purpose of taking over, amalgamating, and carrying on the well-known and old-established breweries at Norwood, Beckenham and Lewisham. The brewery at Norwood is known as the Norwood Brewery, and has been established upwards of half a century. The premises are complete in every detail, and include a valuable mineral water factory and bottled beer stores recently erected. There is also a dwelling house adjoining the brewery, together with the Tap. The whole is held on a lease for forty-one years from the 29th September, 1887 at a rental of £113 per annum. The brewery has seven licensed houses, three of them being freehold and fully licensed. The Bermondsey Stores comprises two houses, being forty-four and forty-five East Lane Stairs, Bermondsey Wall, which being in immediate proximity to the River Thames, offer extraordinary facilities for carrying on the very valuable and extensive shipping trade in bottled beer connected with this brewery.

The West Kent Brewery, at Elmersend (sic), Beckenham, established nearly a century, comprises well-built premises, a private dwelling house, and fifteen acres of excellent meadow land attached. The whole is held on a lease for a term of forty-four years unexpired at a rental of £235 per annum. An artesian well supplies the brewery with the purest water. In addition to a very considerable private trade, the brewery enjoys an independent trade for the sale of its mild and bitter ales, for which it has acquired a considerable reputation. There is also a good business done with refreshment contractors. Attached to this brewery are two beerhouses, which are doing a good trade.

The Crown Brewery, Lewisham, established for fifty years, and comprising Brewing House, Tun Room, Beer Stores, Stabling, and Tap, is held on a lease (which can be renewed) from June 1886, for twenty-one years at £100 per annum. Part of the premises are sub-let at £30 per annum. It has an artesian well of the purest water so essential for brewing purposes. Attached to the brewery are five beerhouses let at good rentals and doing good trade. Fifteen licensed houses, including the Pioneer Brewery, Chelsea, and Tap, the last-named doing a trade of about 900 barrels per annum.'

An independent auditor had examined the books of the breweries for the previous three years and had stated that during that time they had jointly sold upwards of 20,000 barrels of ales and stouts. As glowing as the future of the new company was, if one believed the prospectus, it seems that the launch was not a success. In its issue of Saturday, 22nd September 1888, the *Croydon Advertiser* carried the following piece.

'A considerable amount of surprise and regret was felt in the neighborhood of Beckenham and Elmers End during the early part of this week, when it was stated that that Mr George Henry Hall, of Homehurst, Upper Elmers End-road, Beckenham, had died suddenly. The astonishment was increased to a painful extent when it was rumoured that Mr. Hall had committed suicide, and unfortunately the rumour turned out to be too true, for it was ascertained that Mr Hall had, during his stay at the Central Hotel, Newgate-street, on Friday last, taken a large dose of chloral. The deceased, who was well known at Elmers End and Beckenham, had

been a resident in the district for many years, and was the principal of the West Kent Brewery. This business was formerly carried on by Messrs. Pontifex and Hall, but some three or four years ago the first mentioned gentleman retired, leaving the concern in the hands of Mr Hall. Some few months ago an attempt was made to turn the business into a limited liability company, but the attempt, we believe, was unsuccessful. It appears that the deceased gentleman was not of late years very successful in business, and it is believed that the pressure of money affairs caused him to commit this rash act.'

THE INQUEST

'On Wednesday Mr Langham, the City Coroner, held an inquest at the mortuary, Golden-lane, for the purpose of inquiring into the circumstances attending the death of Mr George Henry Hall, brewer, of Elmers End, Beckenham, who was found dead in his room at the Central Hotel, Newgate-street, on Friday last.

Mr G. Wall, managing clerk at the West Kent Brewery, Elmer's End, said that his master had been depressed by the state of the business, and had told him that whatever he tried to do in business seemed to fail. The last hope for reconstituting the business had fallen through, and brokers were expecting in daily.

Richard Hanson, day porter at the City Central Hotel, Newgate-street, said that on Friday night last the deceased hired a bedroom at the hotel, and said he was very tired, as he had been travelling. The next morning, as he did not get up, the door was broken open about noon. The deceased was then found dead in bed. There were three bottles on the dressing table, labelled "Chloral". He called in a doctor and a policeman. Amongst the papers found on the deceased was a large envelope, on which was written, "On no account is this to be opened until I am gone." The contents proved to be the will of the deceased.

The medical evidence was to the effect that the condition of the internal organs showed that death resulted from chloral poisoning. A very large dose must have been taken. The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst temporarily insane."

Chloral, or trichloroacetaldehyde, is a colourless oily liquid which, when mixed with water forms chloral hydrate, a once widely used sedative and hypnotic substance with central nervous system depressant properties similar to barbiturates. George Henry Hall, apparently a skilled brewer but no great shakes as a businessman, was just thirty-four years of age. Administration (with a will) was granted to his sister Emma Hall, a spinster, of Avalon Lodge, Morland Road, Croydon. Her brother's personal estate amounted to some £2,500 (£2m in 2020 terms). A copy of his will has been applied for; it may throw some light onto how the West Kent Brewery alone came into the hands of Leslie McMullen after the dissolution of the West Kent Breweries Ltd in 1892.

The West Kent Breweries Company Limited was indeed registered in 1888, but the parties involved were not the same as those noted in the original prospectus above. Perhaps George Henry Hall felt that he had somehow been disadvantaged in the financial goings-on that must have been taking place behind the scenes during the birth pangs of the new concern. The company was to not prove the success that had been hoped; it had a life of only four years, and it cost the life of George Henry Hall.

-o0o-

Br3wery Craft Brewing Company

Established by Cadu Gomes in 2017 as a commercial home brewery, however it is believed that latterly the beers have been brewed in Birmingham.



BOXLEY

Abbey Brewery

Where exactly was the Abbey Brewery? Edward Hasted, in his *History and Topographical Survey of the County of Kent* (W. Bristow, Canterbury, 1797), says that Boxley was watered by two springs of hard water, one rising below the church and the other at the foot of the chalk hills, above the Abbey. These are clearly shown on the map of 1801 (right), one issuing from the chalk at Boarley (or Borley) Farm and the other further east and flowing down to the Abbey site. William Millen farmed Boarley and his son John, who lived at Abbey Gate at the time of the 1841 census, was a partner with George George as Farmers and Brewers in April 1851 at the 120acre Abbey Gate Farm. Their partnership was soon dissolved, in May of 1851.

An article in a genealogical society newsletter in New Zealand, referencing a family who ran a beerhouse at 'Farthings' (now the Yew Tree Inn), stated that it was 'near the Boxley brewery (Est 1843)'. I don't know where the writer got that information, but it seems plausible as George George was still farming in Westerham in 1841.

There are no clues on the 1888-1913 6" to the mile O.S. map, but it does show that there must have been an ample water supply from the spring at Boarley as it was supplying watercress beds. So, it would seem likely that the Abbey Brewery was on Abbey Gate Farm, and supplied with hard liquor from the Boarley Spring... unless anyone knows better?

As a footnote, in 2018 Boarley Farm, Abbey Gate Farm and the nearby Tylands Farm (totalling 388 acres) were all leased by the Chapel Down Winery to be planted with vines for the production of their sparkling wines.



BROADSTAIRS

C. F. Wacher, *Crow Hill Brewery*

CHARLES FREDERICK WACHER, BREWER, BROADSTAIRS.				
AGENT— F. J. GOLDSMITH, Stores:—229, MALPAS ROAD, BROCKLEY.				
LIST OF PRICES. PRIVATE TRADE.				
	Mark	18	9	4
	Gals.	Gals.	Gals.	Gals.
STRONG MILD ALE ...	XXX	27-	110	00
MILD ALE ...	XX	18-	97	46
INDIA PALE ALE ... (IPA)	27-	136	00	
BITTER BEER ...	BB	18-	9-	46
DOUBLE STOUT ...	DS	27-	136	00
SINGLE STOUT ...	S	24-	12-	0-
PORTER ...	P	18-	9-	40

Discount: 3d. on 4½ gals., 6d. on 9 gals., 1s. on 18 gals.

More information has come to light regarding the career of Charles Frederick Wacher (page 30), sometime proprietor of the Crow Hill Brewery, Broadstairs. The *Whitstable Times & Herne Bay Herald*, Saturday 7th November 1914, contains the following report: - 'Death of Mr. C. F. Wacher. - We regret to record the death of Mr. Charles F. Wacher, of "Hursley", Herne Bay, which occurred on Wednesday at the age of 64 years after a long illness. The son of the late Mr. William Wacher, of "Underwood", Herne, he was for some time with Messrs. Barclay & Perkins, the well-known brewers. He was next at a brewery in Broadstairs, and was subsequently brewer at Messrs. Noakes' brewery, Bermondsey. He was a man of the most genial temperament, and highly esteemed by all who knew him, and was a prominent Freemason. He was a brother of Dr. Frank Wacher and Dr. Sydney Wacher, of Canterbury, and of Mr. Cooper Wacher, of Herne. The funeral took place at Brockley on Saturday'.

Regarding his Freemasonry, he was the first Worshipful Master of the Ethelbert Lodge, Herne Bay, when it was consecrated in July 1885 and, as an elected member of the first Broadstairs Local Board, it will come as no surprise that his tender to supply the Minster workhouse with X ale at 24/- per barrel and bitter ale at 30/- per barrel was successful.

Wacher certainly seems to have been well thought of in the Broadstairs area: - "PRESENTATION. - A farewell supper was given to Mr. C. F. Wacher (late owner of the Broadstairs Brewery), and now head brewer to Messrs. Day and Noakes, Bermondsey) at the Crown Inn, Broadstairs, on Saturday night by his late tenants, pupils, and employees. Mr. Roach, of the Royal Hotel, Ramsgate, presided. After supper the chairman proposed the health of Mr. Wacher, and also presented to him a handsome silver salver, which bore the following inscription: - 'Presented to Charles F. Wacher, Esq., by his pupils, tenants, and employees, as a small token of their esteem and regret at his leaving Broadstairs, Twenty-ninth September, 1891.' - *Thanet Advertiser*, Saturday 3rd October 1891.

However, all was not as it seemed with Mr Wacher; this report appeared in the *South London Chronicle*, Saturday 26th September 1896: - 'Bermondsey Brewer's Bankruptcy. The case of Charles F. Wacher came before Mr. C. A. Pope, Official Receiver, in the Bankruptcy Court on Thursday. The debtor is a brewer, of 25, White's Grounds, Bermondsey. He sold a brewery at Broadstairs in 1891 for over £12,000, which was insufficient to discharge the whole amount of his debts. He came to London, and has since been employed by a firm of brewers at a yearly salary of £800. The tradespeople have been paid in full, but certain creditors in respect of accommodation bills recently exercised pressure, which caused the debtor to file his petition. He returns his ranking liabilities at £10,676, and has no available assets. No offer was made to the creditors' meeting, and Mr. S. W. Eldridge was appointed trustee to administer the estate in bankruptcy'.

