

The 3rd Annual Bromley Cramble

Saturday 16th April 2016



Bromley CAMRA and Bromley Ramblers have arranged another joint crawl/ramble (a 'Cramble'), to be held on Saturday 16th April 2016.

This year's route will take us through the Bromley/Surrey borders, walking almost entirely on paths through farmland or woods and on bridleways. It will probably be muddy in places, therefore suitable boots are strongly recommended (unless April is unusually dry).

New for 2016, we are offering the option of either a full day walking, or just an afternoon walk.

Details:

1 The full day walk

Walk start time: 11:00 (prompt)
Start location: Outside the Change of Horses pub in Farnborough (Bromley)
Start Map ref: TQ441644
Access to start: 358 bus from Bromley South or Orpington (also *non-TFL* 402)
Total Distance: Approx. 10 miles



2 The afternoon walk

Meet from: Noon
Walk start time: 12:30 (prompt)
Start location: Kings Arms, Leaves Green
Start Map ref: TQ415616
Access to start: 320 or 246 bus from Bromley South
Total Distance: Approx. 7 miles



3 Lunch

Where: The White Bear, Fickleshole (*)
Time: 13:30 to 15:00

4 Finish

Finish: The Greyhound, Keston
Finish time: 16:30 (approx.)
Public transport: Bus 146 or 246 to Bromley South or Hayes Stations



Essential Information

Terrain: Mostly paths through farmland, woodland paths and bridleways, several stiles, some gradients. Expect mud in places
Lunch: Bring a packed lunch, or eat at The White Bear
Footwear: Walking boots are recommended

(* Please note that there is no public transport to the White Bear

The Pubs:

1. Kings Arms, Leaves Green (Biggin Hill)
2. White Bear, Fickleshole
3. Greyhound, Keston

The following descriptions of the pubs are taken from WhatPub in January 2016:

Kings Arms

Leaves Green Rd, Leaves Green. BR2 6DU

<http://whatpub.com/pubs/BRO/12506/kings-arms-keston>

A weatherboarded country pub with a low beamed ceiling. It has a cosy atmosphere and a separate large dining area. There is a large garden and play area for children. Breakfast is served from 8.30 every day of the week. Quiz nights are held on alternate Tuesdays. The pub was very popular with pilots at nearby Biggin Hill in the second world war, and the building itself has a long history dating back to 1585 - this is detailed in a long article on the pub's website.



Beers (as Jan 2016) Sussex Best, Landlord, Doom Bar

White Bear

Fairchildes Lane, Fickleshole. CR6 9PH

<http://whatpub.com/pubs/REI/176/white-bear-fickleshole>

GBG 2016

A large, attractive Grade II listed 16th Century pub which started life at the right-hand end of a terrace and gradually expanded into successive adjoining cottages over the years. The building's evolution has led to a warren of interconnecting low-ceilinged rooms on different floor levels, three with real fires, and a couple of inglenooks; and all with much heavy antique furniture and fittings. Fittingly, given the building's age, two ghosts are said to haunt the pub. Note the two very attractive J. T Davies mirrors and also the coloured leaded lights in some windows. The pub is proud of its civilised atmosphere which it helps retain by a complete ban on electronic games, TV, sports etc, and with music kept to a discreet level. Views of planes taking off from Biggin Hill Airport can be had from the garden. Hard to find for the uninitiated but a pub well worth seeking out! As well as a large car park, there are secure storage facilities for bikes.



The origins of the stone bear at the front are unclear. One source has it that it arrived here from Piccadilly Circus; another says it replaced an earlier design in wood and is said to be around 200 years old. One thing is certain; it narrowly escaped being "kidnapped" by Polish pilots from Biggin Hill at the end of World War Two!

The emphasis is very much on food, but no less welcoming for the casual drinker too. The pub is owned by Brakspears and so there will be one or two of their beers on sale along with others from the Marstons portfolio. Note that the Pilgrim Surrey is sold as Ficklehole.



Food is served 12-3 and 6-9 Monday to Thursday and 12-9:30 Friday and Saturday; on Sunday it is available 12-3:30 and 5:30-9.

