

# CAMRA Bromley Branch

## e - Newsletter

### May 2026



#### Inside this issue:

##### [Branch Calendar](#)

*A variety of social events and meetings are planned for May*

##### [Last Month's Socials](#)

*Photos and notes*

##### [Beer Festivals in Bromley Borough](#)

*Events that our Pubs and Clubs are planning*

##### [CAMRA News this Month](#)

*Kent Sadler reviews CAMRA activities*

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

*What's happening in our branch area*

##### [In Case You Missed It](#)

*Items from past newsletters that are still relevant*

*The next e-Newsletter will be published on **1<sup>st</sup> June 2026** – 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.*

#### Contacting Bromley CAMRA

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

*Bluesky: [@bromleycamra.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/bromleycamra.bsky.social)*

*X / Twitter: [x.com/CAMRAbromley](https://twitter.com/CAMRAbromley)*

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

*Enquiries:*

*[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 [branch website](#)*

## Bromley CAMRA Beer Festival 2027

*Our newly-appointed Festival Coordinator has started the planning process*

It looks like summer will soon be with us and there is good news to bring you! Bromley CAMRA will be bringing back a beer festival in the summer of 2027.

It has been sorely missed by both yourselves and us - and as the branch now has a festival coordinator, wheels are in motion to get everything ready for a successful festival. In past years, the festival has been hosted at Beckenham Rugby Club, but we want your input!



Below you will find a link that will take you to a Microsoft Form where you can input a suggestion for a venue of your choice. The suggestions will be discussed by the festival committee and a selected suitor will be chosen. Keep an eye on the monthly newsletter for exciting updates across the coming year.


[Bromley CAMRA Beer Festival - Venue Suggestions – Fill in form](#)


**James Lee**

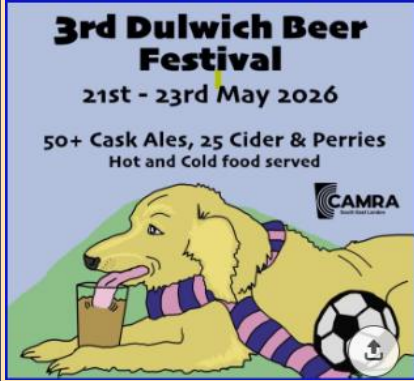
**Bromley Festival Coordinator**

<b>May 2026</b>	<b>Branch Calendar</b>	<i>Details of all events, including addresses and suggested public transport options, can also be viewed on the <a href="#">branch website</a> – click on the event</i>	<i>Bromley pub photos by Chris Crowther</i>
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<b>Thursday 7</b> Bexley (CAMRA) Beer Festival <a href="#">Social</a>	14:00 <a href="#">Dartfordians Community Sports Club</a>  There is more info about the festival, including a beerlist, on this poster from the Bexley CAMRA website <a href="#">2026 Beer Festival Flyer.jpg (1240x1754)</a>	
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<b>Friday 15</b> Society for Preservation of Beers from the Wood - Woodfest VI Beer Festival <a href="#">Social</a>	18:00 <a href="#">The Musical Museum, Brentford</a>  <a href="#">Festival information page</a>	
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<b>Wednesday 20</b> <a href="#">Committee Meeting</a>	19:30 <a href="#">The Lord Holmesdale</a>  <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <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> </div>	
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<b>Thursday 21</b> Dulwich Hamlets Beer Festival <a href="#">Social</a>	18:00 <a href="#">Dulwich Hamlets Football Club</a>  <a href="#">Festival link</a>	
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<b>Tuesday 26</b> Bromley (Central) <a href="#">Social</a>	19:30 <a href="#">Red Lion</a> 	20:30 <a href="#">Partridge</a> 	21:30 <a href="#">Star &amp; Garter</a> 
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## April's branch socials. Join us *this month!*

### Saturday 29 March (missed April!)

Ramsgate social (jointly with OLC). Barry notes: It was a good day out, visiting some very varied and interesting pubs. We started off at The Conqueror, a micropub where we met up with Kent, his wife and friends.

We then continued on to The Artillery Arms, The Hovelling Boat Inn, The Royal Victoria Pavilion (a huge JDW at the harbour), The Red Lion, and the imaginatively named The Pub (a micropub).

