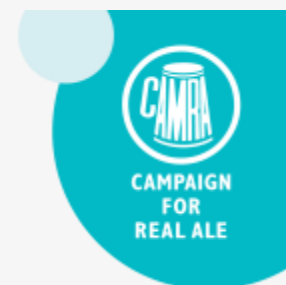


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## **Bromley CAMRA October 2019 Newsletter**

Dear CAMRA Member,

Welcome to the October edition of our newsletter.

This month we have the usual Branch Diary listing forthcoming branch events, a report on the Beer festival Wash up, Beer of the Festival presentation, Presentation to the Double Vision Cider Co and finally the latest news about the latest developments at the Royal Bell Hotel.

### **Branch Diary**

October:

- **Fri 11** (7.30pm) Greater London Club Of The Year Award Presentation Evening at Orpington Liberal Club Beer Festival, 7 Station Rd, Orpington BR6 0RZ.
- **Mon 14** Chislehurst Afternoon Social. (2pm) Gordon Arms, 47 Park Rd, BR7 5AY; (3.30pm) Queen's Head, 2 High St. BR7 5AN.
- **Thu 17** Young Members (Under 40's) Social at Mondo Brewing, 86-9 Stewart's Rd, Battersea, London SW8 4UG.

***NB. Pre-booking is mandatory via web-link on website.***

*Further info - contact: [Young.Members@bromley.camra.org.uk](mailto:Young.Members@bromley.camra.org.uk)*

- **Tue 22** Beckenham Social. (8pm) George Inn, 111 High St. BR3 1AG; (8.40pm) Coach & Horses, Burnhill Road, BR3 3LA; (9.20pm) Bricklayers Arms, 237 High St. BR3 1BN.
- **Fri 25** Marden Village Social. (12 noon) Meet Bromley South Stn. (12.23) Train to Marden, (change at Sevenoaks). (1.50pm) West End Tavern, West End TN12 9JB; (3.15pm) The Unicorn, High St. TN12 9DR; (5pm) Beer Festival Social at Marden Village Club, Albion Rd, TN12 9DT. A chance to visit the nearby Kent town of Marden, and

visit the CAMRA award winning Marden Village Club who are holding their annual beer festival, which starts early in the evening on the day we are visiting.

- **Tue 29** (7.30pm) Committee Meeting at The Shortlands Tavern, 5 Station Rd, Bromley BR2 0EY.

November:

- **Wed 6** Brockley & Forest Hill Social. A chance to explore some of the pubs in our neighbouring South East London branch. (7pm) Brockley Barge, 184 Brockley Rd SE4 2RR; (7.40pm) Crofton Park Tavern, 330-332 Brockley Rd, SE4 2BT. (8.30pm); London Beer Dispensary, 389 Brockley Rd, Brockley SE4 2PH; (9.50pm) Blythe Hill Tavern, 319 Stanstead Road, Forest Hill SE23 1JB.

- **Mon 11** Bromley Common Social. (7.30pm) Chequers; 177 Southborough Lane, Bromley BR2 8AP; (8.45pm) Chatterton Arms, 41 Chatterton Rd BR2 9QW; (10pm) Two Doves, 37 Oakley Rd BR2 8HD.

## **6th Beckenham Beer & Cider Festival Wash Up Event**

Date : Saturday 21st September 2019

Venue: Star & Garter, Bromley

An invitation was sent to all of those CAMRA Members who kindly volunteered at our successful Beer Festival in late July. The 'wash-up' as it is referred to, is an opportunity to meet up again with friends made at the Festival, exchange ideas on what went well and where we can improve and to hear for some of the people behind the scenes with their feedback. It was great fun and was attended by 34 members who enjoyed a few complimentary beers and some food whilst listening to the updates. I would like to thank Paul Graydon who is stepping down after two years of running very successful Festivals. Paul opened proceedings with a summary of the event and also customer feedback from those kind enough to complete the forms. The feeling was that although the attendance was down slightly on last year, there was a lot of praise, especially for the cooling team who did an exceptional job of keeping the cask beer and cider in great condition as we basked in record temperatures. Another success was the introduction of the Keg bar which offered a thoughtful selection of cold beers that were very welcome, particularly on the opening day where temperatures soared to 90F. Finally, we offered contactless payment alongside cash for the first time and this proved to be very popular.

It was great to meet up with the volunteers who attended and I would like to thank them again for stepping up to help as it is simply not

possible to run a Festival without a breadth of help and support from our growing Bromley branch membership.

More people joined Bromley CAMRA at the Festival than ever before and we are so lucky to have so many wonderful pubs, tap rooms, breweries and bottle shops within the Borough to visit and support. There really is something for everyone.

I would encourage members to become more active, either by interacting with our improved social media channels or coming along on some of the diverse socials that appear above and in the branch diary.

If you want to combine finding out about pubs in the Borough, with some exercise, there is an excellent Bromley Pub Walks document taking shape on the website. Why not get involved to help the Branch with that? See:

<https://bromley.camra.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Getting-Involved.pdf>

**Please ensure that you have 'opted in' to receive email contact from your local branch and also keep an eye on the website for details of how to volunteer to help at next year's Festival and if you know anyone who would like to join Bromley CAMRA, please spread the word.**

Murray Mackay  
Treasurer, Bromley CAMRA

## **Beer of the Festival Presentation**

Railway Porter, by The Five Points Brewing Co, was voted as 'Beer of the Festival' at the 2019 Beckenham Beer and Cider Festival.

On 3rd October some members of the branch visited the Five Points brewery tap, the Pembury Tavern in Hackney, where John Horn presented the certificate on behalf of the branch to Max Descloux, one of their brewers. Also at that evening we visited the nearby brewery, where we had a preview tasting of the new Five Points Green Hop beer, which is being launched on 10th October.

Some photos of the evening can be viewed on the branch website.  
<https://bromley.camra.org.uk/2019/10/05/beer-of-the-festival-presentation/>

## **Presentation to Double Vision Cider Co.**

Visitors to the 6th Beckenham Beer & Cider Festival held in July, voted Double Vision Cider's Impeared Vision Perry as the perry of the festival.

On Saturday 5th October, a small group of Bromley CAMRA members made their way down to Marlpit Farm, Boughton Monchelsea (near Maidstone, Kent), transported in style in a vintage Bentley driven by Chris Crowther, a long standing member of Bromley branch. Barry Phillips, Social Secretary for Bromley branch, made the presentation of the award to Simon Boarer, the owner and proprietor of Double Vision. Also in attendance were Mike Allen and Lorraine Davies who ran the cider and perry bar at the Beckenham festival.

## **Royal Bell Hotel, Bromley**

Most members will be aware that this Grade II Listed former hotel has been disused and boarded up for a number of years; it appears that several members of the branch have memories of going there in the days when it was a Berni Inn in the 1980s. There was a rare opportunity to see inside the hotel when it was opened to the public as part of the London Open House weekend last month. You can view some photos taken during that weekend on the branch website via <https://bromley.camra.org.uk/2019/09/23/a-look-inside-the-royal-bell/> . More information about the history of the hotel can be seen at: <http://www.theroyalbell.co.uk/>. Work has now started to bring the building back into use. On the ground floor, the Bell Tap, a new 'craft bar' is due to open early in 2020 and it is hoped to reopen the ballroom on the first floor as a music venue.

We'll bring you more information as soon as it is available.

Cheers

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