

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e-Newsletter

November 2022



Campaign
for
Real Ale

In this issue:

[Branch Calendar](#)

A variety of social events and meetings are planned for November.

[Good Beer Guide 2023](#)

Bromley has a new entry in the new edition of the GBG.

[Fifty Years of Bromley in the Good Beer Guide](#)

A brief look back at fifty years of Bromley Pubs in the GBG.

[Why do we have a Branch Committee?](#)

We look at the role of the Branch Committee.

[The 358 Bus Crawl, Part One](#)

More than half of Bromley's real ale pubs/clubs are served by the 358 bus route.

[Local Pub, Club & Brewery news](#)

News from BR2 & BR3.

[CAMRA News](#)

Bromley CAMRA presents the cheque to St Christopher's.

[The November Quiz](#)

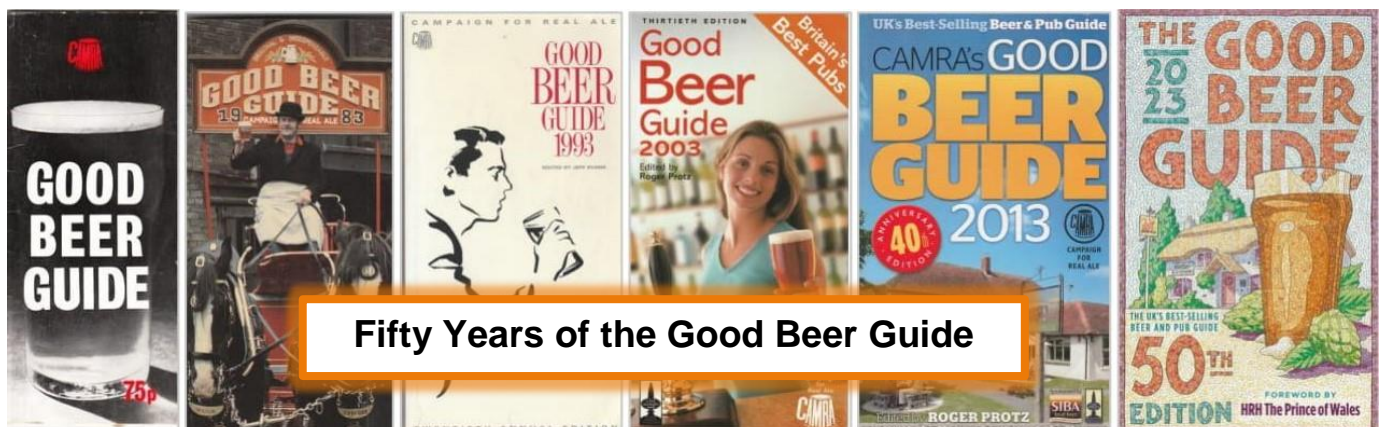
This month's quiz is about Halloween.



Good Beer Guide
2023



The Role of the
Branch Committee



Fifty Years of the Good Beer Guide

Branch Calendar, November 2022

Full details of all events, including suggested public transport options, can be viewed on the branch website: <https://bromley.camra.org.uk/calendar/>

Wed 2nd. Petts Wood Social.

- 19:00. [Daylight Inn](#), Station Square, BR5 1LZ
- 20:00. [One Inn The Wood](#), 209 Petts Wood Rd, BR5 1LA
- 21:45. [Sovereign Of The Seas](#), 109-111 Queensway, BR5 1DG.

Mon 7th. Locksbottom Afternoon Social.

- 14:30. [Ye Olde Whyte Lyon](#), Farnborough Common, BR6 8NE;
- 15:30. [Black Horse](#), 318 Crofton Road, BR6 8NW.

Sat 12th. Day trip to Folkestone. (Postponed from 20th August)

- 10:40. Meet Orpington Station
- See below for more information.

Wed 16th. Canterbury Ales tap takeover social

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

Thu 24th. Dark Beers Festival Social.

- From 17:00. [Hope](#), 48 West St., Carshalton. SM5 2PR.

