

# CAMRA Bromley Branch

## e - Newsletter

### August 2023



Campaign  
for  
Real Ale



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*A variety of social events, festivals and meetings are planned for August.*

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*Our Branch Secretary runs through some of the news from CAMRA.*

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*New route added*

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*Kent Sadler features two more Bromley pubs*

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*Flashbacks to a bygone age*

##### [Bromley CAMRA Quiz](#)

*Martin Gee sets our quiz on Geography*

Rose and Crown, Halstead beer selection at our social 22 July.

Beers on were:

Timothy Taylor "Landlord Dark"  
Bexley "Hills and Holes Pale"  
Canterbury "Wife of Bath"  
Tonbridge "Traditional"

As our beer festival was still underway when this newsletter was compiled, a review will be featured in the September issue.

#### Contacting Bromley CAMRA

Website: [bromley.camra.org.uk/](http://bromley.camra.org.uk/)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CAMRABromley>

Facebook: [facebook.com/bromleycamra/](https://facebook.com/bromleycamra/)

General enquiries about the branch should be sent to:  
[branch.contact@bromley.camra.org.uk](mailto: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, August 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.

	19:00 <a href="#">Goldsmiths Arms</a>	19:50 <a href="#">Southey Brewery Tap</a>	21:30 <a href="#">Moon and Stars</a>
<b>Wed 9<sup>th</sup></b> <b>August</b> <b>Penge</b> <b><a href="#">social</a></b>			

	Keston - choose <a href="#">Greyhound</a> or <a href="#">Fox</a>	Downe – choose <a href="#">George and Dragon</a> or <a href="#">Queen’s Head</a>	Farnborough – choose <a href="#">Change of Horses</a> or <a href="#">Woodman</a>
<b>Sat 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>August</b> <b>Summer</b> <b><a href="#">Cramble</a> *–</b> <b>Hayes to</b> <b>Keston,</b> <b>Downe,</b> <b>Farnborough</b>			
<b>* Crawl +</b> <b>Ramble</b>			

<b>Fri 18<sup>th</sup></b> <b>August</b> <b>Chelsfield</b> <b><a href="#">Beer</a></b> <b><a href="#">Festival</a></b> <b><a href="#">Social</a></b>	Lunchtime <a href="#">Five Bells</a>	
(Festival runs 18-20 August)		

More socials on the next page!



<p><b>Sat 19<sup>th</sup> August</b>  <b>Aylesford joint social</b></p>	<p>With members of Orpington Liberal Club</p>	<p>12:30 approx <a href="#">Little Gem</a></p>
	<p>There are other pubs in Aylesford that we may visit</p>	

<p><b>Wed 30<sup>th</sup> August</b></p> <p><b>Bromley CAMRA Committee Meeting</b></p>	<p>19:30 – 22:00 <a href="#">Greyhound</a> Keston</p> 	<p>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 <a href="#">Secretary</a> to print a pack of relevant committee papers to be made available for them at the meeting.</p>
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## CAMRA News this month

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

Well, I do hope that you attended our Beer and Cider festival over the last few days and indeed have been or are intending to attend the Great British Beer Festival. Also, that you have made use of the ability to take home some of your favourite pints over the last few years. Sadly, this is not possible now – but more on that later.

Otherwise, isn't this lovely English Summer weather? Over the last month we have seen family barbecues under an open garage door, muddy footprints through the house and the need to carry plastic bags for your shoes when taking a stroll in the country. Happy Summer everyone.

And of CAMRA?

### The Late Night Levy

Well, this controversial scheme whereby certain councils have charged extra costs on pubs and hospitality venues to raise money towards policing the late-night economy has now been amended. Slightly.

It will now only apply to specific geographic areas, rather than a whole council area.

As Nik Antona (CAMRA Chair) puts it, the changes are in the right direction in enabling councils to target smaller areas but CAMRA is still calling for it to be abolished due to its detrimental impact on well run and responsible pubs, social clubs and taprooms at the heart of communities, especially given the changes to the alcohol duty system on 1 August. For more on this see: [Home Office Late Night Levy changes step in right direction, but unfair scheme should still be scrapped: CAMRA - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

### Alcohol Duty changes – no more takeouts

And so, to this rather confusing change in legislation, which I touched upon in a previous newsletter, "Sting in the Tail". Yes, the 2023 budget changes have come home to roost, as anyone holding a CAMRA festival can tell you following the surge in emails to branches from CAMRA office. Basically, from August 1<sup>st</sup>, you can no longer easily get a takeout of draught beer from your local or a festival. Yup. No takeouts – even for the designated driver!



