

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e-Newsletter

April 2023



Campaign
for
Real Ale

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...and thanks to Bob for doing such a great job.

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Quiz

Apologies, I did not request it in time



Branch AGM



Thanks to our outgoing Chair
and Festival Organiser

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

The May e-Newsletter will be published on **1st May 2023** – your contributions are welcome!

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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Contacting Bromley CAMRA

Website: bromley.camra.org.uk/

Twitter: <https://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, see details on the branch website:
<https://bromley.camra.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/>

Hello from your incoming newsletter Editor



I must start by thanking Bob Keaveney for doing such a great job for the last 3 years. I don't thank Bob for being such a hard act to follow!

My name is Paul Treleaven and I've included a mugshot to help you put a face to a name. I do my best to attend Bromley CAMRA events but I do spend a substantial part of the year outside of the UK, mostly in the US. Consequently, I don't pick up on all the Bromley pub and brewery news and I will be reliant on members submitting articles for inclusion in the newsletter.

Whilst I do get to drink some very pleasant beers here (in Arizona), they are not real ale and I soon start to develop a longing for a "proper pint" on my return.

Last week we had a short trip to San Antonio, Texas, where one bar displayed ads for several Texas breweries; one claiming to be the Real Ale Brewing Company. I didn't experience any of those, preferring to stay true to the LocAle

cause and drinking only San Antonio beers. Did you know that St Arnold is the patron saint of brewers?



That's enough from me, on with the show...

You can contact me by email:

newsletter.editor@bromley.camra.org.uk

We need your Beer Scores in 2023

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

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 Calendar, April 2023

Bromley pub photos by Chris Crowther

Full details of all events, including map, addresses and suggested public transport options, can be viewed on the [branch website](#) – click on event in calendar and details will be presented.

Thu Apr 6th Bromley CAMRA Club of the Year 2023 Presentation

- 19:00 – 22:00 Presentation at the [Orpington Liberal Club](#).



Sat Apr 8th Greyhound Beer Festival

- From 12:30. [Greyhound, Keston](#)



Thu Apr 13th Bromley Common Social

- 15:30 [Hit or Miss](#)
- 17:00 [One Inn the Wood](#)



Wed Apr 19th Bromley CAMRA Pub of the Year 2023 Presentation

- 19:00 – 21:30 Presentation at the [Cockpit Chislehurst](#).



Mon Apr 24th Bromley CAMRA Committee Meeting

- 19:30 – 22:00 [Three Hounds Beer Company](#)



Members of Bromley CAMRA who are not on the committee are welcome to attend committee meetings. Non-committee members planning to attend may request the [Secretary](#) to print a pack of relevant committee papers to be made available for them at the meeting.

Sat Apr 29th Social at the London CAMRA cider and perry festival.

- 12:00 – 22:00 Matchstick Piehouse Theatre (New Cross). [Details](#)



Your new Committee for the next 12 months

Acting Chair(*)	Bob Keaveney
Beer Scores Coordinator	Bob Keaveney
Branch Contact	Kent Sadler
Branch Secretary	Kent Sadler
e-Newsletter Editor	Paul Treleven
Festival Coordinator	Anne Claridge
Good Beer Guide Coordinator	Nick White
London Drinker Distribution Coordinator	Richard Martin
Membership Secretary	Richard Gadd
Pub Promotions & Awards Coordinator	Peter Norwood
Pub Database Coordinator	Nick White
Pub Protection Officer(*)	Bob Gordon
Public Affairs Officer	Maggie Hopgood
Social Media Coordinator	David Wilcock
Social Secretary	Barry Phillips
Treasurer	Debs Corcoran
Vice-Chair	Stuart Mayell
Webmaster	Paul Treleven

Area Pub & Club Contacts

BR1	Martin Gee
BR2	Richard Martin
BR3	Graham Oglethorpe
BR4	Janet Freak
BR5	Wendy Reynolds
BR6	Norman Warner
BR7	Alan Hunt
SE19/20	Peter Normington
Biggin Hill, Downe, Cudham	Kent Sadler

Also

Branch Examiner (auditor)	John Horn
Branch President	Bob Gray

(*) Note. For technical reasons the posts of Acting Chair and Pub Protection Officer could not be filled at the AGM. However these appointments were made at a special meeting of the Committee held immediately after the close of the AGM.