The National Newspaper Archive is a superb resource, and although it was just as true in the nineteenth century that 'one shouldn't believe everything one reads in the newspaper' as it is today, we are interested in facts rather than opinions. Having thrown up Wacher's bankruptcy, which I hadn't previously known about, the Archive then hit me with this: - "ALL NONSENSE." - Charles Frederick Wacher, trading as Walker and Sons, brewers, Nelson Street, Southend, v. Sidney Ricketts, Little Wakering, farmer's son. - Mr. Geo. Wood, solicitor, said defendant's father had asked him to appear for him; he had absolutely no means. - His Honour said that it was all nonsense to say that an able-bodied man like the defendant could not earn anything. He should make an order for the payment of 4s. a month'. This little nugget, from the *Chelmsford Chronicle*, Friday 12th January 1894, threw me completely!

I could find no record of a brewery in Nelson Street, Southend, but what I did find was an Agency at number ten Nelson Street, for Messrs. Walker & Sons, of the Wellington Brewery, Gravesend! So, did Wachter just have an interest in that one off-licence in Southend? Or did he have a stake in Walker and Sons while he was the Head Brewer at Noakes' brewery in Bermondsey? *The Brewers' Journal* mentions Messrs. Laker & Wachter, of the Wellington Brewery, Gravesend, in 1876; this was at a time when the brewery was under the control of the executors of the late Alexander Walker (died 1873) so this pair may have been lessees. Charles Frederick Wachter would have been twenty-five years old in 1876, and he was first listed as a brewer in Broadstairs in the following year.

What we now know is that in 1891 Wachter was in debt to the tune of over £12,000 and that in 1896 that debt had reduced to some £10,700 and he claimed to have no available assets. The use of the word 'available' might imply that he did have assets, but that they could not, for whatever reason, be liquidated. Might such assets have included an interest in Walker & Son? If it did then he would have been expected to receive either cash or shares when Walker & Son Limited was formed in June of 1896, just a couple of months before he filed for bankruptcy! This is all most peculiar, and I do not, as yet, have an explanation.

BROMLEY

Swan & Mitre Brewhouse

‘To be LET or Sold

The Brewhouse and premises, situate behind the Swan and Mitre, at Bromley, in the county of Kent. The unexpired lease of about 33 years. Capable of wetting five quarters of malt at a brewing; casks, coppers, plant &c. To be taken at a fair valuation. Possession may be had immediately. Apply for particulars to Mr. Samuel Fish, at Bromley.’

This is almost certainly the one referred to on page 36 as being at the Swan in 1803.

CANTERBURY

Thomas Mears, Longport

Was a brewer prior to November 1787 when he was ‘intending to enter into a different Branch of Trade in London.’ He further recommended Mr. T. Giles as his successor.

Thomas Giles, Longport

‘Respectfully informs his Friends and the Public in general, that he has taken the BREWHOUSE of Mr. MEARS, in the Borough of Longport, near the City of Canterbury, and intends carrying on the Business of a MALTSTER and BREWER, and hopes, by a strict Attention to the Quality of his Goods, to meet with their Patronage.

Private Families supplied with any Quantity of STRONG BEER (not less than four Gallons) at 1s. per Gallon. TABLE Beer at the customary prices.’

(*Kentish Gazette*, 16th November 1787)

NB The entries above seem to disprove the possibility, stated on page 54, that the Thomas Moore brewing in 1781 and 1783 may have been Thomas Mears.

-o0o-

Sankey's Brewery

Matthew William Sankey (page 45) had been a bankrupt in Canterbury in 1819 but had other brewing interests in Folkestone. The plant of his late brewery in Canterbury was sold off by auction in September 1822 and the brewery demolished.

‘The PLANT and UNTENSILS comprise an excellent 52 barrel brewing copper, with dome head and pan, brick and ironwork of ditto, liquor back, 25 quarter mash tun and mashing machine, refrigerator complete, hop back with cast iron bottom, four liquor and wort engines, cast iron malt cylinders and syringe, 2 pair of mill stones, horse wheel, 18 feet diameter, three oak working tuns, two under-backs, 3 coolers, oak vats of 156 and 88 barrels, 12 smaller ditto of 4 barrels each, quantity of lead and copper pipe, sundry useful back, oak, and fir bearers, partitions, stages and other materials, the whole has been erected within a few years, and is in excellent preservation.’

‘Tenders for the Materials of the Brewhouse to be pulled down and removed, at the expence (sic) of the Purchasers, to be delivered in, on or before the 23d instant.’

(*Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal*, 13th September 1822)

CHARING

E. Cheesman, *Swan Inn*

Many, many ancient inns and taverns in the County must have brewed their own ale and beer on the premises; where I have documentary evidence, I include them in my work. As in this case, it is often difficult to establish when these inns ceased to brew, although the acquisition of a house by a common brewer is often a clue. Page 65 of the second edition of *'Kent'* carries a reference to brewing at the Swan, Charing in 1779. Now, thanks to Jan Pedersen, it has been established that brewing at the Swan continued for at least a further ninety years.

CHARING.
SWAN INN,
COMMERCIAL AND POSTING HOUSE.
E. CHEESMAN begs to announce to his
Friends and the Public that having taken the above
Inn, he hopes by exerting his best endeavours to render it as
respectable and comfortable as it was when known as the best
country Inn in Kent.
Ale and Beer Brewed on the Premises.

This advertisement is from the *Kentish Gazette* and is dated 27th January 1857. Cheesman was not at the Swan for very long as the licensee was a Mr Mayger in July 1853 and the licence was transferred to a Sampson Lissenden in November 1860. It is not known whether Sampson continued to brew, but in November 1864 he was selling goods which included a 'forty-five-gallon brewing copper (nearly new)' together with beer casks and tubs, so it would seem reasonable to assume that brewing had ceased by that time.

Who was E. Cheesman? Well, in the 1851 census, listed as a visitor at Palace Farm, Charing, was one Edward Cheesman. He was nineteen years old, single, had been born in Charing, and was a 'Brewer's son' and thus a candidate for our brewer at the Swan. Ten years earlier he was listed, aged nine, the son of William Cheesman, a saddler. So, at some stage during that ten years William had changed horses (see what I did there?) from saddlery to brewing and a glance at page 241 of *'Kent'* shows William to have been the proprietor of the Dane Brewery in Margate.

A 'sits vac' newspaper ad in April 1858 for 'a general servant for a country inn. Apply to Mrs. Cheesman, Swan Inn, Charing' implies that Edward had married; I could find no marriage in the Charing area but one in the Thanet registration district in the fourth quarter of 1856 would seem, bearing in mind where his father was trading, to be a reasonable bet. If so then his new wife was either Ann Austin or Sarah Brooks. I can find no entry for Edward, nor either a Mrs. Ann Cheesman or a Mrs. Sarah Cheesman, in the 1861 or subsequent censuses... perhaps they emigrated? Which brings us back to page 241 of *'Kent'* where we read that the Dane Brewery, Margate, was being offered for sale by auction in September 1866 as a consequence of 'the proprietor leaving England'.

As is common in historical research, a discovered fact will answer one question... and pose several more!

CHATHAM

Richard Twigg

Twigg (page 74) was bankrupt in 1792, his brewery, 'situate near the lower end of Chatham', being offered for sale by auction at the Mitre Tavern, Chatham, on Saturday, 16th December.

'The BREWHOUSE is fitted up in a modern style, with every convenient requisite for carrying on an extensive business. There is a well with excellent water in the Brewhouse; a sixteen feet horse-wheel, which with one horse conveys the water, grinds the malt, and many other conveniences, liquor and wort engine compleat; a sack tackling for raising and mill for grinding malt; copper will boil off fifty-five barrels, mash tun, cool-backs, guile-tuns, and every utensil necessary for the business.

The purchaser to take the stock, casks, horses, drays, and other utensils, at a fair appraisement.

The premises are held for a long term of years at a small ground-rent, and very convenient for water carriage.

N. B. If agreeable to the purchaser, the present owner will continue one half of the business for a few years, in which case a reasonable part of the purchase-money may remain at interest.

For further particulars, or to treat by Private contract, please to apply to Mr. read, Attorney at Law, Rochester; Mr. Twigg on the premises; or the Auctioneer, Rochester.'

(Kentish Gazette, 23rd November 1792)

-oOo-

John Matthew Young, *Chatham Brewery*

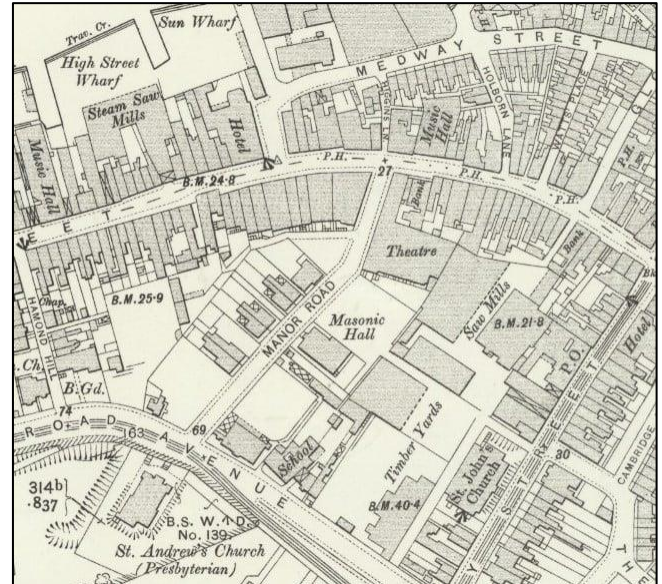
On page 78 I speculate that Young was probably a practical brewer rather than brewing in his own right. My speculation was recently proved to be correct when I came across the obituary of his son Alfred Young, who died in 1939, at the age of eighty-four years. It reads 'Born in Chatham, Mr. Young was one of a family of ten children of the late Mr. John Matthew Young, a brewer, and he was born at the Old Brewery House, Chatham. Educated at Rochester Mathematical School, he entered the brewery trade with his father soon after leaving school, and was connected with the Trade all his life. His father was brewer to the late Mr. Edward Winch, one of the founders of the present firm of Messrs. Style and

Winch. For many years Mr. Young served as brewer's manager to the firm, and when he retired in 1924, he had completed 54 years' service in the Trade. The Royal Hippodrome is now built on the site of the old Chatham Brewery.'

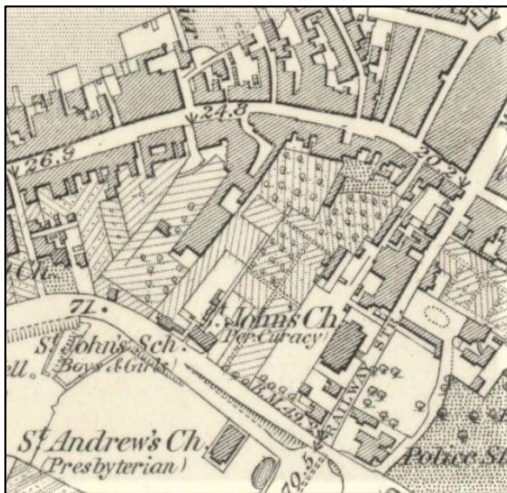
The piece, from the *Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham News*, makes it clear that Alfred Young's father was not a brewery proprietor. However, the fact that Alfred was born in Old Brewery House, which had been the home of the Best family, proprietors of the Chatham Brewery from the late seventeenth century until they leased the brewery to Edward Winch in 1849, might imply he may have been the Head Brewer. In fact, Winch's Managing Brewer, appointed in the 1860s was Charles Lott (born, 1816, Rochester). He held the post until sometime in the 1880s; in 1891 he was an Estate Agent and Valuer, dying in 1899, leaving the not inconsiderable sum of £19,388 14s 4d. Alfred Young was one of Lott's executors.

