

CAMRA Bromley Branch

e - Newsletter

September 2026



Inside this issue:

[Branch Calendar](#)

A variety of social events and meetings are planned for September

[Last Month's Socials](#)

Photos and notes

[Member News](#)

[Beer Festivals in Bromley Borough](#)

Events that our Pubs and Clubs are planning

[Petts Wood News](#)

Update from Wendy Reynolds

[Pub and Club of the Year News](#)

Bob Keaveney looks at the regional contenders

[CAMRA News this Month](#)

The Secretary 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 **1st October 2026** – 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.

Contacting Bromley CAMRA

Website: bromley.camra.org.uk/

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

X / Twitter: x.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 [branch website](#)

A Cask Ale Oasis in the Backstreets of Bromley North

Your editor takes you around 3 roads with 5 pubs; 4 of them with cask ale

As this residential area is away from the footfall that the busier parts of the borough get, it is possible that you have never walked around Bromley North Village. If that's the case, I suggest you give it a try!

Starting in Frelands Road, at the North end of a 10 minute walk, the oasis comprises the following traditional pubs:

The Frelands Tavern

Management changed quite recently; cask ale available.

CAMRA's details [here](#).

Turning right along Frelands Grove / North Road brings us to:



The Red Lion

Management has stayed the same for **33 years** - Congratulations! 5 pumps dispense cask ale.

CAMRA's details [here](#).

Continuing to the West end of North Road brings us to:



The White Horse

Currently, no cask ale. But the pub has retained its attractive tiled exterior and is a good example of the traditional community corner pub.

CAMRA's details [here](#).

Turning left into Palace Road and past the White Horse, we come to:



Anglesey Arms

Cask ale available - Shepherd Neame

CAMRA's details [here](#). Continuing along Palace Road to the end, we reach:



Crown & Anchor

Cask ale available. The pub has many activities through the week.

CAMRA's details [here](#).

If you wish to start again, turning left into Park Road and then left into Frelands Road will bring you back to the Frelands Tavern!



September 2026	Branch Calendar	Details of all events, including addresses and suggested public transport options, can also be viewed on the branch website – click on the event		Bromley pub photos by Chris Crowther
Wednesday 9 Hayes social	19:00 Royal British Legion	20:00 Real Ale Way		
				
Monday 14 Bromley social	19:00 Bricklayers Arms	19:40 Cork 'n Cask		
				
	20:30 Richmal Crompton	21:20 Partridge	22:10 Star & Garter	
				
Saturday 19 Tour of Bexley micropubs social Photos: Courtesy Bexley CAMRA	12:00 Broken Drum	13:15 Door Hinge	15:15 Bolthole	
				
	16:30 Kentish Belle	17:45 Long Haul	18:45 The Bird & Barrel	
				

Wednesday 23 Autumn Equinox social in Downe	19:00 George and Dragon 	20:00 Queens Head 
Wednesday 30 Committee Meeting		19:30 Orpington Liberal Club 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.

Looking back: August's branch socials. Come and join us *this* month!

Thursday 6 Farnborough social. Started at the Change of Horses (top left) then the Woodman (right) then Black Horse (bottom left). A planned stop at Ye Olde Whyte Lyon was cancelled, as there was no cask beer.	
Friday 14 Orpington Liberal Club Summer Cider Festival social	

Festivals in Bromley

We will list any beer / cider festivals planned in the **Bromley** borough area. Details mostly provided by our area reps, but anyone, including the festival organizer, is welcome to [submit](#) – they'll only be listed if we are told about them!

As the summer proceeds, our listing of Bromley festivals has shrunk!

Date (2026 unless noted)	Place	Details
Saturday 12 September	Chislehurst & West Kent Cricket Club	Cockpit Beer and Music festival Will feature live music throughout day, wide range of beers and ciders, food stalls and children's activities Tickets



Petts Wood News

Wendy Reynolds, our BR5 rep, has sent in some Petts Wood news

One Inn The Wood

On 31 July OITW had a pop-up bar outside the pub. The beers came from the newest brewery in the Bromley CAMRA area – Palindrome (see [last newsletter](#)) and were from their Racecar series. On keg tap were No 1, No 2 and No 3. They were three 6% India Pale Ales but had totally different hops. Racecar No.1 (Citra, Nelson, Dolcita), No.2 (Nectar, NZH-101, Mosaic, Citra) and No.3 (Citra, Riwaka, Nelson). Photo shows the bar during set up. Unfortunately, due to an issue with the equipment, the beers had to be served from the pub rather than the pop-up bar.



Also, OITW has worked with Tonbridge brewery and created FOUND, a 3.9% session gluten free pale. First pouring was on 14 August. This keg beer has been created exclusively for OITW and will be available all the time.

Finally on 21 August, Supercute Brewery held a tap takeover at the bar. They brought with them one of the last casks of "smash!", their collaboration with Wimbledon Brewery. Cask Supercute is a rare thing so it was great to be able to sample it and see the team from Supercute. Please check facebook for more forthcoming events.

Daylight Inn

Open mic night has returned in August and September, please see advert, right.

Sovereign of the Seas

See photo of forthcoming beer takeovers, far right.



