

# Draught Copy



**CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE**

## **Free Magazine**

**By Maidstone & Mid-Kent  
CAMRA**

**incorporating Gravesend &  
Darent Valley and Bexley  
Branches**

**Spring 2018**

**No. 190**



## **BEXLEY BEER FESTIVAL**

**3RD — 5TH MAY**

**DETAILS INSIDE**

# 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, and Gravesend & Darent Valley branches of CAMRA. It is published quarterly, in March, June, September and December and has a circulation of 3,200 copies. Opinions expressed are those of the author of the article, and need not represent those of CAMRA or its officials.

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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*



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# LOCAL BEER & CIDER FESTIVALS

## CAMRA Festivals:

### March

- 14-16 **London Drinker Beer and Cider Festival,**  
**Camden Centre, Bidborough St, WC1H 9AU.**  
150 real ales, imported beers, ciders and perries, mead, English wine.  
Open: Wed 11.30 - 3pm free; Thu 11.30-2.30pm free;  
Wed & Thu: 5pm -10.30pm £4 (£3 CAMRA members); Last admission 10pm.  
Fri: 12 - 10.30pm £4 (£3 CAMRA members); Last admission 10pm.  
See website for further information and ticket info: [www.northlondon.camra.org.uk](http://www.northlondon.camra.org.uk)
- 30-31 **13th Planet Thanet Easter Beer Festival,**  
**Winter Gardens, Fort Crescent, Margate, CT9 1HX.**  
180 + Ales & 60 + Ciders  
Fri 12noon - 9,30pm (£5), Sat 12noon - 8pm (£3) Card carrying Camra members free.  
Live Entertainment both days.  
Email [organiser@easterbeerfestival.org.uk](mailto:organiser@easterbeerfestival.org.uk) to volunteer  
Ticket information at [www.thanet-camra.org.uk](http://www.thanet-camra.org.uk)

### May

- 3-5 **Bexley Beer Festival.**  
**Old Dartfordians Sports Club, Bourne Rd, Bexley, DA5 1LW**  
90+ Beers, Ciders & Perries. Refundable souvenir glass £3, hot & cold food.  
Snacks + soft drinks available at Club Bar.  
Open: Thu: 2pm-11pm, Fri: 11am-11pm, Sat: 11am-8pm,  
CAMRA Free and under 26s – free admission with ID (proof of age), Non CAMRA £3.  
Website: [www.bexley.camra.org.uk](http://www.bexley.camra.org.uk)

### June

- 9 **CAMRA bar at the MENCAP Fayre.**  
**Mote Park, Maidstone ME15 8EB**  
All proceeds will go to the charity.

### September

- 1 **CAMRA's East Malling Beer and Cider Festival**  
**East Malling Research, New Rd, East Malling, ME19 6BJ**  
Website: [www.mmk.camra.org.u](http://www.mmk.camra.org.u). Twitter: [www.twitter.com/EMbeerfestival](http://www.twitter.com/EMbeerfestival)

## Other Events:

### February

- 24- **Chequers, Pints, Pies & Puddings Week,**  
4(March) **The Street, Laddingford. ME18 6BP.**  
9 real ales

### April

- 20/22 **Knoxbridge, St George's Beer Festival.**  
**Cranbrook Rd (A229), Frittenden TN17 2BT.**  
See Page 25 for details.  
28/29 **Chequers, Annual Beer Festival.**  
**The Street, Laddingford. ME18 6BP.**

### May

- 3/7 **Maidstone Fringe Festival.**  
See Page 31 for details.  
26 **Golden Lion Beer Festival,**  
**Luddesdown Road, Luddesdown, Kent DA13 0XE.**  
[www.thegoldenlionpub.co.uk](http://www.thegoldenlionpub.co.uk)

### July

- 6-7 **12th IBA South East Beer Festival,**  
**Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club**  
**The Slade, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1HR.**  
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**FLASH in the PAN**  
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**BALL PULLER**  
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## KENT BREWERIES

Bexley Brewery	01322 337368	<a href="http://www.bexleybrewery.co.uk">www.bexleybrewery.co.uk</a>
Boutilliers	07743 372434	<a href="http://www.boutilliers.com">www.boutilliers.com</a>
Brew Buddies Ltd	07962 369717	<a href="http://www.brew-buddies.co.uk">www.brew-buddies.co.uk</a>
Brumaison	07831 704089	
Canterbury Ales	01227 732541	<a href="http://www.canterbury-ales.co.uk">www.canterbury-ales.co.uk</a>
Canterbury Brewers	01227 455899	<a href="http://www.thefoundrycanterbury.co.uk">www.thefoundrycanterbury.co.uk</a>
Caveman Brewery	07769 710665	<a href="http://www.cavemanbrewery.co.uk">www.cavemanbrewery.co.uk</a>
Dartford Wobbler	01322 866233	<a href="http://www.dartfordwobbler.com">www.dartfordwobbler.com</a>
Four Candles		<a href="http://www.thefourcandles.co.uk">www.thefourcandles.co.uk</a>
G2	01233 630277	<a href="http://www.g2brewing.com">www.g2brewing.com</a>
Goachers	01622 682112	<a href="http://www.goachers.com">www.goachers.com</a>
Goody Ales	01227 361555	<a href="http://www.goodyales.co.uk">www.goodyales.co.uk</a>
Hopdaemon Brewery	01795 892078	<a href="http://www.hopdaemon.com">www.hopdaemon.com</a>
Hop Fuzz Brewery	07858 562878	<a href="http://www.hopfuzz.co.uk">www.hopfuzz.co.uk</a>
Iron Pier Brewing	07900 234644	<a href="http://www.ironpier.beer">www.ironpier.beer</a>
Isla Vale Alesmiths	01843 292451	<a href="http://www.islavalealesmiths.co.uk">www.islavalealesmiths.co.uk</a>
Kent Brewery	01634 780037	<a href="http://www.kentbrewery.com">www.kentbrewery.com</a>
Larkins Brewery	01892 870328	<a href="http://www.larkinsbrewery.co.uk">www.larkinsbrewery.co.uk</a>
Mad Cat Brewery Ltd	07960 263615	<a href="http://www.madcatbrewery.co.uk">www.madcatbrewery.co.uk</a>
Maidstone Brewing Co.	01622 757705	<a href="http://www.maidstonebrewing.co.uk">www.maidstonebrewing.co.uk</a>
Musket Brewery	07967 127278	<a href="http://www.musketbrewery.co.uk">www.musketbrewery.co.uk</a>
Nelson Brewery	01634 832828	<a href="http://www.nelsonbrewery.co.uk">www.nelsonbrewery.co.uk</a>
No Frills Joe Brewing Co	07516 725577	<a href="http://www.nofrillsjoe.co.uk">www.nofrillsjoe.co.uk</a>
Old Dairy Brewery	01580 763867	<a href="http://www.olddairybrewery.com">www.olddairybrewery.com</a>
Old Forge Brewery	01233 720444	<a href="http://www.thefarriersarms.com">www.thefarriersarms.com</a>
Pig & Porter	01424 893519	<a href="http://www.pigandporter.co.uk">www.pigandporter.co.uk</a>
Ramsgate Brewery	01843 868453	<a href="http://www.ramsgatebrewery.co.uk">www.ramsgatebrewery.co.uk</a>
Range Ales	01303 230842	<a href="http://www.rangealesbrewery.co.uk">www.rangealesbrewery.co.uk</a>
Ripple Steam Brewery	07917 037611	<a href="http://www.ripplesteambrewery.co.uk">www.ripplesteambrewery.co.uk</a>
Rockin' Robin Brewery	01622 747106	<a href="http://www.rockinrobinbrewery.co.uk">www.rockinrobinbrewery.co.uk</a>
Romney Marsh Brewery	01797 362333	<a href="http://www.romneymarshbrewery.com">www.romneymarshbrewery.com</a>
Shepherd Neame	01795 532206	<a href="http://www.shepherdneame.co.uk">www.shepherdneame.co.uk</a>
Swan on the Green	01622 812271	<a href="http://www.swan-on-the-green.co.uk">www.swan-on-the-green.co.uk</a>
Time & Tide	07840 327265	<a href="http://www.timeandtidebrewing.co.uk">www.timeandtidebrewing.co.uk</a>
Tír Dhá Ghlas Brewery	01304 211666	<a href="http://www.cullinsyard.co.uk/brewery">www.cullinsyard.co.uk/brewery</a>
Tonbridge Brewery	07962 016286	<a href="http://www.tonbridgebrewery.co.uk">www.tonbridgebrewery.co.uk</a>
Turnstone Ales		See Facebook page
Wantsum Brewery	0845 0405980	<a href="http://www.wantsumbrewery.co.uk">www.wantsumbrewery.co.uk</a>
Westerham Brewery Co.	01732 864427	<a href="http://www.westerhambrewery.co.uk">www.westerhambrewery.co.uk</a>
Whitstable Brewery	01622 851007	<a href="http://www.whitstablebrewery.co.uk">www.whitstablebrewery.co.uk</a>

