



# *New Marksman*

Funded by the Bally Thomas Provident Fund

Issue 45 AUTUMN / WINTER 2022



Her Majesty waves goodbye  
after 70 years



**AT LAST! WE'RE  
MEETING AND  
WALKING  
AGAIN!**



What's in your  
AUTUMN/WINTER 2022

New **Marksman**

More Beer Stories:

**MBMA AGM  
REPORT**

**THE WALKING GROUP  
STEPS OUT ONCE MORE!**

**Supervisors'  
Reunion Day**

**Pubs with Weird Histories**

**More tales  
About beer.**

**A Royal Talent  
With Horses**

**3 Poems from  
Sue Yates**

**Obituaries**

Don't forget we'd like to hear from you, too; those special occasions, family events, memories, pictures, either call me

01482 491125

Or e-mail

[roybainton@hotmail.com](mailto:roybainton@hotmail.com)

or by post to

**ROY BAINTON  
100 KIRKHAM DRIVE  
HULL HU5 2BT**

**SEND US YOUR STORIES, YOUR  
NEWS, PICTURES!**

# New Marksman

Funded by the Baily Thomas Provident Fund



**A FEW WORDS  
FROM YOUR  
EDITOR**

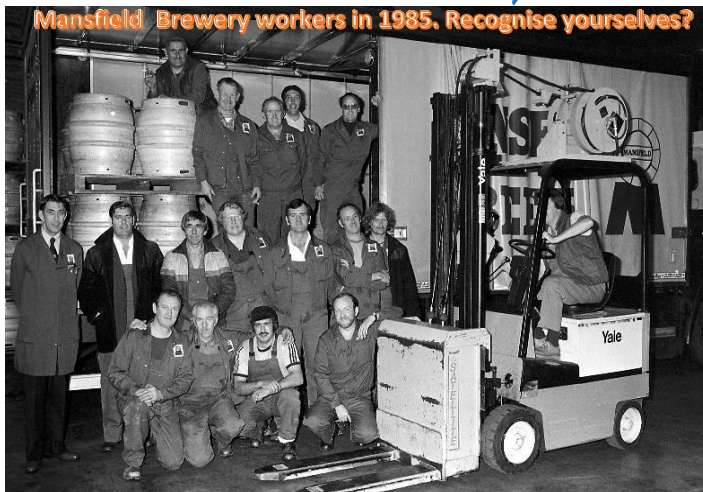


Hello, folks.

A bit late, but here's another issue of Marksman. No doubt we're all still reeling from the disastrous effect Covid has had on our social lives. This has brought many social and other activities to a halt, and the usual flow of information such as news of MBMA family achievements, get-togethers, talent and successes and other events has slowed down. However, we hope we can overcome this in the future, so remember, this is your newsletter, and we welcome your contributions, pictures, news.

*Roy Bainton*

**Mansfield Brewery workers in 1985. Recognise yourselves?**





## **We have moved!**

The Baily Thomas Provident Fund administration office has relocated to:

**Mansfield Business Centre  
Ashfield House  
Ashfield Avenue  
Mansfield  
NG18 2AE**

As you know we have been based in Chadburn House on the site of the former Mansfield Brewery Company since its closure in February 2002. Unfortunately, Chadburn House is now in the hands of an insolvency practitioner, and we have been forced to find new premises.

It hasn't been an easy task to find suitable office space in Mansfield with just four weeks' notice to vacate, but we are pleased to have found an office at the Mansfield Business Centre which we hope will be a great new home for the Baily Thomas Provident Fund. Mansfield Business Centre is located just a short walk from Mansfield Town Centre, just off Woodhouse Road.

If you intend to visit the office, please ensure you ring before visiting us at the new premises to avoid any wasted journey.