The Chatham Brewery was not included in the sale to the new company of Style & Winch Ltd. In May 1899 the *Maidstone Journal* reported that a Mr. G. H. Leavy had 'purchased the site of the now defunct Chatham Brewery' and that he proposed to erect houses and modern shops on the site. In June of the following year the same paper stated that 'The men employed in demolishing the Chatham Brewery have already made considerable progress with the work. The additions have been removed from the rear of the old mansions, which allows one to judge of the noble proportions of the old home of the Bests. The work of cutting the new road through from the New-road to the High-street, is now almost finished.'

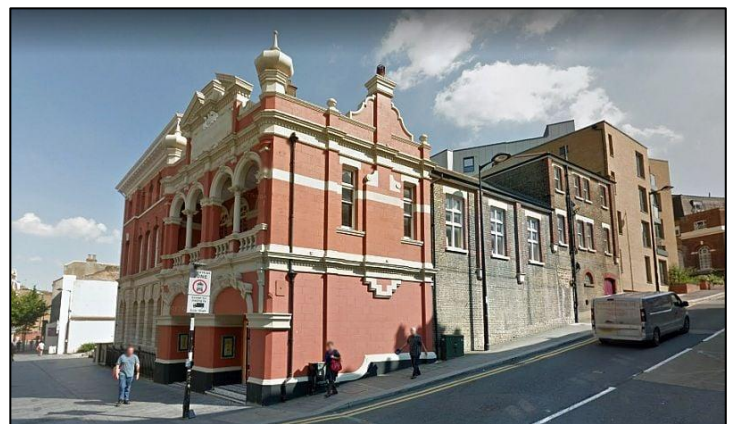
Ordnance Survey, 1909 showing Manor Road, the 'new road through from New Road to the High Street', together with Mr Leavy's houses and shops to the west and north.



Reference in the obituary to the Royal Hippodrome being built on the site of the Chatham Brewery raises a number of queries. Firstly, the theatre only gained that name in the year before the obituary was published, when it had been newly -refurbished and renamed. Secondly, the Theatre Royal (it was originally to have been named the Victoria Theatre) was built in 1898/99, the first performance being on 31st July 1899 (*The Era*, 5th August 1899) ... these dates do not tally with those in the *Maidstone Journal* reports. The theatre and the new road, nearly complete in June 1900, Manor Road, can clearly be seen on the 1909 O.S. map. The houses on the west side of Manor Road, and the shops to their north, facing onto the High Street, are presumably those built by Mr. Leavy.



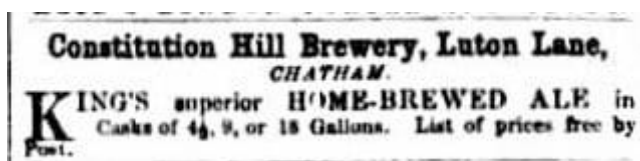
The 1869 O.S. map (left) shows the outline of the brewery premises and Old Brewery House; it seems to show that the auditorium of the Theatre Royal was built on what was then garden land. The 2019 Google Streetview photograph (below) shows that the front of house portion of the theatre survives, but the auditorium itself has been demolished and apartments, called The Auditorium, built on the site. There is a memorial recalling the theatre and some of the artistes who performed there... but sadly there is no plaque commemorating the Chatham Brewery, workplace of Charles Lott, John Matthew Young and his son, Alfred Young.



The Theatre Royal auditorium prior to its demolition

John King, *Constitution Hill Brewery, Luton Lane*

The British Newspaper Archive has proved a huge boon to researchers; it has certainly added immensely to our knowledge of past Kent brewers. While searching for something else, this tiny ad caught my eye, lurking at the foot of column five of the front page of the *Chatham News* of 2nd October 1863.



This brewery was previously unknown to me, so I set about searching for more ads. However, when I conducted a search for 'Constitution Hill Brewery' the BNA search engine gave me only references to a Mr. Gammon's vinegar brewery of the same name in Birmingham! It failed to find the Chatham reference, which makes me wonder what else it fails to find...

John King was born in Landford, Wiltshire in 1822; his brewery must have been a short-lived affair as, two years prior to the ad, he was a waiter in Stoke Prior, Worcs., and by 1871 he was a coal agent and later a dairyman. His wife was a schoolmistress, and they had no children.

DEPTFORD

London United Breweries Ltd, *Southwark Park Brewery, 19 Trundley Road*

Thanks to Richard Symonds for these colourful labels.



DOVER

Mr. W. Collins, *Biggin Street*

Was the occupier of a 'Valuable Freehold Brewery, situate in Biggin-street, in Dover; comprising an old established Brewery, a capacious Malthouse, wherein an extensive trade hath been carried on for many years.'

(*Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal*, 2nd March 1813)

Also included were to public houses, The Dublin Man of War, River, and the Queen's Head, in Biggin Street. There may be a connection with Knight Collins (page 107) who was a brewer in Dover when he died in 1805. There may also be a connection with the brewery supposedly founded in Biggin Street in 1824 by James Poulter (page 113).

Robert & Nathaniel Walker, Dolphin Brewery

At the end of 1813, one of the brothers was desirous of retiring from the business, and his one-half share was offered for sale. The concern was described as the ‘...most respectable BREWERY in Dover, carried on by Messrs. Robert and Nathaniel Walker, now in full flourishing trade, having attached to itself between 20 and 30 inns and public houses, many of them particularly well accustomed, and possessing a considerable private trade in strong and table beers, The Brewery, which is worked by steam, and complete in all its arrangements for carrying on a most extensive business, combines great powers and facilities, with a system of economy that enables the concern to be conducted on a limited scale of expence (sic) peculiarly advantageous, and which few Breweries of this extent will be found to possess, The malt-houses, store-houses, vats, and all the appendages are capacious and numerous, corresponding with the respectability and magnitude of the concern.

The late dwelling-house of the retiring partner, which forms a genteel and most excellent family residence, lies contiguous to the brew-house, and may be taken by the purchaser. The proprietor will accommodate the purchaser with a very considerable part of the purchase money on mortgage...”

(*Kentish Gazette*, 21st December 1813)

-oOo-

John Ladd jnr., Buckland

Ladd, ‘formerly a builder, and now a brewer and beerseller’, was insolvent in April 1846, when he was sued by Mr. Thomas Gill, a hop factor, of Walworth, for monies owed for the supply of hops (*Dover Telegraph and Cinque Ports Advertiser*, 11th April 1846). A letter was presented in court, in which Ladd stated that ‘the brewhouse that I occupy is a new one, and of my own build, and upon my own freehold.’ However, a witness stated that he was the mortgagee of the insolvent’s brewhouse and had never received any rent.

-oOo-

Fishmongers’s Lane Brewery

Described as a ‘VALUABLE and compact newly-erected FREEHOLD BREWHOUSE, with the Fixtures, Plant, and Utensils belonging thereunto.’ When offered for sale by private contract in February 1849 (*Dover Telegraph and Cinque Ports General Advertiser*) This is presumably the brewery operated by Thomas Mackney (page 115).

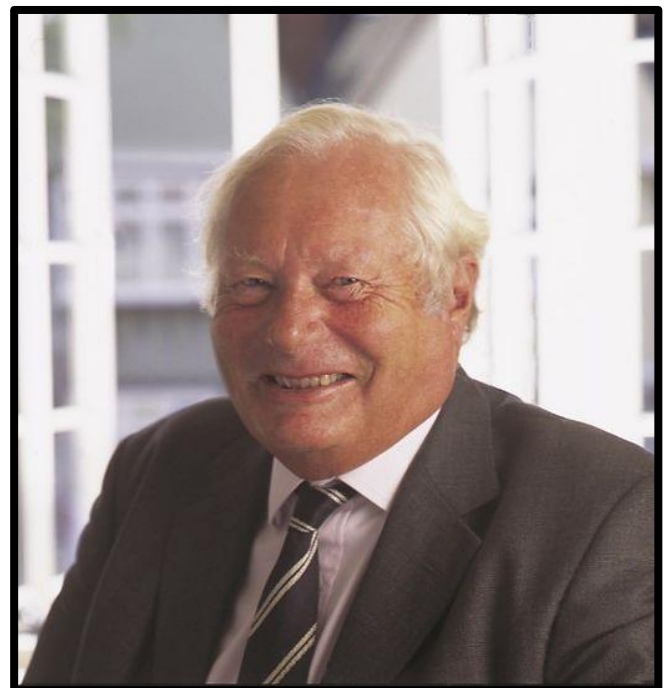
FAVERSHAM

Shepherd Neame, Court Street

In November 2019 we lost an elder statesman of Kentish brewing with the passing of Bobby Neame, who died peacefully in his sleep, he was eighty-five.

Bobby Neame joined the family firm in 1956, and was a Director until 2006 when he became the company's first President. He was the Deputy Lieutenant of Kent in 1992, Master of The Worshipful Company of Brewers in 1999 as well as being appointed a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the same year, Leader of Kent County Council 1982-84, High Sheriff of Kent in 2001, President of Kent Cricket in 2003, and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Civil Law from the University of Kent in 2008.

He was indeed a busy man, who led a very full and active life; yet he still found time to spend a morning in his office at the brewery with this Kent brewery history nerd. I had printed out and roughly bound a section of my projected book to show him what I had in mind, and to ask him whether he would consider penning a few words by way of a foreword. He showed great interest, leafing through the manuscript, exclaiming on several occasions ‘I didn’t know that!’. When Jonathan Neame (his son) came into the office on some matter of business, the two of them pored over the text with interest. The very next day I received an E-mail from his long-time secretary (Bobby didn’t do E-mails) with his foreword.



Robert Harry Beale Neame, CBE DL DCL, 1934-2019

After publication, I sent him a complimentary copy and received a lovely hand-written letter expressing his thanks and telling me that on the previous Sunday he and his wife Yvonne had entertained a large party of family and friends. After lunch, my book had been passed around and had excited much discussion and reminiscence among those of his guests who were in the trade.

FOLKESTONE

Gun Brewery, Cheriton Road

Thanks to Jan Pederson for this splendid photograph. The bus is making its way up what is now Bouverie Street East at some time between 1914 and the mid-1920s



'The Gun Brewery, the only local manufacture of the sort, was founded in 1821 and has been a flourishing concern ever since. It stands in Cheriton Road and nearly forms a junction with Guildhall Street, being a familiar landmark to Folkestone, and during the brewing process the aroma of hops and malt is much in evidence to passers by. The water is excellent for the brewing of beer as they have analyses of it constantly by eminent scientists, including Mr. Harland, well known expert, who declared that after exhaustive analysis the water was one of the best he had ever examined. They have a constant supply which is pumped from their own well 108ft below the surface. Through the most prolonged droughts its volume has never been known to decrease. They use only English hops. This year the Brewery is making a great specialty of its Stout which they have only just begun to manufacture after considerable demand from their customers and which they hope to make a leading brand although they did offer other stouts. In the cellars below, in good atmosphere, were numerous hogsheads of Barley Wine. In the bottling house is a number of men and boys busied themselves in bottling and casking. The Brewery also had one-gallon stone jars which they hoped to develop. Other parts of the Brewery contained mash tuns, granaries and engine rooms'.