Branch AGM on 18 March

Important news from 2023 Bromley CAMRA AGM.



The 12th AGM of the branch was held on 18th March at Orpington Liberal Club, A total of 31 branch members attended, plus 3 members of other branches and Regional Director Geoff Strawbridge.

Several longstanding members of the Committee decided to stand down and leave the Committee at the AGM, including some who had held posts on the Committee since the branch was relaunched in 2011. The branch is very grateful for all their hard work on behalf of CAMRA over the years:

Charles Tucker, Branch Chair and Festival Coordinator since 2020.

Murray Mackay, Treasurer since 2017

Tim Wilding, Pub Database Coordinator, and 'Branch IT Manager' since 2011, plus various other roles during that period, most recently including Webmaster.

In addition, some other members have decided to reduce their CAMRA

commitments, whilst continuing as members of the Committee:

Norman Warner, Membership Secretary since 2019, however Norman continues as the BR6 Pub/Club Contact

Bob Keaveney stands down as e-Newsletter Editor after 3 years but continues as Beer Score Coordinator. (However, Bob has also taken on the temporary role of Acting Chair, see below)

The 2023/24 Committee sees several new faces joining the existing team. For the past few months these prospective new Committee members have been 'shadowing' their predecessors, to ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities.

As our outgoing Chair Charles wrote in the February e-Newsletter: “...*the Branch Committee is not a staid, antiquated object – it is a living body that exists to serve both its branch members and CAMRA campaign aims. We always need renewal and regeneration with new committee members, as this leads to a much stronger body.*”

We are also very pleased to welcome the return of Bob Gordon as the Pub Protection Officer, having previously held that post until 2020. After a career in town planning, Bob brings considerable skill and experience to this crucial post, at a time when pubs are seen to be under even greater threat from redevelopment.

Tim Wilding, although standing down from the Committee, has kindly agreed to continue to manage the Bromley CAMRA email system, without which the Committee would probably grind to a halt.

Unfortunately, we were not able to fill the post of Chair at the AGM. As an interim measure, former Branch Chair Bob Keaveney has agreed to be ‘Acting Chair’ for the next few months.



Our new Acting Chair writes:

I am looking forward to the forthcoming year with considerable enthusiasm. It is very heartening that the new Branch Committee now includes many 'new faces' who, together with the continuing members, are all willing to volunteer their time to help ensure the branch can continue into the future.

However, the current economic situation is putting pubs and breweries under greater pressure than ever before. As reported in recent issues of the e-Newsletter, after several years of growth, during which several new pubs opened or reopened, sadly we are now seeing pub closures in Bromley.

With the new strengthened Committee, Bromley CAMRA is now in a better position to campaign to try to protect our pubs from the threat of redevelopment, and to support and promote all the excellent pubs and clubs in our area.

But as a member of CAMRA you can also play your part, by visiting and drinking in our pubs and clubs, and by supporting CAMRA's campaigning, both nationally and locally.

Beer Festival News

Work continues on planning for the 2023 Beckenham Beer & Cider Festival.

Preparation work for Bromley CAMRA's 8th

Beckenham Beer and Cider festival is in full swing since the budget was approved.

The graphics designer has taken our festival theme of "All shapes and sizes" to heart and the draft designs have looked stunning, wish I could give you a preview. We should receive the finalised illustrations in the next few weeks - I cannot wait to share it.

In March the Beer Selection committee met for the first time, comprising a mixture of both new and stalwart volunteers from our community. I believe that their wide knowledge will give us everything from the quality classics to the exciting and unusual. They are currently compiling an extensive list of "festival beer and cider" to be whittled down to a shortlist of contenders. They have already drawn up an amazing list of 7 different styles they will be focusing on.

Thank you, gang, for stepping forward otherwise we'd just have beer that I like!

**YOUR
FESTIVAL
NEEDS
YOU!**

Anyone wanting to volunteer for this year's festival, could you please fill in a form. Here's the [Google form link](#) – this is the preferred method.