Map available at [www.kentcamra.org.uk/kent/breweries](http://www.kentcamra.org.uk/kent/breweries)



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# KENT CIDER MAKERS

Badgers Hill Farm	01227 730573	
Beardspoon Cider Works		<i>www.beardspoon.com</i>
Biddenden Cider	01580 291726	<i>www.biddendenvineyards.com</i>
Castle Cider Co	01732 455977	
Chafford Cider Co.	01892 740437	
Core Fruit Products	01227 730589	<i>www.corejuice.co.uk</i>
Crucider	01689 855965	<i>www.crucider.com</i>
Double Vision Cider	01622 746633	
Dudda's Tun Cider	01795 886266	<i>www.duddastuncider.com</i>
East Stour Cider Co	07880 923398	
Green Oak Farm	01304 821630	<i>www.greenoakfarm.co.uk</i>
Hush Heath Estate	01622 832794	<i>www.hushheath.com</i>
Johnson's Farmhouse Cider	01795 665203	
Kent Cider Company	01795 521317	<i>www.kentcider.co.uk</i>
Kentish Pip Cider	01227 830525	<i>www.kentishpip.co.uk</i>
Kingswood Cider	01227 709387	<i>www.kingswoodcider.co.uk</i>
Little Stour Orchard	07771 711252	<i>www.littlestourorchard.co.uk</i>
Merry Moon	07707 309041	
Nightingale Cider Co		<i>www.nightingalecider.com</i>
Northdowns Cider	01795 591285	
Pembury Real Cider	07444 435873	<i>www.pemburyrealcider.co.uk</i>
Pippins Cider Company	01892 824544	<i>www.pippinsfarm.co.uk</i>
Rough Old Wife Cider	01227 700757	<i>www.rougholdwife.com</i>
Tiddly Pomme's Woolly Pig	01795 529100	<i>www.tiddlypommeshop.co.uk</i>
Turners Cider	07825 394164	<i>www.turnerscider.co.uk</i>
Wise Owl Cider	01233 850664	<i>wiseowlcider@gmail.com</i>

Map available at [www.kentcamra.org.uk/kent/cider](http://www.kentcamra.org.uk/kent/cider)

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

*Just to add a footnote to Mike Todd's article (issue 188 & 189),*

*I pass through Doncaster every fortnight and always used to partake of a pint at the Railway Hotel before catching the Kings Cross train. But since about 18 months ago, there's been an even closer option, an alehouse ON Platform 3b.*



*The Draughtsman Alehouse, Doncaster's First Railway Alehouse, located on Platform 3b of Doncaster Railway Station.*

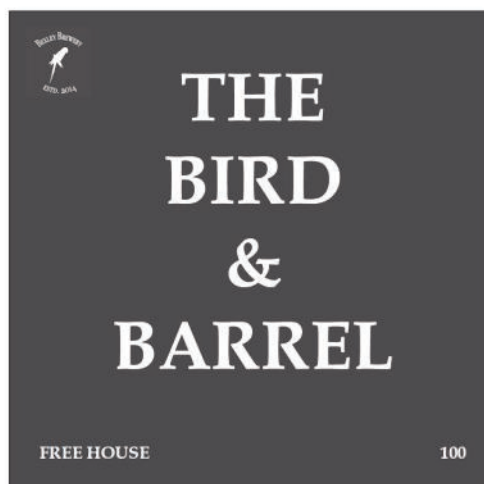
Ian Summersgill (By Email)

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# CAMRA NATIONAL AWARD RECOGNISES CAMPAIGNERS FOR SAVING 200-YEAR-OLD VILLAGE PUB

Campaigners in Kent have been put on the map after winning CAMRA's prestigious Pub Saving Award, which recognises communities that save their beloved local pub from closure. Judges were particularly impressed by how the residents of Stockbury, Kent came together to save a 200-year-old pub and turn it into a thriving community hub with social lunches for vulnerable people, book swaps and an internet cafe.



**The Harrow**, Stockbury faced imminent closure after it was put on the market in September 2016. Local campaigners quickly went to work to secure the £380,000 needed to purchase the pub from Shepherd Neame by building a strong network of 140 local shareholders and tapping into the Plunkett Foundation and More Than A Pub for funding. The campaign group raised

awareness of the pub's plight throughout the local community by utilising local papers and hosting various events such as quiz nights, BBQs and performances in the village centre.

The pub successfully re-opened in August 2017 with the ambition of being the "social hub of the community". Today it offers a regular social lunch for vulnerable members of the community; including pick up and drop off services, as well as a book swap and an internet cafe for those with poor internet access. Local darts and petanque teams have returned to the pub and it is now a buzzing and thriving part of Stockbury.

Chris Porter, Chair of the Harrow CBS Group, says: "It is a fantastic achievement to have saved this pub from closure thanks to the help of hundreds of people; stakeholders, villagers, councillors, press, MPs and groups like Pub is the Hub and Plunkett. Through these efforts, our little community is better connected than ever before. It is an absolute delight to receive this award from CAMRA and be able to show other communities that it is possible to save their local from disappearing forever."

Paul Ainsworth, who organises CAMRA's Pub Saving Award, adds: "The Harrow CBS group used every tool available to save their beloved pub from closure, and it is an absolute delight to celebrate this with our Pub Saving Award. Once a pub is closed, it is too often lost forever and their success should be a great inspiration to other communities faced with losing their local."



Contact: John Mills 01732 840603 or email [pubs.officer@mmk.camra.org.uk](mailto:pubs.officer@mmk.camra.org.uk)

For more information on these pubs, see CAMRA's online pub database [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com)

**Victoria, East Farleigh** – Barry Older is one of our longest serving licensees. The pub is closed on Thursdays but opens from 4-11 during the week and 4-midnight on Saturdays with Sundays from 12-3. A good pint of *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter* will always be found on the bar.



**Victory, East Farleigh** – The pub has always had an agreement that the railway station car park could be freely used but now there are plans, by the railway, to charge for its use. Negotiations are ongoing. *Fullers London Pride* is the beer offered. The pub is open 12-11 daily.

**Great House, Hawkhurst** – A late visit here found old favourites, *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter* and *Musket Fife & Drum* but also there was *Castle Rock Snowwhite*, a new beer from the Nottingham brewery.

**Queens Inn, Hawkhurst** – In addition to the fine dining restaurant there is now a Charcoal Kitchen that has a pizza oven and charcoal grill. *Old Dairy Red Top* and *Romney Amber* were our preference but *Sharp's Doom Bar* is also available. [thequeensinnhawkhurst.co.uk](http://thequeensinnhawkhurst.co.uk)

**Spitfire, Kings Hill** – Will be closed from end of February for at least six weeks as large scale modifications are being made to the building.

**Old Rectory, Leybourne** – This has had a re-fit by Greene King and now has a more open feel in the main area to the left of the bar. The wheelchair lift enables access to the upper area avoiding the steps. Some tall tables and chairs have been installed but most of the seating is more accessible. Various areas to the right are used for table reservations but are down some steps. The new menu should cater for most tastes. The exterior has new signage. Music is planned for alternate Friday evenings and Thursday is designated as poker night. The bar now carries *Greene King IPA* and *Old Speckled Hen* plus *Sharp's Doom Bar*. The managers are now licensee David Church, previously at The Billet, Sittingbourne and Hayley Hayward.



**Earls, Maidstone** – Closed until early April for extensive interior changes and decoration giving it a more upmarket feel. It will revert to its former name of Market House when it re-opens.

