

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e-Newsletter

August 2021



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Welcome to the August e-Newsletter

I hope that you have been able to take advantage of the new 'freedom' to go to pubs and clubs.

I'm very aware that some of our members, such as those who are clinically vulnerable, are still not able to enjoy relaxing over a pint in a pub. Our thoughts are with you, and we hope that you are able to stay safe until full normality is able to return.

I'm sure many members will have been 'pinged' by the Covid app in recent weeks, and found themselves being asked to self-isolate, just at the time when they had been looking forward to enjoying some pub-going without all the signing-in, table service etc. I do hope that your subsequent test(s) proved to be negative and that you are all well and without any Covid symptoms.

The Editor was amongst those pinged, and I would like to thank the branch member who, upon hearing the news, immediately offered to go to the pub to get me some essential emergency supplies.

My first issue as Editor of the Bromley CAMRA newsletter was in April 2020, just a matter of days after the start of the first lockdown. It is therefore with enormous pleasure that I have been able to actually include a Branch Social Calendar in this issue. I look forward to attending some, or all, of the social events that Barry has planned. I hope to see as many as possible of you there.

Cheers!

Bob Keaveney, Editor

Thanks to Chris Crowther and Charles Tucker for the photos on the cover page this month

The Bromley Branch e-Newsletter is published every month, on approx. the first day of the month.

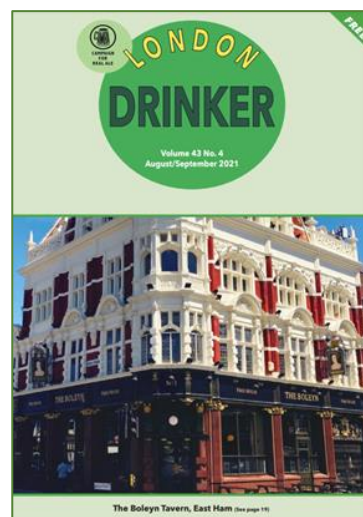
Members who have 'opted in' to receive emails from the branch will receive an email to notify them when each newsletter is available to download from the Branch Website.

London Drinker

The August/September issue of London Drinker is now available on-line.

<https://londondrinker.camra.org.uk/>

It is also available to download in the 'tradition' layout in PDF format via [this link](#).



Self-isolation in Beckenham.

The Great British Beer Festival At Your Local

August is normally the month for CAMRA's flagship Great British Beer Festival at Olympia.

Sadly, for the second year running, the pandemic has meant that it has not been possible for CAMRA to hold a Great British Beer Festival. Our own branch also had to cancel our much loved annual July festival.

However, across the country, hundreds of pubs, clubs, and breweries have teamed up with CAMRA to bring us 'GBBF at Your Local'. In our Branch area several pubs and one club will be taking part in local beer festivals.

Please note that details were still being finalised as this e-Newsletter was being prepared, therefore please check the Bromley CAMRA social media for the latest information:

twitter.com/CAMRABromley/.

For more details of the CAMRA events, and for a full list of venues participating, please go to:
<https://local.gbbf.org.uk/>.

The past 18 months of the pandemic have hit pub finances hard and some will find it difficult to survive. Pubs are a vital and vibrant part of our culture. So please do go out to have a few drinks at our local pub festivals, and give our Bromley pubs the support they need and deserve.



30th July to 8th August

The following Bromley pubs/club are participating in the festival:

- **Bricklayers Arms, Beckenham**
 - [WhatPub](#)
- **Greyhound, Keston**
 - [WhatPub](#)
 - Festival runs from Friday 30th to Sunday 8th August
 - Up to 7 guest ales will be on the bar
 - Ales will change during the week
 - See <https://twitter.com/GreyhoundKeston>
- **Lock and Barrel, Bromley**
 - [WhatPub](#)
- **One Inn The Wood, Petts Wood**
 - [WhatPub](#)
- **Orpington Liberal Club, Orpington**
 - [WhatPub](#)
- **Real Ale Way. Hayes**
 - [WhatPub](#)
- **Star & Garter, Bromley**
 - [WhatPub](#)



Committee News

During the period of Covid restrictions, your branch Committee continued to meet on a monthly basis using Zoom, but has now been able to resume holding meetings in pubs.