**Our telephone number and email address are the same.**

**Telephone: 01623 473290**

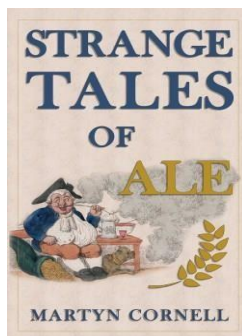
**Email: [enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@bailythomasprovidentfund.org.uk)**

# More Beer Stories

Ale's  
weird  
history

## What does beer have to do with your blushing Bride? More than you'd think!

Long before Downton Abbey and flash modern weddings, brides in old England partook in trends and traditions of their own. Perhaps the most popular were wedding-day feasts and the pints of ale that accompanied them. The story of brides and beer is just one of the fascinating histories in Martyn Cornell's terrific book, *Strange Tales of Ale*, which yet again proves there's much, much more to the history of beer than you imagine.



We think of the term 'Bridal' to refer to a girl about to marry. However, in the Anglo-Saxon period, circa 1000 A.D., the English referred to wedding feasts as "bredales", boisterous events of food, drinks, dancing, and gossip. By the 11th century, *bredale* had a more popular spelling, *bride ale*, referring to the post-wedding celebrations where beer was often served freely. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle's first documentation of a bride ale depicts a rowdy feast following the marriage of an English earl and his betrothed. Marriage and merrymaking have long gone hand in hand. After all, you can't say "bridal" without first giving a nod to "bride ale." The first documented use of the phrase "bride ale" appears in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, England's early history published in 1075 A.D. This is approximately 125 years before bridal was adopted to describe something belonging to a bride or wedding. Bride ales were so notoriously over-served at weddings that regulations were passed in parts of England to prevent brewers from making beers brewed specifically for weddings too strong. At some weddings, beer was charged for so that the money raised bought gifts for the couple. There are other stories of brides who served guests bride ale in exchange for receiving a gift on their wedding day. This looks suspiciously like today's practice of bridal showers and bachelorette parties.

It also became common for a bride to brew her own beer for the wedding day. Modern couples today often devise their own specialty cocktails or brews for their big day. The wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle saw a beer named "Harry & Meghan's Windsor Knot" created by Windsor & Eton Brewery — a short walk from St. George's Chapel, where Harry and Meghan were wed.

STRANGE TALES OF ALE is packed with fascinating stories about beer. It's available from Amazon and published by Amberley Publishing, Stroud, Gloucestershire. For example – we dropped more than bombs on Europe in WW2.



Take the way the RAF made sure British troops received supplies of beer after the D-Day landings in 1944, for example: they filled up the fuel drop-tanks slung below Spitfire fighters with mild and bitter and flew seventy-five gallons at a time over to the makeshift landing strips in Normandy.





*Left Eileen Spencer: Sharron England: Val Moss: Ian Boucher: Jenny Hall: Graham Cooling*

## **AGM Report 2022**

The Mansfield Brewery Members Association Annual General Meeting was held on Friday 12 August at St Johns Parish Hall, Mansfield.

The chairman welcomed members to the meeting and reminded them that it was 2020 since the last one was held. For the last year the committee had comprised of 4 members - Ian Boucher Chairman, Val Moss Treasurer, Graham Cooling Secretary (retiring) and Jenny Hall.

The committee should consist of 6 members and luckily two members volunteered to join - Sharron England (Secretary) and Eileen Spencer. All were voted in unanimously.



The association was able to run two successful outings this summer - one to the BBC Garden show at Birmingham and the other to Scarborough for a day at the seaside.

It is hoped to organise a Christmas party at the Debdale Sports Club for the December meeting. The evening ended with a buffet supper and an entertaining film quiz.



**SUE YATES** is the wife of Bob Yates who was a Drayman at Mansfield Brewery for many years. One of Sue's talents lies in writing poetry, so we're happy to include some of her poems in this edition of Marksman.

## IN MEMORY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Today we have to say goodbye  
To our queen of many years  
People will be very sad  
There will be many tears.

So happy that you passed away  
At Balmoral, the place you love  
And now you are with Philip  
In heaven, up above.

