

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e - Newsletter

October 2023



Campaign
for
Real Ale

Beer Scoring poster from CAMRA. This is a featured theme this month – see [Beer Scoring Update](#)

In this issue:

[Branch Calendar](#)

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

[CAMRA News](#)

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

[Branch Member Obituary](#)

Sarah Glockling

[In Case You Missed It](#)

Items from past newsletters that are still relevant

[Bromley Pub, Club and Brewery News](#)

News from Pubs and Clubs in our branch area

[Beer Scoring update](#)

From Bob Keaveney and Nick White

[Bob's Beermats](#)

Flashbacks to a bygone age

CAMRA member?
Please score your beer in this pub

Scoring your beer helps to

- monitor beer quality in pubs
- identify pubs for the *Good Beer Guide*

0 No cask beer available.

1 Poor. Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.

2 Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.

3 Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.

4 Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition.

5 Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

Score your beer today at [WhatPub.com](https://www.whatpub.com) or use the Good Beer Guide app.

Download the app today by visiting [camra.org.uk/gbgapp](https://www.camra.org.uk/gbgapp)

Contacting Bromley CAMRA

Website: bromley.camra.org.uk/

X / 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, October 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.

Tue 3rd October Bromley South Social	19:20 Bricklayers Arms	20:00 Cork n Cask	21:30 Richmal Crompton
			

Thu 12th October Social	Festival also on 13-15 th Oct.	18:00 Orpington Liberal Club (OLC)
	Our social is during a special preview night for CAMRA and OLC members only.	


Wed 18th October Beckenham Social	19:00 George	19:35 Coach & Horses
		
	20:10 Bricklayers Arms	21:00 Three Hounds
		

More socials on next page!



	Festival also on 27-28 th Oct.	11:00 Meet at East Croydon
Thu 26th October Social	Redhill Beer Festival More details East and Mid Surrey CAMRA festival page	Location: Merstham Village Hall, RH1 3ED

Tue 31th October Bromley CAMRA Committee Meeting	19:30 – 22:00 Lord Holmesdale 	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.
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	4th September Partridge	
Photos from last month's socials		





CAMRA News this month

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

October already? Hope everyone enjoyed the recent good weather – not entirely unexpected given the schools going back.

With the clocks going back in a few weeks' time and the Green Hop harvest in (have you tried any, if available, at your local?), time to see what CAMRA has been up to this last month.

More on “The Crooked House” AKA the death of the Local

Recently published figures show that pub numbers in England and Wales are at their lowest on record. More are closing every week. I am sure you can name a few. Certainly, on the Westerham Hill to Halstead road there are now more closed pubs than open.



CAMRA has commented that the new figures are indeed shocking, if not surprising, due to rising costs, energy bills, business rates and customers tightening their belts. On the back of the Crooked House issues, CAMRA is calling upon the Government to strengthen planning laws to make sure that local councils protect pubs and also that the recent High Street Rental Auctions proposals need to exclude converting pubs to other uses.

For more see: [Business rates help and new ‘Crooked House’ laws urgently needed to stop more pub closures: CAMRA - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

My usual plea – if you see a pub closing, up for sale rumoured or not, let your local CAMRA branch know as soon as possible. An example of the need to reign in local councils is the case of The Picture Palace in Ilford where owner and council are one and the same, as Enfield Council has ruled that the pub can be used as a restaurant, despite establishing that the use of the building is a pub with food provision.

Once a thriving community hub, no planning permission has been granted to change the use of the site from a pub to a restaurant. Enfield Council opting instead to declare the new use lawful. You could not make it up! [Enfield Council’s approach to pub protection branded ‘troubling’ by campaigners - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

The top 16 pubs in the UK

The National Pub of the Year campaign continues its inexorable progress and CAMRA have now announced the top 16 regional pubs, as selected by CAMRA members at local and regional level. The cream of the crop will now go forward to the grand final for the National Pub of the Year 2023 crown – the highest accolade afforded to British pubs. The final four will be announced in October, before the overall winner is announced early 2024.

In our neck of the woods, the London Pub is The Hope in Carshalton, the Kent Pub is the Nelson Arms in Tonbridge and, for Surrey and Sussex, the Watchmakers Arms in Hove. Having visited The Hope and enjoyed their hospitality, my congratulations are passed to them. Regrettably I got waylaid by a (now sadly closed) micro pub in Tonbridge High Street on the way to the Nelson Arms so this is now on my urgent list – just need to get the train ticket organised. [CAMRA announces the top 16 pubs in the UK - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

...and of the Clubs?