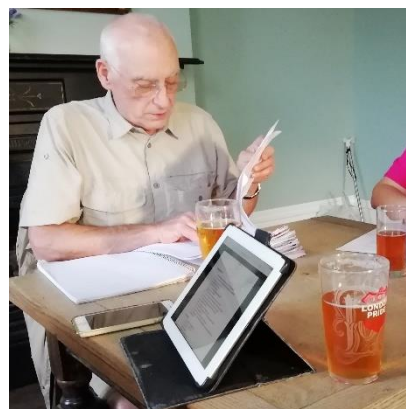
After more than a year of virtual meetings, the Committee held its first face-to-face meeting in the upstairs room at the Chancery in Beckenham on 27th July.

Whereas Zoom had proved to be a very effective means of carrying on the business of the branch, virtual meetings lacked the opportunity for Committee members to be able to enjoy the once-traditional 'chat over a beer' (or two) before and/or after the meeting.

The main focus of the meeting was discussing the arrangements for the GBBF in Your Local (see page 3).

The Committee has now been joined by Alan Hunt as our new Pub Contact for BR7. (*'Pub Contact' is the new name for our 'Area Reps'*). Over the next few weeks, Alan will be visiting all the pubs in his area to meet the licensees. We look forward to his input at future meetings and events.

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Tuesday 31st August, at 19:30 (*venue yet to be confirmed*). Any member of Bromley CAMRA not on the committee is welcome to attend committee meetings. Non-committee members planning to attend a meeting may email the [Secretary](#) to ask for a pack of relevant committee papers to be made available for them at the meeting.



After 16 months of Zoom, Branch Chairman Charles Tucker chairs the first non-virtual meeting of the Committee.



The (hopefully) final virtual meeting of the Committee, on 29th June 2021.

We need your Beer Scores

Bromley CAMRA uses beer scoring to identify pubs/clubs for possible inclusion in the Good Beer Guide.

Beer scoring is quick and simple using [WhatPub](#) or the [GBG App](#)

WHAT?UB

National Beer Scoring System

[Please see the branch website for more information about Beer Scoring](#)

Branch Social Events

After a break of 16 months, we see the very welcome return to the e-Newsletter of the Bromley Branch Social Calendar.

Hello everybody!

It's really great to be able to once again hold branch socials. I hope you are feeling as eager as I am to get out and about now that lockdown restrictions have ended.

I've put together a programme for August, which I hope will appeal to you all. This is mostly visits to celebrate some of our pubs and clubs which are taking part in the *GBBF in your Local* campaign (31st July - 8th August).



I would like to highlight the Annual Crystal Palace Triangle social, which will now take place on Saturday 28th August. This social is held jointly with our neighbouring CAMRA branches of South East London and Croydon & Sutton, to visit some of the many pubs around Crystal Palace. You may ask why Crystal Palace for a multi-branch social; it's because Crystal Palace is the point where the borders of all three branches meet.

I look forward to seeing you at one or more of our socials during August.

Barry Phillips, Social Secretary

Branch Diary for August

Wed 4th August. **Hayes**

- 14:15. [Real Ale Way](#), 55 Station Approach. BR2 7EB

Sat 7th August. **Beckenham**

- 18:30. [Bricklayers Arms](#), 237 High St. BR3 1BN.

Thu 12th August. **Petts Wood**

- 19:00. [One Inn The Wood](#), 209 Petts Wood Rd. BR5 1LA

Wed 18th August. **Orpington**

- 19:00. [Orpington Liberal Club](#), 7 Station Rd. BR6 0RZ

Sat 28th August. **The Annual Crystal Palace Triangle Social.**

- A joint event with Croydon & Sutton & South East London Branches
- 12:00. [Douglas Fir](#), 144 Anerley Rd, Anerley. SE20 8DL
- 13:10. [Alma](#), 95 Church Rd. SE19 2TA
- The social then gives members the chance to visit up to another five pubs in SE19. Full details are the branch website

Tue 31st August. **Committee Meeting (*)**

- The venue for this meeting has yet to be confirmed. Please check the branch diary on the website.

For more information about all the listed events, including public transport options, please see the diary page on the [Branch website](#).

(*) Members of Bromley CAMRA who are not on the committee are always welcome to attend committee meetings. Non-committee members planning to attend a meeting may request the Secretary secretary@bromley.camra.org.uk to prepare and print a pack of relevant committee papers to be made available for them at the meeting.

Keeping WhatPub up-to-date. Your help is needed.

With pubs and clubs now reopened for business following the Covid lockdowns, our Pub Database Administrator is asking members of Bromley Branch to assist in getting the information up to date on WhatPub.