[www.markethouse.pub/](http://www.markethouse.pub/) Facebook: [MarketHouseME14](https://www.facebook.com/MarketHouseME14)

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THE CELLARS ALEHOUSE, THE OLD BREWERY, BUCKLAND ROAD, MAIDSTONE ME16 0DZ

**Maidstone WMC, Maidstone** – A polypin of *Goachers Fine Light* was found on the bar in early January and if enough people drink it then other polypins will follow. Several bottled beers are always available.

**Rifle Volunteers, Maidstone** – A change of licensees here as Matt and Gina are leaving at the end of February. The new licensees will be Alex and Polly.

**Swan (Loose Road), Maidstone** – Wendy Leatt is the new licensee here and the operating company has changed. Reports suggest that the permanent ale, *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter*, is still in good order. *Sharp's Doom Bar* is also kept.

**Marden Village Club, Marden** – The only permanent ale here is *Shepherd Neame Master Brew*. Following the summer re-fit there is now an additional pump so that four guests are available. New operating times are 6-11 Mon-Thu; 12-3, 5-11 Fri; 12-3, 6-11 Sat; 12-3, 6.30-10.30 Sun. Food 12-3, 7-10 Fri; 12-2.30 Sat.



**Unicorn, Marden** – *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter*, *Sharp's Doom Bar* and *Shepherd Neame Master Brew* were on the bar but most members settled on the *Tonbridge Unicorn Bitter* house beer.

**West End Tavern, Marden** – *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter* is the mainstay here but on our pre-Xmas visit we found guest *Wells Jolly Mr Fezziwig* which soon ran out and was replaced by *Fuller's Holly Bush* in fine order.

**Clothworkers Arms, Sutton Valence** – Licensee Malcolm Campbell keeps *Shepherd Neame Master Brew* and *Whitstable Bay Pale Ale* and when the branch met there, *Bowland Buster* was a guest which none of us had met before but was greatly appreciated.

**Royal Paper Mill, Tovil** – This *Goachers'* pub is closest to the brewery and keeps *Fine Light* on a handpump whilst the *Best Dark*, *Gold Star*, *Real Mild* and *Crown Imperial Stout* are served by gravity from the cold room.



**Plough, Trottiscliffe** – The planning application for housing noted in the previous issue has been refused and the locals will continue to try to keep their community pub.

**Five Pointed Star, West Malling** – Seems to be becoming busier again. Has permanent ales *Greene King IPA* and *Abbot*, but most members opted for the either the local *Kent Pale* or *Old Dairy Red Top*.







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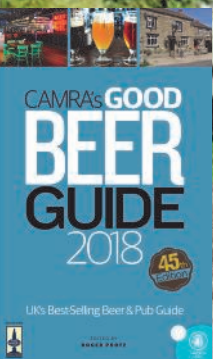
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The **Iron Pier Brewery Taproom** in May Avenue, Perry Street, Northfleet, opened on January 12, with an official launch attended by Gravesham's Mayor and MP. It is a simple but comfortable space at the front of the unit with a view of the brewing kit behind it. Two Iron Pier beers were available, both brewed on the site, as well as keg *Gadd's Black Pearl Stout* and a selection of wines. The two indigenous beers were *Bitter* (very, 4.0% ABV) and *English Pale* (slightly less bitter and paler, 4.1% ABV). The first beer on the site was brewed over Christmas and it is intended to add a porter to the range. An initial brew of *English Pale* at Bexley Brewery went down well and sold out quickly. Initial opening hours are Friday (5 to 10 pm), Saturday (noon to 10 pm) and Sunday (1 to 4 pm). Sightings of Iron Pier beers in other pubs were quickly reported.

Much was made of the 85-year interval since the closure of *Russell's*, the last major brewery in the Gravesend area. Those with long memories will recall the brewery at the **Pier Hotel** in the eighties but this was on a much smaller scale and fairly short-lived.



In the previous issue of *Draught Copy* we briefly mentioned *No Frills Joe Brewery* in Greenhithe. In this case the brewery and taproom were converted from a garage/workshop at the brewer's home and customers can sit around the bar on stools, pallets or grain bags - hence "no frills". The taproom is open to the public from 6.30 to 9.30pm on Friday to Sunday, although the hours may change subject to the owner's work commitments.

*Brew Buddies Brewery* in Swanley Village hosted an Open Day during the very cold first weekend in December 2017. The event was well attended and tasty pizzas were a warming accompaniment to the *Brew Buddies* beer on sale, being *Session Buddy*, *BB01 Best Bitter*, *Simcoe Single Hop*, *Saison* and *Stout*. There are now four active breweries in the branch area, the other being *Dartford Wobbler* (formerly *Millis Brewing*) at South Darent.

The branch held a very enjoyable Christmas social in the **Malt Shovel** in Dartford, which incidentally stocks *Weston's* cider in a box on the bar from time to time. At this social, Neil (the landlord), provided an excellent buffet and six real ales, being the regular *Young's Bitter*, *Young's Special* and *St Austell Tribute* along with *Young's Winter Warmer*,



*Marston's Christmas Ale* and *Bath Festivity*. Further along Darenth Road the **Ivy Leaf** serves up to six beers on handpump, including three or four guest ales from all over Britain, which are well worth sampling.



It has sometimes been said by dark beer aficionados that **Dartford Working Men's Club** does not stock enough milds, stouts, porters and old ales. However this was not the case on New Year's Eve when the black, dark brown and ruby coloured beers outnumbered the pale and golden ales. Dark beers can be found in other pubs in Dartford. The **Wat Tyler** and the **Fox & Hounds** both sell *Theakston's Old Peculier* regularly and *Titanic Plum Porter* has been spotted as a welcome guest ale in the **Rose & Crown**.



A planning application has been submitted to Dartford Borough Council for the change of use of a restaurant in Market Street to a micropub. Little else was known by the copy deadline for this article but the Council's decision was due in a week. It should be fairly easy to do the conversion and its central location would be good. This would fill one of the few serious gaps in the map of Kent micropubs.



In other micropub news an audio system and a small collection of vinyl LPs have appeared at the **Three Pillars** in Gravesend. There are thoughts of running a vinyl session, possibly on a Saturday afternoon. The nearby **Compass Alehouse** is included in a list of the 12 best Kent micropubs published in Kent Life.



The **Rum Punccheon** in Gravesend was closed for rather longer than had been expected but reopened under new lessees on Christmas Eve after redecoration. It has joined the group of town pubs not open on Mondays. Most of the old furniture has been retained, as has the log fire, though the weather over the Christmas period meant that this was little used. A visit in early January found *Sharp's Doom Bar*, *Shepherd Neame Whitstable Bay*, *Butcombe Rare Breed* and *Wychwood Hobgoblin* on handpumps. The first two were seen as likely to become regulars with others frequently changing. A beer from *Rockin' Robin* was expected soon. It is intended to offer food in due course, though the detail was still being thought through.





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After serious health issues Andrew Turner has taken over the helm again at the **Cock Inn** in Luddesdown, which he has owned and run for over thirty years. The pub opening hours have changed (see [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com)). Home cooked food is no longer served but snacks such as pies and pasties are available at all times. The range of real ales has settled down as *Adnams Lighthouse*, *Bitter and Broadside*, *Goacher's Mild*, *Harvey's*

*Best*, *St Austell Trelawny* and *Shepherd Neame Master Brew*. Down the hill in Luddesdown the **Golden Lion** in January had *Fuller's London Pride* as its guest beer for the month to accompany the three regular *St.Austell* beers. As the Landlord has been there three years now, he is thinking he might change his range of beers, so we don't know what may be on offer by the time this gets printed, but we can be pretty sure it'll be interesting. The food trade in this pub has picked up and the ingredients are mainly sourced locally. Beer festivals are due at the Spring and August Bank Holiday Saturdays.

The three pubs in the nearby village of Cobham all appear to be thriving. The **Darnley Arms** has two guest ales, always including one from a small brewery in Kent, *Pig & Porter Temporary Truth* on a recent visit, and three boxed ciders, including one from *Wise Owl* from Tenterden on the same visit.

