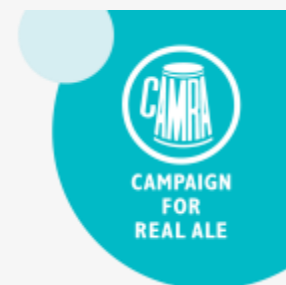


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## **Bromley CAMRA June 2019 Newsletter**

Dear CAMRA member,

Items of interest this month include:

- Branch Social Events
- Beckenham Beer and Cider Festival 2019
- Branch Committee Vacancies
- Beer Scoring Using the Good Beer Guide App
- Summer of Pub
- Bromley Cramble 2019
- An introduction to Maggie Hopgood
- “Its not all Lager”

### **Branch Social Events**

11 Jun. Bromley North Social. 7.30pm Crown & Anchor, 19 Park Rd, BR1 3HJ; 8.30pm Freelands Tavern, 31 Freelands Rd, BR1 3HZ; 9.30pm Red Lion, 10 North Rd BR1 3LG.

18 Jun. Hayes Social. 7.30pm Royal British Legion, 14 Station Hill, Hayes, BR2 7DJ; 8.30pm Real Ale Way, 55 Station Approach, BR2 7EB.

25 Jun. Committee Meeting. 7.30pm Queen’s Head, 25 High St. Downe, BR6 7US. All members are welcome to attend

29 Jun. The Annual Crystal Palace Triangle Social. with Croydon & Sutton & SEL Branches. Starts 12.00 noon at Douglas Fir, 144 Anerley Rd, Anerley SE20 8DL; 1.10pm; Alma, 95 Church Rd, Crystal Palace SE19 2TA; 2pm White Hart, 96 Church Rd, Upper Norwood SE19 2EZ; 2.50pm Postal Order, 33 Westow St. SE19 3RW; 3.50pm

Sparrowhawk, 2 Westow Hill, Upper Norwood SE19 1RX; 4.40pm Walker Briggs, 23 Westow Hill SE19 1TQ; 5.30pm Faber Fox, 25-27 Westow Hill SE19 1TQ; 6.20pm Westow House, 79 Westow Hill SE19 1TX.

6 Jul. Branch Social at SIBA Beer Fest, The Slade, Tonbridge TN9 1HR. Meet Orpington Stn. at 10.50am for 11.12 Train to Tonbridge. Venue about 10min walk from Tonbridge Stn.

For more information, please contact:  
social.secretary@bromley.camra.org.uk

### **Beckenham Beer and Cider Festival 25th - 27th July 2019**

This year's Beer and Cider Festival is fast approaching. The event will again be held at Beckenham Rugby Club, Balmoral Avenue, Elmers End, Beckenham BR3 3RD and we are promised great weather just like we had last year!

We are planning to showcase another excellent range of beers and ciders with many new additions as well as a few old favourites, meeting every taste. Food and soft drinks will also be available.

We have always aimed at making this a family friendly event, so if you haven't done already, please put the word out on your social media and encourage friends and family to come along and join in.

We thank you for your past support of the Festival and we look forward to seeing you in July. For more information please visit our website ([Click Here](#))

**YOUR BEER FESTIVAL NEEDS YOU.** This is your last chance to apply to help out as a volunteer at the Festival – the deadline for applications is Friday 14th June. We would be especially interested if you would be able to assist with First Aid but if not, all applications are still welcome. To apply please use this [link](#)

### **Branch Committee Vacancies**

Last month and this month we have had the pleasure of welcoming someone new to the committee. However there are still a few vacancies and it would be good to fill them if possible. All those who volunteer for CAMRA do so because they want to see good beer (and cider) available

in good pubs and if you can help with any of the roles listed below it will contribute to that goal.

The posts that are vacant are:

- Women's Representative
- Cider Representative
- Facebook Manager (non-committee post)
- Twitter Manager (non-committee post)

If you are interested in any of these posts please contact [secretary@bromley.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@bromley.camra.org.uk)

### **Beer Scoring using the Good Beer Guide App**

Did you know that CAMRA members can now submit beer scores using the GBG App?