(Folkestone Herald, 17th August 1895)

GREENWICH

Captain Barrett's Brewhouse, Brewhouse Lane

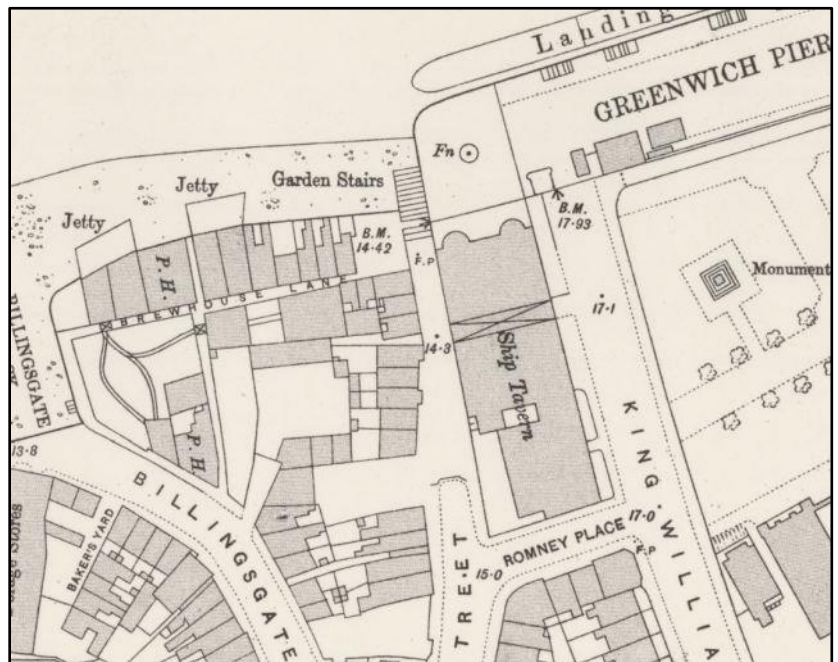
This previously unknown (to me at least) brewery has come to light as a result of an enquiry to my *Kentish Brewers and the Brewers of Kent* Facebook group. Graham McDougal enquired about the whereabouts of Brewhouse Lane in Greenwich, and whether I knew of a brewery in the area in Victorian times. His family had lived in a property there which had once been a pub named the Fubbs Yacht. Brewhouse Lane was described in Charles Booth's survey for his *Maps Descriptive of London Poverty* (1886-1903) as 'a narrow, paved court. Coal landing stage at the west end with public house adjoining. Then three-storied houses. ? in rooms. Windows broken and patched with wood and paper. A low, low lot. Great puffy women and dirty children'. The court was only about two metres wide and ran for some seventy-five metres, parallel with the river, between Garden Stairs, at the northern end of Church Street, in the east, to Billingsgate Dock in the west. The eastern end was cleared in the 1890s and the glazed dome over the entrance shaft of the Greenwich foot tunnel under the river to the Isle of Dogs now stands on the site. The western end was cleared in the 1930s, the area becoming Dodd's Wharf. The whole area now forms part of Cutty Sark Gardens.

Now we must consider the court's name; it is reasonable to assume that a brewhouse once stood there. I have found no evidence of such a brewhouse existing in the area in the nineteenth or even the eighteenth centuries. However,

records of the Manor of East Greenwich in 1695 record that 'Capt. Barrett holdeth one tenement (a brewhouse) with the appurtenances, having the River of Thames north, the widow Crispe's lands south and east, Billingsgate Dock west...' for which he was paying an annual rent of one shilling (5p). Further, John Wooten was paying tuppence per annum (0.83p) for 'one tenement, having the lands of Capt. Warner's heirs east, the lands of Capt. Barrett, being the Brewhouse, west, Brewhouse Lane south, and the River of Thames north...'

Bearing in mind the brewhouse's proximity to the river and its bustling trade, it is probably safe to assume that Captain Barrett was a mariner, rather than a military gentleman, and that the output of his brewhouse went to the victualling of ships, a trade which was mostly taken by the rise of the common brewers in the eighteenth century.

However, it is not difficult to imagine that some of Barratt's beer went down the throats of thirsty boatmen. Perhaps, and this is pure speculation on my part, the brewhouse may have been the genesis of the pub in Brewhouse Lane, the Fubbs Yacht? The original pub, of wooden construction like the surrounding houses, was burnt down in a large fire in 1847, was rebuilt in brick and traded until about the time of the Great War.



The pub's odd name is derived from His Majesty's Yacht Fubbs, which was built at Greenwich in 1682. Fubbs was Charles II's pet name for one of his mistresses, Louise de K rouaille, and it was a term popular at the time, meaning plump or chubby. The ketch-rigged vessel had a long career, was rebuilt and modified a number of times and was withdrawn from service and broken up in July 1781.

Looking west along Brewhouse Lane, c1890
The lantern and projecting sign indicate the position of the Fubbs Yacht

LEWISHAM

George Brett

Was a brewer in Lewisham prior to his death in May 1767.

Richard Price

Price was the tenant of the brewhouse being sold on 11th December 1773 'by order of the late Mr & Mrs Brett', described as being 'near the White Hart', which would place the brewhouse in what would become Lewisham High Street.

Price & Constable, *Lewisham Brewery*

Trading under this style in 1779. Price died in Lewisham in 1794.

Abraham Constable, *Lewisham Brewery, High Street*

Constable was referred to in the Kentish Weekly Post in November 1804, upon the death of his wife Ann at Bridge House, Lewisham, as 'an eminent brewer of that place'. He served as a Magistrate and as the Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, he was a Captain of the Loyal Lewisham and Lee Volunteer Infantry and was an active campaigner for parliamentary reform.

Constable & Fordham, *High Street*

Listed as brewers in 1798 and in 1805. Constable had retired from active involvement by 1808, when the partners were Edward Allen Fordham (1771-1853), John Fordham (1762-1842) and Frederick Thomson. In October of the same year, Frederick Thomson, a 'brewer, aged twenty-four, eldest son of Frederick Thomson esq., of Kensington' died at the house of Abraham Constable. In 1810, Constable built himself a grand house at Hither Green; with 'eight bedchambers and a patent water closet', the house was situated on rising ground 'overlooking the rural and respectable village of Lewisham'. The house, with its grounds and sixteen acres of meadow land, was sold at auction in November 1833, after Constable's demise in 1832 at the age of eighty-seven. It would seem that he had been unwell for some years as he was forced to resign his position as a Magistrate of Kent in 1826, after thirty years of service, having been convicted of committing a vagrant to three months hard labour without hearing the witnesses against him, or the party to his defence.

Constable's presence in court was dispensed with 'due to his age and infirmity'; having done everything in his power to make amends to the wronged vagrant, he was ordered to pay to the King the sum of £100.

Fordham & Marsden, High Street

Listed in 1817 and the new Anchor Brewery was built in Lewisham Road in 1818. The Fordham brothers, from Hertfordshire, were capitalists who had invested in the brewery. Their later census entries list them as 'Independent' or 'Landed Proprietor & Fundholder' and Edward features in the poll books for Blackheath and Greenwich up until his death as owning property in the area, although he lived in College Street, St Albans, where he died, still a bachelor, in 1853. John married, but he is not the father of the Edward King Fordham who established a brewery in Ashwell, Herts, prior to 1825.

Steward & Marsden, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

Listed under this style in 1821. However, in April 1822 the partnership of John Fordham, Edward Allen Fordham and George Eagles Marsden was dissolved.

William & James Steward, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

Listed under this style in a Directory of 1823. Various members of the Steward family had brewing interests in Great Yarmouth, Norwich, St Albans, Bury St Edmunds, Stratford and Ipswich.

W. Steward & Co, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

James Steward left the partnership in May 1826 and in November 1827 the partnership of William Steward, James Conway Travers and Timothy Steward was dissolved. James Conway Stewart was an investor; born in 1776 in County Cork into a military family (his siblings included two Rear-Admirals, a Major-General and several Naval Lieutenants), he served as a Major in the Rifle Brigade in the Peninsular War and was severely wounded at the Battle of New Orleans in 1815. He was knighted in 1837, and died in 1841 'after many years suffering in consequence of wounds in service'.

Steward, Marsden & Co, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

Listed as 'Ale & Porter Brewers' in Directories of 1829 and 1834. Initially, this partnership was between John Fordham, Edward Allen Fordham and George Eagles Marsden although Steward still seems to have had some interest. To further complicate the issue, the London Gazette reported the dissolution of the partnership of Stewart(sic) & Co, being James Steward, George Eagles Marsden and Henry Watson Parker in April of 1834, so far as regards James Steward, citing debts by the remaining partners. Then in June there was a further dissolution between Marsden and Parker, who was an Attorney and Solicitor.

Marsden & Nicholl, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

This partnership was listed in Directories of 1839 and 1841, although they were bankrupt in 1840. In the census of 1841 George Eagles Marsden is listed in Lewisham as a brewer aged about 65.

G.E. Marsden & Co, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

This partnership was dissolved in October 1844 as regards Marsden, leaving the Nicholl brothers in control. Marsden retired to Croydon, where he died in August 1846, after a long illness.

Harry & Vincent Nicholl, Anchor Brewery, Lewisham Road

Listed in Directories of 1852, 1874 and 1883. The Nicholl brothers, Harry and Vincent, were born in Barnet, Herts in 1811 and 1814 respectively, two of the sons of Richard Nicholl, a wealthy proprietor of estates in St Vincent, in the West Indies. They were not the only brewers in the family, as another brother, Charrington Nicholl (born 1816), was the owner of the East Hill Brewery in Colchester, Essex. Further, their mother's maiden name was Anne Charrington, and she was related to the famous brewing family at another Anchor Brewery... in Mile End. Harry Nicholl lived in Beckenham, while Vincent lived farther from their Brewery, at Nutfield, Surrey, where he was Master of the Old Surrey Hounds. The brewery employed eleven men in 1861, sixteen in 1871 and eighteen men and twelve boys in 1881.

H. & V. Nicholl Ltd, Anchor Brewery, 170 Lewisham Road

This firm was registered as a limited company in November 1887; Harry Nicholl died in 1889 and the operation was acquired by Messrs Whitbread & Co Ltd in 1890 for £185,000. Vincent Nicholl retired; he died in 1908. Brewing ceased and the premises were converted into a bottling and distribution depot to supply Whitbread's customers south of the Thames. The depot closed in March 1984 and was demolished in 1987; the site is now occupied by a Tesco supermarket, although the offices survive, now known as Eagle House.



*Demolition, 1987
The surviving office block can be seen middle right
Photo: BHS Archive*

MARSDEN BREWING CONNECTIONS On 10th October 1774, a young lady by the name of Ann Eagles, of Stapleford Abbots, Essex, married a James Marsden, 'of this parish', at St Mary the Virgin with Christ Church, Wanstead, Essex. The marriage was conducted by licence, rather than banns, as Ann was a minor, aged just seventeen; the register was annotated 'by Licence, John Eagles, her father consenting thereto'. Less than a fortnight previously, on 27th September, James Marsden, described as a 'gentleman, aged upwards of twenty-one years, of St Leonard's, Shoreditch', had posted a bond of £200 with the Bishop of London for the granting of the licence. Marsden appeared in person; he presented a paper on which John Eagles had indicated his consent; also present was the Notary who had witnessed Eagles' signature on the paper.