Mon 28th. Chislehurst Pre-meeting social & Committee Meeting (*)

- 18:30. [Cockpit](#), 4 Royal Parade, BR7 6NR. (Social)
- 19:30. [Crown Inn](#), School Road, BR7 5PQ. (Committee)

(*) 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.



Chris Crowther & Editor

Day Trip to Folkestone. Sat 12th

- 10:40. Meet at Orpington Station for the 10:56 train towards Ramsgate (Change at Sevenoaks)
- 12:21. Arrive Folkestone Central
- 12:35: [Samuel Peto](#), 23 Rendezvous Street, Baptist Galleries, Folkestone. CT20 1EY
- And then on to other pubs; details of the full itinerary will be available on the day.

(Note. Should there be further railway industrial action on this date, details of an alternative social event will be posted on the branch website and social media feeds)



Henry Start

Good Beer Guide 2023

The 50th edition of CAMRA's flagship publication has now been published. This edition welcomes a new Bromley entry, the Cockpit micropub in Chislehurst.

The **Cockpit** micropub first opened in late December 2020, during the height of the Covid pandemic. For several months, the lockdown restrictions meant that they were only able to supply beers for home delivery, however, in April 2021 the restrictions eased to allow drinking outside. Then on 17th May 2021 customers were actually allowed to enjoy a drink inside the pub.

A possibly unique feature of this micropub is that it shares the premises with a florist's shop. The pub's name is derived from the cockpit on the nearby Chislehurst Common.



NAME	BREWERY	ABV	TYPE	PRICE
PIT	BRITHOP	3.8	HOUSE PALE	£3.90
DAWN CHORUS	WIPER 3 LEFT TABLE 3 HANDED GIANT	4.5	HOPPY PALE	£5.80
CHERRY RAVEN	MAGPIE	4.4	CHERRY STOUT	£5.20
BEST	MAGPIE	4.2	BEST BITTER	£4.80
JAY IPA	MAGPIE	5.2	BRITISH IPA	£5.20
CAIN & ABEL	KENT	3.3	TABULAR DEER	£4.60
GREEN HOP	MUTINEERS	4.0	GREEN HOP ALE	£4.80

The pub is run by Paul Steadman and Rick Hone, now with Adam Miller as manager; many members will remember Adam from his time as manager at One Inn The Wood.

Up to seven cask ales are normally available, all served by gravity from a cold room, which is visible through a window behind the bar.

The house beer is Pit, a hoppy pale ale specially brewed for the pub by Brithop. The other ales available will usually be a range of beer styles, including a stout or porter. sourced mainly (but not exclusively) from small breweries in London and Kent. Many of the beers are 'LocAle'. Brews from two of

Bromley's breweries, Mutineers and Marlix, are regularly available. Adam says that they feature "an eclectic range of cask, with the aim that no two beers are the same".

The pub serves real, whole juice cider, with ciders from local cideries, such as Nightingale and Ascension, and from further afield, including Oliver's, Pilton and Little Pomona. Adam is very enthusiastic about the ciders they have available: "We focus on serving the best cider the country has to offer, both by draught and from the bottle, being in constant conversation with quality cider makers about the future and evolution of the industry."

For those who fancy something a little stronger, the pub also stocks a range of gins from Wessex Gins, a small, family-run, craft gin distillery in Surrey. The company recently won the title of 'UK Gin Producer of the Year 2022' at the International Wine & Spirits Competition.



Photo by The Cockpit

The photo on the front page of this issue shows Adam (L) and Paul, having just opened the 'white envelope' notifying them that the pub was to be in GBG 2023.



Alan Hunt

Chislehurst

Cockpit

4 Royal Parade, BR7 6NR

thecockpitchislehurst.co.uk

House beer (by BritHop); 5 changing beers (sourced nationally) 🍷

Opened in December 2020 during the Covid crisis, this micropub was able to operate more normally in 2021 as lockdown eased. A choice of beers is available from small breweries from across the country. The premises are shared with a florist's shop and have plenty of seating inside as well as outside. There are benches at the front. The pub name comes from the ancient cockpit situated nearby on Chislehurst Common. 🍷🍷🍷

The Cockpit's entry in the
2023 Good Beer Guide



The Cockpit, Bromley's micropub within a florist's shop.