All these years you've reigned over us  
So steadfast and so true  
And now we know that your son Charles  
Will carry on for you

So goodbye to you, Elizabeth  
Our hearts are very sad  
But we always will be thankful  
For the lovely queen we had.

Written by Sue Yates for the Queen's funeral,  
September 19<sup>th</sup> 2022.





From Left

- Alan Singlehurst.
- John Else,
- Kevin Needham,
- John Walker,
- John Bartle,
- George Roe,
- Ian Boucher,
- Mark Leedham,
- Martin Cullimore,
- Graham Kinder,
- Terry Johnson,
- Graham Cooling.
- Kevin Hall.

## Supervisors' Reunion Day 2nd September

What a sense of relief – this felt like the return to 'business as usual' after a two year break due to Covid restrictions when the annual Supervisors' outing was re-formed, and a group of ex-colleagues visited the Everards Brewery. As well as being interesting it was great to meet up with friends.

Everards is regional brewery based in Leicester and founded in 1849 by Thomas Hull, brewer/maltster, and William Everard, a farmer from Narborough. The company recently built a new state of the art brewery on Everards Meadows and produces a range of ales from Tiger bitter to Sundancer Golden ale.

Colleagues travelled from Mansfield, Bristol, Cardiff, and Liverpool for the reunion. After a tour of the brewery and lunch the group enjoyed a talk by the head brewer and sampled the beers. Thanks were given to John Else who organised the visit. Let's hope this fine tradition can once again get into its stride.



# Two more Poems from Sue Yates

## The Energy Crisis

Oh, what a mess we all are in  
With electricity and gas  
Surely in a few months' time  
All of this will pass  
They talk to us about capped rates  
And lost of other stuff  
When all we really want to know  
Is will our income be enough?

I remember when I was a child  
and I would go to bed  
Wearing a nightie, cardigan and socks  
And a hat upon my head

What will we do in winter  
When it begins to snow  
I think I'll go to Dunelm  
And buy myself a throw.

Do you wax lyrical at the state of the world or  
even a happy occasion? We welcome your verses  
at Marksman! send to Roy Bainton  
roybainton@hotmail.com or by post to 100  
KIRKHAM DRIVE HULL HU5 2BT



## The Covid Jab

Have you had your Covid jab?  
People ask of me  
Well, I had it yesterday,  
Just before my tea.

The pharmacist was very nice  
He put me at my ease  
He was just a young man  
And still eager to please

When it was all finished, he said  
'Oh dear, a little bleed'  
I told him not to worry  
There really was no need

He said if you have any problems  
Speak to your GP  
I must admit I had to smile  
And he smiled back at me.







## brother's years of service to Her Majesty the Queen

This is a photograph of my brother Clive. When he was 18, he joined the British Army and served with the Household Cavalry as a member of the elite Lifeguards. He undertook many ceremonial duties with the Queen, usually riding on her left-hand side. He served regularly on Armistice Day at the Cenotaph and at Whitehall, just to mention a few of the prestigious locations and occasions.

He also served in Germany for two years. Clive served his country for a total of 9 years, something of which he was very proud of. When he left the Army, he always attended Armistice Day parades and in later years watched them on TV. He carried his respect for the Queen and Royal family and his love of horses for the rest of his life. Unfortunately, he passed away in December 2020 at the age of 81. How he would have loved to have been here for the Jubilee Celebrations and Her Majesty's funeral My family and I miss him so much.



# PUBS WITH WEIRD HISTORIES



**The White Hart – Worthgate Place, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2QX**

**Weird history? What weirdness does this pub have? It has a Mortuary Body Chute!**

The pub was built on the ruins of St Mary's church, and the small park next door was once a graveyard. Tombstones remain lined up against the wall. Inside, the cellar – which was once the mortuary to the church – still has a body chute. On the other side is an ancient Roman burial site. The pub could be said to be in the “dead centre” of Canterbury and is reportedly haunted.



