

# AN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT – “BREWING STORIES”

## INTERVIEW SUMMARY – ROB STOREY

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Interviewee:	Rob Storey
Year of birth:	1942 in Guilford, Surrey
Current Employment:	Retired
Main Position:	Head of Brewhouse at Youngs
Interview Location:	Ram Brewery, Wandsworth
Date:	29 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
Interviewer:	James from local studies in Chiswick

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### “BORN TO BREW”

Rob told of his life in brewing which started as a young child. His father was a brewer and Rob was happy to follow in his footsteps. As a child he would visit the brewery with his father at weekends and holidays and learn all about the various brewing techniques.

At 18 years old, there was only one career on Rob’s mind, and he went straight from school to begin formal training in brewing. He joined the large Mann’s brewery based at Whitechapel. He stayed there for ten years gaining “hands-on” experience, before applying for a vacancy at Young’s Ram brewery in 1970. Young’s had a great reputation as being a small, friendly organization and this very much appealed to Rob.

He wasn’t disappointed, and gradually worked his way up the organisation to become “Head of the Brewhouse”. Like all other Young’s employees that we met, Rob was full of praise for the company, his fellow employees, and especially John Young and the other members of the board.

Sadly Rob was made redundant in 2006 when the Ram brewery was closed down. He had worked at the brewery for 36 years.

Rob tells of his time at Young’s especially relating to, his colleagues, how the brewery changed over the years, the special treatment received from a special company, and the social events that he attended. In fact after this interview was concluded, Rob and many of his ex-colleagues met up for their regular monthly “get together” to reminisce about “the good old days”. It was a joy to be invited to join them.

Summariser: Bob Hall