As lockdown progressively loosens its grip on the pub trade, we at Bromley CAMRA are trying to make sure that the information that we display on our WhatPub pages is up-to-date. It's obviously not satisfactory if WhatPub users arrive at a pub and don't find the beers they expect or - worse - that the pub isn't open. We have found that many pubs are not keeping the same hours that they used to prior to lockdown, and also that the beer range is often reduced, or changed.

#PullingTogether - [Find out more](#)

Red Lion

10 North Road
Bromley
BR1 3LG

View on [Map](#)

[\(020\) 8460 2691](tel:(020)84602691)

redlionbromley.co.uk/

[f](#) [+](#) [t](#) [w](#) [g](#)

Social Links

[f](#) Visit [Red Lion](#) on Facebook

Facilities

- Lunchtime Meals
- Evening Meals
- Garden
- Traditional Pub Games
- Newspapers
- Real Fire
- Smoking Area
- Sports TV
Sky and BT Sport.

Opening Times

Regular

Monday	3.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Tuesday	3.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Wednesday	3.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Thursday	3.00 pm - 11.00 pm
Friday	3.00 pm - 11.00 pm
Saturday	3.00 pm - 11.00 pm
Sunday	Midday - 10.00 pm

About the Pub

Traditional, well kept, pub located in the quiet back streets just north of Bromley town centre. It retains many original features including tiling, and has an extensive library of books dominating one wall. As at mid-July 2021 the food range is mainly pizzas.

Regular cask ales

This pub serves 3 regular beers.

- Greene King Abbot
- Greene King IPA
- Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter

Changing cask ales

This pub serves 1 changing beer.

Changing beers typically include:

- Black Sheep --varies--
- Jennings --varies--
- Oakham --varies--

Source: National

With well over 100 entries on WhatPub for our branch area, this is a difficult task to accomplish quickly unless we get help from our members.

So what we would like you to do, is if you visit any of the pubs or clubs in our borough, please check that that the opening hours as shown on WhatPub are correct, and also that our description of the beer range is accurate.

The picture on the left shows the WhatPub entry for the Red Lion, with the arrows pointing to the information that we most urgently need to be checked.

Obviously if you see anything else that needs correcting, we would also be interested in that as well.

To send us updates, please either use the 'submit updates' button on the WhatPub screen, or send an email to me. Attaching a photo of the hours, or the pumpclip range is absolutely fine!

Your help will be much appreciated.

Tim Wilding, Pub Database Administrator.
pubinfo@bromley.camra.org.uk



Outstanding Pub Conversions and Restorations

News about a new national initiative by CAMRA to recognise and celebrate pubs where there has been a high quality of restoration or conversion.

CAMRA is dedicated to supporting pubs, as well as promoting best-quality beers and ciders. In particular, we are widely regarded for our work on identifying and helping to protect the UK's most important heritage pubs through the compilation of our inventories of pubs with historic interiors – the most precious survivors.

CAMRA defines heritage pubs as those that are wholly or mostly unchanged or retain important historic rooms or features from before 1970. Since then, huge numbers of pubs have been expertly refurbished and many have been established in buildings previously used for other purposes. And, contrary to popular belief, a lot of new pubs in both urban and rural locations are really good. They deserve to be recognised and applauded.

CAMRA has therefore begun a project to identify, preserve and protect pubs that are considered to be *Outstanding Conversions and Restorations* (OCR). These are the best examples of pub owners taking care to present a pub for modern times, whilst respecting the origins of the building in which it is located. Or, they have taken care to refashion a pub so that it has a genuinely historical feel and/or has design to admire. All pubs included have that essential quality of, well, pubbiness.

Why is CAMRA doing this?

1. To raise awareness of examples of outstanding pub conversions and restorations, thus stimulating interest in visiting and enjoying them.
2. To inspire pub owners and others to pursue excellence when converting or restoring buildings for pub use.
3. Thereby to establish yardsticks against which future pub conversions and restorations can be judged.
4. To help protect identified pubs from unsympathetic changes.
5. To contribute to CAMRA's wider objective of generating enthusiasm for pub-going.

Which pubs near here are on the list?

In Bromley Branch area, only one pub has so far been identified as being worthy of inclusion, the [Partridge](#) in Bromley High St. This Grade II listed former NatWest bank, was converted by Fuller's, and is listed in the 2021 Good Beer Guide.

You can find out more about the project and see the full national listing by using [this link](#). Why not go and enjoy as many of these pubs as you can? Currently there are about 30 'OCR' pubs across Greater London, how many of them have you visited?

This is a live project, so if you know of any other pubs which you think should be recognised as an outstanding conversion or restoration, please let us know at: info@ocrpubs.camra.org.uk.

