

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e - Newsletter

February 2024



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Martin Gee sets our quiz on the theme of Science and Nature

The next e-Newsletter will be published on **1st March 2024** – 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.

Part of the refurbishment of One Inn the Wood. More details "BR5" [here](#)



Contacting Bromley CAMRA

Website: bromley.camra.org.uk/

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

Facebook: facebook.com/bromleycamra/

Enquiries: 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, February 2024

Bromley pub photos by Chris Crowther

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

<p>Sat 3rd February Tonbridge Judians RFC beer festival Social</p>	<p>All-day event 10.50am: Meet Orpington Station. 11.03am: Train to Tonbridge.</p>		
<p>Thu 8th February Chislehurst and Petts Wood Micropub Social</p>	<p>19:00 Cockpit</p>	<p>21:00 One Inn the Wood</p>	
<p>Tue 13th February Bromley Social</p>	<p>19:30 Shortlands Tavern</p>	<p>21:00 Star and Garter</p>	
<p>Wed 21st February Anerley and Penge Social</p>	<p>19:00 Douglas Fir</p>	<p>20:00 Maple tree</p>	<p>20:50 Brewery Tap (Southey)</p>
<p>Mon 26th February Committee Meeting</p>	<p>19:30 Three Hounds Beer Cafe</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 Secretary to print a pack of relevant committee papers to be made available for them at the meeting.</p>	

Photo(s) from last month's socials
15 January – Brewery Tap, Southey

20 January – The Bolthole, Welling


CAMRA News this month

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

January is over, February is upon us and soon Spring – Yes!

So, what has happened over the last month?

Learn & Discover

Normally my closing article but with two new bespoke articles and a documentary film now available, it would be remiss of me to not highlight “A History of Sparkling Cider” and “A connoisseurs Guide to Sparkling Cider” both by Rachel Hendry and a follow up to her initial episode released in May last year as part of CAMRA’s biannual Cider & Perry month celebrations.

The film, “World of Cider: The Basque Country” is the third instalment of the World of Cider video series with cider expert Gabe Cook.

Proper cider is a wonderful drink, far more refreshing on a hot day than a pint of some obscure lager out of a coloured lit up dispenser! Give a try and if your local does not stock proper cider, perhaps a polite request would assist. In a polybag it keeps for ages in a fridge!

See [CAMRA caps off 2023 with new cider content - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)



CAMRA “Pub Saving Award”

Well, the results are in and this year’s title has been awarded to the “Save Our Sun” committee for its decade of dedicated campaigning to save the Rising Sun in Woodcroft, the community having raised more than £350,000 in the process.

The [Rising Sun](#) in the village of Woodcroft, Chepstow appears on OS maps from 1870 and was brewery-owned in 2011 until high rents and inflated beer costs caused its doors to close. Despite the community being informed that it had been bought as a pub in late 2012, it had transpired that the new owners were developers who wanted to turn it into residential property.



This led to an epic community-led campaign to buy the pub. Started by a few locals in early 2013, the campaign finally reached fruition with the Rising Sun opening its doors again to the community in October 2022.

To read more on this see: [A decade of campaigning wins CAMRA’s Pub Saving Award 2023 - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

The runner up is the White Horse in Stonesfield, Oxfordshire, the last surviving pub in the village where the community banded together to ensure the pub was safe from developers.

National Pub of the Year

The results are in and CAMRA is pleased to confirm that The Tamworth Tap (yes, in Tamworth) has been named as the best in the country for the second year in a row, winning the 2023 award. Big congratulations to the pub which becomes one of just two pubs to have won this award in consecutive years and of course, George and Louise Greenaway.



As CAMRA Awards Director Laura Emson said: “The Tamworth Tap should be incredibly proud of this feat, to be named the best pub in the UK two times on the trot is a remarkable achievement. The pub encapsulates everything that CAMRA aims to promote and protect, and each member of the team deserves the recognition twice over!

