

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e - Newsletter

March 2024



Campaign
for
Real Ale

In this issue:

[Branch Calendar](#)

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

[CAMRA News](#)

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

[Branch Committee Vacancies](#)

Please consider whether you could volunteer

[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

[Bromley CAMRA Quiz](#)

Martin Gee sets our quiz on the theme of Geography

The next e-Newsletter will be published on **1st April 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.

Stop Press! Our Pub-of-the-Year (Cockpit) and Club-of-the-Year (Orpington Liberal Club) awards have just been announced. More details in area entries [here](#).

Cockpit photos: Alan Hunt BR7 rep.



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, March 2024

Bromley pub photos by Chris Crowther

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

<p>Sat 2nd March Rochester Social Meet Bromley South 10:45 Other pubs may be added</p>	<p>11:30 Golden Lion</p> 	<p>12:10 The Eagle Tavern</p> 	<p>12:45 Jolly Knight</p> 
<p>Mon 11th March Beckenham Social</p>	<p>19:30 Br3wery</p> 	<p>20:30 Three Hounds</p> 	<p>21:50 Bricklayers Arms</p> 
<p>Sat 23rd March Bromley Branch AGM</p>	<p>14:45 for 15:00 start Orpington Liberal Club</p> 	<p>If you are a Bromley CAMRA member, please attend this meeting. There are details on this website page. Bring your membership card.</p> <p>As well as conducting important branch business, it is a good opportunity to meet other members and enjoy great beers and ciders!</p>	
<p>Mon 25th March Committee Meeting</p>	<p>19:30 Chancery</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>	
<p>Thu 28th March Festival Social</p>	<p>19:00 Orpington Liberal Club</p> 	<p>Spring Real Ale and Cider Festival This is a preview night for card-carrying CAMRA and club members - you may be asked to show your membership card.</p>	

A social is also being organized for the Greyhound, Keston beer festival, expected 30th March – check [website diary](#)

Photo(s) from last month's socials

8 February – One Inn the Wood (also visited Cockpit)



13 February – Shortands Tavern (also visited Star & Garter)



CAMRA News this month

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

The birds are nesting, the Blackthorn is flowering and Hawthorn is leafing up. Now waiting to see if my Hop Bines have made it through the Winter!

With February over, what has happened since I last wrote?

So, when is your pub open?

Speaking on behalf of our WhatPub Officer, with so many of our pubs cutting hours in January and February, and restaurant times varying, it seems an impossible task to keep WhatPub up to date. So, what of the classic Good Beer Guide?

Well, the National Executive has deferred implementation of a 2023 Conference motion that had meant the inclusion of opening hours for pubs included in the guide. Of course, if you hear of your local changing hours, please drop us a line at: branch.contact@bromley.camra.org.uk

CAMRA National Club of the Year

I am pleased to confirm that the [Marden Village Club](#) has been named as the best social club in the UK, for the second year in a row. Fantastic news and a big congratulations for a club almost local to us. If you plan on visiting, remember to take your CAMRA membership card.

Nearer home, remember that we have a great club here in Orpington. The Orpington Liberal Club (generally referred to by those in the know as the "OLC") consistently serves a great range of beer and cider and, with the Spring Beer Festival coming up, is well worth a visit. Just remember your CAMRA Card!



Easter Beer festivals

With our own Bromley CAMRA Beer Festival in Beckenham and also the Friends of Whitehall Rec: Bromley Beer Festival not being held this year, (not to mention the London Great British Beer Festival), check out your local pubs. As well as the OLC mentioned above, a number of pubs are having mini beer festivals of their own this Easter and throughout the year. We intend to support them as much as possible. If you know of such an event, get in touch with us and we will endeavour to spread the news! branch.contact@bromley.camra.org.uk

Pub Protection

It is now some six months since the demolition of the Crooked House pub in Himley and CAMRA is reminding the Government of its call to commit to extra protection for pubs to avoid them being illegally converted or demolished. At the start of the month CAMRA met up with the Levelling Up minister, Lee Rowley MP, to discuss such protection and for an increase in enforcement powers for local councils in England including the ability for councils to force demolished locals to be rebuilt – **Brick by Brick**. Anyone remember the case of the Carlton Tavern in Maida Vale? Visit that pub today and it looks and feels like a typical 1920's local – hard to believe that what you enter is a mere facsimile of the original, rebuilt following a six-year campaign by locals!