John Eagles had stated his occupation as a brewer when he married Sabrina Brady at St Dunstan and All Saints, Stepney, in November 1754, and he was reported, in May of 1787, to have been a bankrupt brewer 'of Stapleford Abbots, Essex, now of Lewisham, Kent'. He died in Lewisham on 15th October 1793 and was buried in a vault beneath the altar of St Mary's Church, suggesting that he was a man of some standing in the village of Lewisham. Also interred in this vault lie the remains of his grandson, George Eagles Marsden, the first child of the James and Ann above. On the tomb's inscription, George's date of birth is given as 8th September 1774. If this date is accurate then it would go some way towards explaining the events surrounding his parent's marriage just over a month later.

I have found no evidence that John Eagles brewed in his own right in Lewisham; perhaps, after his bankruptcy, he worked as practical brewer for Abraham Constable? I have likewise found no evidence that James Marsden was a brewer, however it does seem likely that James' son, George Eagles Marsden (1774-1846), learned to brew with his grandfather and he certainly went on to become the proprietor of the Anchor Brewery. He also founded a dynasty of Marsden brewers.

George Eagles Marsden's eldest son was also named George Eagles Marsden (1802-64). He was indentured as an apprentice for a period of seven years to David Green 'citizen and cooper of London' in 1817 and by 1851 he was an operative brewer, living in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey. He never married and died, without issue as far as can be ascertained, in Paignton, Devon, in 1864. Probate was granted to his brothers, Richard Andrew Marsden (1804-79), a Banker, and Mark John Marsden (1807-90), who was a Wholesale Stationer.

Just to confuse the issue, Richard Andrew Marsden also had a son named George Eagles Marsden (1850-1921) who had been a Banker, like his father in 1871. However, he was listed as a brewer at the time of the 1881 census, when he was staying at the Grand Hotel, in Brighton, and also in 1886, when he married the daughter of a Merchant and Shipowner. In 1891 and 1901 he was listed as of 'no occupation, living on own means'. However, evidence that he was still involved in the brewing industry comes from his 1911 census entry in which he states, 'formerly partner in brewery and a victim to unfair and wrongful legislation'. George had in fact been in partnership with a George Fonnereau Royds (1855-1908) as brewers and wine & spirit merchants, at the East Walls Brewery in Chichester, which they had bought in 1880. Royds was from a wealthy family, was educated at Haileybury College, Hertfordshire, and Jesus College, Cambridge; it is doubtful whether either of them were practical brewers. They sold their business, with its twenty-two licensed houses, to Messrs. Lambert & Norris, of the Eagle Brewery, Arundel, in 1889. No doubt Marsden retained a financial interest in the Eagle Brewery, and when it was registered as a Limited Company in November 1897 he became a Director. His bitterness, expressed in his 1911 census entry, must stem from the fact that Lambert & Norris Ltd had been taken over by Friary, Holroyd & Healey's Breweries Ltd, of Guildford, Surrey, in 1910. Obviously, he did not come out of the deal as well as he thought that he ought! He died in Folkestone in 1921, leaving the not insubstantial sum of £17,948 10s 1d.

To return now to the sons of Georges Eagles Marsden snr; Robert Marsden (1809-94) also became a brewer. When researching brewery history, it is surprising how often one comes across members of brewing families inter-marrying. However, one shouldn't really be surprised. When young men were habitually sent off to other breweries to gain experience, and if that brewery's proprietor had one, or more, eligible daughters... well, love will find a way! Such may well have been the case in the Marsden family. In June 1847, Robert Marsden married Anna Jane Hector, the daughter of John Hector, proprietor of a brewery in Blandford St Mary, Dorset.

1847. Marriage solemnized by Licence in the Parish of Blandford Mary in the County of Dorset

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
37	June 15	Robert Marsden	37	Bachelor	Brewer	St Peter's Church Lane, Blandford	George Eagles Marsden	Brewer
		Anna Jane Hector	21	Spinster		Blandford St Mary	John Hector	Brewer

Married in the Church of Blandford Mary according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church by me, *J. B. Smith*

This Marriage was solemnized between us, *Robert Marsden* in the Presence of us, *Anna Jane Hector*

John Hector Affirming Minister

There must have already have been a family connection though; Anna Jane's older brother was named John Marsden Hector. This connection, whatever it may have been, was possibly the reason why Robert Marsden went to Hector's brewery, rather than any other country brewery. John Hector retired in the 1870s and his brewery thereafter traded as Neame & Trew (yes, THAT Neame; Hector Bayden Neame was a relative of Percy Beale Neame, the Faversham brewer), and their business was acquired in 1883 by Hall & Woodhouse, who transferred their operations there from Ansty, where they had been established about 1777.

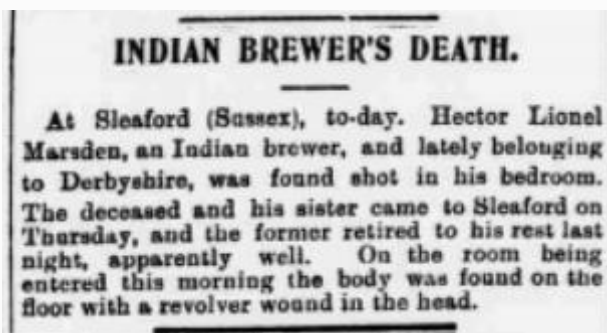
Robert Marsden's brewing career may perhaps be traced by looking at the places in which his children were born; this would indicate that from the late 1840s to the late 1850s he was living in or around Pimlico before moving to Stapenhill, Burton on Trent, at that time a major centre of brewing. This would suggest that he probably spent a decade at Watney's Stag Brewery, before the move to Burton. Although it is not known for certain where he worked in Burton, there is a school of thought, based upon later events, that it may have been at the Abbey Brewery, owned by the Meakin family. By 1871 Robert Marden was a 'Brewer's Agent', living in Ware, Hertfordshire; he died in Hammersmith in 1894.

Three of Robert Marsden's sons became brewers. The eldest, Arthur Eagles Marsden (1849-1931), was brewing in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the 1870s and also possibly in New York, where he married Kate Vaughan, born in Nova Scotia of Irish Catholic descent, in January 1873. By 1874 Arthur was the brewer at the Naini Tal Brewery Company in Jeolikot, some 180 miles southeast of Simla in the Punjab (now known as Shimla, Himachal Pradesh). This brewery was controlled, together with a number of others, by Henry Meakin, nephew of George Meakin, of the Abbey Brewery, Burton on Trent (see above). By 1879, Arthur had been joined by his younger brother Hector Lionel Marsden (1858-97).

The third Marsden brewing brother, John Cecil Marsden (1862-84), had also sailed to India and by 1882 was running Meakin's new brewery at Panch Pool, Dalhousie, another hill station in the foothills of the Himalayas, 125 miles north-west of Simla. By the following year, Arthur was managing Henry Meakin's Simla Old Brewery, while Hector had moved to Dyer's Lucknow Brewery. At this point the apparently successful brewing lives of the three brothers started to go wrong. In September 1883, John Cecil Marsden shot himself due, the local press suggested, to the pressure put upon Europeans living 'alone a dreary existence among uncongenial surroundings'. Two years after his brother's suicide, Arthur moved to the same brewery at Dalhousie, together with his family.

Arthur had become a very troubled man, and marital difficulties developed due, it is said to religious differences (Arthur was Protestant and a Freemason). The unfortunate result of this strife was that, one night in October 1893, Arthur shot his wife, his son Robert Eagles Marsden (1873-93) and his daughter Mabel (1876-1960). Only the daughter survived the incident; for the full story of these tragic events, I can do no better than to refer the reader to Martyn Cornell's Zythophile blog at zythophile.co.uk/2020/03/29/the-marsden-murders-or-the-tragic-lives-of-three-brewing-brothers/. Arthur was arrested and tried, the jury finding him not guilty due to temporary insanity. However, he was not freed but kept in custody until the Government of the Punjab declared him a 'dangerous criminal lunatic'. He spent the rest of his life in a number of institutions until his death in Lahore in 1931.

Hector Lionel Marsden had moved to Solan, near Simla, by 1894 where he was the manager of Dyer's brewery there. He returned to the United Kingdom in 1896 and on 15th July 1897 travelled with his sister to Seaford, Sussex. On the following Monday morning, 19th July, he was found dead in his bedroom with a gunshot wound to his head.



Daily Mail, 19th July 1897

The *Brewers' Journal*, 15th August 1898, reports that 'The will has recently been proved of Mr. Hector Lionel Marsden, of 4, Carlton Terrace, Broad Street, Sleaford (sic), and formerly of Lucknow, Denver (sic), who died on the 19th July last. The executor of the late Mr. Marsden's will is Mr. Alfred Drew, of Dalford (sic) House, Cullompton, Devon, *brewer* (my italics), and the testator's estate has been valued at £268 19s'. Intrigued by this further brewing connection to the Marsdens, I looked for references to Alfred Drew, the brewer, with no success as yet. However, the occupants of Dulford House, Cullompton, proved so unusual that I have attached some notes below in the form of a postscript.

Acknowledgements: Many thanks to Martyn Cornell, and to Colleen Murphy, whose genealogical research into the Marsden family goes far deeper than mine.

Postscript (A little off-topic, but a fascinating story!)

Dulford House (not Dalford) was situated three miles south of Cullompton, Devon. According to a piece in the *Tiverton Gazette* in September 1879, it was built in the 1770s by Lord Montrath and was demolished in the 1930s.

Lord Montrath, who was said to have suffered a deformity, had built a twelve-foot-high, mile-long, wall around the property to hide his affliction from the public gaze. After his death, the house was then owned by Joseph Lyons Walrond (1752-1815) and upon his death it passed to his eldest son, Lyons Walrond (1800-19). When he too died, in May 1819, the house passed to his brother, Bethell Walrond (1802-76), a classical scholar and linguist who, having spent many years in Europe, claimed to be the eighth Marquis de Vallado. His wife, whom he married in 1829, always used the title Lady Janet Walrond but this had nothing to do with being the wife of a supposed Spanish grandee; she had been born Janet St Clair-Erskine in 1800, the daughter of James St Clair-Erskine, the second Earl of Rosslyn, and was therefore a 'Lady' in her own right.



Bethell Walrond was somewhat eccentric; when his daughter Augusta passed away, he had her body embalmed and placed in a coffin which he kept in his dressing room together with another containing the remains of a favourite dog. His bed was adorned with three human skulls and black funerary plumes which he claimed were to remind him of his own mortality. It was claimed in later years that he would talk to the skulls when he retired to bed. He was well-read, his library consisting of in excess of 6,000 volumes. He had a fine art collection and a collection of arms and armour, including over fifty cannons on the lawn! In the last fifteen years of his life, his main pastime seems to have been going to law at any and every opportunity. It was said that he would go to law about 'anything or with anybody, and wouldn't mind what he spent if he could only ruin his adversary'. His wife and surviving daughter left him and he fell out with his son, trying to forbid him to marry a young lady of whom the father disapproved. He never spoke to any of them again.