For more on this and the reasons for its selection, see [The best pub in the UK is revealed by the Campaign for Real Ale - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

Better luck next year for the Nelson Arms in Tonbridge, a valiant runner up (and of course for our Bromley Pub of the Year – to be named later this year!)



Members Weekend, AGM and Conference

A timely reminder perhaps for the Members Weekend in Dundee, 26 to 28 April. CAMRA's Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference is held annually in April and is open to all CAMRA members. Not only is it a chance to discuss motions at Conference, it also gives members the opportunity to socialise in the onsite bar, attend information sessions and explore the beer scene of different cities around the UK.

And why Dundee? Well conveniently it serves to celebrate 50 years of CAMRA in Scotland!



Pub Heritage

Did you know that CAMRA releases regular bulletins covering Heritage Pubs? That a particular joy of the UK's 50,000 (or so) pubs is their sheer variety?

They range from simple rural pubs to late-Victorian extravaganzas, from the genuinely old to the aggressively modern, from urban back-street boozers, through suburban estate pubs, to picture-postcard rural idylls. All architectural styles are represented, be it Art Nouveau or Art Deco, high Gothic or post-war Brutalist. There is a lot to see on this and I recommend starting with the "About" page before delving more deeply! [About - Pub Heritage](https://www.camra.org.uk/about-pub-heritage) ([camra.org.uk](https://www.camra.org.uk))

The Demise of Burton Unions

And what are Burton Unions? Well, it is an unusual and historic method of brewing using a system of wooden barrels and pipes which recirculates beer and yeast during the fermentation period. It is (or was) possibly the last of its type in the world. Sadly, being retired by the Carlsberg Marston Brewing Company.

CAMRA has asked CMBC to find some way to preserve these historic pieces of brewing equipment rather than simply scrap them, or make the Union Sets available to another brewery which might be interested in preserving this tradition. Fingers crossed. [CAMRA reacts to CMBC plans to retire its Burton Unions - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)

And finally – volunteering

CAMRA is asking for volunteers covering Campaigns & Communications, IT prioritisation, Festival Assessors, legal advisers and more. Do you have the time and expertise?

Importantly, and nearer home, remember your Bromley Branch Committee has a number of important positions becoming available this March at the AGM. From Chair to Treasurer and beyond. If you appreciate what we, your local CAMRA branch does, come and give us a hand!

And that's about it for this month. Remember your beer scores and enjoy the ever-lengthening daylight hours.

Kent Sadler

CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary



Bob's Beermats

Returning to our occasional series featuring some of the 1970s beermats found in Bob K's loft, this month Bob looks back 53 years to February 1971, when 'Britain went decimal'.

I am assuming that most members born before 15th February 1953 will probably have bought their first (legal) pint in 'old money'. In addition, some others will have bought, or at least consumed, a pre-decimal pint before they reached the legal age of 18.

Of course most members born after 1953 will be fed up with 'members of a certain age' banging on about "when you could buy a pint for two shillings (2/-)". That's 10p. I was still at school in February 1971, and my first legal pint in April of that year was purchased with 'new money', in the sadly now long-gone [Coach & Horses](#) opposite Manchester Piccadilly Station.

I had already planned this piece for the February issue when John Middlemiss forwarded me a photo of a Public Bar price list dated February 1971. I've not used the photo for copyright reasons, but part of the text is copied here:

PUBLIC BAR PRICE LIST (Feb 1971)		
	Pint	Half Pint
Draught Beers		
Light or XXX	10p	5p
Bitter	11½p	6p
Magnet	12½p	6½p
Keg Beers		
Domino	11½p	6p
Golden	14p	7p
Guinness	16p	6p
Harp	16½p	8½p



Whitbread even helpfully produced a beer mat with a conversion chart. Presumably the public bar grumblers would have used it to assist them complaining that the price of their beer had increased since decimalisation...