Pub and Club of the Year News

Regional Pub and Club of the Year

As reported last month, Bromley has won the Greater London CAMRA regional competitions for both pub and club. This means that the Cockpit has been judged by CAMRA members to be one of the best 16 pubs in the country, and likewise Orpington Liberal Club is in the top 14 clubs.



The full lists of the regional winners have now been published. May be handy if your holiday plans take you near any of them:

Pubs

- East Anglia: [Railway Arms, Saffron Walden](#)
- East Central: [Malt Shovel Tavern, Northampton](#)
- East Midlands: [Railway Inn, Ketton](#)
- Greater London: [Cockpit, Chislehurst](#)
- Merseyside & Cheshire: [Turks Head, St. Helens](#)
- North East: [Olde Cross, Old Ryton Village](#)
- North West: [Northumberland Arms, Marple Bridge](#)
- Northern Ireland: [Dog and Duck Inn Lisbellaw](#)
- Scotland: [Steam Packet Inn, Isle of Whithorn](#)
- South Central: [Bell, Waltham St Lawrence](#)
- South East: [Nelson Arms, Tonbridge](#)
- South West: [Fallen Tree, Clevedon](#)
- Wales: [Mold Alehouse, Mold](#)
- West Central: [Alma Inn, Linton](#)
- West Midlands: [Tamworth Tap, Tamworth](#)
- Yorkshire: [Countryman's Inn, Hunton](#)

Clubs

- East Anglia: [Carleton Rode Club](#)
- East Central: [Hitchin Rugby Club](#)
- East Midlands: [Empingham Cricket Club](#)
- Greater London: [Orpington Liberal Club](#)
- Merseyside & Cheshire: [Appleton Thorn Village Hall](#)
- North East: [Billingham Catholic Club](#)
- North West: [Blackpool Cricket Club](#)
- South Central: [Corfe Castle](#)
- South East: [Albatross Club \(RAFA\)](#)
- South West: [Backwell Village Club](#)
- Wales: [Sebastopol Social Club](#)
- West Central: [Cookley Sports Club](#)
- West Midlands: [St George's Sports & Social Club](#)
- Yorkshire: [Knowl Club](#)

The next stage of the selection for the national award is the 'super-regional round', from which four pubs and four clubs are chosen as finalists to go forward into the national round. We expect that the names of the finalists will be announced in October or November.

Dates for your diary

- 7th October - Regional PotY presentation evening at the Cockpit
- 12th November - Regional CotY presentation evening at Orpington Liberal Club
- 1st December - Start of selection for the **2027** Bromley PotY and CotY

More information will be available nearer the time.

Review of how Bromley CAMRA selects our Pub & Club of the Year

Earlier this year the branch committee asked members to let us know your views about the branch's current process for selecting pubs/clubs for the Pub & Club of the Year awards. Thank you to those members who made the effort to reply to the questionnaire. The deadline for comments to be submitted was 14th July, and since that date the Committee has been reviewing the feedback received and discussing possible improvements which could be made to the selection process. We hope to complete the review in time for the outcome to be announced in the October newsletter, however we can confirm that the selection will continue to include the following key features:

- Members are invited to nominate pubs & clubs for the awards
- Members are invited to volunteer to be pub and/or club judges
- Pubs and Clubs will be selected by judging, using the CAMRA standard judging guidelines

This means that we will continue to need as many members as possible to be involved in the selection of the pubs and clubs for the award, both by nominating your favourite venues and by acting as judges. If you have not previously been involved, please consider doing so for the 2027 awards.

The selection process for the 2027 Pub & Club of the Year starts on 1st December.

Bob Keaveney

Pub Promotion and Awards Coordinator



CAMRA News this month

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

It's raining. Yay! French beans dire, runners stringy, potatoes – I hate to think. Here in the North Downs with three inches of soil on chalk, we have been getting our exercise with the watering can. Still, nothing like a pint afterwards.

So, of CAMRA?

Independent reviews

Last month I reported on a reduction in business rates, now we have (for pubs and hotels), the Government announcing an independent review of how pubs and the like are valued for business rates. As our Chair, Ash Corbett-Williams said, "Our pubs have suffered for far too long under the current ratings system, which punishes bricks and mortar businesses, and creates the ridiculous situation where global giants pay less per square metre for warehousing than a licensee does for their pub".

So, let's not hold our breath, but hope for some positive news in the not-so-distant future. See Autumn Statement anyone?

Champion Beer of Britain 2028 (a two-year process)

Nominations for this annual award open on **1 September**. As CAMRA states, the Champion Beer of Britain is one of the most prestigious beer competitions in the world. It is the ultimate honour for UK brewers and has helped put many into the media spotlight.

Judging for the competition takes two years to complete, starting with nominations from individual CAMRA members and Tasting Panels, then area competitions.

All the judging adheres to a strict blind tasting policy.