**The Hatchet Inn – 27 Frogmore Street, Bristol, Bristol, BS1 5NA**

**What?!! It has a Door Made of Human Skin!**

The Hatchet Inn dates from 1606 but has undergone significant alteration since and is a grade II. Local legend has it that the front door, beneath the paint and tar is covered with human skin. The name is thought to originate from the axes/hatchets that the local woodsmen used in Clifton Woods. It is allegedly to be haunted, particularly in the old cellars and the older parts of the building.

**Ye Olde White Harte on Silver Street HULL-  
The pub which started a war!**

**This a Grade II listed building with strong links to the English Civil War** and a reputation of being haunted. Built around 1550, the building became a public house in the late 18th century. However, it was in this building, in the “plotting parlour” above the back bar, that on 23 April 1642, a fateful decision was made. The Governor of Hull, Sir John Hotham, 1st Baronet of Scarborough (Born July 1589 – Died 3 January 1645), held a meeting here in which it was decided to close the gates of Hull to King Charles I. There was a large arsenal at Hull which Parliament had authorised Hotham to retain and hence deny the King access to. The King subsequently besieged Hull for three weeks and it was the first major action of the English Civil War.



# Obituaries

As readers are aware, the function of Marksman is to keep you informed of any news involving MBMA members. Sadly, this includes letting you know who has passed away. Because of the totally adverse effect Covid has had in general over the past two years on the flow of information and the extended necessary absence of social activities, the usual sequence of Marksman issues has been slowed down. Under normal circumstances we'd probably feature one or two fuller obituaries supplied by families of the bereaved, but the surge in sad departures over recent months has dictated economizing on space, so we hope this more compressed presentation still keeps readers informed.

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>Stephen Robinson</b>	Manager of The Highland Laddie HULL.	September 1991 until August 1995	10 March 2022

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>Joseph Dermody</b>	Cask Racking	March 1980 until closure of Brewery	22 March 2022

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>Harry Fisher</b>	Warehouse, Mansfield	February 1973 until March 1998 (retirement)	9 April 2022

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>Lawrence Butcher</b>	Brewhouse	March 1969 until closure of Brewery	25 June 2022

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>David Clarke</b>	Boaler's	January 1989 until May 1991	9 July 2022

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>David Geary</b>	Deputy Manager, Rufford Arms, Mansfield	September 1992 to December 1997	25 July 2022

Name	Job role	Service with Mansfield Brewery	Date deceased
<b>Mervyn Price</b>	Warehouse, Mansfield	March 1994 until closure of Mansfield Brewery	19 August 2022

# Social Activities

## MANSFIELD BREWERY MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION (MBMA)

The Members' Association is a social group run by volunteers, all of whom were former employees of Mansfield Brewery. The group is open to all former and retired employees of Mansfield Brewery.

Meetings have now resumed and will take place on the first Wednesday of each month at the Debdale Sports & Recreation Club, Debdale Lane, Mansfield Woodhouse. Meetings start at 10.00am and refreshments are provided.

Plans are in the pipeline for some trips this year however, they are not yet finalised. Details will be provided in due course.

If you would like to join the group or find out more about what they do contact Ian Boucher on 01623 644798

### MANSFIELD BREWERY WALKING GROUP

Easy walks between 5 and 6 miles, usually on the second Sunday of each month. Call Barbara Brown for more info on 01623 481488



## The Walking Group has finally restarted!

Our first walk, since March 2020, was led by Sue and Jeff Walters on the 12 June, beginning in Elmton, on through Cresswell and into Cresswell Craggs, looping back through lovely local countryside to the Elm Tree Pub for a well-earned Sunday Lunch.

It was lovely to meet up again, having a chat whilst enjoying the fresh air and exercise.

Hopefully we shall be able to resume our monthly walks from now on, always taking place on the Second Sunday of the Month.

If any new people would like to join us, please contact Barbara Brown on **01623 481488** leaving a message on the answerphone.