

# Draught Copy



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

**Free Magazine**

By Maidstone & Mid-Kent  
CAMRA

incorporating Gravesend &  
Darent Valley, Bexley,  
Medway & West Kent  
Branches

Autumn 2023 No. 206

Website: [www.mmk.camra.org.uk](http://www.mmk.camra.org.uk)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/mmkcamra](https://www.twitter.com/mmkcamra)

## Good Beer Guide 2024

CAMRA's Good Beer Guide – the UK's best-selling beer and pub guide was released on September 28, 2023.

The Guide, which surveys 4,500 of the best pubs across the UK, is the definitive beer drinker's guide to the very best pints in the most picturesque and friendly pubs.

More on page 5.



# DRAUGHT COPY

Draught Copy is the magazine of the Maidstone and Mid-Kent branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, also incorporating news from Bexley, Gravesend & Darent Valley, Medway and West Kent branches of CAMRA. It is published quarterly, in March, June, September and December and has a circulation of 4,000 copies. Opinions expressed are those of the author of the article, and need not represent those of CAMRA or its officials.

If you find a pub selling short measure, allowing smoking in the premises, or other illegal things in pubs, please have a quiet word with the landlord in the first instance. However, if you need to complain about a licensed premises in your area, report the problem to Trading Standards by contacting Citizens Advice, who will pass the details to your local Trading Standards service: Call the Citizens Advice consumer service helpline on 03454 04 05 06 (Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm). We should demand the very highest standards of service in our pubs.

**Advertising rates:** £100 / £60 / £35 for a full / half / quarter page respectively

**Editor and Correspondence:** *DraughtCopy.Editor@mmk.camra.org.uk*

**Advertising:** *DraughtCopy.Advertising@mmk.camra.org.uk*

The copy date for the next issue is 21st October 2023.

For further information about all pubs mentioned in this publication (or indeed anywhere in the UK), please refer to CAMRA's national pub database: [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Our social diary changes faster than we can print it, so to keep up-to-date we suggest you use the below QR codes to access the branch meetings on our websites.



**Bexley**



**Gravesend and  
Darent Valley**



**Maidstone  
and Mid-Kent**



**West Kent**

# Give CAMRA Gift membership

**Real ale is just the start...**

The CAMRA story is one we are all part of. Give the gift of membership and you can support everything from pubs, clubs and drinkers' rights, to licensees and breweries. Uniting us in the story we all love, *a great tradition.*

You're also giving someone special membership benefits, such as £30 of beer vouchers, a quarterly *BEER* magazine, access to the online news platform *What's Brewing*, partner benefits, discounts, and more.

Give the gift that means more.  
[camra.org.uk/gift-membership](http://camra.org.uk/gift-membership)



Campaign  
for  
Real Ale

Real stories, real people, real ale





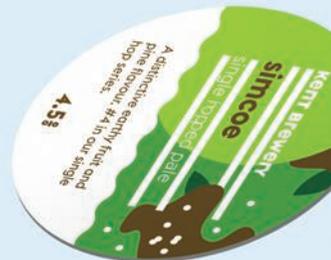
# KENT BREWERY



Our Farmhouse Crafted beers offer a more unusual and satisfying experience than you might normally expect.

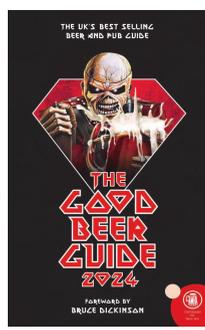
We can be found in the best pubs and bottle shops in Kent and further afield.

Please enjoy the difference!



[www.kentbrewery.com](http://www.kentbrewery.com)

# GOOD BEER GUIDE 2024



In *The Good Beer Guide*, you'll find over 4500 listings of pubs, bars and breweries, chosen by local CAMRA volunteers, as having the best cask beers available – or you can check out the special brewery section to discover new breweries with interesting, exciting new brews. It highlights pubs selected by CAMRA members as places to savour good beers from small breweries as well as cask-conditioned lagers and world beers and some pubs are highlighted for serving real ciders too.

With an unmistakable cover design, we are excited to announce that the foreword for the *Good Beer Guide 2024* has been penned by Bruce Dickinson. Bruce is the frontman and lead singer of one of the most successful bands to come from the UK, Iron Maiden. He is also a collaborative brewer with Robinsons, producing one of the UK's most successful real ale beer brands that started with *Trooper* a decade ago. His foreword is a personal reflection on his love of beer, pubs, and a job that he describes as 'the best on the planet' – which includes brewing and drinking beer!

*'You hold in your hands a voyage of discovery not just through a wonderful world of traditional ales and brewers, but also a lens through which to observe the web of history which weaves around the fabric of that almost unique institution-the British Pub.'* – Bruce Dickinson



## The Chequers Inn

Laddingford, nr Yalding

Kent ME18 6BP

Tel: 01622 871266

[www.chequersladdingford.co.uk](http://www.chequersladdingford.co.uk)

Award winning traditional village inn  
situated in the hopping countryside

### Charles and Tracey welcome you to their 15th Century Inn

- Cask conditioned real ales
- Traditional value-for-money menus, daily specials, Sunday roasts and children's menu
- Very large garden with children's play area & animal corner

We are proud of our

- Real Ales, Real Food, Real Staff & No Gimmicks

## KENT'S OLDEST MICROBREWERY!

2023 marks another milestone in Goacher's history. They have now been brewing traditional real ales in Maidstone for 40 years!

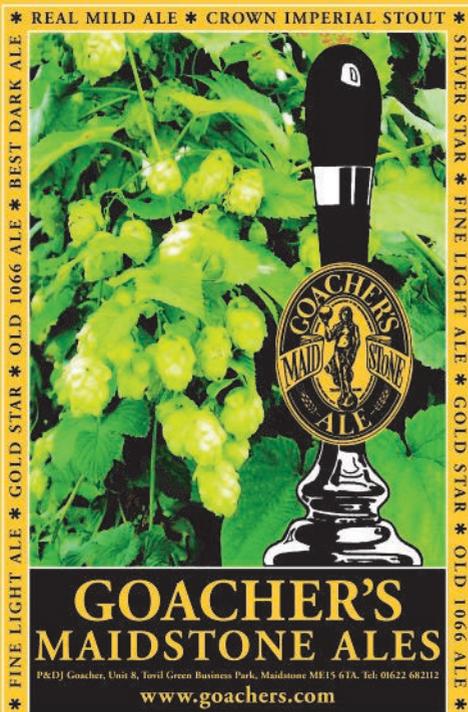
Goacher's first appeared in *Draught Copy* in August 1983 (See opposite).

In May 1983, Phil and Debbie Goacher turned their hobby into a business, and little did they know (or expect!) that four decades later, this business would still be thriving. Now with one of their children, Howard, at the helm, the brewery is continuing to flourish in what is a very different market from the one that they first started trading in. There are significantly fewer pubs to choose from, but many of those that they are doing business with are still going strong. Is that the beer, or is that the pubs themselves, or a combination of the two? "We think it's both," declares Howard.

With the move to larger premises in Tovil in 1990, Goacher's has continued to grow its reputation and range of beers to become one of the

'go-to' microbreweries in Kent. A handful of those early customers are still being supplied, having first put their trust in the brewery to stock its beers all those years ago.

"We have some great relationships with landlords who we work with, whether that's for that last one, five, 10, 20 or more years," says Howard. "We have also invested in three tied pubs, these being The Royal Paper Mill (1992), The Rifle Volunteers (1997) and most recently The Little Gem (2019), the latter having been refurbished and reopened having been 'lost' as a pub for over 10 years! These are a real backbone to our success and



No. 56

# DRAUGHT COPY



August Bank  
Holiday  
1983

Monthly Newsletter of the Maidstone & Mid-Kent Branch

## Brewing Returns to Maidstone

THE ART OF BREWING HAS RETURNED TO MAIDSTONE AFTER AN ABSENCE OF OVER 10 YEARS. The county town was once an important centre of the brewing industry, as one would expect in a part of the country best known for its hop-growing. However, in common with many other towns up and down the country, a series of mergers and takeovers led to the decline and ultimate extinction of this once thriving industry. The final blow came in September, 1972, when Whitbread closed the old Fremlins Pale Ale Brewery in Earl St., and transferred all brewing to Faversham thus depriving the town of its last working brewery.