This all stems from the reduction in VAT, "draught duty" which it was hoped would help pubs compete with cheaper sources such as your local corner shop or bigger supermarket. Trouble is, some of us like to buy a takeout if the beer is good – and now we cannot.

The CAMRA Campaigns Team, along with our campaigning committees and network of Public Affairs Officers will continue to campaign for changes to the new legislation but in the meantime, note this even applies to a sneaky decanting of draught beer from your glass into a bottle to take home – no more doggy bag bottles folks – it is the licensee's responsibility to ensure this does not happen!

### Learn & Discover

A reminder that on the Learn and Discover page there are available downloads covering "The basics", "Learn More" and "Discover – for Connoisseurs". Also, the Article by Emma Inch and guests at a previous GBBF as they explore the importance of learning more about our favourite drinks and CAMRA's role in making that happen! [Learn & Discover - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)





## PUBLIC Affairs round up

And a similar reminder for What's Brewing and the July update includes more on the takeaway draught sales, High street rental auctions, energy bill support, the All-party Parliamentary Pub Group and much more besides. See [PUBLIC Affairs round up - July - What's Brewing \(camra.org.uk\)](https://www.camra.org.uk)

## Going to the seaside?

A quick plug for another region. If by any chance you are off to Brighton, this year's Ale and Cider Trail started on 2 June and continues through to 30 September taking in 40 pubs in and around Brighton. Details of the event and the passport for the trail may be found here: [Ale and Cider Trail - Summer of Pub - 2023 - CAMRA Events](https://www.camra.org.uk)

## Summer of Pub

And so, events continue and if you are aware of an event this Summer, let us know!  
([contact@bromley.camra.org.uk](mailto:contact@bromley.camra.org.uk) )

Hope you all have a great August – bear up, the kids go back to school at the end of the month!

## Kent Sadler

CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary





## In case you missed it....

### Your Committee - see below for Area Pub & Club Contacts

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
Media Coordinator	Stuart Mayell
Also	
Branch Examiner (auditor)	John Horn
Branch President	Bob Gray

*Items from recent newsletters that are still relevant.*

### CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2024

From the July 2023 Branch Secretary report:

[GBG](#)

### 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 a new route added in this newsletter!

### Pub of the Year and Club of the Year awards

From the [March 2023 issue](#). Presentations were given this month – CotY 6<sup>th</sup> April, PotY 19<sup>th</sup> 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 – for instance, beers that were on during visits, photos of any new pub features... All members are invited to [submit information](#) or discuss local issues with the Area Contacts (below).

<p>BR1 – <a href="#">Area Contact:</a> <b>Martin Gee</b></p> <p>Photo: Paul Treleven</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Red Lion beer pumps on 24<sup>th</sup> July.</li> </ul>	
<p>BR2 – <a href="#">Area Contact:</a> <b>Richard Martin</b></p>		
<p>BR3 – <a href="#">Area Contact:</a> <b>Graham Oglethorpe</b></p>		
<p>BR4 – <a href="#">Area Contact:</a> <b>Janet Freak</b></p>		
<p>BR5 – <a href="#">Area Contact:</a> <b>Wendy Reynolds</b></p> <p>Photos: Chris Crowther</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4<sup>th</sup> July Petts Wood Social (L One in the Wood R Sovereign of the Seas)</li> </ul>	





<p>BR6 –  <a href="#">Area</a>  <a href="#">Contact:</a>  <b>Norman Warner</b></p>	<p>Some notes from our BR6 rep.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five Bells at Chelsfield will have a beer festival 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> August. Expecting about 8 beers from Westerham brewery on stillage as well as the usual handpumps.</li> <li>• Further ahead, Orpington Liberal Club Beer and Cider festival 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Here</a> is the Orpington Liberal Club current beer/cider/perry list</li> </ul>	
<p>BR7 –  <a href="#">Area</a>  <a href="#">Contact:</a>  <b>Alan Hunt</b></p> <p>Photo: Chris Crowther</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12<sup>th</sup> July Chislehurst Social (The Cockpit)</li> <li>• Gordon Arms has Doom Bar and Timothy Taylor’s Landlord on; the latter will change to London Pride</li> <li>• Queens Head has Doom Bar, London Pride, Timothy Taylor’s Landlord. Planning to have Ghost Ship, Harveys Best, Tribute.</li> </ul>	
<p>SE19-SE20 –  <a href="#">Area</a>  <a href="#">Contact:</a>  <b>Peter Normington</b></p>		
<p>Biggin Hill, Cudham, Downe –  <a href="#">Area</a>  <a href="#">Contact:</a>  <b>Kent Sadler</b></p> <p>Photo: Paul Treleven</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See article below from just outside area: <b>Titsey Brewery tap room.</b></li> <li>• See Summer of Pubs below, featuring <b>George and Dragon</b> and <b>Black Horse</b></li> <li>• Photo (right) – Blacksmith’s Arms beer selection at our 22 July social.</li> </ul>	



## New Brewery Taproom! New Bromley Pub Walks Route!

*Some news from just outside of our area.*

Titsey Brewery has now relocated the short distance from buildings at Botley Hill Farmhouse to nearby Clarks Lane Farm, where a disused barn has been converted to house the brewery and a taproom. The new premises are right on the edge of the North Downs, with spectacular views across the Weald. The North Downs Way long distance path goes directly past the brewery.