Chris Crowther

During the period of Covid restrictions the Cockpit, along with several neighbouring hospitality premises, obtained approval from the Council to provide temporary outdoor seating areas, in what had previously been parking bays. The temporary licence for this has now been extended, and there are hopes that it might be made permanent. There are several locations within the borough where such temporary licences have been approved, however the effect in Chislehurst has been particularly noticeable, where the conversion of several of the former parking bays has created a vibrant 'café culture' atmosphere in Royal Parade.

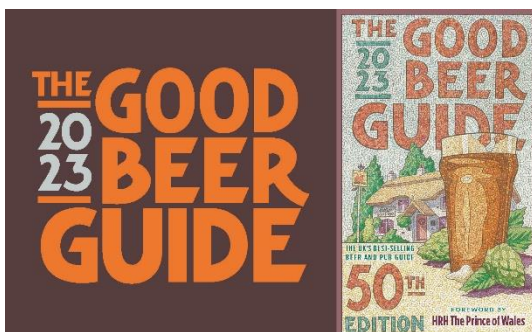


Chris Crowther



Cockpit
4 Royal Parade
Chislehurst
BR7 6NR

- [WhatPub](#)
- [Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)



Get your copy today

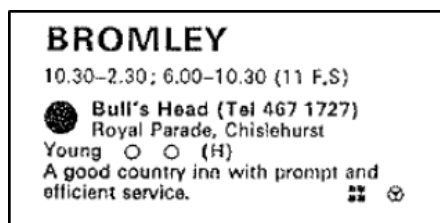
Buy now



Fifty Years of Bromley in the Good Beer Guide

Last month saw the publication of the fiftieth edition of the Good Beer Guide.

The first edition of CAMRA's Good Beer Guide (GBG) was published in 1974 and included just one pub in the Bromley area, the [Bull's Head](#) in Chislehurst.



Over the years in Bromley, a total of **67** pubs, two clubs and one off-licence have been listed in the guide. Sadly, twelve of these venues are now permanently closed; in most cases the sites have been redeveloped. There are also a number of other previously listed pubs which do still exist, however they no longer serve real ale.

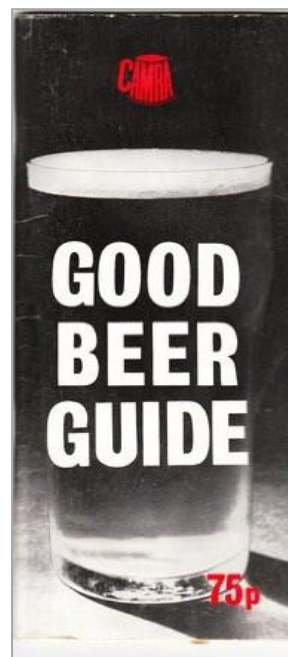
Bizarrely, as mentioned in the [October 2020](#) e-Newsletter, in 2000 and 2001, a pub which is actually within the county of Kent was somehow listed in the Guide as a Bromley pub!

Bromley has a good selection of pubs serving beers from Ind Coope, Courage, Charrington, Shepherd Neame, Young, Fuller and Watney

In **1978** there were nine Bromley pubs listed and included the above comment.

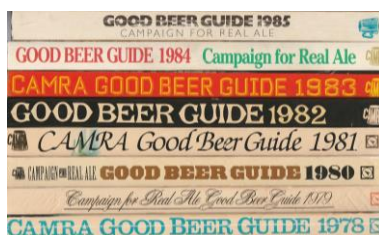
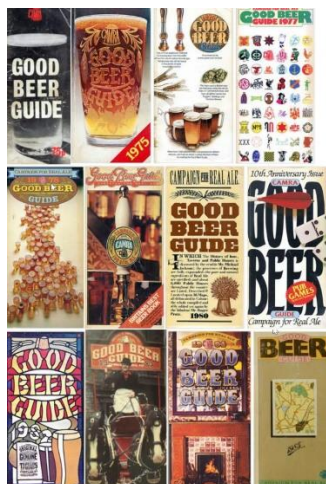
The most frequently listed Bromley pub is the [Jolly Woodman](#) in Beckenham, having appeared in a total of 34 editions, over various years between 1976 and 2015. However, it is the [Red Lion](#) in Bromley North which holds the record for being the Bromley pub with the most consecutive entries; GBG 2023 being the 26th consecutive year in the guide for this excellent back street local run by Chris and Siobhan Humphrey.