Now, much to the delight of local drinkers and CAMRA members alike, the BOCKINGFORD BREWERY has started up production and the distinctive aroma of malt and hops once again pervades the local air. Run by PHILIP & DEBBIE GOACHER, the brewery is housed in a former artist's studio at Hayle Mill, Bockingford, in the picturesque Loose Valley. The mill is one of the few remaining where hand-made paper is still produced, and sharing the same site has an added advantage for the Goachers, as there is a plentiful supply of steam available, which is ideal for heating the brewing copper and for washing out the casks.

When the firm he worked for moved to London, Phil opted for redundancy and decided to turn his hobby into a full-time venture. It was some time before suitable premises became available, but it was worth the wait, as the brewery is virtually on the Goachers' own doorstep. They themselves live in Hayle Mill Cottages, which is handy as the beer needs to be watched closely while brewing.

The actual brewing plant was designed by Phil, and built by Process Plant Services of Walderslade. Many years experience of home-brewing led to him and Debbie coming up with the present brew, a 1040 beer called GOACHERS MAIDSTONE ALE. It is a darkish beer, brewed to an all malt recipe, and is well bittered with best East Kent Golding Hops. Phil and Debbie are helped and advised with the brewing by SID TOMPSETT, who was deputy head brewer at Wateringbury before being made redundant by Whitbread when they closed the Phoenix Brewery in 1981.

The BOCKINGFORD BREWERY can brew 220 gallons at one time, and currently production is running at  $6\frac{1}{2}$  barrels a week. As reported in previous editions of DRAUGHT COPY, MAIDSTONE ALE was launched at the beer tent run by CAMRA at the Mote House Cheshire Home May Fayre. It was an instant success, three firkins of the beer sold out within a matter of hours!

For a while, Maidstone Ale was only available at The Traditional Ale Centre, in Union St., but we are pleased to report that it is now on sale at the following local free-houses:  
RINGLESTONE INN, Nr. Harrietsham;  
THREE CHIMNEYS, Biddenden;  
LITTLE GEM, Aylesford;  
GOLDEN EAGLE, Burham;  
PRINCE OF WALES, Hunton;  
WEST END TAVERN, Marden;  
QUEEN BEE, East Peckham.

Opposite:

GOACHERS BREWERY 1880.  
The naked lady is the original Maid of Maidstone. The design was based on the old seal of the town.



continued on page 3

we must thank each of our tenants for the work that they put in to serve our beer in the best condition possible," he adds.

"We're still brewing on the same kit, as mentioned in the initial *Draught Copy* article, but it's seeing a bit more use now, regularly exceeding 28 brewers' barrels a week," explains Howard. "This has led to us needing to search for new premises to allow us to brew enough to beer to satisfy all the lovely drinkers out there that seek out our beers for their enjoyment."



Having recently been approved planning permission for conversion of an existing building on Friday Street Farm, East Sutton, Goacher's hopes to be able to finalise things there to allow the brewery to forge ahead in its next chapter. "This investment in larger equipment, and new premises would allow us to increase capacity and keep brewing beer for many more years to come," adds Howard.

Goacher's brewer Simon [Hurst] has recently celebrated 30 years service, a great feat for which the family is extremely grateful. "Alongside him now, there are some younger members of the team who are continuing the hard work that has got us to this stage so far," notes Howard.



Alongside Howard, Goacher's could have the makings of another 40 years of the best beers!



**MALLING**  
ACCOUNTANCY



Accounts  
Preparation



Tax  
Returns



Bookkeeping



VAT  
Returns



Payroll  
Services

**Contact us for a free Initial Consultation**

E [peter.stevens@mallingaccountancy.co.uk](mailto:peter.stevens@mallingaccountancy.co.uk) T 01732 792349

[www.mallingaccountancy.co.uk](http://www.mallingaccountancy.co.uk)

# Rifle Volunteers



Alex and Polly welcome customers old and new to the Rifle Volunteers.

Traditional public house serving Goachers Ale and local cider. Fortnightly fun quiz, beer garden.

## OPENING TIMES

Monday: 6pm - 11pm

Tuesday - Saturday: 12pm - 11pm

Sunday: 12pm - 6pm

28 Wyatt Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1EU



# NEW PUBS IN WEST KENT BRANCH

It's not very often we get a chance to announce new pubs. They seem to be like buses, you wait ages for one and then two come along:-



**Allkin Tap & Bottle**, Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

The **Allkin Tap & Bottle** is run by the people behind the *Allkin Brewery*, just across the Kent /Sussex border at Eridge. *Allkin* is the new name for the former *Good Things Brewery* which sadly, was struck by lightning and burnt down in July 2021.

*Allkin* stands for All Community, All Friends, All of Us.

Following two Crowdfunding exercises (and from their website there looks like there might be third) they are in a position to start work on building a new sustainable brewery on the original site. In readiness for the new brewery they have opened the **Allkin Tap & Bottle** in Tunbridge Wells which serves a dual purpose. To make people aware of the new name and rebuilding of the brewery, and to be ready to showcase their beers when they start brewing. The **Allkin Tap** is open from Thursday to Sunday and the opening hours are 12 to 11 – Thursday, 12 to 12 - Friday & Saturday, 12 to 6 – Sunday. They currently have one changing cask beer available from opening on Thursday until it runs out. All other beers and ciders are on the keg lines of which there are fifteen.



**South Park Tap**, South Park, Sevenoaks

The **South Park Tap** opened its doors in June. It is located opposite the main Post Office at 14 South Park. It has a quirky interior and seats about 30 people. The person behind the Tap also runs the Miners Arms at Dunton Green. Up to 4 cask ales are served, all from local breweries including *Larkin's*, *Westerham*, *Kent* and



*Pig and Porter* Breweries. In a chilled cabinet there are up to 10 real ciders from Kent along with local wines. Some spirits are also available. It is open from 12 to 10pm Thursday to Saturday and 12 to 8pm on Sunday.



**TERRY  
OSBORNE**  
INSURANCE  
SERVICES LTD

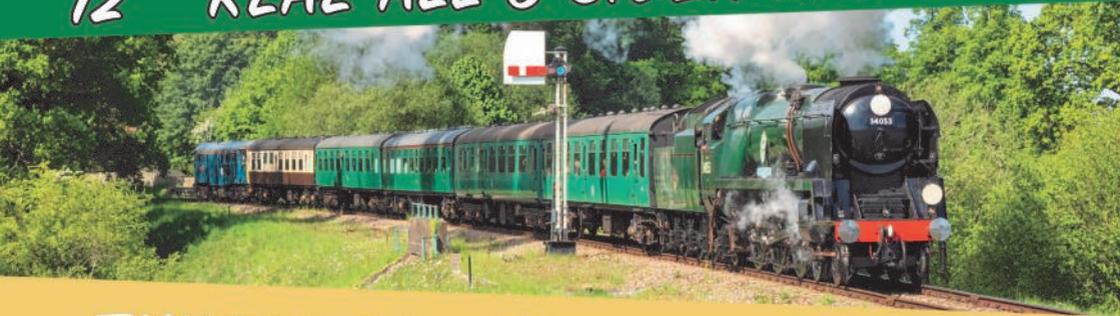
The experts in bespoke insurance solutions for the hospitality & leisure industries



Call us for advice, a competitive quote or instant cover:  
01622 745 297 Email: [info@terryosborneinsurance.co.uk](mailto:info@terryosborneinsurance.co.uk)  
[www.terryosborneinsurance.co.uk](http://www.terryosborneinsurance.co.uk)



**12<sup>TH</sup> REAL ALE & CIDER FESTIVAL!**



**THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> TO SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
OCTOBER 2023**



**BEERS AND CIDERS AT ALL STATIONS AND ON THE TRAINS!**

**160+ REAL ALES, 50+ CIDERS AND MORE!**

**[WWW.SPAVALLEYRAILWAY.CO.UK](http://WWW.SPAVALLEYRAILWAY.CO.UK)**





**Join us on a discovery of new flavours with our innovative limited edition cask ales.**

Shepherd Neame is delighted to offer an exclusive 20% discount for CAMRA members on the Cask Club beers at participating pubs when a valid CAMRA card is presented at the bar.