Enjoy!!



Chris Crowther

The CAMRA OCR Team

There is more about pub design and heritage on the next page.

Heritage Pubs

For several years CAMRA's Pub Heritage Group has been focussed on protecting, preserving and promoting the nation's unspoilt pubs.

Pub Heritage Group

CAMRA's Pub Heritage Group have been working for more than thirty years to identify pubs with intact traditional interiors or which have features and rooms of national or regional importance. They created and maintain the *National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors*. Follow [this link](#) to search for historic pub interiors anywhere in the UK.

Bromley has five pubs which have been identified as being of 'some regional significance', these are as follows. If you click on the links it will take you to the detailed description of the pub on the Pub Heritage Group website:

- [Daylight Inn](#), Petts Wood
- [Five Bells](#), Chelsfield
- [Freelands Tavern](#), Bromley North
- [Jolly Woodman](#), Beckenham
- [Prince Frederick](#), Sundridge Park

The photo shows part of the interior of the Prince Frederick.



The London Pubs Group

The London Pubs Group was established in the early 1990s to promote the preservation of historic and architecturally important London pubs.

The group normally meets, and arranges 'crawls' on a regular basis; all events are open to any CAMRA members who wish to attend. Meetings have now resumed after the easing of restrictions and the Group's next pub tour takes place on Wednesday 18th August 2021:

Evening Pub Tour of former Courage pubs in Southwark, Borough and Bermondsey

Meet at 7.00pm at Anchor, 34 Park Street, Bankside, SE1 9EF; then to include 7.50pm Rose & Crown, 65 Union Street, Borough, SE1 1SG; 8.30pm Kings Arms, 65 Newcomen Street, Borough, SE1 1YT; 9.10pm Shipwrights Arms, 88 Tooley Street, Bermondsey, SE1 2TF; 10pm Anchor Tap, 20 Horselydown Lane, Bermondsey, SE1 2LN. Public transport will be required at times.

More information about the London Pubs Group is on their website: www.londonpubsgroup.camra.org.uk



Hopefully, we are all now doing less Zoom meetings than in recent months, however you can still download images of historical and well-preserved pubs to use as your 'background' for Zoom meetings and other virtual get-togethers.

The photo shows the Black Friar EC4.
(it's never been that empty whenever I've tried to drink there)

See all the available backgrounds at:
<https://camra.org.uk/virtual-backgrounds-for-online-meetings/>

CAMRA News

The Branch Secretary runs through some of the (mostly) non-Covid national and regional news from CAMRA.

Near normality eh, isn't it wonderful? As I sit typing this on a typical Summer afternoon, under an umbrella, which is under a gazebo, I kid you not. Photos are available.

Have you got out and about this last month, or, like me, been pinged and elected to isolate? Trouble was I received the "ping" whilst sitting in one of my favourite pubs. Now what are the rules for that one?

So, in this month of change, what has CAMRA been up to? Well, since you ask:

The return of the authentic pub experience

This could not be passed by, with our National Chair, Nik Antona, commenting on the easing of remaining restrictions in England seeing the much-anticipated return of the authentic pub experience, with ordering and chatting at the bar replacing table service and the rule of six.

Nik went on to comment that this move will help to make sure that our beloved pubs, social clubs and taprooms can survive and thrive on the other side of the pandemic, and continue to play their vital role in our communities.

Of course, there was the now somewhat traditional plea with CAMRA calling on the Chancellor to back our campaign for a differential rate of duty on draught beer, levelling the playing field between the price of beer sold in social, community settings compared with supermarket alcohol consumed at home. Hopefully, at some time, someone in power will listen!

Golden Tickets? Not quite but..

During July, CAMRA awarded 32 pubs and clubs across the country with *Golden Awards* marking 50 years of our campaigning.

These 32 Pubs include five pubs that had appeared in all 48 editions of the Good Beer Guide, a magnificent achievement in itself; the longest standing community owned pub in the country; and the current Pub of the Year holder. All having been selected from a list of over 240 pubs/clubs nominated by CAMRA members and locals.

Space precludes me from listing here [all 32 pubs/clubs](#). Sadly we have none from our area, but I was pleased to see that one of my all-time favourite pubs, The [Berry](#), in Lower Walmer, near Deal was included. I must congratulate Chris when next down there!