There are currently more than 90 pubs and eligible clubs in Bromley which serve real ale. Many of these venues offer ales that are of sufficiently high quality to warrant them being listed in the GBG. However, Bromley's current allocation in the Guide is only ten slots; this means that some very difficult decisions need to be made each year at the branch's GBG Selection Meeting. In the [previous issue](#) of the e-Newsletter we described how Bromley CAMRA selects pubs and clubs for inclusion in the GBG.



Bromley in the Good Beer Guide 1974 to 2022

See the full list of all Bromley's GBG Pubs and Clubs on the [branch website](#).



Why do we have a Branch Committee?

Bromley CAMRA is run entirely by volunteers. We have a brief look at what your Branch Committee does.

CAMRA, as with many voluntary organisations has a structure which involves a 'local', 'regional' and 'national' presence. CAMRA is democratically run, with all members being able to vote to elect members of the National Executive, and to attend the AGM of their local branch to vote on who will sit on the Branch Committee. It is the National Executive, led by current National Chair Nik Antona, which initiates all the national campaigning, however local campaigning is run by each of CAMRA's more than 200 branches.

Who sits on the Branch Committee?

The Bromley Branch Committee currently has 21 members, covering a total of 28 different roles; some members having more than one role. There are the four 'key' roles: the Chair; Secretary; Membership Secretary and Treasurer, plus several roles relating to the various campaigning activities and the promotion of CAMRA. In addition we have our nine 'Area Pub & Club Contacts'.

What does the Branch Committee do?

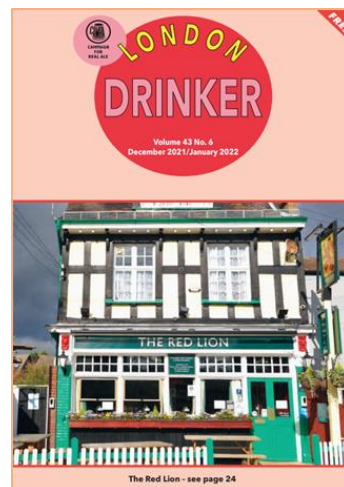
The Committee meets regularly, with ten meetings per year; meetings are normally held in an upstairs or back room at a pub or club. However, throughout the year, members of the Committee are working on their allotted area(s) of responsibility.

The work of the Committee and its members includes:

- Updating the pub/club information for WhatPub
- Distributing London Drinker magazine to pubs/clubs
- Arranging the selection of the branch Pub & Club of the Year
- Arranging the selection of pubs for the GBG
- Organising the beer festival
- Campaigning for pub protection
- Supporting and promoting local pubs, clubs & breweries
- Liaising with licensees via our network of Area Pub and Club Contacts
- Arranging social events for members
- Producing the monthly e-Newsletter



The Committee continued to meet (via Zoom) throughout the period when meetings could not be held in pubs/clubs.



The Red Lion - see page 24



How long do Committee members stay in post?

CAMRA's constitution requires that the entire committee stands down at each AGM and that a new committee is then elected by the members of the branch at the AGM.



The October Committee Meeting
24th October 2022 at the Chancery

In many cases, the same postholders are re-elected for a further term. However inevitably some committee members do decide not to seek re-election for various reasons, therefore, in most years, at least one new member has joined the Branch Committee. If a vacancy occurs during the year, the Committee can co-opt a member to join the Committee to take over the vacant post.

Several members of the current Branch Committee have held committee roles ever since Bromley Branch relaunched in 2011, and some of them have given us advance notice that they intend to stand down at the next AGM (in March

2023). This means that there will probably be several posts which will need to be filled.

In a couple of weeks time, we'll be sending an email to all members about these anticipated vacancies. However, in the meantime, do please drop an email to the [Branch Secretary](#) if you think that you might be interested in joining the Branch Committee.