To find out more and for a list of participating pubs, visit [snea.me/cask-club](http://snea.me/cask-club)

## DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF BRITAIN'S OLDEST BREWER

Want to learn more about how our Cask Club beers are brewed?

Join us for an award-winning guided tour!

Book today at [snea.me/book-tour](http://snea.me/book-tour)



@shepherdneame

be **drinkaware**.co.uk

*Cask Club*

It was a glorious summer's day when four of us set off from West Malling Station, on a long-planned trip to the City of Lancaster and the surrounding area. The journey to Euston via Victoria went without hitch but found out the Avanti train to Lancaster was going to be delayed around 20 minutes; it lost a bit more time but frustratingly it did manage to stay within the first 30 minutes of delay repay.

Upon arriving we only had a few yards to walk before arriving at our first call of the day which was the **Tite & Locke**, a Lancaster brewery tap on platform 3. It was so named to commemorate the station architect William Tite and Joseph Locke, the engineer responsible for building the Lancaster to Carlisle railway. There were several rooms with seating called First, Second and Third class plus a covered outdoor area. The bar featured *Lancaster Brewery* core beers plus lots of craft beers and ciders. We spotted handpumps for their *Red*, *Amber*, *Black*, *Blonde*, *IPA* and *Mosaic*. I chose the best-selling *Blonde*, others *Mosaic* and *Black* and were much appreciated after our travels.

On leaving here we next headed to the **Sun Hotel & Bar**. This was a very nice establishment and looking back probably my favourite from the weekend. It featured exposed stonework, wood paneling and solid furniture. It is the primary outlet for the *Lancaster brewery* and had six of their beers plus guests, *Plum Porter* from *Titanic* being one and ironically two from an East Kent Brewery which understandably we didn't choose. I went for the *Lancaster Black*, this and the *Plum Porter* tried by others were excellent. The organiser was staying here and went to check in.

Time then to walk to the **Wagon & Horses**, which sells *Robinsons* beers and is located on St George's Quay near the Maritime Museum. The rest of us were staying here, we checked in and then gathered at the bar. Sadly only 2 beers were on and the organiser had tried the *Cumbria Way*. He warned us of it being below par so a pint of *Dizzy Blonde* - "Hobson's choice" - was requested. We had planned to eat dinner here but was told there was no food available yet, it being too early, so this and the lack of beer choice, gave us an easy decision to cut short our visit here and we walked the short distance to the next venue.

The **Three Mariners** along the Quay claims to be the oldest pub in the city. It is built into the side of Castle Hill and promised home-cooked reasonably priced food and a good selection of ales. I haven't got notes of others' choices but yours truly ordered a pint of *Hawkshead Mosaic* and a *Lancaster Hotpot*. Both were very tasty.

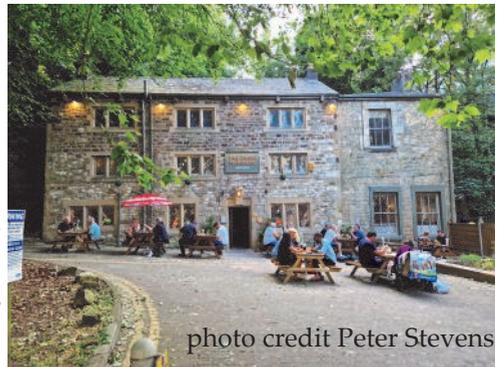


photo credit Peter Stevens

Leaving here we next visited the **Bobbin**. I ordered the *Windermere Pale* from the *Hawkshead Brewery*. They also had *Kaleidoscope* and *Inferno* from *Oakham*. Somebody said the pub was usually very busy with heavy metal fans but fortunately it was fairly quiet today or our timetable may have slipped trying to access the bar.

A modern conversion of an old department store called the **Cornerhouse** was our next choice. It was a bit bland, and I did not make a note of my ale choice as a result.

Last stop of the day was **Jimmy's Tap House**, a micro pub mainly frequented by students on the day of our visit, open until midnight from Wednesday and 2 am Saturday Night. It had six to seven beers on and, from my notes, I believe *Sunset* from *Cross Bay Brewery* in Morecambe was my final choice of the day and it didn't disappoint.

## Day 2

Another glorious summer's day. An earlyish breakfast was agreed at the hotels - very comprehensive with cereals, yogurts, Full English or with variations, tea, coffee and toast and jam were available for those staying at the **Wagon & Horses**. We met at a cafe near the Castle. The service wasn't quick but were reminded by the organiser whose suggestion to meet there it was, that we were now on Lancashire time which is more sedate. After our refreshments, it was time to go sightseeing around Lancaster Castle. It is one of the most historically fascinating surviving buildings in the country. Its beginnings date back to Roman Times when, from its commanding position on the hill overlooking the town and the River Lune, it stood as a bastion against the marauding forces of the Picts and the Scots tribes and is owned by the Duchy Of Lancaster (currently King Charles III).

Until 2011, it was a fully functioning prison while today it a "living monument" offering a glimpse into England's often dark past. Due to other events there were no official tours running but we decided to view the magnificent buildings and then visit the old prison, now a police museum which had different aspects of local policing in the various cells which I found fascinating. It even had the bath of a double murderer in one cell that was used to dismember the victims!

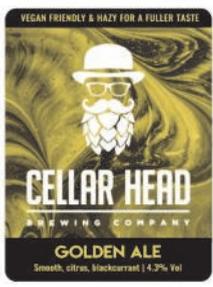
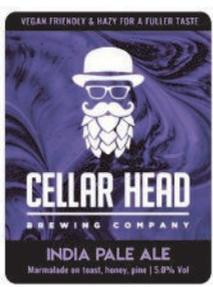
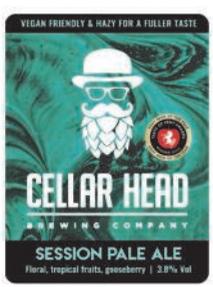
Time for lunch and the **Brown Cow** had been selected. This *Thwaites* pub had their *IPA* and *Original* on. I ordered the *IPA* and others went for the *Original* however one taste told me it was well past its best and I returned it and asked it be replaced by an *Original*. They had reasonable priced lunch options, and as we all felt that breakfast was still restricting our appetite most went for a simple sandwich. My choice of Tuna was very tasty and unfussy.

The next venue was the **Sir Richard Owen**, a Wetherspoons pub named after a local Victorian anatomist, born in 1804 and who first coined the word 'Dinosaur'. I looked at the hand pumps and asked for a pint of *Fox Brown Ale* from the *Great Corby*



# CELLAR HEAD

BREWING COMPANY



Award winning beers from the border of Kent and Sussex. Cellar Head Brewing Company was founded in 2017 by husband and wife Chris and Julia Mckenzie.

Taking traditional brewing methods and applying a modern craft twist we've created a range of beers known throughout the south of England for its quality and drinkability.