Treasury tax changes

The trouble is, whilst CAMRA tries to get taxes on the sale of draught beer changed, there remains the issue of the Small Brewer's Relief Scheme. One year on from the Treasury announcement on changes to this scheme, the Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA) has released academic research from Professors Geoff Pugh and David Tyrrall showing the damaging effect that the plans could have on the small brewing sector, and consequently consumer choice. For more on this, please follow [this link](#).

Campaigning

Over the last 16 months or so, many branches, including our own, have seen a fall in the number of members. Now come on, even if you could not get to the pub, there is no need to forego your membership of our worthy cause! Consequently, CAMRA issued on 9 July a press release summing up what we stand for and what we have achieved over the last 50 years promoting the benefits of membership which, to remind you, include:

- Access to CAMRA's [Learn & Discover](#) platform, a wide range of online resources to help members discover more about beer and brewing, authored by some of the best beer and cider experts and enthusiasts in the UK
- [What's Brewing online](#): a recently launched news platform keeping members up to date on all the campaigning and industry news direct to their inboxes; plus award-winning feature magazine BEER, available online or in print
- £30* [CAMRA real ale vouchers](#), accepted at over 1,500 pubs, including many of those owned by Amber Taverns, SA Brains, Stonegate and JD Wetherspoon, and more. (*£40 for joint membership)
- CAMRA [Real Ale Discount Scheme](#), which provides discounts on pints at over 3,500 participating pubs on production of a valid CAMRA membership card. The CAMRA vouchers and discounts foster responsible drinking and encourage footfall to pubs up and down the country
- Discounts on [CAMRA publications](#), including the annual, best-selling Good Beer Guide
- Free or reduced entry into [CAMRA beer festivals](#) nationwide (once restrictions allow for festivals to resume).



So, if you do know someone who has not renewed their membership, please give them a quiet prod from me!

Learn and Discover – Beer faults



Well, I mentioned this above in *membership benefits*, and it would be remiss of me not to highlight one of the latest guides available to members.

If, like me, you sometimes want to know more about what makes a good, or a bad, pint (apart from “wow, I’ll have another” or “where’s the pickles in this?”), the latest guide from CAMRA’s *Learn & Discover platform* informs readers about the off flavours that can signify a fault in their pint, and why it is so important to exchange or return it once a fault has been identified.

The guide is written by Katie Mather, a beer blogger-turned-food and drink writer and co-owner of Corto, a neighbourhood beer, natural cider and wine bar in Clitheroe.

Accompanied by the charming illustrations of Lucie Cooke, Katie guides you through the identification of smells and flavours that can be expected, and those that mean something is off.

Why not give it a try? I will be! [More information is here.](#)

Cider

Yes, the return of my cider news, with a quick reference to the Ciderologist (*who comes up with these terms?*), Gabe Cook who is teaming up with CAMRA to lead a virtual cider tasting evening to mark the publication of his book entitled *Modern British Cider*. The Zoom meeting, scheduled for Thursday 9th September, promises to be an interesting one as it is looking at some of the UK's best cider and Perry producers.



Specially selected ciders for the tasting evening with Gabe Cook

The cider tasting is the latest launch in CAMRA's Good Beer Box series, marking the organisation's 50th anniversary in 2021. Tickets and a box of the ciders selected for tasting can be ordered on the CAMRA Shop via [this link](#).

Closing



In closing, I must refer to Tom Stainer, CAMRA CEO) who, on 19th July, issued a press release calling on everyone to support their local pubs, social clubs and the great local breweries that serve them in the weeks and months ahead. Tom went on to say, as restrictions lift across the UK, we can help the Great British pub recover, thrive and cement their place at the heart of community life up and down the country.

What a moving cry - get out there folks! (oh, and do not forget the annual Cask Ale Week 2021, taking place from 23rd September - 3rd October 2021).

Kent Sadler. Branch Secretary

The August Quiz

In this Olympic month, our Quizmaster Martin Gee is all about sport and leisure.

- 1) Which Swiss tennis player won the Men's Singles at the 2006 Australian Open?
- 2) ...and which French tennis player won the Women's Singles at the 2006 Australian Open?
- 3) Which country always leads the Olympic procession at the opening ceremony?
- 4) What nationality is rugby league player Yacine Dekkiche?
- 5) With which sport are Brigitte Becue and Agnes Kovacs associated?
- 6) What nationality is Formula 1 driver Marc Gene?
- 7) In which year were the World Indoor Athletics Championships first held?
- 8) In which city were the 1952 Winter Olympic Games held?
- 9) In which city was the International Governing Body of Fencing (FIE) founded in 1913?
- 10) Sherwood Stewart and Ferdi Taygan won the 1982 French Open Men's Doubles Tennis Championship: which country were they from?