Phil Mugford reported in January that the **Anchor & Hope** at Ash appeared to have been closed for some time with a sign outside saying "closed for building works". An internet search revealed nothing good; the pub's own site is very rudimentary to say the least. It was taken over by a new landlord only last summer so one would hope to see it open eventually. Reports would be welcome.



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Greetings from all at Bexley CAMRA, we trust you all had a Great Christmas and New Year.



In pub news; The bad news is that the **Belvedere** Hotel has been put up for sale by its owners Admiral Taverns. We do have an ACV on the property, so hopefully, it will either remain as a pub or the council will look favourably on any future planning application.

The **Portrait** in Sidcup has had a makeover and has been renamed the **Hill Top Tap**. It continues to give CAMRA discount, now on a full time basis. Another pub that has joined the CAMRA discount scheme is the **Golden Lion** in Bexleyheath, which gives a 20% discount.



We have four proposed micropubs in the branch area, some may even be open by the time this issue actually appears in print. The first is the long awaited **Kentish Belle** near to Bexleyheath Station, the second is the re-awakened **Bird & Barrel** near Barnehurst station, the third is the **Hangar** in the Oval at Sidcup/Blackfen and finally the **Halfway House** in Halfway Street in Sidcup which should be opening in the week commencing 12th February.

If you have any other pub news please contact us either using the contact details at the top of this article, contact our Pubs Officer Ian Wright on 07779 319196 or [bexleypubs@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bexleypubs@yahoo.co.uk) or submit changes (and beer scores) when you are in the pub by logging in to *WhatPub.com*



Our monthly branch meetings have taken place on the second Wednesday of each month as usual, in October we visited the **Green Man** in Welling, November the **Old Dartfordians** in Bexley, December the **White Cross** in North Cray and in January the **George Staples** in Blackfen. We thank the licencees for accommodating us.

Since the last issue, our socials have taken us far and wide. October saw many of the workers from our successful 12<sup>th</sup> Beer Festival embark on a trip to Nottingham for the day by train. Miraculously no-one missed the train in either direction and a wonderful day out was had by all. This was an apt 'Thankyou' to all those who worked so hard at the festival. An evening social saw us nip across the branch border to







# 13<sup>th</sup> BEXLEY BEER FESTIVAL 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018



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Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	2pm-11pm
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Woolwich where we started at the **Woolwich Equitable** (Antic), followed by the **Tap Room** (Hop Stuff) and finally into the **Guard House**. We also held an evening social in the **Broken Drum** in Blackfen.

November started with a flash social at the **Volunteer** as we had heard that there was no beer and the pub was possibly under threat of closure. When we arrived, both pumpclips were turned round but upon asking the young lady behind the bar, we discovered that in fact one of the beers was indeed available. After a good while there, we moved on to the **Golden Lion** and were very surprised to find that they now give CAMRA discount and also do a collectors scheme. (see *WhatPub.com* for details). After a couple of beers here we decamped for a last one at the **Wrong 'Un**. The following week, we again crossed the border into South East London territory with a crawl of Eltham, starting at the **Long Pond** before moving on to the **Park Tavern**. Also in November, our quiz team regained their crown at the **Penny Farthing**.



December saw our traditional Christmas Social this year at the **Door Hinge** in Welling. We self-catered and Ray & Jamie laid on a wonderful selection of ales and kept the pub open for us which is usually closed on a Monday evening. Our thanks go to both of them. As always we held our Twixmas social between Christmas and New Year which started as always at the **Robin Hood & Little John** and processed through **The Wrong 'Un**, **Rose, Kings Arms** (no real ale this year), **Furze Wren**, **Jolly Millers**, **One Bell**, **Crayford Arms** ending at the **Penny Farthing**.



Finally in January, the **Broken Drum** was presented with the London region Pub of the Year award by the Society for the Preservation of Beer in the Wood (SPBW).

Late Breaking News: The **Sidcup Palace**, Sidcup has reopened as the **Star at Sidcup Place** and is now owned by *Marstons*, serving beers from their stable.

## 2018 GBG UPDATES

Date	Change	Pub	Reason
14/09/2017	Deletion	Green Man EC2: Bank Greater London	Closed
27/09/2017	Deletion	Craft Beer Co SW4: Clapham Greater London	Change of ownership (and name)
02/11/2017	Amendment	Old Star Ale & Cider House Shoreham-by-Sea West Sussex	Details are incorrect in Guide. Postcode should be BN43 5DA, Phone no 07720 892767. Web address is <a href="http://www.oldstarshoreham.co.uk">www.oldstarshoreham.co.uk</a>
02/11/2017	Amendment	Sultan SW19: South Wimbledon Greater London	Amendment to opening hours. Opening hours should now read: 12 (3 Mon & Tue)-11; 12-midnight Fri & Sat
16/01/2018	Deletion	Rack of Ale Dover Kent	Closed

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# CAMRA'S NEW NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

## Jackie Parker set to take over as CAMRA's National Chairman



CAMRA will be welcoming a new National Chairman, when Colin Valentine will hand over the mantle to Jackie Parker. After eight years in the role, Colin has announced that he will not be standing for re-election to the National Executive at CAMRA's Members' Weekend, AGM and Conference, which will take

place in Coventry in April 2018. He will continue in the Chairman's role until the April meeting. Currently CAMRA's Vice-Chairman, Jackie was elected by her colleagues at the National Executive meeting on 1 December.

Colin said: "It has been an honour and a privilege to represent CAMRA as its Chairman over the last eight years - I hope fellow members feel I have made a positive contribution and I'm delighted Jackie will be taking on the role."

Jackie has been an active member of the Campaign for Real Ale for 18 years. She has been a member of the National Executive for seven years, having previously served as the Regional Director for CAMRA's Central Southern region for three years. She is currently CAMRA's National Vice-Chairman and National Director with specific responsibility for Communications. Jackie said: "I'd like to recognise the immense contribution Colin has made to the Campaign over his entire time as a member - but particularly as the National Chairman. I know he'll still be playing a huge part in our activities, but he'll be missed on the National Executive "I'm delighted to have won the support of my fellow directors and the confidence they have shown in choosing me to lead the Campaign for Real Ale. We're at a key point in CAMRA's history as we prepare to ask our members to approve the recommendations we're making as a result of the Revitalisation Project.

"My vision for CAMRA is to ensure we remain as relevant to our active volunteers, our members, possible new members and those people visiting pubs and clubs as possible, and we continue to achieve our goals of campaigning for real ale, cider and perry drinkers across the UK."



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(Closing date for postal & online registration is Tuesday 3rd April 2018)

## MEMBERS TO VOTE ON WIDENING CAMRA REMIT.

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) is set to widen its remit to represent drinkers of quality beers, ciders and perries of all types, as well as moving its focus beyond traditional pubs, if its members approve recommendations put before them in April.

While continuing to advocate that real ale is the pinnacle of the brewer's craft, the Campaign's wider focus will mean all drinkers who enjoy a range of beers, ciders and perries will feel welcome in the organisation.

If the changes are approved, the Campaign will work to provide an enhanced education and information experience for its members, and all drinkers who attend CAMRA festivals, to help them appreciate and learn about all types and styles of beer, cider and perry - and make informed decisions about what constitutes "quality".

While campaigning for the continued production and consumption of real ale, cider and perry will remain at the core of CAMRA's objectives, members will be asked to consider changes to the organisation's Articles of Association, which will widen the range of types of beer that it represents - including quality beer that does not meet the organisation's definition of "real ale".

The recommendations also propose that as a result of widening its scope of interest, CAMRA will be able to represent and engage with all beer drinkers and with all pubgoers, irrespective of what they choose to drink, increasing its ability to campaign in the interests of a much larger constituency.

This broadening of consumer representation will also see CAMRA demonstrate an interest in, and lobby for, a much wider range of on-trade outlets. While the organisation will continue to campaign for the preservation of the traditional British pub, it will also encourage on-trade outlets of all kinds to serve quality beer, cider and perry. CAMRA will continue to advocate drinking in public social venues, rather than the increasing practise of consumers buying their drinks from supermarkets for home consumption.

The proposed changes may take the form of:

- CAMRA festivals offering a wider range of quality beers, ciders and perries in all formats.
- CAMRA engaging with drinkers of all types - with the hope of taking them on a 'journey of discovery' of why real ale, cider and perry is particularly special.
- CAMRA supporting members in their appreciation of beer, their ability to both recognise quality products and campaign effectively for them to be stocked in pubs and bars.