Find us at: The Barn, Pillory Corner, Flimwell, TN5 7QG

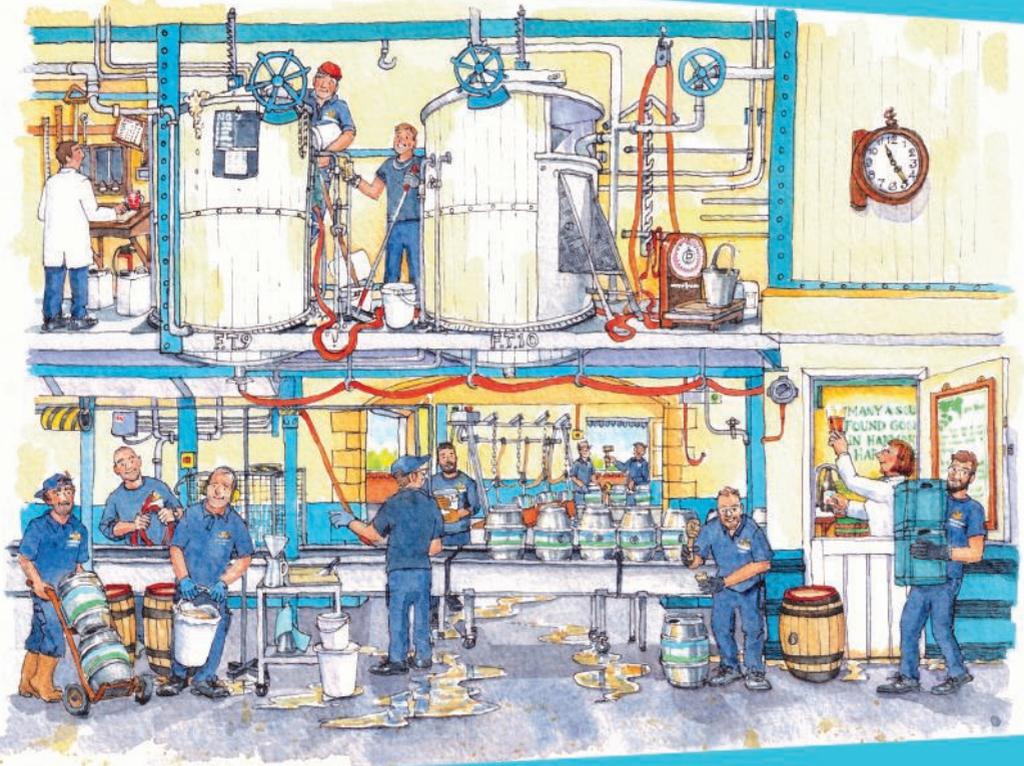
Telephone: 01580 879523

[www.cellarheadbrewing.com](http://www.cellarheadbrewing.com)





# HARVEY'S BREWERY



Local hops and barley  
come together at Harvey's

 Harveys1790  
 HarveysBreweryLewes  
 HarveysBrewery

FAMILY BREWERS SINCE 1790  
[www.harveys.org.uk](http://www.harveys.org.uk)

*Brewery*. Although the condition was good, I was expecting more flavour from a 4.6% beer and wondered if it was affected by the sparkler that is a regional tradition.

Next stop was an eagerly awaited visit to the **Merchants**. This was a wine-merchants cellar and was built in 1688. It has an extensive outdoor drinking area, but the main drinking areas are in 3 separate cellars off the main tunnel being the Entrance and Bar. It was a peaceful haven from the hubbub of the City Centre. Amongst the choices, I picked a house beer from the *Tirill brewery* which was very good. Two of us stayed here for another while the organiser and another went to the railway station to meet three further members arriving for the weekend. We met them a tad later at the bus station for this evening's entertainment.

The journey wasn't too long and we arrived at Hest Bank near Morecambe and crossed over the main road to the **Crossing**, a former cafe but opened as a micropub in 2018. The name refers to being close to both the last level crossing on the West Coast Main Line and an ancient route over the sands. It was very busy but also notably friendly. It supported six beers on the bar. I was tempted by one called *Pirates Gold*, a Scottish beer from *Muirhouse Brewery*. I was joined by some and others had the *Gulp IPA* from *Frome*. I forgot to ask how that was, but my choice was very pleasant. We managed to find some seats in the back room and read the various articles and photos on the wall of a train crash that happened there in 1965 when several carriages were derailed, and some went on to the now closed station platform. The miracle was only 11 passengers sustained injury and any hospitalised were released within three days.

After suitable refreshments, we moved on a short distance to Bare. The first stop was the fish and chip shop. Not unexpectedly for a Friday night we had to queue for a while but was well worth the wait. The fish was truly delightful. After everyone's appetites were sated we walked around 50 yards to a micro pub called the **Little Bare**. I can't think where they got that name from! Again, a friendly welcome and they had five changing ales. I decided I would avoid one called *Chaff* (thought that's the bit normally thrown away) and the "Wheat" beer was missing anyway. I asked for the *Bitter* from *Marble Brewery* in Manchester, which I have had before but not for some time. They also had *Fell Classic Northern Diversions*, and *Gyle 1000* from the same brewery, along with a coffee milk stout called *Hoof* from the *Farm Yard Brew Co*. Time for a second before our return and I chose the *Coffee Milk Stout*.

There was time for one more pub back in Lancaster, which was very close to my own hotel. The **George and Dragon**, also situated on the quay, sold *Timothy Taylor* beers. It was decorated with early photographs around the port of Lancaster. I omitted to make a note, but I believe I had the *Golden Best* which was very drinkable.

*(Thanks go to the organiser and WhatPub website for additional information)*

*This article concludes in the next edition of Draught Copy*

Contact: Adrian Moss (01474 363102)

email: [adrian.moss49@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian.moss49@btinternet.com)

**TJ's** pub in Gravesend celebrated its bicentenary in June with a guided tour of the area conducted by a local historian, followed by a meal at the pub. It was previously known as the **British Tar** and that name is still used today, as anyone paying by card will see from their bank statement. Though the first record of a public house licensee dates from 1823, it is known that a beer house existed before then and the building dates from the 1790s, being built from ship's timbers. It has been extended since and the ceiling of the left-hand side of the bar is of wartime construction, designed so that in the event of bomb damage individual sections would fall down rather than the whole thing. A leaflet was produced including some details of the pub's history. It states that it is the last pub in North West Kent with mathematical tiles. We believe the photo to date from around 1920 when it was a *Russell's* pub.

On a visit by Tony Crawley to the **Old Gravesendians Rugby Club** *Greene King IPA* and *Iron Pier Summer Ale* were on sale on handpumps.. A display of other *Iron Pier* pump clips around the bar shows that their beers are regularly available here. The **Prince of Orange** reopened at the end of June under new management. After a week there was no real ale but this remains a possibility for the future. The **Grapes** was due to have a 'grand opening' on July 21. This former Shepherd Neame pub has now been refurbished by its new owners.

Dave, the owner of the **Cotton Mill** at Swanley has bought the taxi office next door and the pub had by July been extended into it. This micropub was very much on a micro scale and the extra space has been used to provide more seating and an extra toilet.



Friday April 28 saw a packed pub at the **Plough** at Basted watching barmaid Donna have her hair shaved off in aid of The Macmillan Hospice. She was aiming to raise £1,000 but as of 16 May this had reached £2,665. She is going to put the money towards a chemo chair for Macmillan, who provide support for victims and families of cancer patients. Unfortunately our regular correspondent couldn't make the event but he did provide a picture of her showing just over two weeks of hair growth following the event.

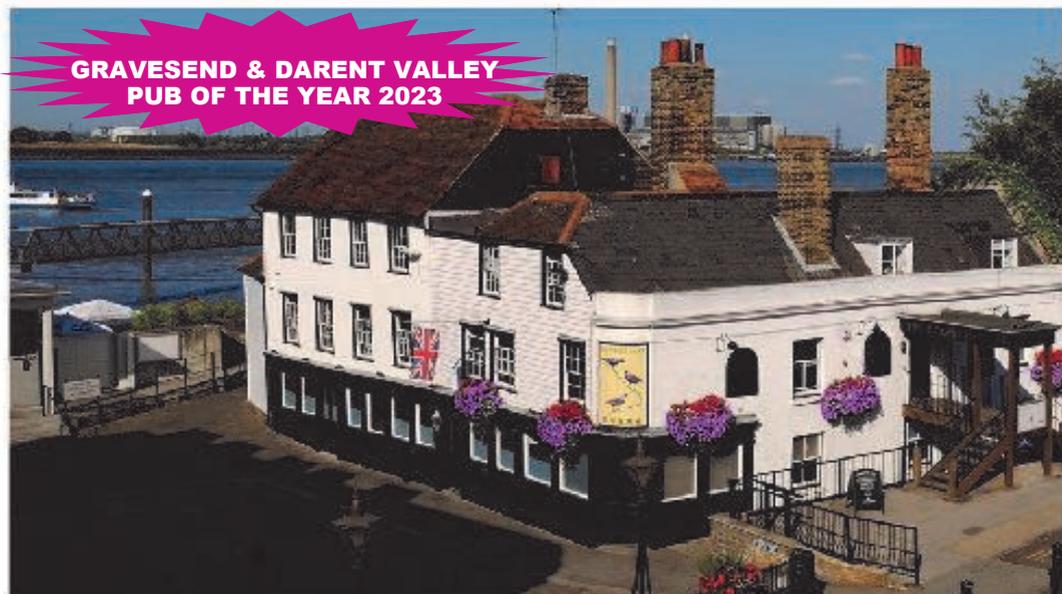


The inaugural Dartford Beer Festival by Kent Sessions took place at the Acacia Hall over the late May Bank Holiday weekend, the first beer festival in Dartford for some years. Although not a CAMRA Event, the local branch was consulted and gave advice. It was run under the auspices of David Leydons' events company, and featured 30 cask beers and 22 keg beers. There were also 6 ciders (that ran out) and 5 non-alcoholic beers (4 of which ran out). Next year the festival is likely to be an outside event run nearby. Meanwhile, *Iron Pier* supplied the refreshments at the busy Gravesend Riverside Festival at the beginning of July,