It's essential for Bromley Branch that we get as many scores as possible, from as many members as possible, for all the pubs and eligible clubs in our area. We then use those scores as part of our process of selecting our entries for the next edition of the Good Beer Guide.

Several of our members have found that the GBG App is easier to use on their mobile phone than submitting scores via WhatPub. If you have not yet tried, why not give it a go? The Good Beer Guide App is available for both iOS and Android devices.

You don't even need to pay to use the App for beer scoring; you can download the APP for free – then simply link your CAMRA member account and start scoring. However, to unlock all of the App features does require a subscription; there are several subscription options available from 99p per month to £4.99 per year. Further information is available at: <https://gbgapp.camra.org.uk/>

More information about beer scoring in Bromley is available on the branch website [via this link](#).

### **Summer of Pub 2019**

As you will probably have already seen from publicity issued by the CAMRA Office and in the June/July London Drinker, CAMRA's 'Summer of Pub' has now started. Summer of Pub is a celebration of Britain's local

pubs - a light-hearted and positive initiative to get more people down to their local this summer to support the trade. More information about the campaign can be found [via this link](#).

Bromley has some excellent pubs (and clubs!) with outdoor drinking areas, ranging from those with small courtyards to some with large well-tended gardens. There are far too many such pubs to list them all in this edition of the Newsletter, however we have asked our Area Reps to suggest a few that really do deserve a visit. Full details of each pub/club can be found in WhatPub, via the links below:

BR1, **Bromley Central**. [Anglesey Arms](#). A large paved walled garden with a raised bandstand/gazebo area with wicker furniture and trough planters.

BR2, **Keston**. [Greyhound](#). A large rear garden, including play area, plus outdoor seating at the front overlooking the common.

BR2, **Shortlands**. [Shortlands Tavern](#). A large courtyard garden

BR2, **Bromley Common**. [Two Doves](#). An attractive garden behind the pub

BR2, **Hayes**. [Royal British Legion Club](#). Garden and patio in front of the club

BR3, **Beckenham**. [Coach & Horses](#). A garden behind the pub, plus benches in front

BR5, **St Paul's Cray**. [Bull Inn](#). A garden behind the pub

BR6, **Pratts Bottom**. [Bull's Head](#). A large garden behind the pub

BR6, **Chelsfield Village**. [Five Bells](#). A large garden behind the pub

BR6, **Downe**. [Queen's Head](#). A courtyard behind the pub

BR6, **Green St Green**. [Rose & Crown](#). A large garden behind the pub

BR6, **Farnborough**. [Woodman](#). A large garden adjacent to the pub

BR6, **Orpington**. [Orpington Liberal Club](#). A small garden and patio behind the club

BR7, **Chislehurst Station**. [Bickley](#). A large paved garden area behind the pub

BR7, **Chislehurst**. [Sydney Arms](#), a large paved area with seating to the side of the pub

SE19, **Crystal Palace**. [Alma](#). A courtyard adjacent to the pub

SE20, **Penge**. [Goldsmith's Arms](#). A large well laid out garden behind the pub

TN14, **Cudham**. [Blacksmith's Arms](#). A large very attractive garden, which has been previously listed in the National Gardens Scheme "Yellow Book"

TN16. **Biggin Hill**. [Old Jail](#). A large garden adjacent to pub with children's play area

## **The Return of the Bromley Cramble**

After taking a break in 2018, there will be another Cramble in 2019 (CRAwl + raMBLE = Cramble) which will be held on **Saturday 13th July**. This year it's a 5 mile stroll from Biggin Hill to Hayes, via Downe and Keston. More information will be in the next issue of the newsletter, but is available now on the branch website [via this link](#).

