

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e - Newsletter

July 2023



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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/>



Branch Calendar, July 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.

<p>Tue 4th July Petts Wood social</p>	<p>19:00 One in the Wood</p> 	<p>20:15 Sovereign of the Seas</p> 	
<p>Sat 8th July Annual Crystal Palace social</p> <p>Jointly with SEL and Croydon and Sutton branches</p>	<p>12:00 Douglas Fir Anerley</p> 	<p>13:10 Alma Crystal Palace</p> 	<p>13:50 White Hart Upper Norwood</p> 
	<p>14:40 Sparrowhawk Upper Norwood</p> 	<p>15:25 Great Southern Gipsy Hill</p> 	<p>16:15 Railway Bell Gipsy Hill</p> 
	<p>17:10 Royal Albert Upper Norwood</p> 	<p>17:50 Westow House Crystal Palace</p> 	

More socials on the next page!

<p>Wed 12th July Chislehurst social</p>	<p>19:00 Queens Head</p> 	<p>20:00 Crown Inn</p> 	<p>20:45 The Cockpit</p> 
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<p>Sat 22nd July Cudham and Halstead social</p>	<p>Stop Press - change</p> <p>The planned trip to Rye on this date has been postponed due to a rail strike. The branch diary is being updated. Brief travel details: 12:21pm R10 bus from Green Street Green High Street. 14:58 R10 to Rose and Crown</p>	<p>12:30 Blacksmiths Arms</p> 	<p>15:20 Rose and Crown</p> 
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<p>Thu 27th July, Fri 28th July, Sat 29th July Beckenham beer festival</p>	<p>12:00 – 22:30 8th Bromley CAMRA Beckenham beer and cider festival</p>		
			



Beer Festival News

Preparations continue for the 2023 Bromley Beer & Cider Festival.

The month of the festival has finally arrived and we'll be making loads of finalising tweaks throughout this month and June was no slouch either, being action packed from start to finish.

[TCKTY](#) is the place to pre-order your tickets and tokens.

I went through a first aid course to ensure all festivalgoers have medical aid if needed (I'm hoping no one does). I highly recommend anyone to complete a course if they can, the statistics of having aid early on during a medical emergency was a revelation to me and the fact that most trained people are more likely to encounter a situation with family or friends brought home how important it is.

With most of the beers being confirmed, Matt from the Three Hounds has been compiling the list for us; hopefully we get the balance right for our sunny festival. This week the chilli chocolate stout from Marlix was one highlight confirmed. We've been informed that the heat to chocolate stout ratio is on point for all you spice heads.

Also, the festival glass is going into production.



On my short holiday down to Weston Super Mare I became courier for 90 litres of some of the best and "award winning" Somerset ciders and Perry. I managed to reach [Heck's Farmhouse Cider](#) with ease even though Glastonbury Music Festival was in full swing; guess they were too busy partying in the field to pick up any cider. The perry and port wine of Glastonbury cider was still available, amazingly.

Also met [Ben Crossman](#) a more local farmer to the Weston area. He is a very passionate farmhouse cider producer and I managed to pick up an array of his wares, which we don't have this way very often. While there I learned a bit of the history of his cider making equipment. I've added the links above to the two cider companies for cider aficionados who want to know more.

Don't forget the dates – 27th – 29th July at [Beckenham Rugby Club](#).

Anne Claridge, Festival Coordinator

festival.coordinator@bromley.camra.org.uk





CAMRA News this month

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

Happy Summer everyone. Hope you are all enjoying the weather and supporting your local by sitting in their grounds enjoying, as I did recently, some cheesy chips and, wonder of wonders, a “Dark Side of the Moose” (quick plug for The Queens Head in Downe!)

But back to business - my review of CAMRA news over the last few weeks includes:

CIDER – a summer drink if ever there was!

I have previously touched upon a major bone of contention that much of the cider readily available to drink is little more than apple flavoured squash with alcohol added, being as far away from a true “Apple” cider as is possible.

Well, in backing me up, CAMRA has recently added to its ever-growing “Learn & Discover” platform a complete education relating to Cider. [The Basics - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)



The beginners guide, freely available to members and non-members alike includes “Introduction to sparkling Cider” and explores why some ciders are still while others are sparkling, stressing the importance of fermentation and methods of carbonation. Try it here: [Intro sparkling cider - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Deposit Return Scheme

Do you remember as a kid, collecting glass soft drinks bottles (R Whites anyone?) and taking them back to the off licence for your 6d back on the bottle? Or even going to the same shop in later years and “buying” bottles for your home brew experiments?

Well HM Gov have you in mind with the “Deposit Return Scheme” whereby we will be required to pay a small deposit when purchasing drinks which can be redeemed when returning the containers to a designated collection point.