The conversion of the barn has been done to an extremely high standard, demonstrating how a 1960s(?) concrete framed agricultural building can be repurposed into a state-of-the-art microbrewery and stylish taproom.

The taproom opened for business in late June, and is currently open Thursday to Sundays. At the time of our visit there were four cask beers available, plus other beers on tap, plus a cider. It is all still very new and shiny; as at 7th July, the brewing operation had not yet fully transferred from the original site.



### Titsey Brewing Co. & Taproom

Clarks Lane Farm, Tatsfield, TN16 2JU

<https://titseybrewingco.com/WhatPub>





Photos: Bob and Kent

### Walk to the brewery

A new Bromley Pub Walk route has been created to go to the brewery from either Biggin Hill [Aperfield] (approx. 2.65 miles) or Tatsfield (approx. ¾ mile). There is also the option of a slightly longer route from Aperfield (at approx. 3.75 miles).

The guide to the new route can be viewed or downloaded [via this link](#).

There are now route guides to more than 40 walking routes in the [Bromley Pub Walks](#) series. Each of the guides briefly describes the route and terrain, lists the pubs/clubs that you can visit, and provides information about public transport.

**Bob Keaveney and Kent Sadler.**



Bromley Pub Walk No. 65

**Biggin Hill [Aperfield] to Tatsfield**  
via the North Downs Way & Titsey Brewery

Another route to Tatsfield Village, going via the North Downs Way and the Taproom at Titsey Brewery  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CONTACT OUR MEMBER SECRETARY FOR SUPPORT

Approx. Distances	Total 3.4 miles
Aperfield to Brewery	2.65 miles, 1 hour and 30 mins*
Brewery to Tatsfield	0.75 miles, 20 mins
Aperfield to Brewery via alternative route	3.75 miles, 1.5 hours

\* Including one beer!

- You are advised to check the opening times of the [Taproom](#) before planning to go on this walk.
- A longer **alternative route** is available between Aperfield and the brewery, going via more of the North Downs Way, with some excellent views (and some more steep ascents and descents!)

**Gradients:**

- Several sections include steep ascents or descents
- There are steps (approx. 25) in one location (can be avoided by detour along the adjacent road but no footway!)
- There are also steps on the alternative route

**Types of path(s):**

- Mostly gravel paths and tracks, some tarmac and grass

**Stiles / Gates:**

- This route has several kissing gates and stiles

**Road Walking:** (see notes on route)

- All main roads have footways
- Chastell Ave has no footway, approx. 1 mile
- Many of the tracks are also used by vehicles

**Livestock or crops:**

- The route involves some paths through farmland and horse pastures

**OS Grid References:**

- Aperfield: TQ 422579
- Titsey Brewery: TQ 422580
- Tatsfield: TQ 412068

**Maps:**

- OS 1:25 000, No. 147



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## Summer of Pubs

*Travels on the edge of Bromley and Summer Pubs vol 2*

The schools are out, the weather may or may not support a visit to the beach so what can the poor parents do if venturing a little away from Bromley?

For those of a certain age, the likes of “Charley Chalk” have long since gone, The Cricketers in Addington, The Spinning Wheel on the Westerham road, all rammed on school holidays but now changed beyond recognition.



Well, if coming out to Biggin Hill & Downe, perhaps for the Airport Museum, Downe House or perhaps Christmas Tree Farm, there do remain a couple of pubs where the kiddies have something to play on whilst you sup a beer or perhaps enjoy a meal.



In Biggin Hill there is the Black Horse (garden pictured above), just ½ mile from the museum and a handy stop over if venturing further afield. Vijay regularly has two cask beers on tap, Otter and Harvey’s, with a possible alternative coming soon. Since taking over the pub he and his family have extended the outdoor area to include plenty of seating and with the benefit of a “house” for the children too. The menu is kept simple – nothing gastronomic but enough to keep spirits up!