Breweries, Brewing and Closure

I have previously reported on the loss of breweries and looking at SIBA (Society of Independent Brewers) comparisons, a net 13 breweries closed in 2023 leaving a total of 1,815 as at the end of the year, still a hell of a lot more than when CAMRA was formed but many of these are small, almost kitchen breweries making one-off specialist ales.

So, with this in mind, it is sad to hear of the impending liquidation of the Elland Brewery, just six months after their 1872 Porter was crowned CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain 2023 and, hot on the heels of that news, that the Adnams Brewery is looking for an injection of capital to enable survival. Ghost ship anyone?

As our Chair, Nik Antona, has commented, "The worrying news that two prestigious, award-winning breweries are both facing pressure to remain trading and survive is indicative of the wider problems the brewing and pub trade are experiencing. CAMRA, along with SIBA and the Independent Family Brewers of Britain (IFBB), is calling on the Government to [increase Draught Relief to 20%](#) from its current figure of 9.2% in the Chancellor's upcoming Budget". So fingers crossed for a useful budget!

CAMRA Podcasts

So, did you do "Dry January"? Hope you still supported your local if you did! Anyway, the CAMRA Podcast "Pubs, Pints, People" has now released its second episode of the current seventh series with a deep dive into the world of low- and no-alcohol beers.

As the low- and no-alcohol market continues to grow, the podcast team hear from a selection of guests with insight and expertise on the subject, enjoying a variety of low- and no-alcohol beers and ciders, including samples from Wiper and True, Bristol Beer Factory, Hogan's and Crafty Nectar. A full list of the drinks they tried can be found in the podcast's show notes to be found here: [Low and no alcohol beer and cider - Pubs. Pints. People. | Acast](#)



It is surprising to realise that Harvey's have had a low alcohol beer since 1988.

If you use that link, this also lets you see the other previous episodes and if you use the following link you can go back into earlier series' [Podcast - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#)



Snowflake

No, not an insult, but the title of the Champion Winter Beer of Britain 2024, an amber barley wine of 8% ABV, as brewed by Sarah Hughes Brewery in Sedgley. This followed a year of local blind-tasting panels and vigorous regional heats. (Sounds like my ideal employment!).

To whet your appetite, this has been described as “A beautiful amber barley wine. The fruity, slightly spiced nose invited the drinker to indulge. The rich, smooth, sweet palate had orange spicy notes balanced by a growing bitterness, leading to a spicy dry bitterness. Remarkably moreish.”

[Sarah Hughes Brewery’s Snowflake named CAMRA’s Champion Winter Beer of Britain 2024 - CAMRA - Campaign for Real Ale](#) Now, where can I get some?

Euro 2024

And last, but by no means least, just a mention that an open consultation in government, backed by CAMRA, is proposing the option of relaxing licensing hours for pubs in England and Wales, during the latter stages of the Men’s UEFA European Championships this summer.

The proposal sets out that if England, Wales or Scotland were to reach the semi-final in the tournament, followed by the final, then pubs would be allowed to extend their opening hours.

Let’s hope for success.

And that’s about it for this month. Have a great March and remember, the clocks go forward at the end of the month. More daylight hours for enjoying the pub garden!

Kent Sadler

CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary



Committee Posts and Vacancies – last call!

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 now received nominations for all the essential posts that have become vacant. Thanks to the volunteers who have stepped forward. The remaining vacant/coming vacant posts are:

- Media Contact
- Festival Co-ordinator (though we are not holding a 2024 festival, so filling this post is not urgent)
- Pub and Club Contact for areas BR7 and part of BR1 (Bromley North and Sundridge Park)

More details 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 organisation, and we don’t expect members of the committee to be experts in their roles; if you are, great!