# THREE DAWS RIVERSIDE INN

6 Town Pier, Gravesend, Kent DA11 0BJ Tel: 01474 566869

**GRAVESEND & DARENT VALLEY  
PUB OF THE YEAR 2023**



## Welcome to the Three Daws

*An historic riverside inn dating back to the 1400's steeped with tales of smugglers, Press Gangs, hauntings and much more.*

- **MEALS (LOCALLY SOURCED PRODUCE) AVAILABLE ALL DAY**
- **FUNCTION ROOM & MEETING ROOMS FOR ALL OCCASIONS**
- **RIVERSIDE TERRACE**
- **OUR FRONTAGE OVERLOOKS THE NEW GRAVESEND PONTOON, IDEAL FOR VISITING BOATS/YACHTS**

*Why not drop in to taste the six real ales and soak up the atmosphere of this wonderful old inn?*

**Read more at [www.threedaws.co.uk](http://www.threedaws.co.uk)**



**FOR EVENTS &  
MENUS VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

**WEDDINGS, PARTIES, BUSINESS  
& SOCIAL MEETINGS**



# YE OLDE THIRSTY PIG

Kentish Ale & Cider House.

YOUR LOCAL REFUELLING STATION!  
ON THE CORNER OF KNIGHTRIDER STREET



Ye Olde Thirsty Pig was built in the 15th Century and is said to be the third oldest building in Maidstone. Originally it was a farmhouse within the estate of the Archbishop's Palace.

## Opening Hours

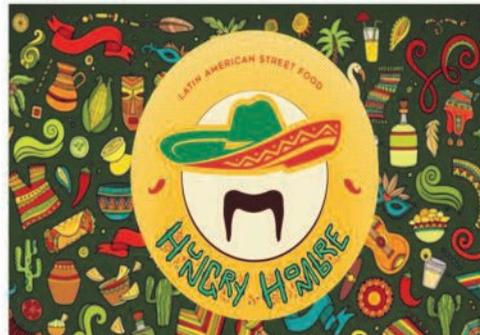
Sunday to Thurs 12:00 noon to 01:00am

Friday 12:00 noon to 02:00am

Saturday 12:00 noon to 03:00am

Local Ales from Award Winning

Kent Breweries!!!



Latin American Street Food  
Friday to Sunday 5pm till late  
Ye Olde Thirsty Pig!

**Lagers** Bexley Arnsberg - Gluten Free Kentish lager  
Motorhead Roadcrew American pale ale  
Amstel an easy-drinking lager  
San Miguel Lager  
Paulaner Munchen German Lager

**Ciders** Biddenden Bushels Kentish cider  
Orchard View sparkling cider  
Section of boxed Kentish Cider



Knightrider Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6LP

and were also represented by *Perry Street Pale* at the Dartford Big Day Out.

For our last branch social before a summer break, we visited Farningham and Horton Kirby. It was the first Wednesday of the month and thus open mic night at the **Chequers** in Farningham, where the photo was taken, and the pub was fairly busy. Two beers in good condition were *Dark Star Hophead* and *Fullers ESB*, an unusual beer for the area. The



**Lion Hotel**, which is no longer an actual hotel, offered *Sharps Doom Bar* and the **Pied Bull** *Greene King IPA*, *Courage Directors*, *St Austell Tribute* and *Taylor's Boltmaker*. The **Fighting Cocks** at Horton Kirby was closed by 10 pm, not uncommon these days, but the **Bull** had a darts match and the latest *Iron Pier Joined at the Hop*, *Oakham Citra*, and *Greene King Hardys and Hansons Bitter*.

Beers from *Canterbury Ales* were quite common locally in July and the **Jolly Miller** at South Darenth had their *West Coast Light*. The nearby **Queen** had *Kent Session Pale* and *Prohibition* at the same time. At the **Rising Sun** in Swanscombe *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* has replaced *Courage Directors* as accompaniment to the *Courage Best Bitter*, *St Austell Tribute* and *Adnams Ghost Ship*.

As a postscript to the last issue's report, the **Three Post Boys**, Wrotham, still has its sign and externally looks very much like a pub. To such an extent in fact that a discreet notice has been attached alongside the front door stating that it is a pub no longer.



# Podge's BELGIAN BEER TOURS



The Flanders Beer & Hop Harvest Tour 2023 6–10 September 2023

Christmas in Gent 2023 23–27 December 2023

The Great '30 Years and Still Going' Belgian Beer Tour 2024 6–10 March 2024

Toer de Geuze & LambicLand Revisited 2024 2–6 May 2024

Beer on The Waterfront Tour 2024 26–30 June 2024



Driving people to drink since 1994

[www.podgebeer.co.uk](http://www.podgebeer.co.uk)

Ring 07722 724 558 for details

It is great sadness that the death of *Nelson Brewery* owner Piers Macdonald was announced on the 30<sup>th</sup> June whilst working. He took over the brewery in Chatham Dockyard in 2006. Piers will always be remembered by Medway members as a staunch and loyal supporter of CAMRA and from my time as BLO for the brewery a knowledgeable and extremely helpful brewer who will be sadly missed. The branches thoughts and best wishes go to his family and fellow Nelson brewery workers at this particularly difficult time.

Congratulations again go to The **Past and Present Ale House**, Gillingham, not only now Medway CAMRA cider POTY but also Kent cider POTY 2023. The award for this pub was presented during the pub's cider festival held between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of August, where 24 ciders were available.



The **Rising Sun** in Rochester, an Admiral brewery tenancy, has been given a £280,000 makeover. The current landlord, Billy Dutton, has enlisted the help of former Rochester publican Karen Weobley, former tenant of the now closed Good Intent not so far away, to assist with the setting up of the real ales.

The **Dewdrop** in Gillingham is currently up for sale with the owners, Shepherd Neame, asking £14,500, complete with stock and accommodation. The pub has been described as packed full of community spirit.

The **Flippin' Frog** in Rochester has now been re-opened by the owners of the Dead Pigeon, again in Rochester, and is reported by a Medway member to be serving one real ale.

The **Hastings Arms** in Gillingham is reported to again be serving real ale.



Images from CAMRA's online pub database [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com)

## THE CHEQUERS INN

Farningham Kent da40dt

*An unusual pub with reguar*

*Art exhibitions, Open mic nights, Quiz nights, etc*

**Available to hire for  
events at reasonable prices**

Tel : 07872269433

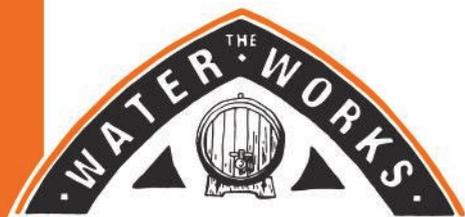
Instagram : THECHEQUERSFARNINGHAM

**MEET THE BREWERS NIGHT**

**FOLLOWED BY BEER TESTING**

**19th Oct 8pm**





RYE'S MICROPUB



## 10 local ales 18 local ciders

Along with ales and ciders, we serve a selection of wines, gins and soft drinks and award winning Scotch eggs and pork pies.

### OPENING TIMES:

**Monday - Friday from 2pm**

**Saturday & Sunday from 12pm**

Tower Street, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7AT  
Tel: 01797 224110

## The Brewery and Taproom is now OPEN

Now serving our URYEnal Best Bitter, I Pee Alot IPA & Golden Flush Pale along with a local lager, ciders, wines, gins & soft drinks.