- CAMRA providing information about all kinds of beer, not just real ale, as well as opportunities for members to learn more about brewing and the different types and styles available to drinkers.
- CAMRA recognising a wider range of drinks and establishments in its local and national competitions.

The 46-year-old consumer organisation launched a root and branch review of its purpose and objectives, called the Revitalisation Project, at the start of 2016. CAMRA's 190,000 members have been involved and consulted throughout the process and will soon have their say on whether the resulting proposals for change are adopted.

Seeking approval for their recommendations, the Campaign's leadership argue that a wider appeal and closer connection with the current revolution in beer and bars will enable the organisation to connect with modern-day beer drinkers and pub goers. This in turn will strengthen CAMRA's campaigning voice: enabling it to increase the already-considerable influence it exerts on the Government and industry decision-makers.

CAMRA chairman Colin Valentine said: "It's always been important that our members have had a say throughout this review process and we're now at the point where we'll be giving all our members the chance to vote on the final Revitalisation Project recommendations.

"The vote will be held at our Annual General Meeting, in Coventry in April. In the months between now and then, we'll be making sure members can access the full details of the changes we're recommending, along with the analysis of the impacts and potential opportunities the changes will have.

"My colleagues and I will be making ourselves available at meetings around the country over the next three months so that members can ask us questions about the proposed changes. We'll also be making sure that we're available online at frequent intervals. At the end of this process our aim is to make sure that every member has been given the opportunity to learn more about the proposals before they voted.

"Our recommendations mark an important stage in CAMRA's long history. We recognise that the beer and pub landscape has changed and continues to evolve, and our place in that landscape has changed as well. We're determined to make sure that we continue to change and evolve so that we are relevant to drinkers of all types and continue to offer a compelling reason for people to join our organisation."

# ROMNEY MARSH IN NOVEMBER

by Jeff Tucker

Some years ago, we had a branch member by the name of Sam King, who was in his eighties,! I sometimes took him for a car ride to some of his favourite pubs, one of which was the **Pilot** at **Lydd-on-Sea**, near Dungeness.



Not having been back there since, I decided to pay a visit. The pub has always been famed for its fish and chips, and still seems just as popular today, despite being November. The only thing between the pub

and the sea is the shingle beach, which goes out quite a distance at low tide.

The bus service to the **Pilot** is remarkably good, having two route 102 buses an hour from Dover, Folkestone and Hythe, which do a loop of Lydd before running back, and a roughly hourly service 11 to and from Ashford, which does a circular tour of Lydd and New Romney.

The pub was much as I remembered it, but I was impressed with the unusual hand pumps, being (from left to right) a fishing rod, pistol, Cutlass and a pile of stones! I don't remember them from last time. The beers were in good form, being *Harveys Best*, *Theakston Old Peculier* and the ubiquitous [Sharp's] *Doom Bar*.



After a couple of beers, I waited at the windswept bus stop for the 102 to New Romney. This route doesn't quite serve the High Street, so I got off at the school and walked the short distance to the **Cinque Ports Arms**, which is just beyond the **Smugglers Alehouse** micropub, which I had visited recently.



The **Cinque Ports** dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and is quite spacious inside – I think it has been extended recently. The décor has also been changed, to create a rather pleasant nautical/rustic theme. Five beers were on, the two I sampled being *Long Man Scary Man* and *Romney Cinque Porter*, both dark seasonal beers.

After my visit, I learned that the pub is up for sale, at a reported £1.2million, which seems just a trifle ambitious! Hopefully this pub won't become yet another which is converted to housing, as New Romney, like many places, has lost so many pubs in recent years.

We have a branch bus trip to New Romney and Camber planned for April, so fingers crossed.

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## CAMRA NAMES THE BEST FOUR PUBS IN THE COUNTRY

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) has named the best four pubs in the country as part of its Pub of the Year competition, one of the most respected and well-known pub awards in the UK.



Among the finalists is the **Weavers Real Ale House** in Kidderminster, a relatively new one-room micropub. This micropub serves eight real ales and four ciders and perries on handpump and has six craft beers on tap. A short walk from the railway station, it's the perfect place for a pint and a chat on the way into town.

Also in the running for the second year in a row is the **Stanford Arms** in Lowestoft, East Anglia. A thriving traditional back-street pub, the Stanford Arms serves mainly local beers and ciders, and boasts live music at the weekends.



Finally two rival pubs from the North West have made the list this year - **Wigan Central** in Wigan and the **Cricketers** in St Helens, Merseyside. Wigan Central boasts a unique railway-themed interior and sources real ale from all over, with continental bottled beers displayed in a 'beer library'.

The Cricketers in St Helens is a friendly local community pub saved from closure just four years ago that boasts 13 handpumps on the bar and runs beer festivals and jam nights throughout the year.



All of the pubs in the competition are selected by CAMRA volunteers and judged on their atmosphere, decor, welcome, service, value for money, customer mix and most importantly – quality of beer. The four finalists will now have a chance to win the National Pub of the Year title announced in February 2018.

National Pub of the Year Co-ordinator Andrea Briers said: "All of these pubs should be very proud of themselves for reaching this stage in the competition. While each of these pubs offers something unique to their visitors, they all share the foundation of what makes a great pub - a warm and welcoming atmosphere, excellent service and a fantastic range of beers."



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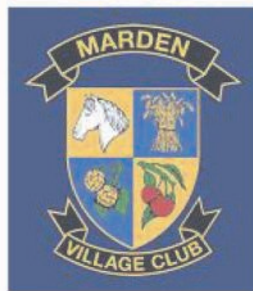
CAMRA Good Beer Guide & Cask Marque award

## Marden Village Club

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# UK BREWER OF THE YEAR



## Brewer of the Year

At the International Beer Challenge, Harveys were named UK Brewer of the Year, having achieved the most points in the medal table. Among its tally of medals, Christmas Ale and Imperial Stout were both awarded Gold and the latter went on to take the Best Stout or Porter Trophy. It was also named World's Best Imperial Stout at the World Beer Awards 2017. Malt Brown, Wharf IPA, Georgian Dragon and Star of Eastbourne were all Gold Medal Winners in their respective classes at the British Bottlers' Institute Awards 2017. CAMRA's 'Sussex Drinker' commented "perhaps their recent successes demonstrate the wisdom of traditional values while moving with the times."





# CAMRA NAMES THE BEST FOUR CLUBS IN THE COUNTRY

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) has named the best four clubs in the country as part of its Club of the Year competition.



The Royal Air Force Association (RAFA) **Albatross Club** in Bexhill-on-Sea (TN40 1JS) was a finalist last year and took home the national title in 2016. It boasts an interesting collection of RAF memorabilia and regularly holds beer festivals and social events.

The Royal Air Force Association (RAFA) **Real Ale Farm** (CF81 8NY) is housed in the oldest surviving building in Bargoed, Wales, dating back to the 17th century. It offers the best range of quality beers for miles around, selected for flavour and interest and sourced from breweries both near and far. It hosts numerous charity events throughout the year.



Also in the running is the **Appleton Thorn Village Hall** in Warrington (WA4 4RT), a former school that has previously taken home the National CAMRA Club of the Year title for its agricultural-themed interior and local beer range. The club has recently introduced a new gin bar, which is also proving to be very popular with members.

Finally, the **Flixton Conservative Club** in Manchester (M41 5DF) is in the running after a recent transformation has seen an even wider range of real ales and ciders brought in. The club runs monthly brewery nights and a number of sports team and quiz events.



The CAMRA Club of the Year competition is run in conjunction with Club Mirror magazine with the simple aim of finding the clubs with the greatest commitment to quality real ale. Clubs are nominated by CAMRA branches across the country and judged by a panel of volunteer CAMRA members throughout the year.

Keith Spencer, Club of the Year Co-ordinator said: "All four clubs demonstrate a first-class commitment to real ale and a dedication to the respective communities they each serve, making them absolutely vital to their local areas."