Photos: Norman Warner



### Thursday 2

Orpington Liberal Club  
Easter Beer Festival

Photos:  
Chris Crowther



### Monday 13

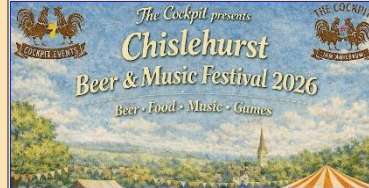
Beckenham Social. Started Three Hounds (pictured), then Bricklayers Arms  
Photos: Left, Centre – Chris Crowther. Right – Bob Keaveney



# Festivals in Bromley

We will list any beer / cider festivals planned in the Bromley area. Details mostly provided by our area reps, but anyone, including the festival organizer, is welcome to [submit](#).

Date (2026 unless noted)	Place	Details
Friday 8 to Saturday 9 May	Beckenham Rugby Football Club	<b>Three Hounds &amp; Beckenham RFC Beer Festival.</b> 30+ Beers & Ciders, a Gin Bar, Street Food, Live Music & Touch Rugby to watch. Tickets are £3 for a day or £5 for the weekend. Tickets can be found here: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/56ya9u74">https://tinyurl.com/56ya9u74</a>
Sunday 24 May	Memorial Hall Gardens, Petts Wood.	<b>One Inn The Wood beer festival</b> It runs from noon-8pm. For further information please check their Facebook page. Tickets are limited and are available from Ticketsource for £10.00 plus a booking fee.
Thursday 18 June to Friday 19 June	Star and Garter, Bromley	<b>The Star and Garter Summer 2026 Beer Fest</b> Early details <a href="#">here</a> on X
Saturday 27 June	Royston Field, Penge	<b>Southey Brewing; Hopstock Festival.</b>
Saturday 12 September	Chislehurst & West Kent Cricket Club	<b>Cockpit Beer and Music festival</b> Will feature live music throughout day, wide range of beers and ciders, food stalls and children's activities <a href="#">Tickets</a>



## Blacksmith's Arms Scooter Event

With the May Day Bank Holiday upon us, a brief mention for the **Blacksmith's Arms in Cudham** which this year welcomes the return of the **AMALGA Scooter Club**. These brave souls will venture forth in the Bank Holiday, starting in Catford and reaching their ultimate goal at the pub around 12.30 pm.

Why not come along and see what these enthusiasts ride (think Quadrophenia in some cases!)

Kent Sadler

CAMRA  
Bromley  
Branch  
Secretary



**AMALGA SC**  
**SCOOTER CLUB**  
**PRESENTS**  
 One of the largest gatherings of scooters in the south  
**MAYDAY MAYDAY 26**  
 May Bank Holiday  
**MONDAY 4th MAY 2026**

First meet-Catford McDonalds  
Leave at 10am

Second meet-Majistic Wines  
London rd Opp Tesco Petrol Station  
in Riverhead Sevenoaks Kent TN13 2DN  
about 11.30am to leave at 12pm  
for the short ride out in the Kent countryside, ending at  
The Blacksmith's Arms  
Cudham Lane South Cudham TN14 7QB

**Trophies**  
 Best Vespa  
 Best Lambretta  
 Best turned out club

## CAMRA News this month

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

It's a hard life being Branch Secretary. As I sketch this article out whilst sunshine pours through the window; the weeds are growing, the lawn is a meadow, the car looks like it's been through a bush backwards and I am sure that, somewhere near me there is a pub garden with a beer waiting just for me...

But, back to earth and CAMRA news.

### Press releases

Now, press releases is my usual first port of call, looking at what a member may not have seen in the online bulletins. But this month I opened to find nothing, not a sausage since I let you know last month about the publication of "Manchester's Best Beers, Pubs and Bars". Very unusual.

So what has otherwise been highlighted in the bulletins?

### Members' weekend

Did you go? If so, there is a feedback survey now available – see [1. Members' Weekend Attendee Survey 2026 - Members' Weekend Attendee Survey 2026](#)

### Cider

Are you a cider drinker? Do you yearn for a decent pint of alcoholic apple (or pear) juice, properly fermented and made from apples, not concentrate (or worse)? Well British Cider week started on 24 April and will still be running as you read this. Just.