### OPENING TIMES:

**Friday 3-7pm, Saturday 2-7pm**

**Sunday 12-5pm**



## BREWERY & TAPROOM

The Old Dairy, Rye Road, Playden,  
East Sussex TN31 7UL  
(opposite the old Peace & Plenty)

[www.ryewaterworks.co.uk](http://www.ryewaterworks.co.uk)

# Marden Village Club



## National CAMRA Club of the Year 2022



© Lester Cunningham

- Six real ales supporting local breweries
- Selection of real ciders, lagers, wines, spirits and soft drinks
- All offered at club prices
- Recently refurbished with a friendly atmosphere
- CAMRA members welcome
- Regular charity fundraising

Find us on   @mardenvillageclub

Albion Road, Marden, Kent TN12 9DT  
Tel: 01622 831427  
Email: [office@mardenvillageclub.co.uk](mailto:office@mardenvillageclub.co.uk)  
[www.mardenvillageclub.co.uk](http://www.mardenvillageclub.co.uk)

# Marden Village Club



**Hot food served all weekend.**

**Live Music from Marylebone Jelly, The Curb Pilots,  
Two Men and a Packet of Crisps plus more...**

**A wide range of real ales and ciders available.**

**Fri 20th Oct - Sun 22nd Oct**

**Friday 12pm - 11:30pm • Saturday 12pm - 11:30pm  
Sunday 12pm - 6pm**

**Albion Rd, Marden, Tonbridge TN12 9DT**

# THE CELLARS ALEHOUSE

6-8 CASKS | 8 TAPS

20 CIDERS | 20 GINS

AND MUCH MUCH MORE – HOP ON DOWN

CAMRA DISCOUNT

MAIDSTONE'S BEST MICRO PUB



@THECELLARSALEHOUSE

THE OLD BREWERY, BUCKLAND ROAD, MAIDSTONE ME 16 0SL

Contact: *John Mills 01732 840603* or email *pubs.officer@mmk.camra.org.uk*

For more information on these pubs, see CAMRA's online pub database *whatpub.com*

**Rockin Robin/Duke of Edinburgh, Barming** – New licensees left after a couple of weeks. Sharon Wardell, previously at the Royal Albion, is now in place. Shepherd Neame beers are now back on the bar.

**Bell Inn, Bearsted** – Closed during August for refurbishment. New licensees Simon & Joanna expect to re-open by early September.



**Red Lion, Biddenden** – This was closed a few months ago when Bob Hewett, licensee of 34 years, could no longer continue. Stonegate are seeking new owners/licensees for the only remaining pub in the village.

**Victory, East Farleigh** – It has been reported that real ale is no longer sold and two pumps stand empty.

**Oak & Ivy, Hawkhurst** – A planning application for updating and new restaurant approved, having been closed for over two years. The new owners are already using the vegetables grown in the newly cultivated garden in their other pub in Clapham, London. Expectation is it will re-open in spring 2024 but a lot of building work needs to be done.

**Knoxbridge, Knoxbridge** – Re-opened but no real ale is sold.

**Chequers Inn, Loose** – Owners, Stonegate, have put this up for sale.

**Feathers, Maidstone** – Greene King did not renew the lease and consequently the pub has closed.

**Flower Pot, Maidstone** – The annual beer festival had some 25 casks and was well attended. A good variety of ales were present including some excellent dark beers which are difficult to find in most pubs.



**Royal Albion, Maidstone** – Now being run by Sharon Wardell's son following her move to Rockin Robin/Duke of Edinburgh.

**Stag, Maidstone** – Lee Gaul is a now the licensee of this town centre pub.

Images from CAMRA's online pub database *whatpub.com*

**Fox & Goose, Weaving** – This popular pub has been put up for sale or let.

**Swan on the Green, West Peckham** – Apparently the old brewing kit for their own Swan beers has reached the end of its life and is unlikely to be replaced. The good news is that several Kent brewery beers are now being stocked. Also some Tonbridge beers have been seen there.



**Boathouse, Yalding** – Rachel Webb is now the general manager at the riverside pub which has a large outside area as well as a good size interior. Apparently you may have your food order delivered to your boat moored alongside.



**George, Yalding** – A planning application for change to retail and a cafe have been approved and the pub business has closed.

## Quiz Night on Monday

Open 12 – 2.30 and 5 – 11 Monday – Thursday  
12 – 11 Friday and Saturday  
12 – 10.30 Sunday

**The Bull  
High Street  
West Malling**





### Cranbrook's Micropub

Winner of the Kent CAMRA Pub of the Year 2022

Winner of the Maidstone and Mid Kent CAMRA branch Pub and Cider pub 2022

Larkins' Alehouse offers a warm, friendly environment without interruptions of music, tv and mobile phones.

Check out the daily updated Facebook or Twitter pages to see which ales are currently available.

Homemade Ham or Cheese rolls, Individual Pork Pies all served with our homemade chutney –  
Thursday – Saturday

Pizza Cucina –outside on a Thursday evening, feel free to buy a pizza and eat in the pub with a pint!

Group bookings for cold and hot food on request, just give us 3-4 days notice. Delivered to your home or eat in!

Beer Garden open all year round!

Mon – Wed	14.00 – 21.00
Thurs-Fri	12.00 – 22.00
Sat	12.00 – 22.30
Sun	12.00 – 18.00
Closed Sunday night	

---

### **LARKINS' ALEHOUSE**

7 High Street, Cranbrook, Kent. TN17 3EB

Mobile: Wendy 07785 707476 or Julie 07917 252585

E: [info@larkins-alehouse.co.uk](mailto:info@larkins-alehouse.co.uk)

FB: Larkins' Alehouse

T: @larkinsalehouse

W: [larkins-alehouse.co.uk](http://larkins-alehouse.co.uk)

# The Flower Pot

Up to 9 ales, 4 Ciders &  
4 craft kegs.

Discount for card carrying  
CAMRA members.

Real ale club 1-4pm Tuesday,  
20% off all ale.

Homemade, thin crust, stone  
baked pizza served 6-10pm  
Wednesday to Saturday.

Pizza club Wednesday  
50% off Pizza.

96 Sandling Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME142RJ.

Tel. 01622 757 705

Email. [Flowerpotpub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Flowerpotpub@hotmail.co.uk)

Contact: Keith Ennis / Dave Moore

email: [campaign@westkent.camra.org.uk](mailto:campaign@westkent.camra.org.uk)

**Pub News:** Further developments at the **Dovecote Inn** at Capel. Licensees. Simon and Lindsey, have now installed new wooden picnic tables and seating in the rear patio with the former seating relocated to an extensive lawn providing considerably more outdoor capacity. On a recent visit beers from *Harveys*, *Larkins* and *Tonbridge* were accompanied by *Titsey Leveson Buck*.

Additional lines and taps have been created to serve more local ciders direct from the cooled room behind the bar, in the same way that the beers are dispensed. In addition to *Chiddingstone* cider, one from *Charrington's* and two from *Turners* are now stocked. Substantial pub meals are served from Wednesday to Sunday. Live music evenings are held fortnightly on Tuesdays, and alternate Wednesday quiz nights are now up and running.

After a recent visit to nearby Hever Castle driving back towards Tonbridge we stopped at the **Wheatsheaf** at Bough Beech. It is opposite an interesting road bridge which means traffic has to significantly reduce speed, giving a view on the dog friendly, restored 15th century, hunting lodge with its large garden. Local bus services stop directly outside. Four beers were on the bar, *Larkins Traditional Ale* and *Pale* were accompanied by *Westerham Summer Perle* and *Harveys Sussex Best*. All served in good condition.



The **Royal British Legion Club** in Leigh village has been voted the West Kent Branch Club of the Year for 2022 and 2023. This family and dog friendly social club with snooker, pool and other pub games is located in Leigh High Street behind the Parish Hall. Locale accredited *Larkins Traditional Ale* is a regular beer along with at least one guest beer. On my recent visits *Hogs Back TEA*, *Timothy Taylor Boltmaker* and *Skinner's Betty Stogs* featured all in excellent condition. When asked how the guest beers are chosen, Club Steward Vicki said, "anything I like and isn't sold elsewhere locally". As a non profit making organisation they offer club prices.



The **King William IV** in Pembury is a friendly community pub with 6 hand pumps. The regular beers are *St Austell Proper Job* and *Greene King IPA*. The other four pumps change from time to time and often deliver the likes of *Timothy Taylor's Landlord*, *Wadsworth 6X* and *Courage Directors* as found on a recent visit. The other pump will often have something interesting, such as a pale ale or IPA from a local brewery. The front garden has had a revamp and

is very popular but the pub also boasts a large back garden.

