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"Open to All, Coerced by None"

Time, please, landlady told as she hits 60

A PUB manageress who claims she lost her job because of "ageism" won backing from her former regulars this week.

Customers at the Whittington Stone pub, in Highgate Hill, Archway, have called on the brewery to give Beryl Scrimshaw her old job back.

Mrs Scrimshaw, who turned 60 in April, is threatening to take her former employers to a

tribunal, claiming she was unfairly forced into retirement.

She was transferred against her will from the Stone to a pub in Wood Green in September last year.

She claims she was given two weeks' notice of the move. Nine months later, however, the Wood Green pub, the Freemasons Arms, closed, and Mrs Scrimshaw was sacked

and told to move out of her home.

Stone regular Mick Doherty, a foreign exchange worker, said: "We want Beryl back. We were very surprised when she was moved from the Stone. She has always run the pub well. She looked after the beer well."

"Under her management there was always a good

atmosphere. It was a friendly place.

"Being 60 doesn't hinder the way you run a pub. These days age shouldn't come into it. It's ability that counts."

Mrs Scrimshaw, a mother-of-two who is now living with a daughter in Bromley, said she had worked in pubs all her life.

"There's nothing I don't know

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Pet Shop Boys pay tribute to 'folk hero' of Arsenal terraces

FAREWELL TO THE BEAR



EXCLUSIVE
by RICHARD OSLEY

THOUSANDS of Arsenal fans have joined the Pet Shop Boys and the Sex Pistols in paying tribute to a terrace regular known for his near-religious dedication to following the club home and away.

Dainton Connell, 46, - known as The Bear - died late last Thursday in a car crash in Moscow.

In a double outpouring of grief, Gunners supporters and fans of the Pet Shop Boys - he worked for them as a bodyguard for over 20 years - have both passed their condolences onto his wife and three children.

But the most striking tribute came on Sunday when more than 1,000 fans turned up to Arsenal's home match with Sunderland wearing black. They circled the Emirates Stadium waving flowers and teddy bears.

The Pet Shop Boys said they were "devastated" while the Sex Pistols John Lydon described him, on his website, as "a true Arsenal legend, sadly missed and very much loved."

Mr Connell was named in a book on hooligans as the leader of a so-called 'firm' known as 'The Gooners' and reportedly had a fearsome reputation for bruising scraps at away fixtures in the 1970s and 1980s.

But friends said his notoriety came from a different age and that in his later years he had mellowed and was enjoying Arsenal's resurgence at the top of the league.

"If you were an Arsenal fan, he was your friend," said one pal. "And that's all that mattered."

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CUBAN ART: IT'S CHOCOTASTIC! - P3



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Islington Tribune, 40 Camden Road, NW1 9DR. Tel: 020 7419 9000 Fax: Ads 020 7209 1322 News 020 7482 7317 email: editorial@islingtontribune.co.uk