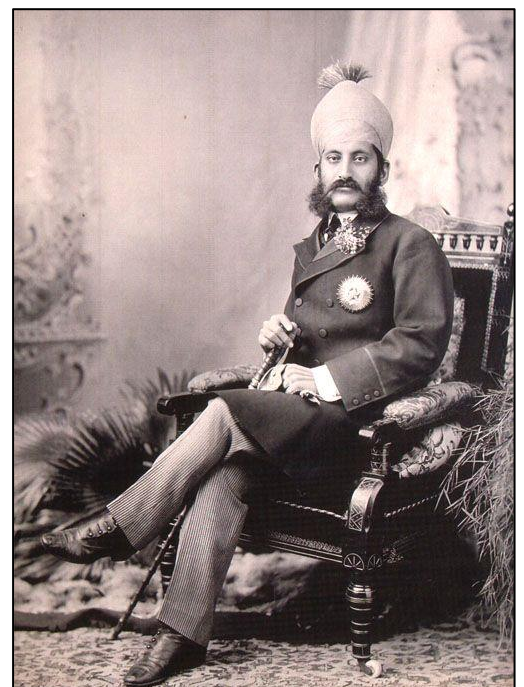
The couple married anyway; when the father died, his will was disputed on the grounds of his insanity. The case went to court and excited much interest before a settlement was imposed by the court between Walrond's executors (one of whom was the main beneficiary of the will) and the members of the family. His wife and daughter were to receive 'certain payments', while his son was to receive the residue. However, the house's contents had to be sold at auction in September 1878 in order to meet the terms of the payments to Lady Janet and her daughter. Reports of the forthcoming auction noted that it was said that the son, Henry Walrond (1841-1917) (now claiming to be the ninth Marquis de Vallado), intended to live there. It seems to have been a popular decision locally; when he arrived by train from Teignmouth, he was greeted enthusiastically by the people of Cullompton and at Dulford the estate workers removed the horses from his carriage and drew it themselves up to the house. The grounds were thrown open to the villagers for the first time in many years and a good time seems to have been had by all, aided no doubt by the fact that 'Mr. Hawkins had a hogshead of cider on a cart, which was dispensed liberally, but not enough to intoxicate'.

Examination of local newspapers reveals something of the subsequent occupants of Dulford House. In July 1887 Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Walrond (4th Bttn. Devonshire Regiment) was hosting his daughter's wedding reception there but, two years later in August 1889 the house was offered to let 'at a modest rental'. It was described at this time as having five reception rooms and sixteen bedrooms, with twenty acres of lawn, gardens and pleasure grounds. There was also an option to take the 1000-acre Dulford Estate, together with its farms and woodlands. By 1891 the occupant of the house was a Mr John Boyle, presumably a tenant. He was a relative of the Walrond's as, when he hosted the wedding reception of his daughter in that year, the Western Mail reported on the event at length, including the facts that the bride's uncle, the Rev. M.S.A. Walrond had conducted the ceremony and a Mr S.H. Walrond was the Best Man.

The Exeter & Plymouth Gazette stated in June 1894 that the house had been sold by the Walrond family to a Mr & Mrs Albert Abid. The couple lived at Dulford House for some thirty years; Mrs Annie Abid died in 1922 and was buried in an elaborate mausoleum built in the grounds, where her husband was also interred in 1925. The couple had paid some £50,000 (£5,600,000 in 2020 terms) for the property and land, had spent lavishly on extending the house and building a new carriage drive, and they lived the lives of a Devon country squire and his lady. So, Alfred Drew, brewer, and the executor of Hector Leonard Marsden's estate, in giving Dulford House as his address in 1898, must have been their guest.

Abid is an unusual surname, not just in Devon but in the whole of the United Kingdom. Albert Abid had been born in 1848 in the Armenian enclave of Julfa in Ispahan, Persia (now Isfahan, Iran), the son of a goldsmith, and was baptised into the Armenian Orthodox Church. He must have been well educated in local languages as well as English; in 1870-72 he served as manservant and interpreter to Capt. Charles Bean Euan Smith, a soldier/diplomat on a Special Mission to Iran on behalf of the British Government. He then served as an interpreter in the retinue of the Shah of Iran in his peregrinations around Europe in 1873. Later he returned to Europe once more as valet and interpreter for Vicar-ul-Umpa, a nobleman of the Paigah family of Hyderabad, in Central India. When Vicar gifted his Falaknuma Palace to Mahbub Ali Khan, the young Nizam of Hyderabad, the Nizam, intrigued by the 'European valet' and having an interest in dressing fashionably in the European style, asked that Albert be allowed to join the Nizam's staff.

Albert and the Nizam became close, Albert being responsible for buying in the Nizam's clothes from Paris and London as well as arranging local manufacture. Mahbub liked to dress well and would rarely wear the same clothes twice, eventually devoting an entire wing of his palace as a huge wardrobe. He wore only the finest silk socks from Paris, which would be discarded after being worn once. It is said that Albert Abid would have then expertly laundered and placed into the original packaging, which he had carefully preserved, and then sold them back to the Nizam as a fresh consignment from Paris! Certainly, he had a keen business mind; as a side-line he opened a shop catering as outfitters to the European community in Hyderabad.



*Asaf Jah VI Mir Mahbub Ali Khan Siddiqi Bayafandi (1866-1911)
sixth Nizam of Hyderabad, sporting fashionable 'Dundreary' whiskers*

Albert Abid met his wife, Annie Evans (1851-1922), in Hyderabad whence she had travelled as a 'Lady's Attendant and Governess' to Lady Meade, the wife of Sir Richard Meade, the British resident in Hyderabad. She later filled the same post for the wife of Hubert Rothwell Green, a Surgeon, and travelled back to the Britain with the family. In 1881, she was living and working at their home in Sherborne, Dorset. However, Albert and Annie were not separated for long as the couple were married in July 1882 at Trinity Church, Upper Chelsea, in London. They sailed for Bombay (now Mumbai) in October aboard the steamship Brindisi.

Back in Hyderabad, Annie also opened a shop, catering for the ladies of the European community. Albert had by now risen to a position of some influence in the Nizam's household, often being referred to as his Chamberlain. As the son of a goldsmith and jeweller, he also advised the Nizam on the purchase of jewellery and this may well have caused his downfall from favour in Hyderabad, and may have prompted the couple's decision to buy a property and move to England.

Alexander Malcolm Jacob (1849-1921) was a jewel dealer in Simla and a friend of the Abids; he was godfather to their youngest son, who was named for him. Despite his Scottish forenames he had been born in Izmir, Turkey, and was Jewish, although later in life he claimed to have completed the Haj, and to be a Muslim. In 1891 he had travelled to Hyderabad with a diamond which he hoped to sell to the Nizam; the stone, a colourless Golconda diamond of 184.5 carats (36.9g) cut weight (it is reputed to have been in excess of 400 carats prior to being cut and polished in Europe) was known as the Imperial or Victoria Diamond. Jacob had a financial interest, having had to leave a substantial deposit with the stone's cutter and owner, plus his potential commission on the sale of course. Through the good offices of the Abids, both of whom had free access to the Nizam, Jacob tendered the stone to Mahbub Ali Khan, who seemed disinterested and offered Jacob forty-six lakh (4,600,000 rupees) for it. He was asked to make a good faith deposit if the sale were to go ahead and this he did, paying twenty-three lakh. Neither Jacob, nor the cutters, were happy with this offer and when they 'lost track' of the Nizam's deposit the Nizam accused Jacob of fraud.



*The Jacob Diamond
The world's fifth largest*

Both of the Abids gave evidence at the ensuing trial at the High Court in Calcutta (now Kolkata), where they were put in the position of either having to support their friend, or their patron. Eventually, the result of the case was that the court having no jurisdiction in the princely states, the Nizam kept the diamond and Jacob's reputation was ruined. The stone then disappeared until it was found after the Nizam's death by his son, the seventh Nizam, Osman Ali Khan, tucked into the toe of one of his father's slippers! Not realising its value, Osman used it as a paperweight for some years until, after independence in 1948 it was seized by the Indian State as all of the princely states were 'nationalised'. After much litigation, the diamond was purchased from the Nizam's trust and is now stored in the vaults of the Reserve Bank of India in Mumbai.



Albert Abid, as a country gentleman

Jacob felt that the Abids had betrayed him and they had perhaps lost the trust of the Nizam. Another factor in their decision to leave Hyderabad, indeed leave India entirely, may have been their social position. Seen as a mixed-race couple and as 'trade' they would have been looked down upon by both the Indian nobility and the British Raj. The monthly report sent back to the British Government by the British Resident in Hyderabad regarding the Abid's decision contains the telling phrase 'always remember that he was just the Nizam's dressing-boy'.

By now, Albert's businesses in Hyderabad included an ice factory and mineral water plant, an engineering works and electric motor factory, and two pharmacies staffed by qualified European pharmacists. These they retained, together with the two outfitters stores, after their move. They got into the habit of travelling back to Hyderabad once year to deal with business, conveniently these trips usually coincided with the worst of the English winter!

Albert Abid became a naturalised British citizen in 1900, Annie had always been one, of course. When Annie died in 1922, much regret was expressed locally. She had taken an interest in the village school and worshipped at the village church. Albert supported the local rifle volunteers and donated a handsome trophy for the winner of their annual shooting match, he had it made from Indian silver by the best Silversmiths in Bombay on one of his business trips. They opened their grounds for church fetes and appeared to be very much at home as minor country gentry, but had they really escaped the social stigma that they had felt in India? Although they appear to have been much loved locally, with their exotic Indian servants, they probably still did not fit into the Devon 'country set'. A clue may be the fact that their eldest son Aviet Abid,

who was a solicitor in London and who inherited Dulford House, changed his surname by deed poll to Evans, his mother's maiden name, soon after Albert's death.

Albert and Annie's businesses in Hyderabad were liquidated, except for the refrigeration company, of which their eldest son, Alexander Malcolm Evans (he too had changed his surname by deed poll) was chief engineer, which traded until 1948. Dulford House was offered for sale by auction in 1929, but failed to sell. By now the house was an anachronism; it was gutted in 1930, the materials being sold for salvage, and by 1934 it had been completely demolished. Also demolished was the ornate mausoleum in the grounds; the remains of Albert and Annie Abid were re-interred in the village churchyard, the same churchyard in which Bethell Walrond had been buried. According to the Vicar's notebook, held in the Exeter Record Office, during the night before Bethell's funeral the coffins containing the remains of his daughter and his dog were also quietly buried, as were the three human skulls from his bedstead.

As intriguing as all this may be, it goes no way towards explaining who Alfred Drew was or his connection, whether familial or just business, with either Hector Lionel Marsden, or Albert Abid. Presumably he was an 'Indian Brewer' like Hector Marsden, or was he? It is always worth remembering that just because an apparent fact appears in print, or is published online, it does not necessarily mean that it is true. This fact is a universal truth, which must be borne in mind by all researchers, whatever their field of interest.

MARSDEN Hector Lionel of 4 Carlton-terrace Broad-street Seaford Sussex brewer died 19 July 1897 Probate **London** 14 June to Alfred Drew brewer Effects £268 19s.

The Probate Calendar for 1898 (above) states that Alfred Drew, executor of the estate of Hector Lionel Marsden, was a brewer, but I have been unable to locate him as such. Was he really a brewer? And if he wasn't, then what was his profession? As the executor to a will he could be expected to be a banker possibly, or maybe a solicitor.