Images from CAMRA's online pub database [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com)

**George & Dragon**, Tonbridge – Situated a little north of the High Street by the junction of London and Shipbourne Roads, the **George & Dragon** opens from 4pm Monday to Friday and noon at the weekend. A recent visit confirmed *Harveys Sussex Best* as the permanent beer along with *Tonbridge Traditional Bitter*. An additional *Tonbridge* beer is normally available. Food in the form of pizzas and burgers is sold Wednesday to Sunday.

**Humphrey Bean**, Tonbridge – Heading back into the town centre we entered Wetherspoon’s **Humphrey Bean** to find a week-long showcase of *Tonbridge Brewery* beers alongside the usual regular national brands. *Easy Street Pale* had sold out having proved so popular but we still had the choice of *Coppernob*, *Traditional*, *Golden Rule* and *American Pale*. The spacious rear garden overlooking the river Medway and Castle was a pleasant setting in which to enjoy our very competitively-priced beers, served in good condition.



**Greyhound**, Charcott – July saw the Greyhound's sixth birthday celebration over the weekend 14 to 16 July. There was a double tap takeover by *Larkins* and *Lakedown* Breweries along with music and BBQ.



Despite its seemingly isolated location, it is surprisingly easy to reach by train from both Edenbridge and Tonbridge to

Penshurst station followed by a leisurely 10 minute walk along footpaths. There is also a bus that runs to Charcott from Tonbridge and the timings make it handy for a lunchtime visit. Normally there is *Larkins Traditional Ale* and *Chiddingstone Cider* available supplement by two more cask ales which could be local or national. On a recent visit both *Hop Back Glasshopper* golden ale and *Leatherbritches Dovedale* bitter, were being served. The beer choice normally consists of locally produced ales so this variation was a pleasant surprise.



The **Kentish Horse** is situated at Markbeece in the high Kent Weald. It is a pleasant drive from Tonbridge or Tunbridge Wells through the intensely wooded areas. The occasional bus service to Markbeece has been discontinued so the only

means of accessing by public transport is to Cowden Station which is about a mile away. On a recent visit there was *Larkins Traditional Ale*, *Harveys Sussex Best* and *Skinner’s Betty Stogs*, all in good condition.

# THE NELSON ARMS



mon	3 - 10pm
tues	3 - 11pm
wed	3 - 11pm
thurs	3 - 11pm
fri	3 - 11.30pm
sat	12 - 11.30pm
sun	12 - 10pm

**ROASTS & PUB QUIZ**



## CAMRA

### AWARD-WINNING PUBLICANS

MATT & EMMA, FORMER LANDLORDS OF THE STILE BRIDGE & THE WINDMILL, CONTINUE WITH THEIR 3RD PUB TRANSFORMATION - THE NELSON ARMS.

A REFURBISHED, TRADITIONAL, COMMUNITY PUB IN TONBRIDGE JUST 500M FROM THE STATION!

## OUTSTANDING SELECTION OF LOCAL & IMPORTED BEVERAGES

**9 CASK ALES**

**10 CRAFT KEGS**

**12 REAL CIDERS**



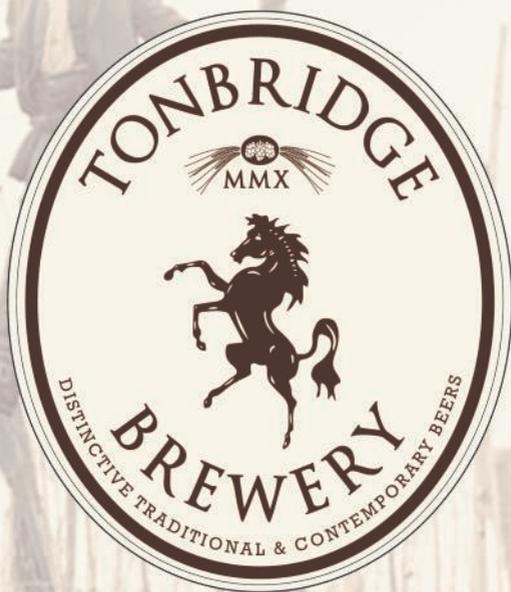
## THE NELSON APARTMENTS

- 2 PROFESSIONALLY REFURBED 2 BED APARTMENTS
- EQUIPPED WITH APPLIANCES & SMART TVS IN EACH ROOM
- LOCATED ABOVE THE NELSON ARMS PUB
- AVAILABLE FOR HOLIDAY & SHORT-TERM LETTING



ENJOY OUR  
TRADITIONAL & CONTEMPORARY  
BEERS

CASK  
&  
KEG



MINI KEG  
&  
CAN

*We brew predominantly with Kentish hops to produce a wide range of traditional ales, whilst also using hops from around the world to create our contemporary ales and lagers.*

*All of our beers are suitable for vegans and are gluten free.*



01622 871239

[www.tonbridgebrewery.co.uk](http://www.tonbridgebrewery.co.uk)  
[mail@tonbridgebrewery.co.uk](mailto:mail@tonbridgebrewery.co.uk)





The **Dukes Head**, Dunton Green is nearly 400 years old and can be found close to the former railway bridge. A recent visit found two ales available, *Dark Star Hophead* and *Wadworth Horizon*. At the northern end of the village can be found the **Rose & Crown**, a bit foodie, but three ales are available, for this visit, these were *Hogs Back TEA*, *St Austell Tribute* and *Sharps Doom Bar*.

Formerly the Woodman, the **Pheasant Plucker**, Goathurst Common can be found about one mile east of Ide Hill. Extensively refurbished in recent years, this family friendly pub is food-led, but drinkers are very welcome. *Cellar Head Session Pale* seems to be the regular beer, the guest ale when visited was *Sharps Solar Wave*.

The **Cock Inn**, Ide Hill, is the last pub in the village, overlooking the village green. Open all day, seven days a week, it's tied to *Greene King* and up to three of their ales are available.

Groombridge straddles the East Sussex/Kent border, the 16th Century **Crown Inn** is the only pub in the Kent part. There are several rooms inside, although it's possible to sit outside the front of the building and enjoy the views. There's always *Harvey's Sussex Best* and a couple of *Larkins* beers available. The food is good here too.

The **Hare**, Langton Green is a large pub, that's part of the Brunning & Price chain. Plenty of room for diners and drinkers, in this dog friendly establishment, four ales are available; one is usually fairly local, with the other three from national brewers. Nice to see that sparklers are not used, unlike most of the other pubs in the chain. A real cider is also available on handpump.



Dating from the year 1212, the **George & Dragon**, Speldhurst is one of the oldest pubs in the area. Owned by Brakspear, this food-led multi-roomed pub has three cask beers available, including *Harvey's Sussex Best* and *Larkins Traditional Ale*.

**Closed Pubs:** We couldn't go by without some mention of pubs that have closed. As of July there are three in West Kent that are hopefully only temporary. The **Two Brewers** at Hadlow and the **Swan** at Edenbridge are both awaiting new tenants whilst the **Secret Cask** in Edenbridge High Street has closed and is due to reopen later in the year a few doors away from its previous location.

# BEER FESTIVAL COMPETITION – THE SOLUTION

We received a good number of solutions to the competition in the last Draught Copy and the two people with all-correct entries, chosen at random by a pub landlord, were Sonia Beatty and Mick Norman. They have been sent free admission tickets to the East Malling Beer & Cider Festival.

Congratulations to them and all the entrants.

The three beers were Capel Pale (Tonbridge), Tropic Ale (Kent) and Silver Star (Goacher's).

Is sociable – "I'm sex-mad!"  
 Catch a girl with nothing on  
 Drawing a box with nothing in it  
 Len cares about ancillary workers  
 Be the cause of a special event  
 Spoons stirred Russian leader to lend support  
 Dad's attempt at baking?  
 Ranks 150 donkeys  
 Steer clear of a hole  
 Mix pity or mix closeness  
 Insects used to be an afterthought  
 Get a heavenly body, or date is ruined  
 Sought compensation for medical disaster  
 Fast-moving, urinated in the outskirts of Surrey  
 Ida must arrange a venue  
 Poems about a racecourse  
 Maidstone's rubbish is the most important thing  
 Discourage man from getting Persil?  
 A big grey thing caused the plane to crash  
 Coolest wild animals  
 How a poet might be paid? That's absurd!  
 Skilled worker from Hobart is a nurse  
 Challenge a saint to throw up  
 A famous fish from Bournemouth  
 It adorns the neck, neck and neck  
 Two presenters pour wine from the bottle  
 Help actor to be punctual  
 Calm down – silly sausage!