The Bromley Branch Committee

The Bromley CAMRA Committee

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Branch Secretary / Branch Contact
- Membership Secretary
- Festival Co-ordinator
- Pub Protection officer
- Public Affairs Contact
- Awards Co-ordinator
- Social Secretary;
- Beer Scores Co-ordinator
- GBG Submissions Co-ordinator
- Pub Database Co-ordinator
- LocAle Representative
- Website Co-ordinator
- Social Media Co-ordinator
- e-Newsletter Editor
- London Drinker Distribution
- Young Members contact
- Cider Liaison
- Plus the nine Area Pub/Club contacts for: BR1; BR2; BR3; BR4; BR5; BR6; BR7; SE19/20; Biggin Hill, Cudham, Downe & Leaves Green



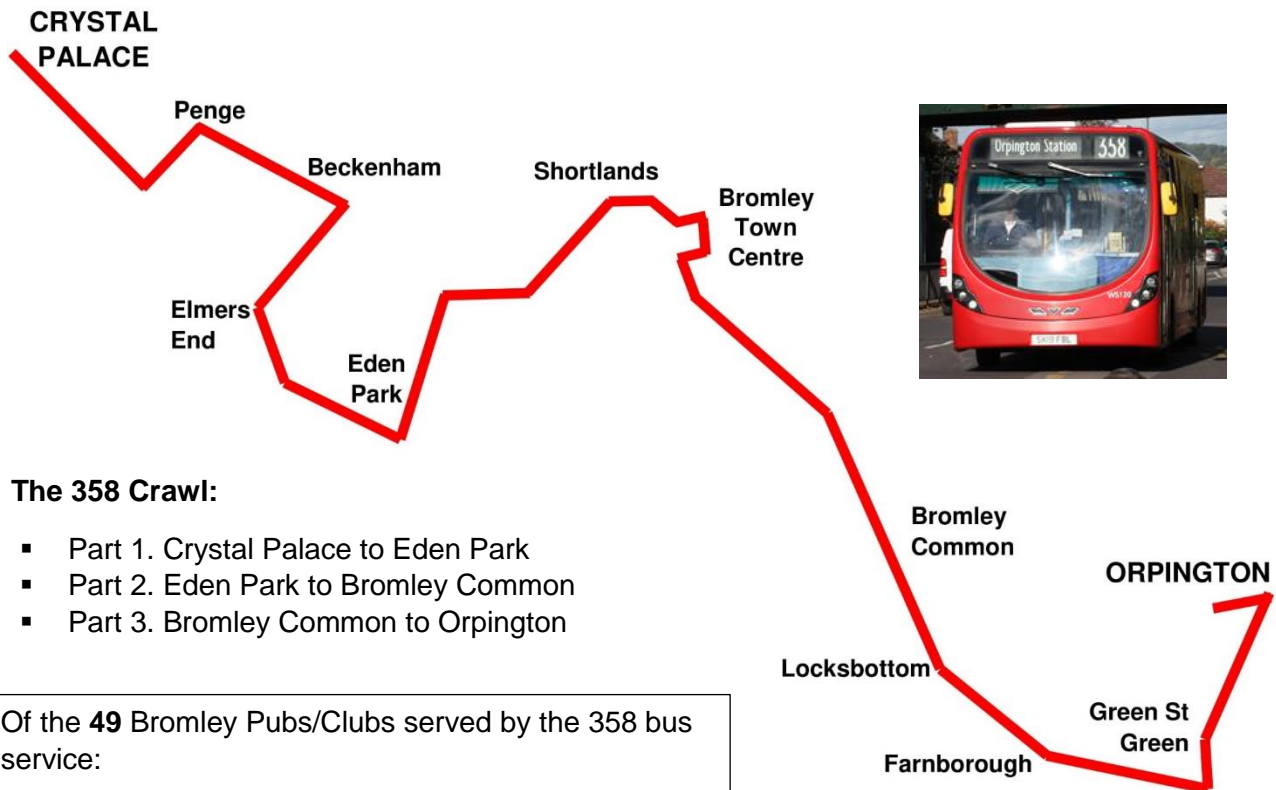
Branch Chair Charles Tucker in action, chairing a meeting of the Committee.