You may of course have headed down Jail Lane beforehand, passing the now sadly closed and boarded up “Old Jail” (the remains of the extensive children’s area now well overgrown) on your way to Downe with its two excellent pubs. The Queens Head (a former CAMRA Bromley Pub of the Year) and The George and Dragon. With children in mind, this latter pub has an area dedicated for their enjoyment (see right), including a good size



bouncy castle in good weather. This pub serves Landlord and Harvey’s, has a good choice of food and also, for the lighter eater, an interesting selection of basket meals.

In closing, it would be remiss of me not mention that both the Queen’s Head in Downe and The Blacksmiths in Cudham have convenient access to children’s playgrounds – if they are old enough to scamper off – whilst the Greyhound in Keston village has the benefit of the common, cask ale, food and a children’s area too.

With a nominated driver you could do quite a good little tour and keep the kids happy – check the food times first though! **Kent Sadler.**





## Bob's Beermats *Some memory-joggers that Bob Keaveney found during a clear-out of his loft.*

In the [last issue](#) it was briefly mentioned that, during a major sort-out of my loft, I had found a box of 1970's beermats. I was living in Liverpool for much of the 1970's, therefore the majority of the mats were collected from pubs in the northwest, plus some from the midlands and northeast, with only a few from after my move to London in 1978.

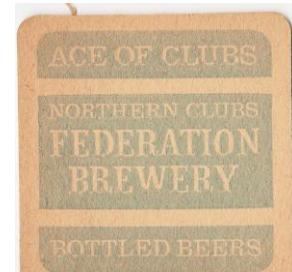
I was brought up in Cheadle, near Stockport, so the majority of the local pubs were Robinson's tied houses; there were four within half a mile of my parents' home. However Cheadle also had Hydes, Boddingtons, and Greenall Whitley pubs. A note in the 1977 Good Beer Guide reads: '*Cheadle offers beers from four breweries in nine real ale pubs; beware only of the George & Dragon*'. By 1977 I had discovered real ale, and was already embarrassed that, as an underage drinker in the early 1970's I had avoided the pubs in Cheadle High St, which were "full of old men drinking flat beer". Whereas I had instead opted to go to Cheadle Hulme to drink Double Diamond. (Sorry!)



GBG 1977 listed Robinson's brews as being: Best Bitter; Bitter; Best Mild; Mild; and Old Tom. I'm pleased that 46 years on, Robinson's is still going strong, and is still brewing Old Tom, but sadly not the two milds. They also seem to have dropped the apostrophe from their name...

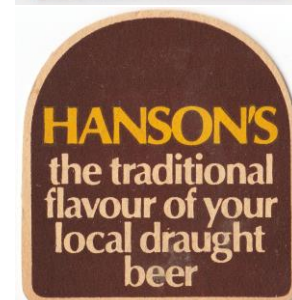
Whereas Robinsons is still brewing, many of the beermats from my loft reflect the sad fact that several of the breweries of the 1970s have long since disappeared, or in some cases the brewery survives 'in name only', with the beers now brewed elsewhere.

The brewery information below was obtained from <http://breweryhistory.com/>



Clockwise from bottom left:

- Darley's. Acquired by Vaux in 1978. Brewery closed in 1986.
- Morland. Acquired by Greene King in 1999 and brewery closed.
- Shrewsbury & Wem Brewery Co. Closed 1988.
- Border. Acquired by Marstons in 1984, brewery closed shortly after.
- Yates & Jackson. Acquired by Thwaites in 1984 and brewing ceased. The brewery was then sold to Mitchells, who brewed there until 1999.
- Federation. Acquired by Scottish & Newcastle in 2004. Closed 2010.
- Hanson's. Closed 1992.
- Home. Acquired by Scottish & Newcastle in 1986. Closed 1996.







## Bromley CAMRA Quiz August 2023

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

- 1) What is the name of the highest mountain in the world?
- 2) What is the capital city of France?
- 3) What is the name of the strait that separates Asia from North America?
- 4) What is the name of the mountain range that runs through the western United States?
- 5) What is the smallest country in South America by land area?
- 6) Which great American river runs through the Grand Canyon?
- 7) What is the capital city of Myanmar?
- 8) Which African country is known as the "Land of a Thousand Hills"?
- 9) What is the capital city of South Korea?
- 10) What is the highest mountain in North America?

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 September e-Newsletter will be published on **1<sup>st</sup> September 2023** – your contributions are welcome!

You can contact the editor by email:

[newsletter.editor@bromley.camra.org.uk](mailto: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-Mount Everest 2-Paris 3-Bering Strait 4-The Rocky Mountains  
5-Surinam 6-Colorado River 7-Naypyidaw 8-Rwanda  
9-Seoul 10-Mount McKinley