M	i	x	e	s	
L	a	s	s	o	
C	a	r	t	o	o
C	l	e	a	n	e
O	c	c	a	s	i
S	p	o	n	s	o
P	a	s	t	r	v
C	l	a	s	s	e
A	v	o	i	d	
P	r	o	x	i	m
W	a	s	p	s	
A	s	t	e	r	o
C	l	a	i	m	e
S	p	e	e	d	v
S	t	a	r	i	u
E	p	s	o	m	
D	o	m	i	n	a
D	e	t	e	r	g
E	l	e	p	h	a
O	c	e	l	o	t
P	e	r	v	e	r
A	r	t	i	s	a
S	t	r	e	t	c
N	e	m	o		
T	i	e			
D	e	c	a	n	t
P	r	o	m	p	t
A	s	s	u	a	g

## TITSEY BREWING CO. OPENS NEW BREWERY & TAPROOM



Titsey Brewing Co., the small, independent brewery on the Surrey/Kent border, has expanded into a new site, positioned at the highest point of the North Downs Way. Along with a larger space to brew more of its session-strength beers, the Titsey taproom is now open, overlooking the

Vale of Holmesdale on Clarks Lane Farm near Tatsfield.

The taproom, which has plenty of indoor and outdoor seating, showcases the brewery's core beers – Gower Wolf (bitter), Gresham Hopper (pale ale), Leveson Buck (IPA) and Innes Lager – as well as its changing seasonals, its new non-alcoholic beer (on tap!) and it's own cider 'Marmaduke', in partnership with Kentish Pip.

For those that have worked up an appetite exploring the Surrey Hills, the taproom's speciality dish is peri-peri rotisserie chicken, served with a variety of delicious sides. Smashed patty burgers also feature, and coffee is served from 9.30am on the weekends along with a selection of brunch dishes, such as sausage & egg muffins.

Ample bike rack storage is available, and four-legged friends are more than welcome.



Brewery tours will be available to buy via the website in the near future.

Find the new brewery & taproom at Clarks Lane Farm, Tatsfield, TN16 2JU.

For more information/opening hours, visit: [www.titseybrewingco.com](http://www.titseybrewingco.com)



# TAPROOM NOW OPEN

with incredible views, delicious beer,  
brunch, lunch & early evening dinner

---

Thursday – Sunday  
Clarks Lane Farm, Tatsfield, TN16 2JU

---



[titseybrewingco.com](http://titseybrewingco.com)



# THE THREE TUNS



*Circa 1470*

FREE HOUSE

## *Traditional Kentish Country Inn*

*Quality food prepared  
daily from the finest local  
produce served in a warm  
and friendly atmosphere.*

*Kentish Beer & Ciders  
always available.*

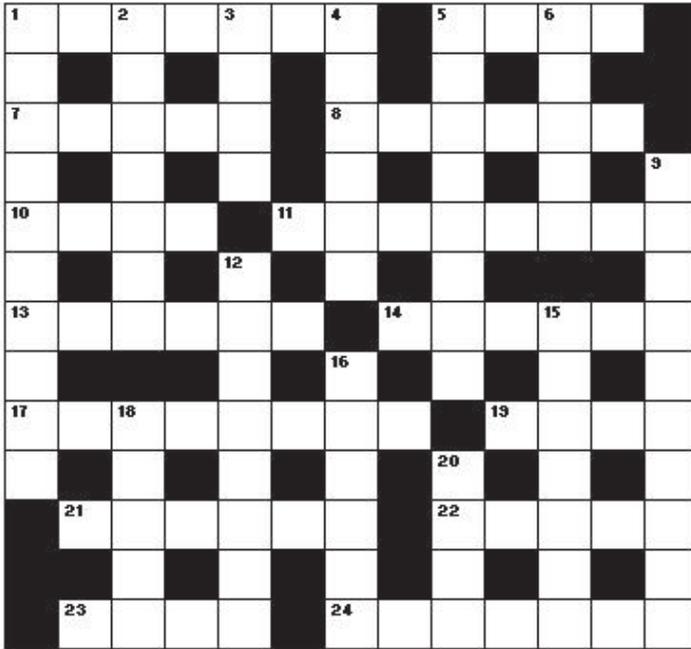
The Street, Lower Halstow, Sittingbourne,  
Kent. ME9 7DY - 01795 842840  
[info@thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk](mailto:info@thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk)

[www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk)



# CROSSWORD No. 41

compiled by MICK NORMAN



*For a chance to win a crisp £10 drinking voucher please send your completed grid to our compiler:*

*Mick Norman  
Nursery Cottage  
Norwood Lane  
Meopham  
DA13 0YE*

*No later than:*

*October 14th 2023.*

*A photocopy/scanned copy can be emailed to:  
mlr\_norman@yahoo.com*

**Across**

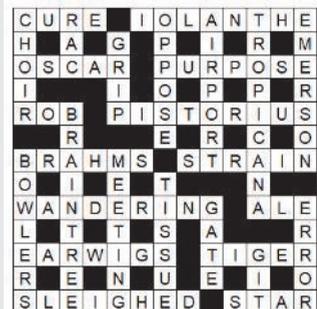
- 1 West Ham allow tall people under barrier - initially an invaluable resource for CAMRA members (7)
- 5 Location of vision, we hear (4)
- 7 Giraffe is fine with a never-ending snack (5)
- 8 See 11
- 10 Pee by the river? Guilty or not guilty? (4)
- 11,13,8 Bobby Vee's exhortation to his child minder? (4,4,4,2,2,4)
- 13 See 11
- 14 Antigua not Flying Lizard (6)
- 17 ET seemed confused - highly valued though (8)
- 19 Cruel and heartlessly dressed (4)
- 21 Golfing sods? (6)
- 22 Singer's knife (5)
- 23 Only a lake (4)
- 24 Left without smoothing tool? It's a lie! (7)

**Down**

- 1 Bird is pre-cooked with watercress originally (10)
- 2 It's time Rameau composed for a layperson (7)
- 3 French bread is a nuisance (4)
- 4 Tramp's cheer for Indian cricketer (6)
- 5 Beer mugs shatter in sink (8)
- 6 Some Calcutta boozers are beyond the pale! (5)
- 9 Draw red ale? Nonsense - like the output of this poet (6,4)
- 12 Adrian's opening a pub in Gravesend (4,4)
- 15 Permitted no debts? Quite the opposite! (7)
- 16 Becomes anxious in *The Past and Present* (6)
- 18 Rubbish food (5)
- 20 A musical quartet going up and down (4)

Solution to Crossword No. 40

*Congratulations to  
C. Martin,  
Penny Farthing, Crayford  
who won last time.*



# KENTISH BEERS

A family owned Micro Brewery producing traditional premium REAL ALES since 2013. Musket Brewery has earned a well-deserved reputation for providing GREAT beers of consistently high quality.

We welcome visits from Pubs/Clubs/Micro Pubs/Social Club groups by appointment. All of our beers are available in 9 Gallon Firkins, 5L Mini Kegs and 440ml cans. You "MUSKET" these beers now!



## **MUZZLELOADER**

4.5% Kentish Ale



## **FLINTLOCK**

4.2% Best Bitter  
(Award winning beer!)



## **POWDER BURN**

5.0% Kentish Porter



## **TRIGGER**

3.6% Pale Ale



## **FIFE & DRUM**

3.8% Golden Ale  
(Award winning beer!)



## **BALL PULLER**

4.0% Premier Bitter  
(Award winning beer!)



## **FLASH IN THE PAN**

4.0% Green Hop Ale  
(Limited Availability!)



## **MATCHLOCK**

3.8% Kentish Mild  
(Spring/Summer brew!)

Musket Brewery Tap Room & Beer Garden – "The Armoury" at Loddington Farm, Linton ME17 4AG  
open Wed – Sun.