Committee Posts and Vacancies

The list of Bromley branch Committee posts is on the next page as well as the area reps listing on pp 7-8

Our branch has a number of posts whose current holders have notified their intention to step down at the 2024 AGM. In addition, we have some posts that are currently vacant. Both are indicated on [this website page](#); please consider whether you are able to step forward for any of these posts. Please remember that we are a volunteer organization and we don't expect members of the committee to be experts in their roles; if you are, great!

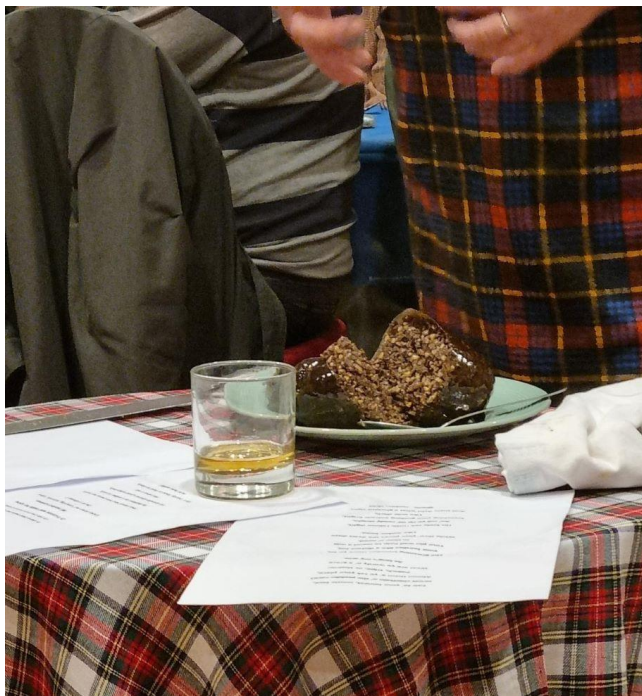
For most of the vacancies, the present post-holders have done a write-up of what the post involves. The write-up document can be downloaded [here](#).

The election of post-holders is done at the AGM. Details of the 2024 AGM can be found on [this website page](#); make a date in your diary!



Burns Night at the Orpington Liberal Club

2024 Burns Night was celebrated at the OLC in grand style. Attended by a sell-out crowd including a number of Bromley branch members, the welcoming Cock a Leekie soup was followed by the piping in of the Haggis accompanied by a reading of Robbie Burns' "Address to a Haggis". A dram of whisky and of course a plate of Haggis, Neeps and Tatties. With the usual excellent selection of beers and ciders, a good time was had by all!



Photos: Kent Sadler, Norman Warner





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	Richard Gadd
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.

Pub of the Year and Club of the Year awards

From the January 2024 issue

[Past winners plus voting and judging for 2024](#)

Committee Vacancies Still important!

From the November 2023 issue.

[Committee Vacancies](#)

See also [website page](#)

Beer Scoring in Bromley Branch

From the October 2023 issue.

[Beer scoring article](#)

See also [website page](#)

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 Podcasts and Great British Beer Festival

From the May 2023 Branch Secretary report:

[Podcasts](#)

AGM 2023

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

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

[Webpage](#) also updated.



Now Beer Scoring for GBG 2025!

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?UB

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 can also [submit information](#) and are encouraged to discuss local issues with the Area Contacts (name and link below). The pictures usually have enough resolution to be zoomed to read detail. If you're not sure where each area covers, click it and a Google map will show you.