Serendipity, call it luck if you will, seems to play an almost unacknowledged part in research. Some of the Marsden family were Freemasons and, while I was scrolling through the subscription ledger of the Felix Lodge, looking for George Eagles Marsden (1850-1921), who should I find, quite by chance, but one Alfred Drew, solicitor, aged forty-one (in 1874), of Raymonds Buildings, Holborn. A few lines below him was George E. Marsden, so they were members of the same Masonic Lodge, at the same time.

Further research revealed that Drew had lived in Kingston upon Thames in the 1860s, when George Eagles Marsden jnr was brewing there, and that in 1881 Drew was living in Lewisham. On this evidence, and with the Masonic connection, I would contend that there is a distinct possibility that this Alfred Drew was the family solicitor. Had he died prior to 1898, that would have ruled him out, but he was still alive and living in Vassall Road, Brixton, in 1901. But would Alfred Drew, the solicitor, have known Albert Abid well enough to be a guest at Dulford House? This is quite possible; Drew is mentioned in a number of newspapers as dealing with property sales, so perhaps he handled Abid's purchase of the house? In addition, Abid's eldest son was also a solicitor in London, perhaps they were acquainted?

I will freely admit that all of this is circumstantial... but at the moment, I am happy that this is the right man. If you can prove me wrong, then I am quite happy to change my mind.

LYDD

Henry Masters

Was a brewer in the town prior to his death in 1798, at which time his leasehold brewhouse was offered for sale.

'TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, At the George, in Lydd, on Tuesday the 18th Instant, precisely at two o'clock in the afternoon. All that complete and well-accustomed BREWHOUSE in the town of Lydd, late in the occupation of Mr. Henry Masters, deceased, which is held under a lease, whereof nine hundred and ninety-four years are unexpired, at the yearly rent of one shilling. N.B. The purchaser will be required to take the fixtures, casks, and stock of Beer therein, at a fair appraisement.'

(*Kentish Gazette*, 14th December 1798)

-oOo-

William & John Sankey

The Sankey's brewery was for sale by private contact in April 1813, together with a 'Malthouse, storehouses, sheds, yards, backsides, adjoining'. The premises were held under lease for the term of 999 years from 9th October 1776, at the ground rent of one shilling per annum (*Kentish Gazette*, 30th April 1813). This would be William Sankey & Co (page 205) and the brewery was probably that later operated by Thomas Haissell (page 205).

-oOo-

David Green, High Street

Green (page 206) died in 1843; a notice appeared in the *Dover Telegraph and Cinque Ports General Advertiser* on 20th May, asking his debtors and creditors to contact William Stringer, Solicitor to the Executors. His widow Catherine Green continued the business.

MARGATE

T & R Edmeades, *New Street Brewery*

The entry on page 244 of the second edition of *'Kent'* belies a lack of knowledge of this concern and of who the T. and R. Edmeades even were. The advertisement (right) from the *Thanet Times*, 1860, tells us not only that the pair brewed in New Street, but also that they had not been there very long. However, it is still not clear whether Robert Edmeades's partner was his father Thomas, or his brother, also Thomas.

I have now researched the Edmeades family thoroughly and have uncovered a brewing dynasty which spanned the Empire. The resulting monograph, due to be published shortly in *Brewery History*, the Journal of the Brewery History Society, runs to 10,500 words, with 169 endnotes.

LONDON PORTER. CARRIAGE SAVED.
T. & R. EDMEADES,
LONDON PORTER & ALE
BREWERS;
HAVING TAKEN THE
BREWERY, NEW STREET, MARGATE,
ARE PREPARED TO SUPPLY THE TRADE
WITH A FIRST-RATE PORTER, EQUAL
TO ANY IMPORTED, ON ADVANTAGEOUS
TERMS.



Robert's personal life was complex; he married three times and had what we would today call a blended family. There was a child by his first wife, who died in Hoxton, a child of his second wife's first marriage (she was a widow) and more children by that second wife, who died in Poole. However, we are here concerned with his brewing career. The identity of Robert's partner in Margate is still unclear; both his father and his older brother were named Thomas; what a pity that they did not trade as either 'T. Edmeades & Son' or 'Edmeades Brothers'! My money is on the brother... the partnership was dissolved in 1860 and early in 1861 his brother emigrated to Australia.

Robert had a 3qtr brewery in Whitmore Road, Hoxton, from about 1863-66, but was a brewer residing in Camberwell when he married his second wife. Her father was a hop planter in Farnham, no doubt growing the renowned Farnham Whitebines, then popularly used in pale ales. Robert then re-appears in Poole in the early 1870s as the brewer at Marston & Millns' Dolphin Brewery. The staff there presented him with a tankard in 1876 on the occasion of his leaving to take up a brewing position in Trowbridge. Notwithstanding this, another child was born at the Dolphin Brewery in 1879 and in the 1881 census Robert was a 'Brewer (managing)' in Market Street, Poole. There is some evidence that Robert visited relatives in Australia in the mid-1880s, but by 1891 he was a 'Brewer's manager' living in Saffron Walden, Essex. He was still a brewer (although no longer recorded as 'managing') in 1891, when he was living in Addington Road, Reading. Robert passed away in Reading on 16th February 1906 after a long and varied career. The photograph (above) was taken in Poole at the time that his son Robert sailed to Australia, alone and aged just seventeen, ostensibly to learn brewing with his uncle, Henry Edmeades. This plan did not eventuate however, and Robert jnr spent his life as a grocer in New Zealand.

-000-

Floc. Brewing, *Unit 3, Jarrett's Yard, Thanet Road*

Thanks to Colin Maskell for this one. The company was first registered in June 2019 as Beer is Beautiful Ltd, the name changed to Floc. Brew Co Ltd in December, and the current title, Floc. Brewing Ltd was assumed in February of 2020. The company principal is Ross Shields. The brewery's website states that 'we make hop-forward, delicious, flavourful beer, brewed with the finest ingredients and of the highest quality, beer that makes people smile, liquid sunshine, to be enjoyed with friends, family or whoever makes you, you.' Output is in cans only at present, with a move to keg in due course.

One assumes that the company name derives from the brewing term 'flocculation', which describes the tendency of yeast cells to clump together.



MILTON REGIS

‘WATER CORNMILL and BREWHOUSE, To be LET by AUCTION, At the George at Milton, on Saturday the 19th Instant, at three o’clock in the afternoon, for the term of twenty years, and entered into immediately, or at Christmas next.

A Capital WATER CORN-MILL and DWELLING HOUSE, both under one roof, with an excellent garden very handsomely laid out and planted with fruit-trees, situated at Milton near Sittingbourne, in the county of Kent.

The house consists of a kitchen, two parlours, a pantry and other conveniences on the ground-floor, two cellars below, five lodging rooms and a ceiled garret above; the outbuildings adjoining are a brewhouse, a back kitchen, and a three-stall stable on the east, a storehouse and a stable for three horses, &c. on the west.

The mill is capable of grinding fifty quarters of wheat weekly, having a consistent stream of water, which varies but little even in the driest seasons.

Also to be let, and to be entered into Immediately.

For the term of twenty years.

A very desirable BREWERY, adjoining the above premises, with an established private trade, a great part of which is ready money.-The business may soon be increased (sic) to the extent of what it can do, which is wetting from 32 to 40 quarters of malt weekly, being situated in the most populous part of the county, is within ten miles of Chatham, Rochester and Strood, eight of Faversham, twelve of Maidstone, and fifteen of Canterbury; it has also the advantage of a plentiful stream of fine spring water running close by it, where, if a head was raised, is sufficient to turn a wheel that would work both the liquor and wort pumps. There is a Hoy goes from Milton to London every week; the distance from the brewhouse to the quay is not more than 200 yards’

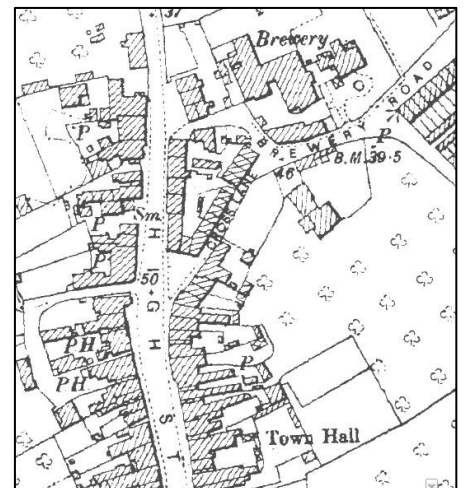
The person, who wishes to take these premises, must take the stock, and such book debts as will be warranted good, and utensils of the mill and brewery, at a fair valuation, with which two months credit will be given, the amount of which will not exceed 1000l. and security must be given for payment of the rent or rents half-yearly in London.

Any person inclined to take these premises, after having viewed them, will be treated with by applying to Mr. Rankin, at No. 8, Bread-street, or Mr. Francis Garratt, Old Swan, London; or to Mrs. Wright’s, Milton, Kent, or proposals in writing, directed to him above will be answered.’

(*Kentish Gazette*, 15th November 1791)

It has not proved possible, as yet, to identify which of the six watermills on the stream feeding Milton Creek is referred to here; King’s Mill would have been closer to the town quay than two hundred yards, so Periwinkle Mill is the most likely candidate. Francis Hartridge (qv) was a miller at the Periwinkle in 1851, before building his brewery to the north of the High Street, and Thomas Edmeades (qv), the father of Robert Edmeades (qv) was both a miller and brewer in Milton Regis in the 1830s.

OS Map, c1890
Showing the location of
Hartridge’s Brewery



QUEENBOROUGH

Bentley & Ashley, Queenborough Brewery, East end of High Street

‘To be Sold by Auction by Mr. R. Burgess, at the George Inn, Queenborough, on Saturday, March 21st 1801, between the hours of four and five o’clock in the afternoon, a very desirable Freehold and Leasehold Estate, in 4 Lots:

Lot 1. - Comprises a capital well-established Leasehold Brewhouse in full trade, and Dwelling House adjoining, with stable, coach-house, yard and suitable outbuildings and conveniences; situated at the entrance to the town of Queenborough, with the advantage of the use of a large Mote and well of good Water, where the shipping at the Nore, Blackstakes and the Harbour, are daily supplied, as boats and barges of considerable burthen can get to and from the brewhouse every tide, and it being the only brewhouse on the Island of Sheppey, and the wharf adjoining being lately completed for ships to water at, it may reasonably be called next to a running stream for beer as well as water, independent of the regular fixed trade, which is very considerable.

The premises are held on lease from the Corporation of Queenborough, for ninety-nine years, from Michaelmas 1771, with a perpetual covenant for renewal, subject to an annual ground rent of two pounds five shillings. They are now in the possession of Messrs. Bentley and Ashley, whose term expires at Midsummer 1810, at the old and low rent of £25 per ann.’

This is the brewery which was let to a William Burgess (page 261) in 1808 and 1810; whether he was related to the auctioneer in the notice above is not known. The dates of the lease would seem to suggest that the brewhouse had been in operation for thirty years prior to this sale.

SHEERNESS

Thomas Marshall, *Brewhouse Row, Hope Street*

*'TO BREWERS,
TO BE DISPOSED OF,
WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION,*

A Good HOUSE and BREWHOUSE, with the Plant, Fixtures, &c. all complete, situated in *Hope-street, Sheerness, Kent*. This is a very advantageous offer for any Person wanting a situation in the above Line, as there is no other brewer in the Isle of Sheppey.

