

ANCHORS AWEIGH: LONDON PUBS GROUP EVENING TOUR OF FORMER COURAGE PUBS IN SOUTHWARK, BOROUGH AND BERMONDSEY ON WEDNESDAY 18 AUGUST 2021

For pictures of the pubs on this tour go to the London Pubs Group website www.londonpubsgroup.camra.org.uk

- 1) 7.00 pm Anchor Bankside, 34 Park Street, Southwark, SE1 9EF. This pub is a grade II listed building and the listing description is as follows: "Public house. Mid and late C18, with later alterations and extensions. Red/brown brick with timber oriels and panelling. On corner with Park Street. Part has tiled roof with dormers, earlier section has roof obscured behind parapet. 2 storeys and attic, irregular fenestration. Rounded double doors to entrance set into corner angle. (Main) Bankside elevation has 2 subsidiary entrances, gauged-brick arches to tripartite sash windows with glazing bars on ground floor, tripartite window to earlier section (just to right of main entrance) set into timber-panelled casing with shutters. Above, a timber oriel in form of canted bay with panelled base and 3 sash windows with glazing bars. Later sections to right have 1st-floor windows in similar style. Park Street elevation has gauged, segmental brick arches to sash windows with glazing bars, one to left of door tripartite with timber cornice and pilasters suggesting a shop front. INTERIOR: older section has some original internal features. Room on ground-floor with original early C18 kitchen fireplace and some contemporary wainscoting. Staircase also early C18. On 1st floor, a complete mid-late C18 pine-panelled room with wide, segmental-arched alcove (now called the "Shakespeare Room"). Much of internal timberwork in rest of building is imitation. Large recent extension to rear not of special interest."

This pub was formerly a brewery tap for the Barclay Perkins Brewery that merged with Courage in 1955. The Barclay Perkins Brewery closed shortly afterwards.

Greene King Abbot and IPA; and one guest ale are normally served here. Turn right out of the pub and right again into Bank End to where it becomes Park Street. Continue along Park Street to the junction with Redcross Way. Turn right and walk along Redcross Way to the junction with Southwark Street. Turn right and walk to the pelican crossing. Cross over Southwark Street, turn left then right into O'Meara Street and walk down O'Meara Street to the junction with Union Street. Cross over Union Street to

- 2) 7.50 pm Rose & Crown, 65 Union Street, Borough, SE1 1SG. Unlike the Anchor Bankside, this pub is not a listed building but it is included on the tour because it is a former Courage pub.

Three changing guest ales are normally served here. On leaving the pub, turn right and walk along Union Street to the junction with Borough High Street. Turn right and walk along Borough High Street to the pelican crossing. Cross over Borough High Street, turn left then immediately right into Newcomen Street and walk along Newcomen Street to

- 3) 8.30 pm Kings Arms, 65 Newcomen Street, Borough, SE1 1YT. Like the Anchor Bankside, this pub is a grade II listed building and the listing description is as follows: "Public house. c1890. Brick with stucco cement dressings. 3 storeys. All openings flat-arched. Early C18 arms (possibly as early as 1728) formerly attached to a gateway spanning the old London Bridge. Probably executed in stone. The current inscription referring to George III is very likely an alteration; dated 1760. Later stone panels added to the top inscribed 'Kings Arms 1890' and to the bottom inscribed 'King Street'. INTERIOR: not inspected."

This pub is in the Campaign for Real Ale's (CAMRA) *Good Beer Guide 2021*.

Harvey's Sussex; Purity Mad Goose; Timothy Taylor Landlord; Truman Swift; and one guest ale are normally served here. Turn right out of the pub and continue along Newcomen Street to where it becomes Snowfields. Continue along Snowfields to the junction with Weston Street. Cross over Snowfields to Weston Street, turn left and walk along Weston Street to the junction with St Thomas Street. Cross over St Thomas Street, turn left and walk along St Thomas Street to the entrance of London Bridge station. Turn right into London Bridge station and walk through the concourse to the Tooley Street exit. Turn right and walk along Tooley Street to

- 4) 9.10 pm Shipwrights Arms, 88 Tooley Street, Bermondsey, SE1 2TF. Unlike the Anchor, the Rose & Crown and the Kings Arms, this pub is not only a grade II listed building but it is also recognised by CAMRA as having an historic interior of some regional importance and the description is as follows: "Three-storey pub of brick built in 1884 with a ground-floor wooden exterior of the late 19th or early 20th century. Note on the exterior a number of stone carvings picked out in cream on a deep blue background and in particular the crouching Caryatid with outstretched arms above the right-hand corner doors."

The left-hand doors originally led to a vestibule entrance lobby and on the left-hand wall is a splendid painted tiled panel of around 1900 showing shipwrights (arms and all) at work beside a choppy River Thames. A steam tug tows barges down the river. The painting is signed by Charles Evans & Co., Warwick Street, W1, a west London firm of tile and stained glass manufacturers.

The interior consists of a central island bar; originally this would have been surrounded by at least three separate compartments (the multiple outside doors would each have given access to a separate drinking space) but the partitions were removed many years ago. Markings on the floor on the right show where one partition was situated; also, there is a change in the bar top on the rear left indicating where another one might have been situated.

The counter front looks inter-war with the rear section being a fielded panelled style whereas that on the front is upright panels but is also of a canted style. The island gantry-style back fitting is wholly modern. In a disused passage, now part of the route to the gents (now downstairs) has a colourful tiled dado and a tall door with inter-war frosted glass in a floor to ceiling screen."

The listing description is as follows: "Mid to late C19, with ground-floor of late C19 or early C20. Stucco and brick in English bond. Roof parapeted. Unusual plan follows curved corner site, with 3-window range to Bermondsey Street, rebated corner range with full-height segmental bay, and 5-window range to return.