Weirdly, glass bottles are only included in Wales, not England! We just get the charge on tins and plastic bottles! I can see a great trade on the Welsh borders!

[Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers moves a step closer - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Due to be implemented in October 2025, CAMRA has recently commented on the expansion of the scheme to Scotland, but further modified. As CAMRA has put it, “CAMRA supports the principles of a deposit return scheme, but the Scottish Government’s proposals risked a catastrophic reduction in choice for consumers of quality beer and cider from small and independent businesses from across these islands”. So, there you have it, England is different from Wales and Scotland different further still!

High Street Rental Auctions

A quite important issue this relating to pub protection. Briefly, CAMRA’s position is that High Street Rental Auctions are a welcome proposal, particularly the focus on community uses, but that pubs must retain their planning protections. It can and will affect how vacant pubs are to be marketed. I do not have the space here to go further into the issue but as a CAMRA member you should have received commentary on the UK Gov consultation. The period has now been extended to 7 July so you do still have time to act on this. Yes, it does take more than 5 minutes but CAMRA have a template and guidance see: [TEMPLATE-consultation-response-HSRA.docx \(live.com\)](#)

Comment needs to be submitted via the “Citizen Space” portal and the link to the overview and subsequent “give us your views” is: [High Street Rental Auctions Technical Consultation - Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities - Citizen Space](#)

Go on – you know it makes sense!

Ringwood Brewery

Last month I sadly related the story of the Blacksheep brewery appointing Administrators. Now we hear that the Ringwood brewery is being put up for sale by its lord and master, Carlsberg Marston. As our National Chair, Nik Antona has said, “Ringwood has been hugely successful over the years, moving from its original site in 1986 after outgrowing it. CAMRA will be keeping a watchful eye on the sale and will be urging whoever takes over to ensure these traditions remain at the heart of its operations. It would be a sad day for beer enthusiasts if this was not the case”.

Thankfully it does appear that the sale is not due to a failing business and given that Ringwood’s Old Thumper was a former Supreme Champion Beer of Britain in 1988, let’s hope that new genuine owners can be found soon! [CAMRA responds to Ringwood brewery being put up for sale - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Good Beer Guide

It seems only a few months ago that we were receiving our 50th anniversary edition of the Good Beer Guide but it was as long ago as last September and I know that many of our local pubs are now keenly waiting to hear if they are included in next years copy.

This brings me to mention that the 51st edition has a striking cover featuring Eddie, Iron Maiden’s mascot and icon of the range of Trooper beers brewed by the Stockport brewery, Robinsons. The foreword is penned by Iron Maiden’s Bruce Dickinson.

As Nik Antona puts it “We’re honoured to have Bruce Dickinson pen the foreword for The Good Beer Guide 2024. As we enter our second half century of producing the Guide, there is no one better to introduce this year’s edition, and highlight what makes these institutions so worth visiting.”

And of course, Iron Maiden themselves have had a career almost as long as the GBG!



Summer of Pub

And just a reminder – if your local has a reason to celebrate this Summer, let us know (contact@bromley.camra.org.uk) and we will try to let other members into the secret! There are some tremendous pub gardens to be enjoyed out there, as well as pubs near sights-of-interest which will refresh you after your visit.

So that’s about it for this month. Enjoy July, just remember the weather is bound to change shortly – the schools break up!

Kent Sadler

CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary





Your Committee	
Acting Chair	Bob Keaveney
Beer Scores Coordinator	Bob Keaveney
Branch Contact	Kent Sadler
Branch Secretary	Kent Sadler
e-Newsletter Editor	Paul Treleaven
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 Treleaven
Media Coordinator	Stuart Mayell
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

In case you missed it....

Items from recent newsletters that are still relevant.

CAMRA Podcasts and Great British Beer Festival

From the May 2023 Branch Secretary report:

[Podcasts](#)

[GBBF](#)

AGM 2023

From the April 2023 issue, [AGM account from Bob Keaveney](#). Also, Committee list, see left, to memorise!

Bromley Pub Walks

From the April 2023 issue, [time to get the hiking boots out](#) with new routes added.

- and if you do any of these hikes, please send pictures for the newsletter – both enroute and recovering in pub!

Pub of the Year and Club of the Year awards

From the [March 2023 issue](#). Presentations were given this month – CotY 6th April, PotY 19th April. [Webpage](#) also updated.