Well, ours was once again the Orpington Liberal Club (open to CAMRA members) but disappointingly the Leyton Orient Supporters Trust has won through!

Further afield, in Kent the winner is the Marden Village Club in Marden and, in Surrey and Sussex, The RAFA Club in Bexhill on Sea.

The Wychwood Brewery

Do you like your pint of Hobgoblin? I wonder if it will taste the same this time next year as Carlsberg Marston are now closing this brewery and centralising the brewing elsewhere? This follows on from Ringwood being sold, Jennings being closed and more besides.

Yes, CAMRA is concerned at these actions but corporate action for profit always seems to win. [CAMRA responds to CMBC's plans to close Wychwood brewery - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

The Champion Beer of Britain

Come on, no good moaning that your pint of “Old Splosh” is the best beer of all time if you are not prepared to stand up and vote for it. Last month I covered the brew which had won the accolade in August 2023. Now the first stage of voting for the next CAMRA Champion Beer of Britain has officially opened, and exclusively CAMRA members are invited to have their say on which beers are the ‘cream of the crop’ before **1 November 2023**.

The Champion Beer of Britain award is one of the most coveted real ale competitions in the world and, with 12 different categories to vote for, you should be able to find one to your taste, be it a Mild or a British & New World IPA. So why wait, get voting. See [Champion Beer of Britain - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

And if you think your taste buds are up for it, why not consider being a judge? See details on the same link.

And finally – CAMRA’s Pub Saving Award

Nominations for CAMRA’s Pub Saving Award are now open **until mid-November**. The award looks to celebrate and honour people who have saved pubs from demolition or conversion.

In the wake of the Crooked House demolition this award is more important than ever, as CAMRA and its volunteers campaign to keep pubs open – a vital heartbeat of communities across the UK.

One of the award’s main aims is to secure publicity for pub-saving campaigns and encourage others to save their local. Now, it does not need to be local. The nomination form and additional information may be found on the CAMRA website here: [Pub Saving Award - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Have a great month and see you at your local!

Kent Sadler

CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary





In Memoriam – Sarah Glockling

It is with great sadness that we must announce the death of branch member Sarah Glockling on the 10th of August 2023, aged 51. After an unexpected diagnosis of terminal pancreatic cancer, she died peacefully in her sleep while under end-of-life care in St. Christopher's Hospice.

Up until the onset of her illness in late spring, Sarah was an industrious member of our branch. Sarah volunteered at the 2022 Beckenham Beer & Cider Festival, where her IT abilities proved to be of considerable benefit on the admission desk. Sarah had also sponsored a beer cask in celebration of her marriage in summer 2022.

Sarah was the daughter of branch members Janis and Charles Tucker. Charles was the Bromley Branch Chair and Festival Coordinator until stepping down from both roles in March 2023. Along with her parents, Sarah leaves behind her husband Anthony and her two sons Albert, 16, and Sidney, 24. The Bromley branch extends its condolences to all of Sarah's family and to everyone that had the privilege of knowing her.

The Committee were saddened to hear of the recent death of Sarah. She was introduced to the delights of cask ale and CAMRA by her father, Charles Tucker, and members may recall her valiant assistance in our 2022 Beer Festival. Our sympathies are with Charles, his family and the family of Sarah at this sad time.



In case you missed it....

Your Committee - see next section 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 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
Also	
Branch Examiner (auditor)	John Horn
Branch President	Bob Gray

Items from recent newsletters that are still relevant.

Remembering Bromley Beer and Cider Festival 2023

From the September 2023 issue.

[Festival review article](#)

See also [website page](#)

CAMRA Learn and Discover

From the August 2023 Branch Secretary report (bottom of page):

[Downloads available here](#)

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!

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.



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). The pictures usually have enough resolution to be zoomed to read detail.

<p>BR1 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Martin Gee</p> <p>Photo: Richard Gadd</p>	<p>Martin’s visit reports (no real ale at White Horse or Barrel and Horn):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richmal Crompton – Guests: Exmoor Stag, Twickenham Grandstand and Nook of Pendle • Freelands Tavern – only Greene King IPA • Red Lion - Timothy Taylors “Knowle Spring”, Marstons Pedigree, the usual Harvey’s Sussex Best, GK IPA, Abbott Ale • Anglesey Arms – Whitstable Bay, Spitfire (no Late Red yet) • Crown and Anchor – Bexley’s Own • Railway Tavern – Volden Pale Ale and one other • Partridge – Fullers ESB, Red Fox, Dark Star Hophead, Twickenham Naked Ladies, London Pride and HSB (replaced by Red Fox on 2nd visit) . <p>Other members reported that Fuller’s Vintage Ale had arrived – 8.6% (photo)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richmal Crompton had Thunderbird from Glamorgan brewery 	
<p>BR2 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Richard Martin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cork and Cask – was Bitter End Bar - is open now and will be included on our Bromley South social (see above) 	
<p>BR3 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Graham Oglethorpe</p> <p>Photos: Graham Oglethorpe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erin’s -formerly The Manor House – in Beckenham High Street opened 22nd September. Graham has supplied some pictures 	
<p>BR4 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Janet Freak</p>		

