



# Meeting new colleagues



*Oliver rencontre ses nouveaux collègues au siège social de Liverpool.*

LINDA – Hello, everyone... I'd like to introduce Oliver Martin. But I think you all know him. He's a great wind farm engineer. So he knows wind turbines by heart. He designs them and presents them all over the world.

OLIVER – Hi, everyone. I'm really happy to be here. Yes, I go all over the world to talk about wind turbines. So, I never leave home without my passport.

LINDA – But now you're here with us for a month...

OLIVER – Indeed I'm here to study the benefits of offshore wind turbines in this part of England. To me they are the future of energy. We're all aware of the shortage of petroleum in the future. There are other forms of renewable energy. Anyway, wind farms are part of the solution.

LINDA – Thank you very much, Oliver, for helping us with our project. You know, I personally like wind turbines. But with the weather in England, it's a pity you can't design rain turbines!

to introduce: présenter • a wind farm: une ferme éolienne • a wind turbine: une éolienne • to design: concevoir • indeed: effectivement • aware of: conscient de • shortage: la pénurie

## At the pub

*Fin de journée ! Oliver et Linda sont au pub avec un collègue, John.*

OLIVER – The drinks are on me. I suppose you're thirsty! It was a very good meeting. I'm really pleased. Thank you so much!

LINDA – I agree with you, it was very pleasant. And yes, I'm thirsty!

OLIVER – So, what do you want to drink?

LINDA – I like beer. I'd like a pint of bitter, please.

JOHN – I prefer ale. So, a pint of ale for me, please.

OLIVER – I'm getting some chips too.

*Oliver comes back with the drinks. He's laughing...*

OLIVER – There you are. With some crisps, not chips! That's American English!

LINDA – You look happy, Oliver! Do you like it here?

OLIVER – Yes, I do. I like the atmosphere. But I don't always understand people!

I mean, I understand them but not always one hundred per cent... Anyway, I hope that you understand me, even when I say "chips" for "crisps".

LINDA – Yes, of course, we're bilingual in a way! We understand British English and American English!

to be thirsty: avoir soif • chips [US], crisps [GB]: des chips • anyway: de toute façon • even when: même quand



# PUBS



*Les pubs, on en voit partout. Seraient-ils pourtant une espèce en voie de disparition ?*

The word "pub" is **short for** "public house". It is a cultural and social place, where networks can be created.

You can find them all over the United Kingdom and **actually** nowadays all over the world. In villages, pubs are very important **gathering points**, where people can chat and discuss community matters.

Today most pubs serve lunches and dinners. Before the 1990s it was less common. You can also watch football matches in pubs, or play **darts**. Unfortunately, more and more pubs are closing down, especially in rural areas.

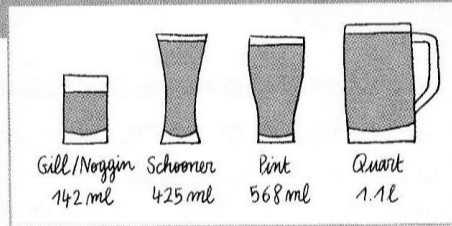
Pubs are famous for serving beer. There are four major types of beer: ale (robust), bitter (very common in English pubs, lightly carbonated), lager (**smooth**, close to continental beer), stout (dark, heavy and richly **flavoured**).

All major soap operas on British television have their pub! The most famous on the BBC is called *EastEnders* and its pub is called *The Queen Victoria*, often called *The Vic*. Important events take place in this pub, including a murder. But it's not all dark: some wedding receptions take place in *The Queen Victoria* too! And sometimes – Oh my God! – babies are **swapped**!

- short for:** l'abréviation de
- actually:** en fait
- a gathering point:** un point de rencontre
- a matter:** un sujet
- darts:** les fléchettes
- smooth:** doux
- flavoured:** parfumé
- to swap:** échanger

## ENGLISH UNITS

In Britain and Ireland, metric units have replaced the pint. However, in pubs it is still an obligation to sell draught beer and cider by the pint (56.8 centilitres). But don't worry, you don't have to order a whole pint! You can order "half a pint of beer" (28 centilitres).



# DRINKS



## Proposer



- "How about going to the pub?"  
"Good idea!" « Et si on allait au pub ? » « Bonne idée ! »
- "Can I take you out for a drink?" "Yes, great!"  
« Je peux vous offrir un verre quelque part ? » « Volontiers ! »

- What would you like to drink? Que voulez-vous boire ?
- What are you having? Qu'est-ce que vous prenez ?
- Anyone for beer? Qui veut de la bière ?
- Would you care for a drink? Vous désirez boire quelque chose ?

- What can I get you? Qu'est-ce que je peux vous offrir ?
- Can I offer you a drink? Je peux vous offrir un verre ?
- It's my round./It's on me./The drinks are on me. C'est ma tournée.

- I suggest the pub on Park Avenue. Je propose le pub sur Park Avenue.
- John offered to take me to the airport. John a proposé de m'emmener à l'aéroport

- a shandy: un panaché
- a gin and tonic: un gin tonic
- to drink up: finir son verre
- to fill: remplir
- to buy a round: payer une tournée
- to be (dead) drunk: être ivre (mort)

• soft/non-alcoholic drinks: les boissons sans alcool

• still water: de l'eau plate

• tap water: de l'eau du robinet

• sparkling water: de l'eau gazeuse

• fizzy drinks: des boissons gazeuses

• pineapple juice: du jus d'ananas

• grapefruit juice: du jus de pamplemousse

• a coke: un coca

• alcoholic: alcoolisé

• white wine: du vin blanc

• draught beer: de la bière pression

• cider: du cidre