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Bromley CAMRA Newsletter August 2019

Dear CAMRA Member,

Welcome to the August edition of Bromley CAMRA's newsletter. This month, with the beer festival season in full swing, we have the branch diary, and a report from the 6th Beckenham Beer Festival. Also included are the results of Beer and Cider of the festival, an article on walking to your favourite pubs and finally some breaking news on CAMRA's Greater London Club of the Year for 2019

Branch Diary

August 15th: Penge Social starting at 3pm at the Bridge House, 2, High Street, Penge SE20 8RZ; 4pm Goldsmiths Arms, 3, Croydon Road SE20 7TJ; 5pm Brewery Tap Southey Brewing, 21, Southey Street SE20 7JD; 6.30pm Moon and Stars 164-166, High Street, SE20 7QS

August 24th: Halstead and Cudham Social: 2pm Rose and Crown, Otford Lane, Halstead TN14 7EA; 4.15pm R5 Bus to Blacksmiths Arms (for 4.30) Cudham Lane South, Cudham TN14 7QB; 5.30 R10 bus back to Orpington.

August 27th: 7.30pm Committee Meeting. The Greyhound, Commonside, Keston, BR2 6BP

August 31st: East Malling Beer Festival social: East Malling Research Centre, New Road, East Malling, Kent ME19 6BJ. 09.50am Meeting at Bromley South Station then 10.12am train to West Malling then 10.50am free shuttle bus service to the festival.

September 9th: Afternoon social in Locksbottom: 2pm Whyte Lyon, Farnborough Common, Locksbottom BR6 8NE; 3pm, Black Horse, 318, Crofton Road, BR6 8NW.

We look forward to seeing you at some or all of these social events!

6th Beckenham Beer Festival Report

A total of 1065 people attended the 6th Beckenham Beer Festival over the three days of 25th-27th July, an impressive attendance even if down slightly on last year's record attendance.

We had to endure one of the hottest days ever recorded in the UK on the first day, which will undoubtedly have deterred a number of people due to travel disruption and generally very uncomfortable conditions. Notwithstanding this, our cooling team did an amazing job to keep the beer and cider in tip top condition – enjoyed by the larger numbers arriving on the Friday and Saturday. In fact Friday proved to be an all time record day with 501 people attending!

We were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Bromley, accompanied by the Mayoress, who formally opened the Event on Thursday afternoon, and stayed to chat with many of the staff and visitors and also enjoyed a glass or two! The Mayor also presented a special award to Peter Norwood, a member of the Bromley CAMRA team, for his outstanding contribution to the cause over many years.

General feedback from visitors was that there was once again a terrific selection of beers and ciders and the addition of a keg bar this year was also very well received. The consensus seemed to be that this was yet another very successful festival.

In addition to all that, we raised a fabulous £462.25 from donated beer tokens and cash, split between our main charity, St Christopher's Hospice, and £50 to each of the Mayors charities - Careplus and the Latch Project.

Finally it would be remiss not to thank Beckenham Rugby Club for allowing us the use of their premises once again; the Star and Garter, Southey Brewery and Westerham Brewery for sponsoring our Staff T shirts, Beer Tokens and Festival glasses respectively; all the pubs and businesses that advertised in our programme and of course all those involved in the huge amount of work involved in organising the event

and the volunteers who came along and helped out (in very tough conditions particularly on the Thursday!).

As things stand, we will be hoping to run a 7th Beckenham Beer Festival next year, so watch this space for more information in due course.

On Behalf of Bromley CAMRA and the Festival Organising Team.

Beer & cider of the festival

Based on the votes from our customers the results are:

Beer of the festival

1st. Five Points, Railway Porter

2nd. Arbor, Who's Lime is it Anyway?

3rd. Black Isle, Rhuby Tuesday

Cider & Perry of the festival

Piglet's (Nempnett), Piglet's Choice, dry cider Double Vision, Impeared Vision perry

Why not walk to the pub this summer?

There are many miles of footpaths and more than 30 pubs and clubs in the 'rural' areas of Bromley, plus a few more pubs 'just over the border' in Kent and Surrey. Bromley CAMRA has now identified a network of more than 30 paths and tracks which link them all together.

All of the Bromley and Kent pubs are accessible by public transport on at least 6 days of the week, so it's really easy for drinkers and walkers to get to and from these excellent establishments without having to use a car, to get out into the fresh air, take some exercise and enjoy a drink or two.

Bromley CAMRA has now published guides for 18 of these routes to assist members taking 'self-guided' walks between some of the excellent pubs and clubs in these areas. The individual routes range in distance from less than a mile to about 4 miles, and it's possible to link several of the routes together to make longer circular or one-way walks.

The guides now available cover the area bounded by Hayes Station, Keston, Biggin Hill, Cudham, Pratts Bottom and Farnborough. Eight of the routes include the attractive village of Downe, with its two pubs. There is also a comprehensive general information sheet about walking in the area and a list of the pubs and clubs which can be reached by walking the Bromley Pub Walks network.

The guides for a further 10 routes are to be published over the next few weeks.

You can see all the Bromley Pub Walks information on the branch website at: https://bromley.camra.org.uk/more/pub-walks/

Breaking News

As this newsletter was about to be published, it was announced that Orpington Liberal Club has been awarded the title of **CAMRA Greater London Club of the Year 2019**. This is the 3rd consecutive year that the club has won the title. Bromley CAMRA congratulates the club on its success. The date for the presentation of the award will be confirmed in the September Newsletter.

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