The election of post-holders is done at the AGM. Completed applications can be accepted up to 24 hours before the AGM start. Details of the 2024 AGM can be found on [this website page](#); make a date in your diary!





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	Vacant
Webmaster	Paul Treleaven
Media Coordinator	Vacant
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!



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 that postcode.

<p>BR1</p> <p>Martin Gee</p> <p>Photo: Paul Treleven</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Star and Garter has been awarded joint runner-up Bromley branch Pub-of-the-Year 2024. • The Partridge has been awarded Highly Commended in the Bromley branch Pub-of-the-Year 2024 competition. • Crown and Anchor website • Red Lion had Adnams Ghost Ship and Brains Rev. James as their rotating beers 23 Feb. Picture shows their impressive display of GBG's on their "library" wall. 
<p>BR2</p> <p>Richard Martin</p> <p>Photo: Bob Keaveney</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snapshot of Real Ale Way (Hayes) board 23 Feb. • The Fox at Keston has reopened after refurbishment. 
<p>BR3</p> <p>Graham Oglethorpe</p> <p>Photos: Paul Treleven, Graham Oglethorpe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Hounds has been awarded joint runner-up Bromley branch Pub-of-the-Year 2024. There are usually 3 cask ales (picture) plus large range of craft kegs • Entertainment at Bricklayers (below)   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News that Br3wery has opened an additional  <p>downstairs seating area (pic is upstairs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events at The Chancery • Events at The George

<p>BR4</p> <p>Janet Freak</p> <p>Photo: Paul Treleven</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Real Ale Way, West Wickham has been awarded Highly Commended in the Bromley branch Pub-of-the-Year 2024 competition. <p>Snapshot of their board 25 Feb.</p>	
<p>BR5</p> <p>Wendy Reynolds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Inn the Wood is going ahead with a beer festival on 26 May. It will be held in the memorial hall gardens. 	
<p>BR6</p> <p>Norman Warner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orpington Liberal Club Has won Bromley branch Club-of-the-Year – yet again! Congratulations. Here is their current beer list. Their next Beer & Cider festival – 28 March – 1st April (see our social page 2). British Queen. Norman checked it out as it is under new management. “Still a pleasant cosy pub at the front, with a large restaurant to the rear.” Both Tribute and Landlord were sampled. 	
<p>BR7</p> <p>Alan Hunt</p> <p>Photo: Alan Hunt</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cockpit has won Bromley branch Pub-of-the-Year – again! Congratulations. 	 <p>Pictured is a snapshot of the Cockpit board – more photos from Alan on cover page</p>
<p>SE19 - SE20</p> <p>Peter Normington</p>		
<p>Biggin Hill, Cudham Downe</p> <p>Kent Sadler</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Queens’s Head, Downe has been awarded Highly Commended in the Bromley branch Pub-of-the-Year 2024 competition. Black Horse website for news of what’s on. 	



Bromley CAMRA Quiz March 2024

This month's quiz is on the subject of Geography - answers below

- 1) *In which country is Lake Wakatipu?*
- 2) *What is the capital of the United Arab Emirates?*
- 3) *What is another name for the worlds second highest mountain, Godwen Austen?*
- 4) *The River Douro in Sout-West Europe forms part of the border between which two countries?*
- 5) *Which republic occupies the western part of the island of Hispaniola?*
- 6) *On which river is the German industrial city of Cologne?*
- 7) *In which African country is the port of Agadir, which was largely destroyed by an earthquake in 1960?*
- 8) *Which two countries are connected by the Simplon Pass?*
- 9) *In which European country is the town of Neuchatel?*
- 10) *Which Tuscan city hosts the annual Palio horse races?*



1) New Zealand 2) Abu Dhabi 3) K2
4) Spain and Portugal 5) Haiti 6) Rhine
7) Morocco 8) Switzerland and Italy
9) Switzerland 10) Siena