So why not pop along to your local and ask for a proper cider. Not the usual fizz or, God forbid, something flavoured and out of a bottle, but a proper still cider, perhaps from Kent, Herefordshire or Somerset to name a few places. Remember it does not need ice!

For more on real cider (or perry) see CAMRA info:  
[01JVVXN74HHHS417MJV65FPWRC.docx](#)

Hot Tip – Did you know that Inch's is made by Heineken?



Now I appreciate there is a problem here. Most pubs sadly do not stock real cider. But with Summer here (hopefully) let's push for some to be stocked (PubCo permitting). Of course, the local Micro's always seem to have stocks so there must be a demand?

And what after a few ciders?

### Mild in May



Yes, the return of Mild in May promotion! This is a month-long promotion of Mild, a great beer style that has escaped extinction by a whisker. If you see it, give it a try, or better still ask your publican if they can stock it, even a Pin of it if they are concerned at potential wastage (unlikely, if served well).

Hot Tip no 2 – they were serving a lovely pint of this at The Cutter Inn, in Ely, last weekend. Fusioneers Mr Winter's Mild and just 3.6%, so very quaffable!

Editor's note: On the subject of mild, I managed to get a very good pint on draft in a bar in Arizona this week. Things are looking up!

## Pub Heritage

Interested in seeing what pubs used to look like? Keen to experience that “proper pub” feel? Well, have a nose at the CAMRA Pub Heritage Group Bulletin. Perhaps plan a road trip to experience the many delights of listed pubs (as London is not the capital for heritable pubs). See also reference to the Magdala pub, now owned by the person who unlawfully knocked down the Carlton Tavern a few years back and who now has converted the first floor of this pub to residential use, again without planning permission. North London CAMRA are on the case!

For more on this see: [CAMRA Pub Heritage Group update – April - What's Brewing](#)

## Beer Scoring

As a member you will appreciate that good beer scores are our way of identifying good pubs that reliably sell good beer. We, on the Committee, encourage (aka nag) members about this all the time. So why raise it again? Well, a new system goes live on 1 June. The ratings still have a numerical 'score' attached to them for analysis purposes, so your Good Beer Guide Selections should not be affected.

Interested? You should be! So go to this page to read up more: [New-ratings-for-cask-beer-scoring-summary.pdf](#) You will need to log in.

I have my views on this revision!

## Interested in running a pub?

Recent years have seen a significant growth in the number of pubs being run under some kind of franchising arrangement. Various names are used – retail agreements, manchises (management franchises) or just franchises – but the models are all very similar. It's all very confusing.

But help is here with Paul Ainsworth (CAMRA national planning and policy advisor) spelling out how franchises operate, the freedom, or not, of licensees and why the model plan is used by companies. A short but interesting read: [Pub franchises explained - What's Brewing](#)

## Finally, a cautionary tale

In this time of trouble for the industry, our pubs need every bit of support that they can get.

If you visit a pub that has cask ale advertised but none available on the day, why not ask the licensee before you post “no real ale”. There could be a genuine reason for the missing tipples.

In this respect I am pleased to confirm that the **Kings Arms in Keston** (Leaves Green) has every intention of continuing its sale of Speckled Hen but as with many pubs, now buys in “Pins” rather than “Firkins”. A Pin is around 36 Pints rather than 72 Pints and enables the licensee to keep a turnover of fresh beer with a minimum of wastage. CAMRA records are being updated!

And that's about it for this month. Enjoy the longer and warmer evenings. With a pint.

**Kent Sadler**

**CAMRA Bromley Branch Secretary**



### Now Beer Scoring for GBG 2028!

Bromley CAMRA uses beer scoring to identify and shortlist pubs/clubs for possible inclusion in the Good Beer Guide

Beer scoring is simple by finding the pub on [Camra Experience](#) and supplying the score  
More scoring tips [here](#) on our website

# Local Pub, Club & Brewery News

Snippets gathered from our Area Pub and Club contacts. Members can also [submit information](#) and are encouraged to discuss local issues with the Area Contacts (name and link below). Pictures usually have enough resolution to be zoomed to read detail.