# Ye Olde Thirsty Pig Kentish Ale & Cider House

CAMRA Discount – 10p Pint

Happy Hour Mondays – 50p Pint  
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OAP (70+) Discount all times draught  
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Only one discount at a time discounts will not  
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**Lagers** Whitstable Bay Blonde contemporary Kentish lager

Curious Brew Kentish lager

Cinque Kentish five grain premium lager

Fosters an easy-drinking lager

Kronenbourg 1664 France's bestselling lager

Paulaner Munchen German Lager

**Ciders** Biddenden Bushels Kentish strong still cider

Orchard Pig Reveller Award winning craft cider

Yowler Craft Cider Sparkling apple cider created from 100% Kentish Apples



# A DAY TRIP TO THE BORDER OF EAST AND WEST SUSSEX

by Andy Osborne

Although due to rain later in the day, it was a brilliant sunny morning as we made our way towards Tunbridge Wells on the latest day trip by Service bus, I had purchased a Discovery ticket for £8.50 on the first bus, which would cover all of today's journeys.



On arrival at Tunbridge Wells we had time for the briefest of visits to the conveniently located Wetherspoon's inn, the **Opera House**, I noticed they were advertising an upcoming Opera "Orpheus". One of our more eagle eyed members of our party (well at that time of the day anyway) had spotted the Wetherspoon's magnate, Tim Martin, standing at the bar. He had been a guest speaker at the 2016 CAMRA AGM (Liverpool) and I found him very entertaining with a great sense of humour. I stood close hoping to get a few words but sadly, it became clear he had only just arrived and was busy introducing himself to his staff; I did hear him offer to pay for his drinks. While waiting for the next bus, there was a band nearby playing some very old tunes but, interestingly, were playing them at a much faster rate, which certainly gave them a different edge.

The next bus took a slightly circuitous route to our next destination, but I have to say the scenery was stunning, passing thru lush green woods and pastures. On arrival at East Grinstead we met up with a good friend who had fairly recently moved to the area, a short walk and we arrived at the second 'spoons outlet of the day, the **Ounce and Ivy bush**. It's a pretty unusual name so I looked it up on *Whatpub.com* and it informed me that an Ounce is a species of wildcat and an Ivybush was a symbol used to denote a high class inn. Regrettably, the name was as interesting as this pub got. At the bar, alongside the usual suspects, I noticed *Arundel Sussex Gold*, and *Adnams Broadside*, both of which were pretty good. I thought I would give the staff the 'heads up' and let them know that their boss Tim Martin was in the local area, however the member of staff I was speaking too assured me that he wasn't their boss so I left him to it.



The next stop was at Turners Hill. The **Crown** sat proudly in full view as you climb the hill, I remember it from the last time I travelled the road in the London to Brighton Bike ride a few years past. I would have liked to have stopped then, but I may never have got back on





the bike after, no such worries today. Some of our party went to explore there first, while myself and others went down a side road to the **Red Lion** fully intending to call at the Crown after. Inside the **Red Lion**, I was



pleased to see the landlord standing behind the bar; an increasingly rare sight these days I find. There were four *Harveys* beers on offer, being *Dark Mild*, *IPA*, *Armada* and *Sussex Best*. I plumped for the *Dark Mild*, which was very enjoyable. There seemed a good mix of clientele in here with regulars and a sprinkling of tourists intermingled. I ordered some food, which was reasonably priced, and then a second beer, the *IPA*, which I didn't recall having prior to that. The pub dog was on a long lead which was on a hook around 5ft from the ground so it made it sometimes difficult to manoeuvre around and reminded me of the pub game "Ring the Bull" if people are familiar with it. All too soon, it was time to leave this enjoyable pub and yes, I had left it too late to go to the Crown.

Back on the bus heading back to East Grinstead, we had to change part way at Three Bridges and we managed a quick stop at the **Snooty Fox**. Personally I failed to see what it could possibly be snooty about but we had time for half of *St Austell Proper Job* and it was good to be fair.



The next stop was to be a micropub called the **Open Arms** in East Grinstead, which had been previously a TV rental shop and an ink cartridge shop. Sadly, although it very much looked the part, the welcome was almost nonexistent, the cask ales were quite pricy at around £3.80 a pint and they sold lager; so to me, this pub had sold its soul as a micro.

From memory, it sold *Dorking APA*, *Longman Long Blonde* and *Old Man*. I believe I went for the *Old Man* and the quality was quite acceptable, however, the *APA* was disappointing although not bad enough to return it.

It was soon time to start our return journey and arriving back in Tunbridge Wells we called at the aforementioned **Opera House** and plumped for a pint of *Dark Star Festival* which was in good condition.

Once back into Maidstone, others went their own way and two of us had a last pint in the **Stag** in the high street. I remember it was quite enjoyable although my notes have come up short sadly as I omitted to note what I drank.



A variable, but nevertheless a very enjoyable day and thanks to our organiser Jeff for all his hard work.



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# BEER IN NORWAY

by by Mick Allen

Norway – the land of Fjords, Trolls, Tesla cars, and good (but expensive!) beer.

For this trip, we were based firstly in Oslo, then Voss, and finally Bergen. We had already researched the beer scene (and prices!) in Norway; with an average price of £10 a pint for a bulk standard lager, and anything upwards of £12 for anything decent. The beer is expensive because Norway has the world's highest alcohol taxes, which is still ongoing, in spite of the government being lobbied and the problems created by smuggling, amongst others.



After having arrived late afternoon into Oslo, and having had a wander around our hotel, we set off for the first of two bars close by. The **Schouskjelleren Mikrobryggeri**, located at Trondheimsveien 2, is located in the vaults of the old Schous Brewery, that was closed by Carlsberg in 2004. The vaults have been kitted out with old church pews and the new brewery is behind the

bar. Sampled here were a strong dark ale *Oink Oink* (10.5%), and two American IPAs, *Help Me Up Bro* (6.8%), and *Empress of India* (6.5%). All beers ranged

between £8-9 for 0.4 litres. The second day was taken up by a trip out to the Heavy Water Factory at Vemork (Heroes of Telemark film). No craft ale or microbreweries here, so it was off to the **Siste Sang Brewery** in the evening, located at Grønlandsleiret 27. This bar has been open since April 2017, with a beer shop in place beforehand. Whilst we were there all



beers were being cuckoo brewed, but the brewery on the premises should now be up and running. Beers taken here were *Black Forest Imperial Stout* (9.0%) weighing in at a massive £25 pint equivalent, *Double Trouble* (8.2%), and *Raspberryummy Saison* (5.5%), both at a more reasonable £12.50!

Next morning we departed Oslo by train to Voss. No decent beer here.



The next day we had an enjoyable fiord trip round to Flam, home to **Ægir Bryggeri**. When Evan Lewis and his wife moved from California to Flam, they had the idea that a microbrewery would work. It is testament to the style of beer that he brewed to see the brewery still going strong ten years later. These beers are also available in the UK from Adnams and the Mother





Kelly's pub chain. Only a short time in here before catching the famously steep Flam railway, so only got to try their *Rosslyng Heather Blond* (8.0%) and *Naglfare Nut Brown Ale* (4.7%). Both went down a treat.

Finally our last leg of our trip involved a coach/boat/coach journey onwards to Bergen. Bergen - one of the wettest cities in the world, but also one of the driest with decent beer in short supply. Unless you opt for a can of *Brewdog Punk IPA*

from the hotel mini bar, which worked out at an amazing £22 per pint! Luckily we found a great place right on the harbour, the **Bergenhus Microbrewery**. Even luckier on the day of our visit they happened to have a beer festival taking place. Beers from Bergenhus, Austmann (Trondheim), Ekangersmuget (10 miles S of Bergen), 7Fjell (7 miles S of Bergen), Haandbryggeriet (35 miles SW of Oslo), Ægir Bryggeri, Amundsen Bryggeri (Oslo) and Nøgne Ø (Grimstad,



established in 2002) were available. Most of the beers on offer were around the 6+% abv range and unfiltered, so, unsurprisingly, I never noted down the beers sampled! But I did get to chat with the brewers. Martin Houge (Nøgne Ø) informed me that the brewery has been in production since 2002, and their beers should now be available in Tesco's Supermarkets. I also spoke with Gareth Stewart from Bergenhus and Spencer Wood from Austmann. As the premises were being returned to an evening restaurant, the festival was brought to a close at 8pm. Fortunately none of the brewers were interested in taking half empty casks away, so I was treated to free samples of the beers that weren't refused! Thank you to the brewers for that.