So, have YOU got a favourite? If so, get nominating! For a history of winners, see [CAMRA | Champion Beer of Britain](#)

Volunteering

Fancy volunteering for CAMRA? Well, presently, CAMRA is looking for:

- Secretary to the National Executive – experience of minute taking and helping to set agendas is essential.
- Beer Festival Financial Assessors – CAMRA has vacancies to join the team of assessors, ideal for someone with a finance background or Beer Festival Organiser/Treasurer skills.
- Members' Weekend Visionary Lead – a key role in setting the strategic direction and driving continuous improvement for CAMRA's annual Members' Weekend.

Mind you, [and a lot closer to home](#), so are we; your local Bromley Branch needs you. We have vacant roles (see [this page](#)) and some becoming vacant. So, if you cannot spare time for CAMRA office, do not overlook your local branch...

Webinar on UK Beer and Brewing

Interested? Join West Central Regional Director, Brett Lanoish, as he presents the European Beer Consumers' Union (EBCU)'s latest [Continent of Beer webinar](#) all about UK beer and brewing! Discover the UK's beer scene and its rich history, deep dive into iconic styles and where to find them – including heritage pubs and festivals – plus learn the importance of our campaigning for the pub and brewing industry. Register to attend the webinar on Monday 14 September at 7pm on Zoom.



Picture provided by EBCU

See [Webinars | EBCU](#) I've signed up!



Planning Protection for our Pubs

On Monday 17 August [the government announced stronger planning protections for pubs in England](#) after months of considering watering them down.

The government was looking at protecting only the last pub in an area, instead of all, making it easier for greedy developers to convert locals into houses, shops and takeaways.

Thanks to CAMRA's dedicated members who sent thousands of emails to their MPs using the e-lobby and CAMRA's conversations with civil servants and parliamentarians, CAMRA has secured a huge campaign win for vulnerable pubs and communities who want to save their locals.

For a full statement by Ash Corbett-Collins, see [PUBlic Affairs update – August - What's Brewing](#)

And, Finally

A reminder – **Cask Ale Week** is taking place over ten days this September (17th to 27th to be precise). Is your local doing something? [Let us know](#), and we can post it on our social media.

See you next month

Kent Sadler

Bromley CAMRA 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.

BR1 Martin Gee BR1 LD deliveries: Richard Martin	• See Bromley North pubs feature, front page • BR1 pub websites: Red Lion Anglesey Arms Crown and Anchor Greyhound Richmal Crompton Star and Garter Swan and Mitre Partridge Crown in Sundridge The Railway The Lord Holmesdale	
BR2 Richard Martin	• Bricklayers Arms is under new management, and is now a Marlowe's pub. • BR2 pub/club websites: Fox, Keston Greyhound, Keston Shortlands Tavern Chequers Bricklayers Arms New Inn Hayes Royal British Legion George, Hayes Crafty Bok	
BR3 Ian Syngé	• BR3 pub websites: Bricklayers Arms Three Hounds Chancery Jolly Woodman George Inn Elm Tree Kelsey House	
BR4 Janet Freak	• Hoptics – the new name for what was Real Ale Way, West Wickham - opened its doors 5 August. • BR4 pub websites: Wheatsheaf Swan Railway 	
BR5 Wendy Reynolds	• See Wendy's Petts Wood update page 5 • BR5 pub websites: Sovereign of the Seas Daylight Inn One Inn the Wood Bull Inn (St Pauls Cray)	
BR6 Norman Warner	• See Farnborough social pictures page 3 • BR6 pub/club websites: Royal Oak Woodman OLC Five Bells Rose and Crown Queens Head Maxwell Cricketers Bo-Peep Ye Olde Whyte Lyon (Piglet) British Queen Black Horse Bulls Head Buff Chelsfield White Hart	
BR7 Colin Brooks	• BR7 pub websites: Bulls Head Crown Tigers Head Cockpit Gordon Arms Imperial Arms Ramblers Rest Bickley Arms Queens Head Sydney Arms	
SE19 - SE20 Vacant	• SE19/SE20 pub websites: Moon and Stars Goldsmiths Arms Southey Brewing White Hart Pawleyne Arms Crooked Billet	
Biggin Hill Cudham Downe Kent Sadler	• Websites for pubs in these areas: Black Horse Aperfield Inn Crown Inn George & Dragon Blacksmiths Arms Kings Arms (Leaves Green) Queens Head	
If you're not sure where each area covers, click the postcode and a Google map will show you that area. Now go down to the pub!  Any pictures included above usually have enough resolution to be zoomed to read detail.		

In case you missed it....

Items from recent newsletters that are still relevant.

Your Branch Committee until AGM 2027 - see previous section for Area Pub & Club Contacts	
Chair	Norman Warner
Vice-Chair	Vacant
Secretary (inc. Minutes Secretary and Branch Clontact)	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 Synge
Pub Database Coordinator	Vacant
Website Co-ordinator	Paul Treleaven
Pub Protection Officer	Vacant
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	Vacant
Young Members Contact Also	Matt Walden
Branch Examiner (auditor)	John Horn
Branch President	Bob Gray

Please consider putting your name forward for any Committee positions that are currently vacant, which can be filled at any time.

Greater London Regional Pub of the Year 2026 contest; Bob Keaveney articles:

Part 1 article from the [July 2026 newsletter](#)

Part 2 article from the [August 2026 newsletter](#)

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](#)

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](#)