The answers to the quiz are on the final page.

Home Brewing

This month Charles has been brewing a beer based on the famous Robinson's Old Tom.

Last month I told you how I had constructed a small crane to help with the heavy lifting involved in raising the malt tube from the mash tun after the mashing is over. This month on my beer [blog](#) I explain how I put my new crane to good use in making a clone of a very famous dark Barley Wine – Robinson's Old Tom.

Rich, malty and warming, Old Tom has a distinctive deep port wine finish, with bitter hops balanced by the heady aromas of dark fruit. The best things in life improve with age... Good wine, friendships and, of course, Old Tom. Unlike other beers, Old Tom ages beautifully in the bottle (like a fine wine). Consequently, the brew I am doing this month is to be bottled and left to mature, ready to drink for Christmas.

The recipe itself is quite simple and only uses Pale Malt and Crystal Malt, with just a touch of Chocolate Malt for added roastiness. The hop bill is also simple, using good old fashioned Goldings and Fuggles. To help maintain the high ABV of 9.3%, a small amount of brewer's sugar is used.

All the details of the recipe and a write-up of my brewing day can be found on the Bromley CAMRA Branch page in my brewing blog [here](#).

Sometimes dubbed 'the original craft beer', Robinson's Old Tom is one of the most famous strong beers in ale history. A firm favourite with traditional drinkers, craft enthusiasts and beer judges alike, Old Tom has won the industry's most prestigious awards; including World's Best Ale, World's Best Design and Champion Winter Beer of Britain. The history of Robinson's Brewery in Stockport and the name 'Old Tom' is worthy of mention in itself.

1827 - How It All Began

- William Robinson became landlord of the Unicorn Inn in 1827 and bought the pub in 1838. The Unicorn Inn evolved to become the Unicorn Brewery, in which Old Tom was born.

1899 – Old Tom Is Born

- As the old brewery cat, Tom, basked in the sunshine the head brewer, Alfred Munton sketched him into immortality. Old Tom was first brewed on Wednesday 1st November 1899.

1920 - A New Brew House

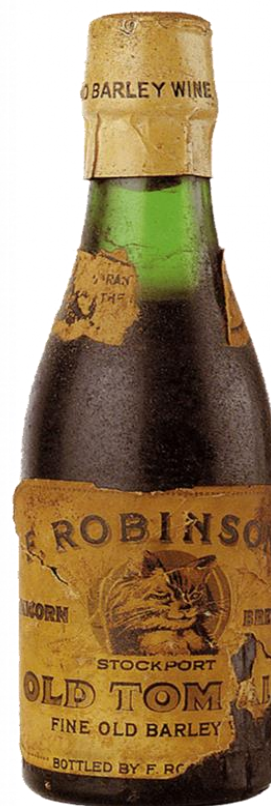
- New coppers, to boil the wort and hops, were installed in 1920. They worked hard for over 90 years brewing Old Tom, before being replaced in 2012 with the brew house still in use today.

1976 - Unicorn Packaging Centre

- The Unicorn Packaging Centre opens, with a bottling capacity of 850,000 bottles a day, allowing Robinsons to start sharing the now famous Old Tom beer with the rest of the world.

1985 – Old Tom's 50+ Awards

- Old Tom wins the first of over fifty awards in the 1985 'Brewing Industry International Awards'. Amongst other accolades, it's been crowned 'Champion Beer of Britain' and 'World's best ale'.



Charles Tucker



The August beer photo

*Wantsum Brewery, Hurricane IPA, 4.5%
at the [Real Ale Way](#) on 19th July.*

With thanks to Tim W for lending his pint for the photo.

Contacting Bromley CAMRA

- Website: bromley.camra.org.uk/
- Twitter: twitter.com/CAMRABromley/
- Facebook: facebook.com/bromleycamra/

General enquiries about the branch should be sent to: branch.contact@bromley.camra.org.uk

All officers of the branch can be contacted direct by email, full details can be found on the branch website:
<https://bromley.camra.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/>

The next issue of the Newsletter will be published on **1st September 2021**

You can contact the editor by email: newsletter.editor@bromley.camra.org.uk.

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of their individual authors and are not necessarily endorsed by the editor or CAMRA.

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Answers to this month's quiz

1) Roger Federer; 2) Amelie Mauresmo; 3) Greece; 4) French; 5) Swimming;
6) Spanish; 7) 1985; 8) Oslo; 9) Paris; 10) USA