The Beckenham Beer & Cider Festival. And (left) some of the monthly e-Newsletters. The Festival Coordinator and the Editor are members of the Committee.

The 358 Bus Crawl

The 358 bus route, at approx. 16 miles is one of London's longest. However, for Bromley's drinkers, more than half of our area's real ale pubs and clubs can be reached by using this service. This month we start a three-part series looking at the pubs/clubs along the route.



The 358 Crawl:

- Part 1. Crystal Palace to Eden Park
- Part 2. Eden Park to Bromley Common
- Part 3. Bromley Common to Orpington

Of the **49** Bromley Pubs/Clubs served by the 358 bus service:

- **22** Pubs/clubs are directly on the route, including four which appear in the 2023 Good Beer Guide.
- **27** Pubs/clubs within approx. 10 minutes walk of a bus stop.

Part One. Crystal Palace, Anerley, Penge, Beckenham, Eden Park.

Crystal Palace is the boundary of several London Boroughs. It is also the boundary of three CAMRA branches, this means that only one of the five pubs in the 'Crystal Palace Triangle' is actually within Bromley, this being the [Alma](#).

The former [Grape & Grain](#) remains closed and boarded up. JD Wetherspoon acquired the site several years ago, and eventually got planning permission to extend the pub, including building on the adjacent site at the corner of Anerley Hill and Church Rd, a site which has been vacant since WW2 bomb damage. It is currently not known when (or if?) Wetherspoons intend to proceed with this development.

Pubs in the Crystal Palace Triangle

(Listed in a clockwise direction, following the one-way traffic system)

- [Alma](#)
- [White Hart](#)
- [Sparrowhawk](#)
- [Royal Albert](#)
- [Westow House](#)

There are other pubs; however they do not currently sell cask ales.

CRYSTAL PALACE



Pubs in Crystal Palace

See previous page

Crystal Palace Station

Anerley Station

Anerley

[Douglas Fir](#)

Pubs in Penge:

[Crooked Billet](#)

[Goldsmiths Arms](#)

[Maple Tree](#)

[Moon & Stars](#)

[Pawleyne Arms](#)

[Southey Brewery Taproom](#)

Penge

WHAT?PUB

Click on the [pub name](#) to read about the pub/club on WhatPub

Kent House Station

Beckenham Rd Tram

Clock House Station

Clock House

[Three Hounds Beer Co](#)

Elmers End

Beckenham

Elmers End

[Beckenham Rugby Club](#)

[Elm Tree](#)

Pubs in Beckenham:

[Bricklayers Arms](#)

[Coach & Horses](#)

[George Inn](#)

[Manor House](#)

Eden Park

[Eden Park \(Toby\)](#)

[Club Langley](#)

Eden Park Station

Route continues towards Bromley. See next issue

This map is not to scale

Down the hill in Anerley is the [Douglas Fir](#), run by Gipsy Hill Brewery. Sadly, there are also several permanently closed pubs in this area, with the buildings now converted to other uses, or demolished and redeveloped. The closed pubs include: [Paxton Arms](#), [Thicket Tavern](#), and [Robin Hood](#); the latter is now the site of an Aldi supermarket.

The bus next gets to Penge, where the first pub is the [Maple Tree](#) in Maple Rd. (Nearest bus stop is Avenue Rd.). Back in the 1980s, Maple Rd was a 'destination' for real ale drinkers, however sadly, now only the Maple Tree survives. (See the [September 2020](#) e-Newsletter to read more about Maple Rd.)

One stop further takes us to the [Goldsmiths Arms](#), [Pawleyne Arms](#), [Southey Brewery Tap](#) and the [Crooked Billet](#). Then just one stop around the corner is Wetherspoon's [Moon & Stars](#).

Next comes the Clock House area of Beckenham, with the [Three Hounds Beer Café](#). In Beckenham, the bus turns right at the War Memorial, but if you leave the bus here and walk along the High St you have the choice of four pubs, [Bricklayers Arms](#), [Coach & Horses](#), [George Inn](#) and [Manor House](#).