If, for any reason, that does not work for you, there is a [WORD](#) version that can be downloaded in a variety of formats – click "File" on the left and then "Download" and choose a format that works for you. Just remember to save your changes before sending it back as an attachment to festival.coordinator@bromley.camra.org.uk.

Note: Nowadays, WORD seems to open with a yellow Enable Editing bar that has to be clicked.

The number of volunteers has gradually been increasing despite the technical difficulties we had so I've included all versions of the form and have been trying to find a program that everyone is able to access, if you know of any let me know.

Anne Claridge, Festival Coordinator
festival.coordinator@bromley.camra.org.uk

At the 2022 festival. Photos by David Wilcock



CAMRA News

The Branch Secretary runs through some of the national news from CAMRA.

Spring is here – where’s the snow?

Now looking towards the heady days of Summer and getting April showers out of the way!

So, what has happened with CAMRA during the long third month of the year? Read on!

The Coronation

The Government has announced an extension to pub opening hours in England and Wales to 1AM on 5, 6, 7 May to mark the coronation of King Charles. Whilst our Chair, Nik Antona, has commented on our being able to raise a glass to the decision to extend the pub and club opening hours, the comment was also made, and I quote,

“It is the perfect time to get down to your local to enjoy a pint of fresh hand-pulled cask ale or real cider with friends and family. With costs for businesses still rocketing, our pubs, clubs and breweries need as much support as they can get from the communities they serve so that they can continue to survive and thrive. That’s why CAMRA is encouraging everyone who is able to support their local pubs, social clubs, breweries and cider producers by making the most of these extended hours for the King’s coronation weekend.”

So park the family barbie for a day and visit your local!

The Great British Beer Festival

Tickets now on sale!

Yes, for £14 for a member (£16 on the door) you can join other festival goers from 1 to 5 August trying beers from over 500 different breweries from the UK and abroad. For more on this see:

[Tickets now on sale for the Great British Beer Festival - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Now I can see it on the horizon – “How much?” splutter, indignant cries etc. I’ve had it whispered to me in previous years that the event only just breaks even, given that to hold any event in London costs a fortune. My Motorcycle show ticket cost far more and the only beer was fizzy! (wish it would go back to Ally Pally! – personal view).

So go along, make a day of it and try those different brews that you wish your local stocked!

International Women’s Day

Was on 8 March and in recognition CAMRA held bespoke articles on the news platform, What’s Brewing. Articles available ranged from an exclusive interview with George Young of the St Austell brewery (well worth a visit – just take a van, not a small car!) where she reveals her ambitious plans for the brewery’s future; a Women’s Day line up prepared by Laura Hadland (author 50 Years of CAMRA); Collaboration Brew and Manchester beer collaboration. Read these at [News - What’s Brewing \(camra.org.uk\)](#)



Learn and Discover

And on the subject of Women's Day, CAMRA's Learn and Discover platform is highlighting the work of women writers and content creators such as Emma Inch, Jessica Mason, Charlotte Cook, Dr Pam Lock, Ruvani De Silva, Dr Claire Markham, and Rachel Hendry throughout 2023.

[Learn & Discover - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)



The Budget and consequent tax reforms

Better off? Not better off? Well at least we saw a 11p cut in draught duty when compared with Supermarkets. In response to the budget our Chair observed that “The Chancellor has made a welcome move to increase the draught duty rate discount to 11p, which will help pubs compete with the likes of supermarket alcohol. However, the lower tax rate is not coming until August, and we must hope that as many pubs as possible will be able to keep their doors open until then”.

For more on this and the complete response, see [11p draught duty cut welcome but lack of energy bill help will see communities lose local pubs and social clubs - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Subsequent to the budget, details of the reforms coming into force on 1 August 2023, including the new draft duty rate for beer and cider and a new Small Producer Relief Scheme can be found at: [CAMRA: tax reforms brilliant news for small brewers and cider makers, but changes needed to avoid a stealth ban on takeaway pints - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Sting in the TAIL – Why is there always one. You look at a little scorpion, only to find that it has injected its venom and you are now feeling ill? So it is here.

