

**I want to be a barmaid, says pub boss**

# COURAGE OF THE SEX-SWAP LANDLORD

By PAMELA SMART

**A BURLY landlord has caused a sensation at his village pub.**

For he has shaved off his beard and changed his name from Geoff to Georgina.

The odd goings on behind the bar of the Weire hotel at Weir, near Bacup, Lancs, have shocked the landlord's wife and amazed the regulars.

Nowadays licensee "Georgina" Yates wears a woman's blouse while pulling pints. Painted fingernails tone with restyled red hair...

And the landlord has told friends she is leaving the pub at the end of this month to seek a new job as a barmaid.

## **Changed**

"I have decided to stop running and face up to what I am," said Georgina, married for 22 years and the father of adopted twin sons.

Georgina — she has changed her name by deed poll and started a course of hormone treatment—added:

"For me the change-over has been the most natural thing in the world and something I should have had the courage to do years ago.

"A lot of people have found it very funny. Others have been surprisingly kind."

But the landlord's wife, Penny, sobbed as she said: "I just can't understand how my husband can start living as a woman.

## **Shocked**

"I don't love him any more but I will stand by him. We've been together a long time and there were some very happy years."

A barmaid at the Weire, Susan Parker, 20, said: "It was all so sudden. I went into work as usual one day to find Geoff had shaved off his beard and was wearing a skirt. This is a small place and people were shocked."