Just before reaching the Elmers End is [Beckenham Rugby Football Club](#), home to our branch's beer & cider festival, and where CAMRA members are welcome at the bar as guests. Just beyond the roundabout is the [Elm Tree](#), previously known as William IV.

The final pubs in this section are the [Eden Park](#), the Toby Carvery, just opposite Eden Park Station, and then after a further two stops, [Club Langley](#).

See the next month's e-Newsletter for the next section of this bus crawl, which will take us through Shortlands, Central Bromley, and on to Bromley's newest micropub.

The small print, what is '10 minutes walk'?

We are aware that people walk at different speeds, and therefore 'the 10 minutes' measure used in this series should therefore only be taken as being approximate. Thank you to some of our Pub/Club Contacts, and others, who actually went to check some of the timings, as part of the preparation for this series.



Alma



Southey Tap



Three Hounds



Bricklayers Arms



Elm Tree

Photos by Chris Crowther, Murray Mackay, Charles Tucker & Editor

New electric buses for the 358 route

We understand that trials will be starting soon of a new fleet of battery-powered buses, to replace the existing diesel vehicles on this route.

The buses to be used will not be the 'big battery' type, as being introduced elsewhere, since the route length is too long. Instead these new buses will be able to be charged whilst they are waiting at the Orpington or Crystal Palace terminus, at the end of each journey.

You can see photos of the new buses on: [Go Ahead Twitter](#).

Local Pub, Club & Brewery News

BR2, Bromley

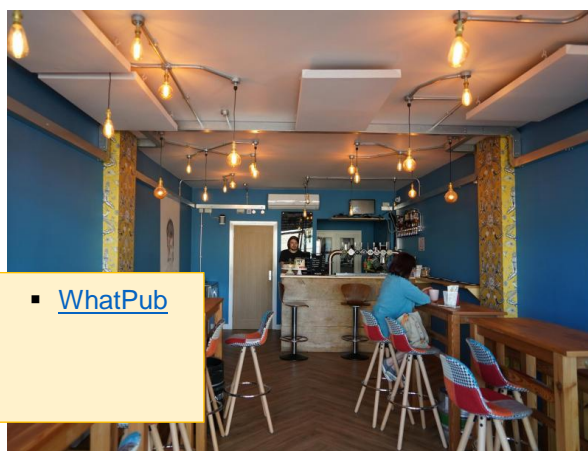
The **Hit or Miss** opened its doors for the first time on 10th October 2022. It describes itself thus: 'A cafe by day, a microbar by night. Pop in for a locally roasted coffee or a cask ale or local gin.'

By the time you are reading this item, Bromley CAMRA will have carried out a full survey, which you will be able to read on [WhatPub](#).

On opening day there were three cask ales available, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Oakham Citra and Dark Star Hophead.



Hit or Miss
6 Chatterton Road
Bromley Common.
BR2 9QN



Photos by Chris Crowther

BR3, Beckenham

On 18th October the bar at Three Hounds Beer Co was packed for the presentation of the 'Beer of the Festival' certificate, for their Pendulum session IPA

The bar has now installed an additional handpump, having previously only had the one.

Three Hounds Beer Co
57 Beckenham Road
Beckenham
BR3 4PR

- [WhatPub](#)
- [Website](#)
- [Twitter](#)



Photos by Barry Phillips

CAMRA News

The Branch Secretary has been on holiday, so we are not able to include any national and regional news from CAMRA in this issue.

Festival Charity Presentation

Members and guests visiting the sell-out Beckenham Beer & Cider Festive in July generously donated a total of **£552.50** in unused beer tokens and cash to the 'festival charity', which this year was St Christopher's.

Branch Chair & Festival Coordinator, Charles Tucker and Branch Treasurer, Murray Mackay, recently visited St Christopher's to 'present the cheque'.



From left: Tracy Blackmore, Relationship Development Manager at St Christopher's, with Murray Mackay, Charles Tucker and Nick White, part St Christopher's IT Team (and CAMRA member).

In Memoriam – Paul Thomas

It is with great sadness that I must announce the passing away of branch member Paul Thomas on the 12th of October, aged 61. Paul was recently hospitalised and died while there due to a serious illness.