For particulars enquire of Mr T. Marshall, on the Premises; all letters post-paid.'

(Maidstone Journal and Kentish Advertiser, 17th April 1832)

Marshall's (page 296) business in Brewhouse Row probably passed to Henry Brett (qv) at this time.

STROOD

Henry Herbert Payne, *High Street*

Payne (page 305) advertised his '*CAPITAL BREWERY*' to be let upon lease for fourteen years in May 1816, as he was about to retire from business. (*Kentish Gazette*, 7th May 1816)

TENTERDEN

Tenterden Brewery Company

Concerning the issue of the 'Horsham Syndicate', my thanks must go to Mark Britton, who spotted a link between Horsham and the name Barnes, which I had completely missed! I have never claimed the epithet, but I have heard the word 'expert' defined as 'one who, by dint of study, becomes more and more knowledgeable about less and less'. So, whilst I am pretty clued up on Kent brewers, my knowledge of those of Sussex is maybe not so good... and this despite the fact that in the dim and distant past I spent a fair amount of time in King & Barnes pubs quaffing the delectable Sussex Bitter. I can still taste that eagerly anticipated autumnal first swallow of Old Ale each year!

Although I have no definite proof as yet, it would seem highly likely then that we can identify a second member of the Horsham syndicate, A. G. Barnes, as Arnold George Barnes, who was born on 26th May 1876 in Fulham, Middlesex. He was educated at Hertford House boarding school in Bedford and by 1901 was a brewer in Horsham, and ten years later was the 'managing director in a brewery company'.

Arnold's father was George Hodsoll Barnes, who had been born in Molash, Kent in 1849. George was an agricultural student in 1871, living with his widowed mother in Preston Street, Faversham, and he eventually became a farmer, like his father. He met and married, on 5th April 1873 in South Kensington, Hannah Eliza (Annie) Herbert, the daughter of Abraham Herbert, an erstwhile silk ribbon manufacturer from Coventry. However, Herbert also owned a brewery in the High Street in Egham, Surrey, and the result was a career change for George who went into partnership as a brewer with his father-in-law. This arrangement was dissolved in January 1882, when George and his family moved to Horsham to take over the East Street Brewery of Messrs Usher Robins & Company. The principal, Thomas James Usher Robins, returned to his home town of Hove, where he entered into partnership with his elderly father, Ebenezer William Robins, as E. Robins & Son at the Anchor Brewery, Waterloo Road, Hove. George Hodsoll Barnes traded in Horsham as G. H. Barnes & Company, while Abraham Herbert continued to trade in Egham, dying three years later, on 9th March 1885. Barnes's business was amalgamated with that of King & Sons, North Street Brewery, Horsham, in 1906 and the East Street Brewery was closed. George Hodsoll Barnes became the managing director and then chairman of King & Barnes Ltd in 1913 after the retirement of Charles King.

By the early 1920s Arnold George Barnes was the managing director of King & Barnes Ltd when his father passed away at his home, Laurel Grove, Gordon Road, Horsham, on 22nd March 1922. Probate was granted to A. G. Barnes and C. H. Arnold, a 'clerk', in May 1922, the deceased's effects amounting to some £7420 (approximately £400,000 in 2020 terms). So, it would seem, on the face of it, that A. G. Barnes was likely to come into some money in the very year that the Tenterden Brewery came up for sale.

However, Arnold's father had spread his seed wide; he married twice and had four sons, including Arnold George, and a daughter by his first wife who died in the spring of 1892, aged just thirty-seven years. George Hodsoll Barnes was married a second time in the autumn of the same year, this time to a Ruth Harris, by whom he had two more sons. Here, the family history researcher in me came to the fore, I needed to know the who and why of this hasty marriage! The answer was not difficult to find; in the census of the previous year, present in the Barnes household there was a governess, aged twenty-two and single, half George's age, and her name? You guessed it... Ruth Harris!

Setting aside his father's love life, Arnold could therefore only expect to inherit one eighth part of his father's estate, which would not have gone very far towards his presumed one quarter share of the purchase price of the Tenterden Brewery. However, the total of his father's effects would not have included the equity in King & Barnes Ltd and its tied estate; that would remain with the company, of which Arnold was the managing director. I think we can safely assume that he would have been able to afford his quarter stake, if indeed that is what it was, in the Horsham syndicate. All that is left to do now is to identify messrs E. A. Baker and S. C. M. Douglas!

TONBRIDGE

Constellation Brewery, Unit 21, Orchard Business Centre, Sanderson Way, Tonbridge, TN9 1QF

During a pandemic is surely an inauspicious time to start a new brewery; Constellation Brewery Ltd was registered in March 2020 by Robert Jenner with an address in School Lane, Iwade (the registered address has since been changed to King Street, Maidstone). Their brewery is in an industrial unit close to where the A26 crosses the Medway, east of Tonbridge.

As well as Draco (right), the range will include Aquila (4.6%abv) cask Golden Ale, Indus (3.9%abv) cask Pale Ale, Lupus (4%abv), keg lager, Hydra (4.7%abv) keg lager and Cassiopeia (4.5%abv) keg XPA.



WELLING



Rock Leopard Brewing Company, Bellgrove Road

This company was registered in August 2017. Whilst actively looking for premises for their own brewery, their beers are currently cuckoo-brewed at the Missing Link Brewery, in West Hoathly, Sussex.

WHITSTABLE



Turnstone Ales, West Cliff, CT5 1DN

Martin Convery ceased brewing his Turnstone Ales from his home late in 2019, when he moved to Suffolk. The beers were mainly bottled and sold at markets, although they did appear on draught from time to time in pubs in the Whitstable area.

Martin Convery pours a taster for a customer.

WYE

Below is a re-write of the previous entry for Wye, caused by the discovery that there were two men in Wye named George Kennett; I had previously referenced the wrong one! Further research has enabled me to correct the error.

William Hobday

Listed in a Directory of 1832 but no further details are known. No brewer is listed in Wye in Pigot's Directory of 1829; however, it was later claimed that the business had been established in 1796 (see below) so William Hobday may have been the founder.

Allard & Matson

This partnership had probably been in operation for some years prior to its dissolution in the latter part of 1835. Thomas Matson may have been the second son of William Matson, a miller at Upper Deal; if so, then by 1841 he was working the mill with his father and brother, Frederick.

'Partnership between us the undersigned, John Allard and Thomas Matson, of Wye, in the County of Kent, in the business of Brewer and Maltster, heretofore carrying on trade under the firm of Allard and Matson, was, on the 12th day of October last past, dissolved by mutual consent: and the said business is now carried on by John Allard, in his own name, and on his own account.— Witness our hands this 29th day of December 1835'.

(*London Gazette*, April 1836)

John Allard

Listed as a brewer and maltster in a Directory of 1840 and as a maltster in the 1841 census. Born in Wye in 1786, John married Elizabeth Hobday in October 1809 and was thus the son-in-law of William Hobday. Allard died in 1850 and was succeeded at the brewery by his own son-in-law; a notice in the *Kentish Gazette* in November 1850 asked that any debts owing to John Allard, deceased, be paid to Thomas Beaney.

Thomas Beaney, *Star Brewery, Church Street*

Listed in Directories of 1871, 1876 and 1878. Thomas Beaney (born in Faversham about 1815) kept a beerhouse in Bridge Street, Wye in 1841. He became involved with the brewery during the 1840s having married Mary Ann Allard, John's daughter, in 1837. He was listed as a 'Maltster and Brewer, employing two labourers' in the census of 1851, by 1861 he was employing five men, one of whom was his son, John Allard Beaney (born 1839). Thomas died in 1879 and was succeeded in the business by his son.

John Allard Beaney, *Star Brewery, Church Street*

Listed in a Directory of 1880; here it would be well to re-iterate that Directories were often compiled in the year prior to that for which they were issued; John Allard Beaney actually died in Smethwick, Staffordshire, on 2nd March 1880. The National Probate Calendar states that he was a 'gentleman', indicating that he was not working as a brewer, and that his estate was valued at just under £5000.

George Kennett, *Star Brewery, Church Street*

Listed in Directories of 1882 and 1887. George Kennett was not a practical brewer, he was a farmer, having been born in 1836, the son of a farmer. He first worked Amage Farm, then Coldharbour Farm, before taking on the 800acre Harville (or Harvill) Farm in the 1880s. Once again, the brewery had passed down through family links; George had married Mary Ann Beaney, the daughter of Thomas, in 1866. George Kennett was very much a countryman; he ran coursing and steeplechase meetings, the notices for which stated that details could be had from the brewery office, he established the Wye ploughing matches and founded the Wye Gun Club. After his move to Harville, he laid out a steeplechase course on his land; Wye Racecourse, which was run by his sons after his death, remained in operation until 1975.

A different light on his involvement in country pursuits is perhaps illustrated by a newspaper report of his appearance at Ashford Assizes in April of 1881. 'Mr. George Kennett, brewer, Wye, and Mr. Ernest Cummings, of Boughton, were summoned for assaulting Henry Hann, gamekeeper, of Eastwell Park, for whom Mr. Minter appeared. It seemed that there had been previous differences between the two gentlemen and the keeper, and after the stag-hunt dinner on March 31st the parties met in the Saracens Head Hotel yard. Mr. Cummings gave him a thrashing, but it did not appear that Mr. Kennett did more than endeavour to separate the two. The charge against Mr. Kennett was dismissed, and Mr. Cummings was fined £5'.

The Star Brewery, described as having a 3qtr plant and 13qtr maltings, was offered for sale by auction in October 1887. The sale particulars stated that 'the business of this brewery was established in 1796'. Offered initially at £900, it was bid up to £1340 and sold to a Mr Bligh. It is not known whether brewing ceased at this time, but it certainly had by October 1889 when the brewery was burnt to the ground. Newspaper reports described the brewery as 'lately belonging to Mr. G. Kennett'. The fire was discovered at about 6pm on a Saturday night, in a bedroom above the taphouse attached to the brewery. It quickly spread to a Draper's shop next door and then, fanned by a high wind, to the King's Head Hotel. The Ashford Brigade were soon on hand with their steam fire engine, but were unable to quell the blaze because the nearby wells were soon pumped dry. The total damage was estimated at some £10,000 and although the brewery was insured it was not rebuilt. The site was sold at auction in September 1890, being purchased for £430 by a Mr Lambert, a London barrister.



*George Kennett (1836-1905)
Photograph by Collis, Canterbury
from The Sketch, 8th January 1896*

MISCELLANEA

I can't really list this one under Flimwell, Sussex, and it would be a bit misleading to list it under Tunbridge Wells, so...

Cellar Head Brewing Company, Pillory Corner, Flimwell, TN5 7QG

I owe an apology to Chis and Julia McKenzie and their team at the Cellar Head Brewing Company. I was remiss in not checking the exact location of their brewery. While their postal address is Flimwell, which is in East Sussex, the brewery is located in a barn at Pillory Corner, about a mile north of Flimwell crossroads and is in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells and therefore in Kent. The map below has East Sussex tinted in purple. They started brewing in 2017 with a core range of five beers, but now produce many seasonal and single hop brews.