<p>BR1</p> <p>Martin Gee</p>	
<p>BR2</p> <p>Richard Martin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nick White has supplied info on the Fox at Keston: The Fox Inn at Keston has now reopened after being closed for a couple of months for refurbishment. Only found out by chance when out walking on Keston Common. Name is currently still the same, rather than the Fox Brasserie & Pub. Cask ales: Timothy Taylor Golden Best, ELB Foundation Bitter.
<p>BR3</p> <p>Graham Oglethorpe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three Hounds February events: 1st - Pendulum Cask Launch 22nd - Breweries of Manchester Showcase 23rd to 25th - Three Hounds Mini Cask Club 29th - Breweries of Wales Showcase
<p>BR4</p> <p>Janet Freak</p>	
<p>BR5</p> <p>Wendy Reynolds</p> <p>Photos: Wendy</p>	<p>Wendy's update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Inn the Wood – phase 1 refurbishment is done. All the dog photos that were over the entrance to the cool room have been moved and are now round some specially commissioned artwork of the logo – picture on front page. The pub has been totally repainted and photos added and/or moved. There are now 2 drinks boards and Anspach and Hobday London Black has been added as a permanent beer (photos right). Phase 2 in March is the toilets and Phase 3 is external painting. Daylight Inn – still doing its monthly Green Chain quartet music event. From March 2021 to date they have raised £2,000 for various local charities. The marquee in the car park is still standing but now only a frame.
<p>BR6</p> <p>Norman Warner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orpington Liberal Club current beer list. Norman gave dates for next Beer & Cider festival – 28 March – 1st April. Norman reports “excellent selection” at Black Horse, Locksbottom. See pic. Proper Job always available at GPO. 



NAME	BREWERY	ABV	TYPE	PRICE
VIDEO MASHY	MARLEX	5.1	INDIA PALE ALE	5.00
QUINCY AMERICAN	KENT	4.81	IPA	5.00
SQUIDLY DIDDLEY	NORWOOD	5.87	IPA	5.00
THE JAGS SEA STRONG	GARD'S	4.71	IPA	5.00
CAMPER CHAMELEON	YORK	3.47	PALE ALE	4.00
GRIZZLY	BEER PALE & VEGAN	4.47	PALE ALE	2.00



NAME	BREWERY	ABV	TYPE	PRICE
PERMANENT LONDON	TRADHOUSE	3.67	SESSION ALE	4.00
LONDON BLACK	A&H	4.47	INDIA PALE ALE	5.00
SPICED	DUDDA'S SUN	4.07	SPICED	5.00
BOONE DRY	DUDDA'S SUN	5.57	DRY	5.00
DICED DUDDA	DUDDA'S SUN	5.67	MEDIUM DRY	5.00
CAVA	FREHEUNT	1.57	SPARKLING WHITE WINE	20.00
GAVI	TUFFOLD	12.57	WHITE WINE	26.00
APRICOT (BOTTLED)	DUDDA'S SUN	4.07	APRICOT CIDER	4.00



<p>BR7 Alan Hunt</p>	<p>Alan gave this update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queens Head LH pump pic • Cockpit – usual array of everchanging ales • Tigers Head RH pump pic • Bulls Head Youngs Ordinary was good 	
<p>SE19 - SE20 Peter Normington</p>		
<p>Biggin Hill, Cudham Downe Kent Sadler</p>		



Bromley CAMRA Quiz February 2024

This month's quiz is on the theme of Art and Literature - answers below

- 1) Name the Canadian author of *The Blind Assassin*, winner of the Man Booker prize in 2001
- 2) In which novel by Tolstoy does Konstantin Levin appear?
- 3) What was the title of actor David Niven's first autobiography?
- 4) Who is the hero in John Buchan's novel *The Thirty Nine Steps*?
- 5) Which prolific US author wrote *Riders of the Purple Sage*?
- 6) Which Welsh artist painted portraits of George Bernard Shaw, Dylan Thomas and James Joyce?
- 7) Which English artist is best known for *A Rakes Progress*?
- 8) Who wrote *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*?
- 9) What was the first name of the composer Mussorgsky?
- 10) Who is the patron saint of music?



- 1) Margaret Atwood 2) Anna Karenina
3) The Moon's a Balloon 4) Richard Hannay
5) Zane Grey 6) Augustus John
7) William Hogarth 8) Kate Wiggin
9) Modest 10) St. Cecilia