You know the take outs you enjoyed in Lock Down? And that some pubs continue this great trade, thereby encouraging you to buy from the pub, not the supermarket? Well, the Government also announced that decanting from draught duty paid containers (casks to you and me), for consumption off the premises, will be prohibited. WHAT? They kept that quiet. CAMRA comment “If implemented, will equate to a stealth ban on takeaway pints and is extremely disappointing for licensees and consumers, and especially designated drivers that like to take away a pint or two to enjoy responsibly at home. We will continue to campaign for a workable solution”.

Here's hoping for better news this Summer.

Pubs. Pints. People

Yes, the popular CAMRA podcast continues it's 6th season with “Spotlight on Manchester”, shining a light on the city and its rich brewing and pub culture. The episode, hosted by the Stockport and South Manchester CAMRA Branch covers the much loved mild beer style and why you should consider cider through all seasons. This and much more may be found at [Pubs. Pints. People. - Hosted by Clare Phillips \(acast.com\)](#)



Keep well.

Kent Sadler

CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary



Bromley Pub Walks

After the very cold and wet start to March, the recent start of British Summer Time is a reminder that warmer weather should now (hopefully) be here soon. So, with longer days and better weather on the horizon, maybe it's time to start thinking about getting out to visit more of Bromley's pubs, whilst also taking some exercise?

There are more than 30 pubs and clubs in the 'rural' areas of Bromley, plus a few more just over the border in Croydon, Kent and Surrey. Bromley CAMRA has identified a network of paths and tracks which link them all together, and we have published a series of brief guides for these walking routes, which range in distance from less than a mile up to about 5 miles.

Each of the Bromley Pub Walk Guides briefly describes the route and terrain, lists the pubs/clubs that you can visit, and provides information about public transport.

Almost all of the pubs & clubs 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, to get out into the fresh air, take some exercise and enjoy a drink or two.

Six new routes have been added to the network for 2023. These new routes are:



Chelsfield walk

56, Chelsfield (Five Bells or Bo Peep) to Crockenhill and Swanley

60, Biggin Hill (Aperfield) to Tatsfield

61, Leaves Green to Tatsfield

70, Hayes Stn to Shirley

71, Keston to Shirley

72, Shirley to Selsdon



Biggin Hill walk

Apart from Route 72, all the new routes start at a Bromley pub, but finish at pubs in either Kent, Surrey or Croydon. Route 72 is entirely within Croydon, finishing at the Golden Ark micropub or the nearby Wetherspoons (or both!).

You can read all about the Bromley Pub Walks at: <https://bromley.camra.org.uk/pub-walks/>



Tatsfield walks



Sorry. We have not been able to bring you a quiz this month

London Training Sessions

We have received the following from Christine Cryne:

WHERE DOES THE FRUIT COME FROM IN MY BEER?

If this is a question that you ask yourself, then why not attend one of the two sessions arranged to explore the mysteries in beer in a fun and interactive way.

Both courses will be delivered by Master Trainer and International Beer Judge, Christine Cryne and are independently accredited by People 1st, who are an International industry-led skills expert.

Intro to Beer - Unravelling the Mysteries of Beer

Wed 26th April 7pm - Anspach and Hobday's Arch House, Druid Street London SE1 2HH.

A 90 minute session tasting five beers and talking about beer ingredients and how they alter the flavours in a beer and impact on its beer style. Suitable for everyone of any level of experience. Attendees will receive a certificate of attendance.

Tickets from £15: <https://tinyurl.com/introtobeer>

Beer Appreciation

Sat 3rd June 12.45pm, The Bohemia, 762-764 High Rd, North Finchley N12 9QH

This 3.5 hour training course is aimed at beer lovers (both experienced and less experienced), who want to understand how the ingredients that go into beer affect the appearance, aroma and flavour in a bit more depth. It's also ideal for pub, tap room and other staff who want to engage more with their customers and attendees have the chance to gain a certificate of competency.

By the end of this course, attendees will be able to:

1. State the four primary flavours that we taste
2. Demonstrate an understanding as to how different ingredients affect a beer
3. List the four characteristics on how a beer is judged
4. Describe beers using their own words.

To CAMRA's Tasting Standards.

In total, 5 beers will be tasted.

Tickets from £18: <https://tinyurl.com/beerappr>