## **Introducing Maggie Hopgood**

I have been a member of Bromley CAMRA for many years and during this time have met members of the committee at Beer Festivals and at their social events. At this year's AGM the position of Public Affairs Officer was vacant, two committee members looked at me and said 'Maggie you could do that'. However, and before committing myself I thought it best to read the job description, after doing so I had to agree with them that I could do the job and accepted the position.

My first undertaking will be to correspond with some people I have met on numerous occasions, these being the Members of Parliament for Beckenham, Bromley and Orpington, Gareth Bacon GLA Member for Bexley & Bromley plus Bromley Councillors to inform them of the 6th Bromley CAMRA Beer and Cider Festival in July.

I will also be inviting the Mayor of Bromley to attend on the first day to officially open the event.

Maggie Hopgood

## **It is not all lager abroad. “Travels of a CAMRA Branch Secretary and Sue”**

Back in April your Branch Secretary was lucky enough spend his annual holidays in Vietnam and Cambodia. Yes, I was resigned to drinking fizz, but would it be Bia Saigon / Hanoi Lager, the more international 333 or even Tiger. Not a welcome prospect. So, on the morning of arrival, during a quick tour of Ho Chi Minh city market (Saigon) and with temperature in the upper 30C's it was to a bottle of Bia Saigon for refreshment. Cold, refreshing and costing less than 50p, even I can put up with the fizz! But things looked up that evening. Returning on the coach from “Your tour of the old district”, Sue spotted the lights of the East West Brewing Company. Wouldn't it be great if the bar was near the hotel?

The coach stopped. It was near opposite! Quick refresh and over the road we went. Very large and busy beer hall with two rows of brewing tanks behind the main bar. Small and intimate it was not! Now first – the downside. In common with similar countries, CAMRA approved beer it was not BUT the choice! Pale Ales, Far East IPAs, Belgium Blondes, Porters and Stouts. Where to begin? Well anyone who knows me knows my preference for dark beers so it had to be the award winning Coffee Vanilla Porter (7%). Delicious and only 145,000 Dong for a pint – OK, £4.80 to you. What else? Well I like Titanic so a Dark Cherry Sour it was and, again, a good choice. Finishing on an Independence Stout (12%), I was ready to retire for the night.

Sadly the tour meant we could not further explore the growing (dare I use the word) “craft” brews now available at many venues in that city but, on arrival in Hanoi, a quick visit to Uncle Google suggested that a visit to the Pasteur Street Brewery could be worthwhile, so off we went that evening. Very different venue. Quiet and not exactly for the locals with their prices. However, as a fellow traveller propped herself up at the bar (no, not Sue), your intrepid traveller went on to try the dark beers on offer. I gave the Imperial Chocolate Stout (13%) a miss – just too steep at a little under £8 for 400 ml but had thoroughly nice glasses of Coffee Porter (6.5%) and Irish Stout (4.5%). I gave “The Salty Dragon” a miss though! Sue was happy with a Passion Fruit Wheat Ale followed up by a Dragon Fruit beer.

So on to Cambodia and what to expect? Well Google suggested the Siem Reap Brewpub so on a very hot afternoon (“at leisure”), it was there we went. More of a restaurant, it did have brewery equipment all over the place – from small batch to commercial. Looked promising but sadly a bit

expensive for me and empty of patronage. Oh well let's try a Dark Ale (6%), flavoured with local organic palm syrup "For that genuine Cambodian flavour". Breaking personal tradition I finished our visit with a Golden Ale (6%). Both beers were excellent but at US\$4 for a glass of around half a pint it was no wonder the locals steer clear. That afternoon we had sampled the local Angkor lager for just 25c (yes US cents) – 20 pence! So, in closing, whilst you may not be able to find that elusive gravity fed dispensed, cask conditioned ale; when abroad use your smart phone, ask around and explore. There are a lot of flavours to be tried around the world!

Kent Sadler

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[www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) | [camra@camra.org.uk](mailto:camra@camra.org.uk) | 01727 867201

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