We need your Beer Scores in 2023

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](#)

More scoring tips [here](#) on our website

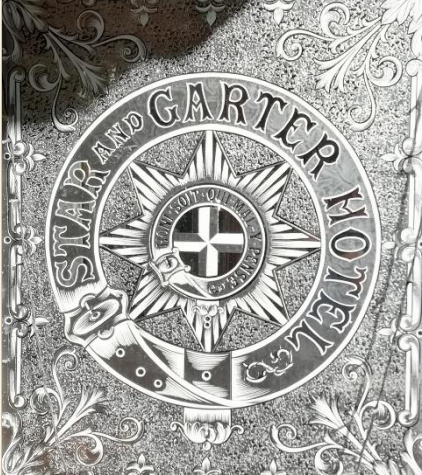


WHAT?PUB
National Beer Scoring System

Please see the branch website for more information about Beer Scoring



Local Pub, Club & Brewery News

Snippets gathered from our Area Pub and Club contacts (plus general chat); I am hoping to expand this section in coming months – for instance, beers that were on during visits, photos of any new pub features... All members are invited to [submit information](#).

<p>BR1:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Star and Garter (Outside and in - photos Bob K):   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Partridge Live (and LOUD) music schedule (thanks Wendy R): 
<p>BR3:</p>	<p>See our BR3 rep's item on July entertainment in BR3 pubs, later in this newsletter</p>
<p>BR5:</p>	<p>Our BR5 rep. has sent us this information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daylight Inn, Petts Wood – if you are a lover of jazz then this could be your type of evening. The Green Chain Quartet and a special guest performer play in the function room the 1st Thursday of each month. The cost is £5.00 payable on the door, all proceeds to charity. In addition to Doom Bar, they now have Sharp's Solar Wave. • The Mutineers brewery featured in the last London Drinker.
<p>BR6:</p>	<p>Some notes from our BR6 rep.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th July is the Chelsfield village fair. • Looking ahead, Five Bells at Chelsfield will have a beer festival 18th – 20th August. • Further ahead, Orpington Liberal Club Beer and Cider festival 13th – 15th October. • Here is the Orpington Liberal Club beer/cider/perry list



SE19- SE20:	<p>Our SE19 – SE20 rep reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Alma Demand hasn't been high enough to regularly do four casks over the weekends, as they were down to two + one cider. Boltmaker & a Full Circle, Repeater IPA at 4.2%, which was nice. • Graces appears to be closed and we are trying to find out if this is for refurbishment or something more permanent.
Biggin Hill, Cudham, Downe	<p>Roundup of pubs visited by rep:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Blacksmiths Garden looks a treat. Harvey's Best, Ghost Ship and Doom Bar. See short article from area rep below. • Queens Head Dark Side of the Moose was in very good condition. Other beers included Bexley Anchor Bay, Butcombe West Coast, Harvey's Best. Also, Rosie's pig cloudy cider. • George and Dragon – As usual, Timothy Taylor and Harveys. • The Crown Spitfire on; Masterbrew coming shortly. • The Black Horse – Otter and Harvey's best. • The Flying Machine – Doing some work on their outside area. London Pride. • The Aperfield – Doom Bar. • Just outside area: Titsey Brewery tap room. Have been holding launch days.

Entertainment at BR3 Pubs

In the BR3 area of Bromley we are fortunate to have a regular and varied selection of events at our bars and pubs. Some of those so far advertised for July are below:

At The Chancery:

2nd - Band Beggars (Irish traditional and contemporary acoustic music)

14th - Honeydew Marmalade Band

19th - Quiz night

At the Elm Tree (Elmers End):

Live music each Friday and Saturday evenings. inc:

1st - Run For Cover

7th - The Starks Family

8th - Summer Soul Party

14th - L.A Divas

15th - Dirty Perks

21st - Devanna Music

22nd - Retro Rock Icons

Also, regular quiz nights and open mic. events.

At The Three Hounds (Clockhouse):

Regularly:

Poetry At The Beer Cafe

Unplugged At The Beer Café

Comedy evenings:

3rd - Rich Wilson

4th - Undersplash

5th - Micky Overman

10th - Ania Magliand

12th - Thanatos Moore

19th - Joseph Parker





26th - Freya Parker, John Hastings

30th - Beers & Boardgames

At the George Inn (Beckenham High Street)

Weekly live music:

Only one current listing:

8th - Ska and Reggae Night

At The Coach & Horses (Beckenham High Street),

Weekly live music.

Summer of Sport on screen inc. The Ashes, Wimbledon and Women's FIFA World-cup

At the Bricklayers Arms (Beckenham High Street)

Look out for the regular 'Jam Night', usually each Thursday evening.

Mansion Bar Cafe (Beckenham Place Park)

'A Summer of Funk Soul and Disco in the Park' inc. Sunday afternoons:

2nd - Hip Hopera

9th - Plastic Free Band

16th - Jam in the Park

23rd - Soul of the North

30th - Nunhead Folk Circle

At Club Langley (Eden Park)

15th - The Feel Good Festival

A summer day party featuring outdoor food, drink, DJs and music.