In conclusion, Norway is a place that has had a meteoric rise in the number of craft breweries over the last few years (there are over 200 now) with every type of beer now on offer, so well worth a visit. I just wish the prices would come down to a more affordable level!



# WHEN IS A PUB NOT A PUB?

**CAMRA defines a 'pub' as follows:**

'The licensed premises must be open to, and welcome, the public without requiring membership or residency, allow free entry (1), serve at least one draught beer or cider/perry (2), allow drinking without requiring food to be consumed, have at least one indoor area not laid out for meals, and permit drinks to be purchased in person at a bar (3), without relying on table service.'

(1) Except when entertainment is provided on limited occasions

(2) Includes cask or keg beer or cider/perry

(3) Includes also a hatch or specific service point

## **What does this mean?**

The aim is to be as inclusive as possible whilst ensuring that the essential features of what constitutes a pub are available.

First, it is considered that to qualify as a 'pub' of any style, the premises must stock at least one draught beer or cider, either cask or keg. This is a simple criterion to research before other factors are examined and few would disagree that pubs are synonymous with beers/ciders and particularly draught beers/ciders. Hence other licensed drinking establishments not fulfilling or only partly fulfilling the criteria, including those selling only bottled beer or where draught beer or cider is only available with table service, would not qualify as pubs.

Second, in the case of hybrid pub/kitchens, bar/restaurants, café/bars, and gastro pubs where food predominates, there should be at least one area made available to non-eaters to qualify. It is accepted that the amount of drinking space available may vary throughout the day to reflect meal times.

Third, the feature that probably most differentiates pubs from continental style bars and cafes is the ability to approach the bar (or hatch) and order a drink, without being required to be seated and served by waiting staff. The resultant scrum at busy times may be annoying but is an essential part of the pub experience. So if you can't order from, or are made to feel unwelcome at, the bar (or hatch) then it isn't a pub.

### **'Non pubs'**

**Other Drinking Establishments:** other licensed drinking establishments not meeting the criteria for definition as a pub in full or part, such as many of those trading as cocktail bars, wine bars, champagne bars, spirit bars, French style cafes etc. These include those offering only bottled beers or offering draught beer but only with table service etc.

**Restaurants which only serve drinks with meals:** licensed restaurants and cafes where drinking alcohol, including draught and bottled beer, is only allowed when food is being consumed.

**Hotel Bars with Entry Restrictions:** Licensed bars in hotels where purchase of alcoholic drinks, including draught and bottled beers, requires residency (payment for room) or where non-residents not accompanied by hotel guests are not welcome. Hotel bars which welcome non-residents and meet the other criteria would qualify as pubs.

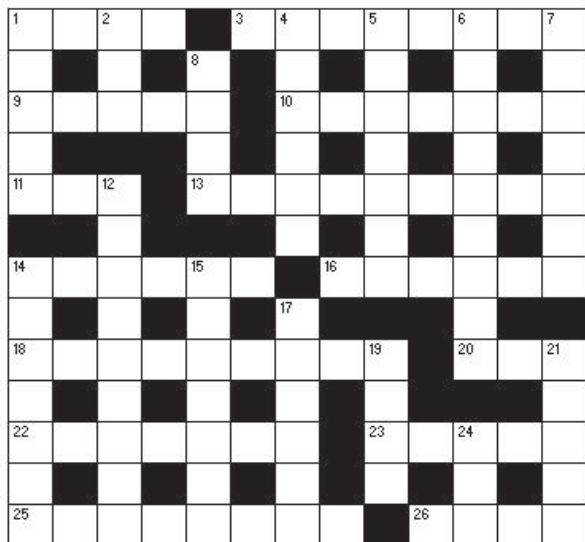
**Clubs and Venue Bars with Entry Fees:** Licensed establishments where entry requires either membership fee or per visit entry fees. This includes bars in traditional clubs, night clubs, music clubs, strip clubs, music venues, and bars in sports centres, theatres, cinemas etc., including those selling draught and bottled beers.

**Off Licences:** Establishments with licences restricting them to selling alcohol, including draught and bottled beers, for consumption off the premises.



# Crossword No. 29

compiled by MICK NORMAN



Solution to Crossword No. 28

T	H	U	M	B		P	R	E	F	A	B
R	P	U	S		A	I	A				
U	T	E	N	S	I	L		N	I	X	O
M	N	H	I		D	A					
A	I	D	A		C	L	I	N	T	O	N
N				E	Y	E		E	E		A
	K	N	O	T			S	O	D	A	
C	I	H		T	A	T					A
A	N	G	R	I	E	R			F	O	R
R	E	O		U		A	B				O
T	U	L	I	P		M	A	Y	F	A	I
E	L	I	P		E	M					E
R	E	A	G	A	N		S	T	A	Y	S

## Across

- 1 Capone has an afterthought, occupying the higher ground (4)  
 3 See 9  
 9,3 Towie, Scotland, rebuilt by Wild West Hero? (5,8)  
 10 Supervise poetry in Old English (7)  
 11 Pull into wayside inn (3)  
 13,15 down Portsmouth tenth - a hopeless football club (9,7)  
 14 Intelligent city - that's not on! (6)  
 16 Thirsty cat? (6)  
 18 Excite - cry out and feel it moving (9)  
 20 Key horse can be beaten (3)  
 22 Something fishy for paparazzo? (7)  
 23 Cairo ostrich's sleeping quarters (5)  
 25 Crazy Len rode a classic car (8)  
 26 Looks both ways (4)

## Down

- 1 Willie Carson, perhaps, at the racecourse (5)  
 2 Racket on setter's behalf (1,1,1)  
 4 Abandons culture, overcoming personal problem (6)  
 5 May be found in 10 (7)  
 6 Southsea oven first set to dry hops (4,5)  
 7 Fantasist backing Freddie (7)  
 8 In short, figure from West Atlantic (4)  
 12 Comedian Jack accommodates Sir Humphrey & co (9)  
 14 Privileged actor (7)  
 15 See 13  
 17 Old car found in mountain range (6)  
 19 Story deriving from Magyar narrative (4)  
 21 Openings for billionaire (5)  
 24 A personal number (3)

*Congratulations to Terry  
 Lavell from London, who  
 won the tenner last time.*

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

*Mick Norman  
 Nursery Cottage  
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*No later than April 21st 2018.*

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

## TED WHITAKER

Maidstone and Mid-Kent Branch was saddened to learn of the death of Ted Whitaker, a long—time friend and supporter of the branch.

Hailing from Chatham, Ted was a member of Medway CAMRA, but equally happy to attend MMK Branch Socials and volunteer to work at Festivals. He acted as Medway Branch Treasurer, and as an Auditor at Kent County Council until his retirement, kindly took a ‘busman’s holiday’ over a number of years by auditing MMK accounts.

A keen attendee at CAMRA AGMs and Member Weekends, Ted became a familiar face at Festivals throughout the UK, often with good friends John Williams, Charles and Andrew Elliot (MMK) and Peter Pope (Medway), particularly after recovering from major surgery in the 2000s.

A meticulous planner, Ted had already made initial arrangements to attend a number of CAMRA events over the winter and spring, but sadly succumbed to the effects of a stroke at the beginning of November.

His funeral was attended by some 100 friends and colleagues, representing Ted’s varied leisure interests, which, in addition to Real Ale, covered motor sport, aviation, naval history and charitable bodies.

CM



# CAMRA DISCOUNT LIST

Here are the pubs we know of that offer discounted pints to any card-carrying CAMRA member. The discount applies to whole pints only. Please email the editor to let us know of any other hostelrys offering similar discounts.