<p><a href="#">BR1</a> <a href="#">Martin Gee</a> BR1 LD deliveries: <a href="#">Richard Martin</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Crown and Anchor</b> has a weekly schedule of events (see pic) and they send out weekly update emails – you can sign up at the bottom of their <a href="#">website page</a></li> <li>BR1 pub websites: <a href="#">Red Lion</a> <a href="#">Anglesey Arms</a> <a href="#">Crown and Anchor</a> <a href="#">Greyhound</a> <a href="#">Richmal Crompton</a> <a href="#">Star and Garter</a> <a href="#">Swan and Mitre</a> <a href="#">Partridge</a> <a href="#">Crown in Sundridge</a> <a href="#">The Railway</a> <a href="#">The Lord Holmesdale</a></li> </ul>	 <p><b>CROWN &amp; ANCHOR</b> BROMLEY THIS WEEK'S EVENTS!</p> <p><b>TUESDAY</b> 2-7PM DJ MIKE Great music, great vibes!</p> <p>7:30PM SPEED QUIZ Fast paced, big fun, great prizes!</p> <p><b>FRIDAY</b> 80S DISCO NIGHT! with TRACEY MOSSY MOSS</p> <p><b>SUNDAY</b> Sunday ROAST SERVED ALL DAY</p> <p><b>THURSDAY</b> BOGOF Cocktails ALL DAY!</p> <p>HANDMADE PIZZAS FROM 6PM</p> <p><b>SATURDAY</b> SCOOTER MEET 10AM - 12PM LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM 12:30PM Chris Daley</p> <p><b>MIKE'S CHARITY QUIZ</b> FROM 7:30PM Test your knowledge, support a great cause!</p> <p>Great Food • Great Drinks • Great Times 19 Park Road, Bromley, BR1 3HJ 02082491657</p> <p>YOUR LOCAL PUB</p>
<p><a href="#">BR2</a> <a href="#">Richard Martin</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR2 pub/club websites: <a href="#">Fox, Keston</a> <a href="#">Greyhound, Keston</a> <a href="#">Shortlands Tavern</a> <a href="#">Chequers</a> <a href="#">Bricklayers Arms</a> <a href="#">New Inn</a> <a href="#">Hayes Royal British Legion</a> <a href="#">George, Hayes</a></li> </ul>	
<p><a href="#">BR3</a> <a href="#">Ian Syngé</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reminder about Three Hounds / Beckenham RFC festival, <a href="#">page 4</a>.</li> <li>BR3 pub websites: <a href="#">Bricklayers Arms</a> <a href="#">Three Hounds</a> <a href="#">Chancery</a> <a href="#">Jolly Woodman</a> <a href="#">George Inn</a> <a href="#">Elm Tree</a> <a href="#">Kelsey House</a></li> </ul>	
<p><a href="#">BR4</a> <a href="#">Janet Freak</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR4 pub websites: <a href="#">Wheatsheaf</a> <a href="#">Swan</a> <a href="#">Railway</a></li> </ul>	
<p><a href="#">BR5</a> <a href="#">Wendy Reynolds</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daylight Inn – now that there is a new landlord, more events seem to be happening. An open mic night and a clairvoyance evening are the latest ideas. Dogs are now allowed inside the pub rather than just outside.</li> <li>Reminder about OITW festival, <a href="#">page 4</a>.</li> <li>BR5 pub websites: <a href="#">Sovereign of the Seas</a> <a href="#">Daylight Inn</a> <a href="#">One Inn the Wood</a> <a href="#">Bull Inn</a> (St Pauls Cray)</li> </ul>	
<p><a href="#">BR6</a> <a href="#">Norman Warner</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ye Olde Whyte Lyon</b> is closing for a refurb:</li> <li>BR6 pub/club websites: <a href="#">Royal Oak</a> <a href="#">Woodman OLC</a> <a href="#">Five Bells</a> <a href="#">Rose and Crown</a> <a href="#">Queens Head</a> <a href="#">Maxwell</a> <a href="#">Cricketers</a> <a href="#">Bo-Peep</a> <a href="#">Ye Olde Whyte Lyon</a> <a href="#">British Queen</a> <a href="#">Black Horse</a> <a href="#">Bulls Head</a> <a href="#">Buff</a> <a href="#">Chelsfield</a> <a href="#">White Hart</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Closing 4th May for a refurb!</b> We are excited to share that we are closing on 4th May 2026 for a refurb. Check our website and socials for a re-opening date - expected around mid-June.</p>
<p><a href="#">BR7</a> <a href="#">Colin Brooks</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BR7 pub websites: <a href="#">Bulls Head</a> <a href="#">Crown</a> <a href="#">Tigers Head</a> <a href="#">Cockpit</a> <a href="#">Gordon Arms</a> <a href="#">Imperial Arms</a> <a href="#">Ramblers Rest</a> <a href="#">Bickley Arms</a> <a href="#">Queens Head</a> <a href="#">Sydney Arms</a></li> </ul>	
<p><a href="#">SE19 - SE20</a> <b>Vacant</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SE19/SE20 pub websites: <a href="#">Moon and Stars</a> <a href="#">Goldsmiths Arms</a> <a href="#">Southey Brewing</a> <a href="#">White Hart</a> <a href="#">Pawleyne Arms</a> <a href="#">Crooked Billet</a></li> </ul>	
<p><a href="#">Biggin Hill</a> <a href="#">Cudham</a> <a href="#">Downe</a> <a href="#">Kent Sadler</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Websites for pubs in these areas: <a href="#">Black Horse</a> <a href="#">Aperfield Inn</a> <a href="#">Crown Inn</a> <a href="#">George &amp; Dragon</a> <a href="#">Blacksmiths Arms</a> <a href="#">Kings Arms</a> (Leaves Green) <a href="#">Queens Head</a></li> </ul>	
<p>If you're not sure where each area covers, click the postcode and a Google map will show you that area.</p>	<p><b>Now go down to the pub!</b></p> 	<p>Pictures above usually have enough resolution to be zoomed to read detail.</p>