<p>BR5 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Wendy Reynolds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The White Swan has closed. It has been observed that the pub is advertised for sale.
<p>BR6 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Norman Warner</p> <p>Photos: Kent Sadler, Norman Warner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queens Head A selection of beers available at the Queens Head, Downe in recent weeks - though with regard to the pump clip for Autumn Drop "a Bramble Bitter" with flavours of Blackcurrant. Brambles are Blackberries, surely! OLC Norman reports on the Mighty Oak night: These were the 6 beers we enjoyed last night, along with an interesting talk from John Boyce, the brewery founder. – see picture Queen’s Head Green St Green Norman found the Hophead and Railway Porter good. 
<p>BR7 –</p> <p>Area Contact: Alan Hunt</p>	
<p>SE19 - SE20</p> <p>Area Contact: Peter Normington</p> <p>Photo: Murray Mackay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pawleyne Arms remains closed, though the manager’s role is still being advertised. Goldsmiths Arms Penge Murray Mackay noted that Purity Mad Goose is back, also lovely beer garden to enjoy the late summer sun. 



[Biggin Hill,
Cudham](#) –

[Area](#)

[Contact:](#)

Kent Sadler

We need your Beer Scores

*Reminder from
Bob Keaveney and
Nick White*

*The 2024 Good
Beer Guide was*

published last week, but we need you to be submitting Beer Scores to us now to assist in the selection of pubs and clubs for inclusion in GBG 2025

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

What is beer scoring?

Bromley CAMRA, like most other branches, uses beer scoring as the primary means of identifying pubs and clubs for possible inclusion in the Good Beer Guide. Members are encouraged to record and submit a score every time they drink real ale or real cider/perry in a pub, bar or club.

Every year we receive several thousand scores from members. We need to receive as many scores as possible for each pub/club, from as many members as possible, throughout the whole year. We can't receive too many scores!

For a pub or club to be eligible for consideration for inclusion in the Good Beer Guide, Bromley CAMRA requires that during the year it must receive:

- At least 10 scores, and;
- Scores from not less than 5 members, and;
- Scores recorded in not less than 4 different calendar months

How to submit your beer scores

You can submit scores at any time for any pub, bar or club in Bromley, or indeed anywhere in the UK, via [WhatPub](#), or the [GBG App](#). You can even submit your scores whilst you are still in the pub by using WhatPub or the App on a mobile device.

Scoring

The National Beer Scoring Scheme (NBSS) is a 0-5 point scale for judging beer quality in pubs. The published guidance on scoring is as follows, you may also submit 'half scores' when appropriate, eg 0.5, 1.5, 2.5 etc:

0.	No cask ale available	
1.	Poor	Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment
2.	Average	Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing
3.	Good	Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again
4.	Very Good	Excellent beer in excellent condition
5.	Perfect	Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely

Members are encouraged to score beers to reflect how it has been kept, i.e. its condition, rather than whether it is a style of beer that you enjoy.

More information about beer scoring is available on the CAMRA national website via this [link](#).



Bob's Beermats

Earlier this year Bob K found a box of beermats whilst clearing out his loft. Most of the mats dated from the 1970s to early 1980s. This month he looks at beermats promoting Mild.



I started drinking beer in pubs in the very early 1970s. At that time mild was still widely available (in the north and midlands anyway). However, based on the beermats from my loft, it appears not to have had very much promotion.



The bulk of the mild beermats in my box advertised beers available in pubs in the Midlands (Ansell's, Banks's and Bass), although I do have one Wilsons (ie Watneys) from Manchester plus a Tetley from Leeds.

It was not uncommon, even in pubs serving cask bitter, for the mild to be keg-only. However, back in 1984, whilst on a canal boat trip, we visited the [Anchor Inn](#) in Glascote, near Tamworth, which had mild on handpump but the bitter was only keg;



presumably they sold more mild than bitter. The pub was sited very close to where the *Reliant Robin* was built, but sadly the pub is now closed and converted into a Co-op store.



Bob Keaveney



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 November e-Newsletter will be published on **1st November 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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