Paul was an energetic member of our branch and until his illness was a regular attendee at the branch socials. A staunch supporter of CAMRA for many years, he was a great lover of real ale and was always ready to chat about his favourite beers and breweries.

Paul was also an active festival volunteer and willing to try his hand at any activities. Not only did he attend the Bromley festival, but he was also appreciated as a regular at neighbouring branch festivals. He will be greatly missed by all that knew him. RIP.

Charles Tucker, Chair, Bromley CAMRA

The November Quiz

This month's quiz is about Halloween.

- 1) Which game involving fruit is commonly played at Halloween?
- 2) What sweet treat is often made for Halloween using butter, molasses and sugar?
- 3) Who are Dr. Peter Venkman, Dr. Raymond Stantz, and Dr. Egon Spengler better known as?
- 4) Halloween is also known as All Hallows Eve but what is another name for Hallows?
- 5) Which TV series had the characters Fred, Velma, and Daphne?
- 6) The *Legend of Sleepy Hollows* is a short story set around the time of Halloween. Who is the author?
- 7) What is the name of the British private detective television series, which when shown in the United States was called *'My Partner the Ghost'*?
- 8) Thing. T. Thing was a character from The Addams Family TV series. What was the only part of the character ever seen?
- 9) What is the name for a ghost responsible for physical disturbances, such as loud noises and objects being moved?
- 10) Which *"Surely you can't be serious"* actor starred in the Mel Brookes film - *Dracula: Dead and Loving it*?

Martin Gee, Quizmaster

The answers to the quiz are at the foot of the page.

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](#)

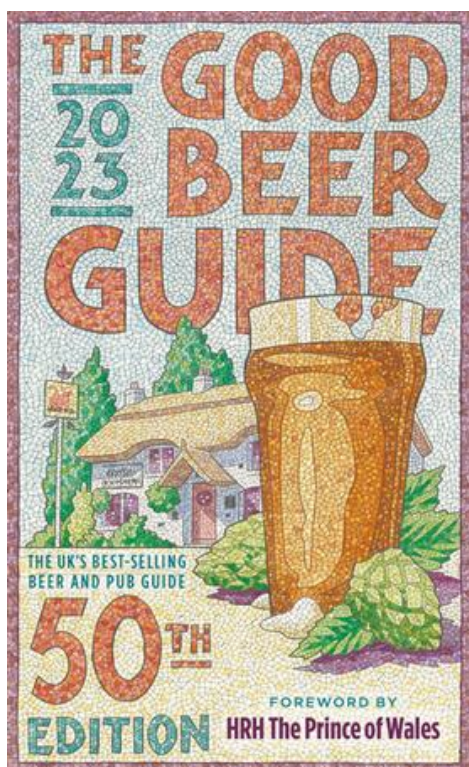
WHAT?UB

National Beer Scoring System

Please see the branch website for more information about Beer Scoring

Quiz answers:

1) Bobbing for apples; 2) Bonfire toffee; 3) The Ghostbusters; 4) Saints; 5) Scooby-Doo; 6) Washington Irving; 7) Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased); 8) The hand; 9) Pottergeist; 10) Leslie Nielsen ("I am serious, and don't call me Shirley")



Good Beer Guide 2023

is now on sale

[CAMRA Books](#)

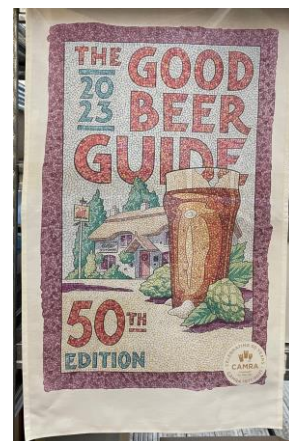
And also a cotton tea-towel to keep your Good Beer Glass clean!

ONLY 250 produced.

White cotton tea towels with a digital print of the celebratory 50th Edition Good Beer Guide cover.

£8.00

from [CAMRA Books](#)



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/>

2022-11v2

The December e-Newsletter will be published on **1st December 2022**

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

The e-Newsletter is designed to be read online, so that you can click on links to view all of the many linked documents.

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.