For menu, see <http://thewhitebear-ficklehole.com/>

Beers (as at Feb 2016): Pilgrim Surrey Bitter, Brakspear Oxford Gold, plus 1 other

Greyhound

Commonside, Keston. BR2 6BP

<http://whatpub.com/pubs/BRO/12503/greyhound-keston>

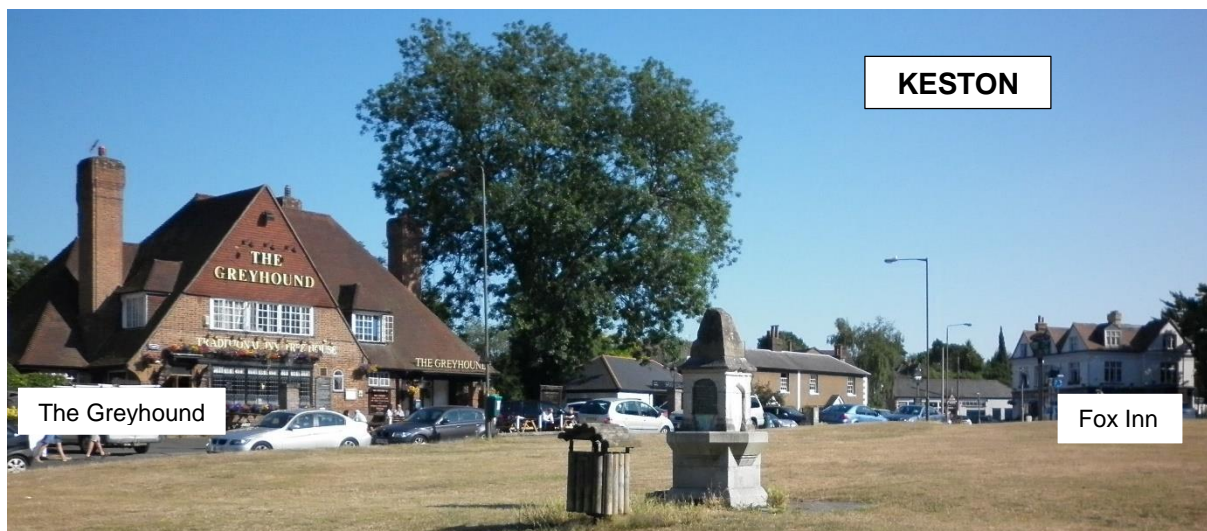
GBG 2016. Discount on beer with a current CAMRA membership card



Located on the edge of Hayes Common, this pub is popular with locals and walkers alike. Dogs are welcome. The pub is strongly engaged with the local community - beer festivals, morris dancing and fund-raising events are regularly held. There are also quiz and poker nights, and occasional live entertainment. The garden contains a tea-room which is available for meetings and other functions.

And don't forget to look out for Wellington, the resident St Bernard *(Thanks to pub for photo)*

Beers (as Feb 2016): Landlord, Doom Bar, Directors, plus changing guest ales. Real cider



Also in Keston:

Fox Inn

<http://whatpub.com/pubs/BRO/12504/fox-inn-keston>

Beers (as Feb 2016): Doom Bar, Sussex Best, London Pride

Walking etiquette:

1. The walk will be led by one of Bromley Ramblers experienced walk leaders; everyone is requested to try to keep together whilst walking and to follow any instructions given by the walk leader
2. If you wish to leave the group part way through the walk, please tell the walk leader
3. Muddy footwear in pubs. Please either remove your muddy boots before entering any of the pubs, or bring a supply of plastic bags to put over them to stop you trampling mud around the pub
4. Eating your own food. If you bring your own food please do not eat it in the pub or the in pub's outdoor seating areas
5. Timetable. We will all need to keep to the planned timetable otherwise we won't get to the finish point at the advertised time.

Further Information:

If you require any further information about the Cramble, or about other pub walking routes in Bromley, please send an email to: bob.keaveney@bromley.camra.org.uk

Bromley CAMRA: <http://bromley.camra.org.uk/>

Bromley Ramblers: <http://www.bromleyramblers.org.uk/>

NB, local CAMRA branch for the White Bear: <http://www.camrasurrey.org.uk/east-mid-surrey>