EXTERIOR: 3 storeys over basement. Round-arched entrance at corner, flanked by colonnettes in rebated jambs; garland to arch. To either side, as well as to party walls a rusticated pier of Ionic order, topped by pedimented and garlanded bracket; thin Ionic colonnettes define glazed ground-floor bays; plain entablature band sign fascia. The most striking feature of the building, apart from its unusual plan, is the crouching Caryatid with outstretched arms beneath the corner segmental bay. Giant pilasters flanking corner range repeated on party wall and return. All upper-floor windows are flat-arched, those to the 1st-floor with eared and shouldered architraves, entablature with fretted frieze, topped by alternating segmental and triangular pediments; corner windows on both floors are tripartite as are centre windows on main elevation and 2nd bay of return. Springing band to 1st floor. Keyed lintels and projecting sills on brackets to 2nd floor. Plain entablature band stepping out over giant pilasters; projecting cornice. Secondary entrances at left party wall and on return. INTERIOR: not inspected."

Note also the (now disused) dumb waiter.

Adnams Southwold Bitter; Charles Wells Bombardier; Caledonian Deuchars IPA; and Sharp's Doom Bar are usually served here. On leaving the pub, turn left and walk along Tooley Street to the pelican crossing. Cross over Tooley Street and continue to the riverside. Turn right and walk along the river then underneath Tower Bridge to Shad Thames. Walk along Shad Thames to the junction with Horselydown Lane. Turn right and walk along Horselydown Lane to

- 5) 10.00 pm Anchor Tap, 20a Horselydown Lane, Bermondsey, SE1 2LN. Like the Shipwrights Arms, this pub is not only a grade II listed building but it is also recognised by CAMRA as having an historic interior of some regional importance and the description is as follows: "Built early to mid-19th century (source: Historic England – the pub claims 1761) and refurbished in the late 19th century. It was built as the Tap to the Anchor Brewery (the former Courage Horselydown brewery that closed in 1981) but was sold to Samuel Smith's in the early 1990s. At the front there are two small bars with genuine old fittings; at the rear a room that looks to have been in pub use for many years with what looks like a hatch for service. A corridor runs down the left-hand side of the servery off which are doorways leading firstly to the games room and the lounge which might well have been brought into public use in modern times. Also, there are rooms upstairs now in public use. The double-door entrance leads into the public bar which has a terrazzo floor, a late 19th-century panelled bar counter with decorative brackets. The mirrored bar-back fitting is (mostly) modern – the top section is described in the listing description as having a 'moulded cornice, pilasters and mirrors'. To the right is a late 19th-century fireplace with red tiled surround. There is a dado of old matchboard panelling and the chimney breast projects into the side bar. There is a passage to the rear room with two rooms off to the left that have seen changes but it is not clear whether they were originally pub rooms. The side bar is now accessed through a low doorway near the fireplace but staff say that it was originally accessed from a door on the front right and that the changes were made over 35 years ago, ie prior to Samuel Smith's ownership. It has a late 19th-century panelled bar counter with decorative brackets in front of which is a linoleum trough area with a brass edging but the mirrored bar-back fitting is wholly modern. This long thin room contains old dado matchboard panelling but the wall bench seating at the front and rear right looks post-war (which would tie in with a change to the front of the building), and there is a small cast iron fireplace at the rear, possibly added by Samuel Smith's? The listing description (dated 2004) states that there was a late 19th-century fireplace with red tiled surround. The small room at the rear right has a doorway off the passage and new lino-tiled floor. There is a massive stone fireplace original to the building

and to the left of it is a genuine-looking old hatch to the back of the servery which is no longer in use as it is covered by a solid window. The dado of matchboard panelling looks old but it is difficult to date the wall benches at the rear. The small room on the front left of the building is now called the games room and has blocked-up corner doors as it is now accessed via a doorway from the main bar. It has a dado of old matchboard panelling on the exterior wall sides, modern lino-tiled floor and a large Bass mirror but no sign of a fireplace. There is a disused door at the rear of the room as well as a new door from the main bar – the wall in which it is situated appears to be a stud insertion. Beyond a short passage from a door on the Horselydown Lane side there is another small room called the lounge, accessed via a doorway with no old fittings – the wall on the right of the entrance appears to be a stud insertion. Upstairs is what is called the dining room which consists of three small areas with modern bar fittings and two fireplaces, one being a mid-19th-century marble one. Access to this upper room from the right-hand side of the pub is via an unusual early 19th-century winder staircase with stick balusters. It goes down to a small hall at the rear of the pub with doors to the small rear room and side bar.”

The listing description is as follows: “Public house. Early to mid C19, refurbished in late C19. Italianate style. Stuccoed with incised lines to imitate masonry with slate roof and stock brick chimneystack. Two storeys: three windows to front elevation. Moulded cornice and pilasters flank the windows. First floor windows are 12-pane sashes with cornices above and the corner also has a similar butr curved window. The ground floor has a wooden bar front with moulded cornice and fascia, a series of pilasters and original curved double doors to the corner. The side elevation to Copper Row has two 12-pane sashes and a central doorcase with half-glazed door flanked by pilasters.

INTERIOR: Original bar divisions remain. Early C19 winder staircase with stick balusters. The two front bars have matchboard panelling. Later C19 bar counter with panelling and brackets and the bar back has moulded cornice, pilasters and mirrors. The two front baras have late C19 fireplaces with tiled surrounds. A back bar has the original chimneybreast. The first floor function room has a mid C19 marble fireplace.

HISTORY: Built as the Tap to the Anchor Brewery.”

Samuel Smith’s Old Brewery Bitter is usually served here.