Graham Oglethorpe

BR3 rep.



A Trip to the "These Hills" Beer Festival

Deep in Harvey's country, there lies a craft beer festival called These Hills. A group of Bromley CAMRA members made the trip. After mingling with the Glyndebourne-bound upper crust on the train, we arrived in Lewes. Bypassing the excellent Gardener's Arms, a beeline was made for the Snowdrop Inn on the outskirts of town. Built almost into the white cliffs of the town, it offered a stunning array of local cask and craft.

After a little pre-loading at the Snowdrop, where even the scorching sun couldn't keep the resident Samoyed pups inside, cabs were booked to get to the festival. Aptly named The Party Field, the site is a jaw-droppingly beautiful space nestling within the south Downs. These Hills indeed. Someone described it as 'the most beautiful beer garden in Britain'.

A huge range of brewers from these islands and beyond were on draft, but none could really compete with the natural beauty of the surroundings. The Harvey's tent from last year was conspicuously absent, but with cider from the Delaware Forest, wild ale from Australia and mead from Norway, there was something for everyone. The festival's organisers, Beak Brewing, have wisely capped the number of tickets, ensuring queuing was a rarity. The only limitations were few options for those seeking darker styles (just one imperial stout was discovered), and the poorly lit country lane taking you back to Lewes town.

Definitely one to experience for fans of beer and the great outdoors. You can find out more at: <https://beakbrewery.com/pages/these-hills>

Stuart Mayell

CAMRA Bromley Vice Chair and Media Co-ordinator



Beer Mat flashbacks...

Last month, Bob Keaveney, former Editor of the e-Newsletter and currently Acting Chair of the branch, started a major clear-out of his loft in advance of some building work. Amongst the junk stuff found was a box containing several hundred beer mats, all dating from the mid / late 1970s (see Bob's dining table, right).

CAMRA members of a certain age will probably remember the once heavily-promoted national keg brands (for



nostalgia, not enjoyment – ed.), plus there seem to be some mats from several breweries which have sadly long since disappeared.

Once the dust has settled (literally) after the work on the roof has been completed, Bob plans to sort out the mats and we hope to feature some of them in future issues of the e-Newsletter.



Travels on the edge of Bromley - a Summer of Pub Candidate

With the hot summer weather of recent weeks comes an undeniable urge to drink (and dine) al-fresco - and what better place than a multi award-winning pub garden in TN14 7QB?



We are talking here of The Blacksmiths Arms in Cudham which, despite the best attempts by UK Power Networks closing

roads around it, has once again triumphed over adversity with a wonderful display of flowers in the substantial well-groomed gardens. To date the pub has 4 awards from Coolings, 4 from Bromley in Bloom, five from The London Garden Society and 1 from Harris Hospice. It has also been the only pub included in the “yellow book” of gardens. A pretty good achievement.

Anthony Chipps and his family took over the mantle a few years back from the previous landlady, Joyce, and continues her good work. So much so that Joyce can often be seen sitting in her favourite seat in the outdoor area – just don't take her chair!



The pub has a good selection of drinks including up to 4 cask ales which at the time of my visit included beer from Harvey's, Adnams and Sharps. Plus, a food menu with daily specials and live acoustic music every 1st Sunday from 4PM.

Given the problems of recent months with the roadworks, as they near completion, now is the time to get up there – just don't try to play footy in the gardens!

Kent Sadler

Bromley CAMRA Branch Secretary and Biggin Hill, Downe, Cudham area rep.



Bromley CAMRA Quiz July 2023

This month's quiz, set by Martin Gee, is on the theme of Geography - Answers below

- 1) Which famous square is on the east side of the Kremlin in Moscow?
- 2) What is the capital of the US State of Delaware?
- 3) What is the capital of Costa Rica?
- 4) What is the name given to the set of chalk stacks off the west coast of the Isle of Wight?
- 5) What is the chief port of Tanzania?
- 6) In 1989, Burma changed its name to what?
- 7) Which island in Indonesia is the largest of the Lesser Sunda islands?
- 8) What is the name of the Polish river on which the city of Poznan stands?
- 9) St. Boniface is a suburb of which Canadian city?
- 10) In which Asian country is the city of Suwon?



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 August e-Newsletter will be published on **1st August 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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Answers

- 1) Red Square 2) Dover 3) San Jose 4) The Needles
- 5) Dar-Es-Salaam 6) Myanmar
- 7) Timor 8) The Warta 9) Winnipeg 10) South Korea