<b>All Chef &amp; Brewer</b> pubs	10 percent
<b>Anchor</b> , Bexley	10p per pint
<b>Campbell Arms</b> , Northfleet	20p per pint
<b>Cellars Alehouse</b> , Maidstone	10p per pint, 5p per half
<b>Cock Inn</b> , Boughton Monchelsea	20p per pint
<b>Crayford Arms</b> , Crayford	10p per pint
<b>Earl Haig</b> , Bexleyheath	10p per pint
<b>Flower Pot</b> , Maidstone	10p per pint
<b>George Staples</b> , Blackfen	20 percent ( <i>also buy 6, 7th free</i> )
<b>Golden Lion</b> , Bexleyheath	20 percent
<b>Jolly Drayman</b> , Gravesend	10p per pint
<b>Jolly Fenman</b> , Blackfen	10 percent
<b>Moody Mare</b> , Mereworth	Discounted to £3.00p per pint
<b>Olde Thirsty Pig</b> , Maidstone	10p per pint
<b>Old Prince of Orange</b> , Gravesend	20p per pint
<b>Pippin</b> , Maidstone	10 percent
<b>Portrait</b> , Sidcup	10 percent
<b>Queen Anne</b> , Maidstone	10p per pint, 5p per half
<b>Stag</b> , Maidstone	10p per pint ( <i>off guest beers</i> )
<b>Swan</b> , Loose Road, Maidstone	20p per pint, 10p per half
<b>Unicorn</b> , Marden	15 percent
<b>We Anchor in Hope</b> , Welling	10 percent
<b>Yacht</b> , Bexleyheath	10 percent
<b>Ye Olde Black Horse</b> , Sidcup	10 percent





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# CAMRA BRANCH DIARIES

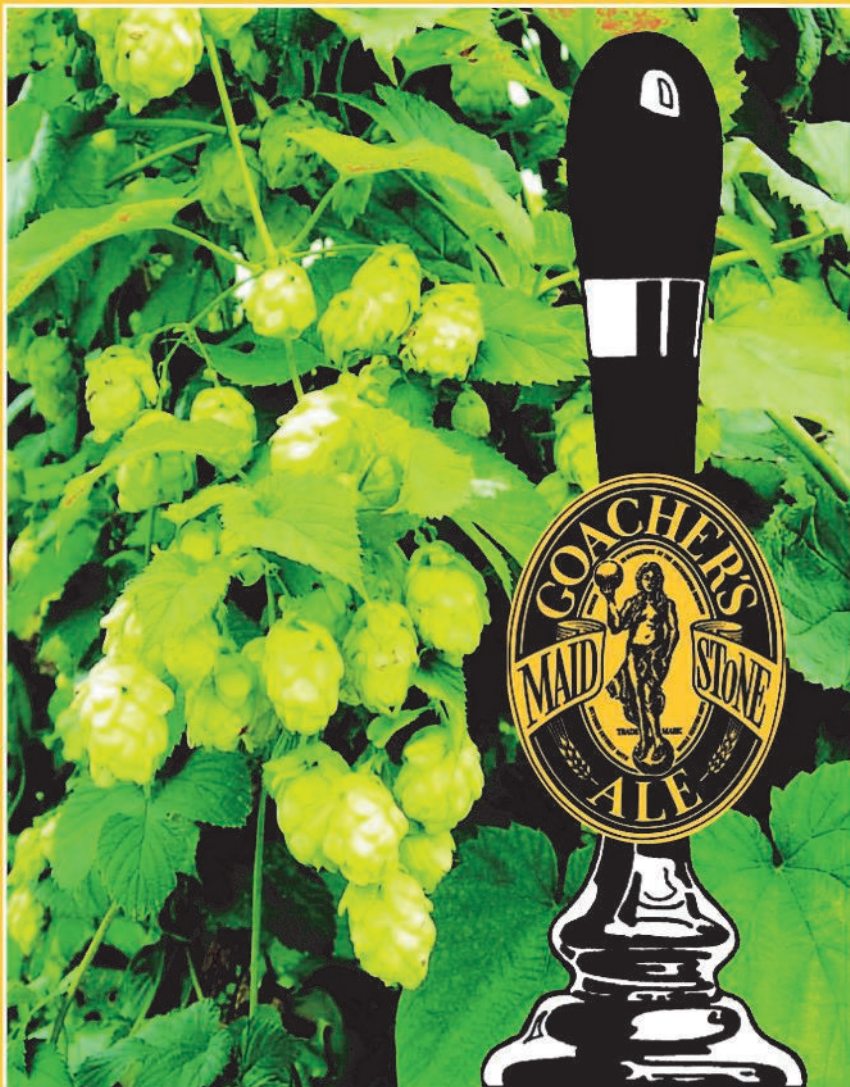
CAMRA branches arrange socials and trips throughout the year. If you would like more information, please ring the local branch contact – see **Local News** sections. **Meetings start at 20:30 unless otherwise stated.**

**BEX: Bexley, GDV: Gravesend and Darent Valley, MMK: Maidstone & Mid-Kent**

- March**
- MMK 1** Larkin's Alehouse, Cranbrook, then George and White Horse
  - BEX 3** Noon Social – Hayes Line meet Ladywell Tavern (SE13 7HS) (1148 train from Lewisham)
  - GDV 8** Lamb, Red Lion, Swanley Village
  - MMK 8** Wealden Hall, Larkfield, then King & Queen, East Malling
  - MMK 13** 11:50, Bus & Walk to Detling and Boxley
  - BEX 14** Meeting – Prince Albert (DA6 7LE) (Bexleyheath)
  - MMK 15** Open Business Meeting, Red Lion, Lenham
  - GDV 21** Dart, Bird in Hand, Ship, Dartford
  - MMK 22** White Horse, Maidstone, then Cellars
  - BEX 24** Noon Social – Gravesend meet Rum Puncheon (DA11 0BL) (1135 train from Dartford)
  - MMK 24** 10:57, Bus Trip to Wadhurst and Ticehurst
  - MMK 30** 10:30, Good Friday Ramble – Staplehurst Station to Knoxbridge
- April**
- BEX 4** 19:30 Social – Upper Belvedere – Fox (DA17 5JU), Victoria, Prince of Wales & Royal Standard
  - GDV 5** Red Lion, Northfleet, then Rum Puncheon, T J's, Gravesend
  - MMK 5** Cock Horse, Detling, then Black Horse, Thurnham
  - MMK 10** 10:36, Bus & Walk to Sole Street and Cobham
  - BEX 11** Meeting – Hackney Carriage (DA15 7AA) (Sidcup)
  - MMK 12** Wheatsheaf, Leybourne, then Bull, West Malling
  - MMK 14** 9:45, Bus Trip to Camber and New Romney
  - GDV 18** Open Business Meeting, Glentworth Club, Dartford
  - MMK 19** Bell, Bearsted, then White Horse, then Oak on the Green
  - BEX 21** Noon Social – 286 Crawl meet Hill Top Tap (DA14 6NF) (Sidcup)
  - BEX 25** 20:00 Social – Old Dartfordians (DA5 1LW) (Bexley)
  - MMK 26** Peacock, Iden Green, then Vine, Goudhurst
  - MMK 28** Bus/Train trip to Chequers, Laddingford beer festival
- May**
- BEX 3 - 5** Bexley Beer Festival - Old Dartfordians (DA5 1LW) (Bexley): See Advert
  - MMK 3** Maidstone Mild in May – Rifle Volunteers, then Flower Pot
  - MMK 8** 10:57, Bus & Walk to Withyham and Hartfield
  - BEX 9** Meeting – Door Hinge (DA16 1TR) (Welling)
  - GDV 10** Rising Sun, Cotman's Ash, then Chequers, Heaverham, then Bell, Kemsing
  - MMK 10** Milk House, Sissinghurst, then Three Chimneys, Biddenden
  - BEX 17** 20:00 Cider Social – Kentish Belle (DA7 4QW) (Bexleyheath)
  - MMK 17** Branch AGM/Open Business Meeting, Style & Winch, Maidstone
  - BEX 23** 20:00 Social – Kings Arms (DA6 7DW), Rose & Wrong Un (Bexleyheath)
  - GDV 24** Pub of the Year Presentation, venue tbc
  - MMK 24** Railway, Wateringbury, then Anchor, Yalding
  - MMK 31** Royal Paper Mill, Tovil, then Wheatsheaf, Maidstone
- June**
- BEX 2** Noon Social Ramble – meet George (DA5 1AJ) (Bexley)

\* REAL MILD ALE \* CROWN IMPERIAL STOUT \*

\* FINE LIGHT ALE \* GOLD STAR \* OLD 1066 ALE \* BEST DARK ALE \*



\* SILVER STAR \* FINE LIGHT ALE \* GOLD STAR \* OLD 1066 ALE \*

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