## In case you missed it....

Items from recent newsletters that are still relevant.

Your Branch Committee until <b>AGM 2027</b> - see previous section for Area Pub & Club Contacts	
Chair	Norman Warner
Vice-Chair	<b>Vacant</b>
Secretary (inc. Minutes Secretary and Branch Contact)	Kent Sadler
Beer Scores Coordinator	Abi Harris
London Drinker Distribution Coordinator	Richard Martin
Membership Secretary	Norman Warner
e-Newsletter Editor	Paul Treleaven
Festival Coordinator	James Lee
Good Beer Guide Coordinator (and submissions officer)	Ian Syngé
Pub Database Coordinator	Yin-hai Cheung
Website Co-ordinator	Paul Treleaven
Pub Protection Officer	<b>Vacant</b>
Pub Promotions & Awards Coordinator (inc. LocAle rep.)	Bob Keaveney
Public Affairs Officer	Maggie Hopgood
Social Secretary	Barry Phillips
Treasurer	Tim Wilding
Social Media Coordinator	Colin Brooks
Media Coordinator	<b>Vacant</b>
Young Members Contact	<b>Vacant</b>
Also	
Branch Examiner (auditor)	John Horn
Branch President	Bob Gray
<p>Please consider putting your name forward for any Committee positions that are currently vacant, which can be filled at any time.</p>	

### Branch Pub / Club of the year 2026

Bob Keaveney article from [March 2026 newsletter](#)

### Beer Scoring (AKA Goodbye to WhatPub)

Bob Keaveney has two articles, bringing us up-to-date with Beer Scoring in the CAMRA Experience era:

Part 1 from [September 2025 newsletter](#)

Part 2 from [October 2025 newsletter](#)

See also [website page](#)

### Richard Gadd's themed series on Bromley pubs

This series is packed with information on the featured Bromley pubs and is presented in an amusing way.

May 2024 theme: [Dogs](#)

June 2024 theme: [Work Part 1](#)

Aug. 2024 theme: [Work Part 2](#)

Sept. 2024 theme: [Equine Part 1](#)

Nov. 2024 theme: [Equine Part 2](#)

June 2025 theme: [Farming Part 1](#)

### Pub / Club of the year – Bromley history

From the December 2024 newsletter

[Item here](#)

### Handpump Hijack

From the May 2024 Branch Secretary report (bottom of page):

[Item here](#)

### Pub Heritage Group

From the May 2024 Branch Secretary report (also bottom of page):

[Item here](#)

### Remembering Bromley Beer and Cider Festival 2023

From the September 2023 issue.

[Festival review article](#) See also [website page](#)

