

# Draught Copy



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

Free Newsletter  
for the  
Maidstone & Mid-Kent,  
Gravesend & Darent Valley  
and Bexley areas of Kent

Winter 2016

No. 185

## GRAVESEND & DARENT VALLEY BRANCH CIDER PUB OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Ken, Chris and their team.

# DRAUGHT COPY

Draught Copy is the newsletter of the Maidstone and Mid-Kent, Bexley, and Gravesend & Darent Valley branches of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale. It is published quarterly, in February, May, August and November and has a circulation of 3400 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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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. If you do not receive satisfaction, however, please ring the Council's Trading Standards on 08457 585497 for the K.C.C. area, or 0208 303 7777 for Bexley Borough. We should demand the very highest standards of service in our pubs.

~~The copy date for the next issue is 15 December 2016 for publication in February 2017. Please see page 10.~~

Visit our website at [www.mmk.camra.org.uk/](http://www.mmk.camra.org.uk/)  
On Twitter at [www.twitter.com/mmkcamra](http://www.twitter.com/mmkcamra)

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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](http://www.whatpub.com).



## 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)

# Beer Festivals in our region and not too far away

## CAMRA

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

### 12TH REDHILL BEER FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 3—5

Merstham Village Hall, Station Rd  
North, Merstham, RH1 3ED

68 real ales, 10 ciders & perries

[www.camrasurrey.org.uk/festivals/](http://www.camrasurrey.org.uk/festivals/)

### WOKING BEER FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 11—12

Woking Leisure Centre  
Woking Park, Kingfield Road,  
Woking, Surrey GU22 9BA

Over 70 real ales, and ciders [http://](http://www.wokingbeerfestival.co.uk/)

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

### PIGS EAR BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 29—DECEMBER 3

Round Chapel, Glenarm Road,  
Hackney, E5 0LY

230+ real ales, ciders, perries,  
foreign + bottled beers

[www.pigsear.org.uk/festivals](http://www.pigsear.org.uk/festivals)

### WHITE CLIFFS FESTIVAL OF WINTER ALES

FEBRUARY 3—4, 2017

Maison Dieu (Town Hall), Biggin  
Street, Dover, Kent, CT16 1DL

No details available as yet

[www.camra-dds.org.uk/](http://www.camra-dds.org.uk/)

### Non-CAMRA—Pubs and Clubs

November 11

#### Welling United Beer Festival

Welling United FC, DA16 1SY,

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

December 2—4

#### Cock Inn, Luddesdown

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

**CHAMPION WINTER  
BEER OF BRITAIN  
COMPETITION**

**FOOD AVAILABLE  
ON SITE**

**LIVE MUSIC  
ON THURSDAY, FRIDAY  
AND SATURDAY**

THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE PRESENTS  
**NATIONAL  
WINTER ALES  
FESTIVAL**  
21ST - 25TH FEBRUARY 2017  
NORWICH

The Halls,  
St Andrews Plain,  
Norwich,  
NR3 1AU.  
12pm - 10.30pm

**CAMRA**  
CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE



# 'BREWERY OF THE YEAR'

2016 Good Pub Guide Awards

# 2016



# HARVEYS

The Sussex Brewers

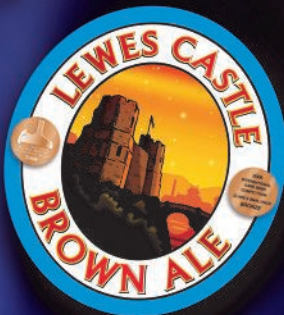


**WORLD'S  
BEST  
MILD ALE**

*World Beer  
Awards 2015*

**WORLD'S  
BEST  
BROWN ALE**

*World Beer  
Awards 2015*



**CHAMPION BOTTLE  
CONDITIONED BEER**

*CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain  
Competition, Olympia 2015*

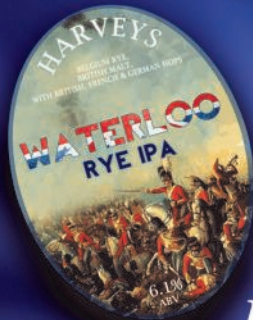


**BEER OF THE  
FESTIVAL**

*Pendle Beer  
Festival 2015*

**BEER OF  
THE FESTIVAL**

*Eastbourne Beer  
Festival 2015*



**BEER OF  
THE  
FESTIVAL**

*South Downs Beer  
& Cider Festival 2015*

**SUSSEX  
BEER  
OF THE  
FESTIVAL**

*Worthing Beer  
Festival 2015*



*Award Winning Beers*  
**Handmade in Lewes**

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# KENT BREWERIES

|                              |              |                                       |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Bexley Brewery</b>        | 01322 337368 | <i>bexleybrewery.co.uk</i>            |
| <b>Brew Buddies</b>          |              | <i>www.brew-buddies.co.uk</i>         |
| <b>Canterbury Ales</b>       | 01227 732541 | <i>www.canterbury-ales.co.uk</i>      |
| <b>Canterbury Brewers</b>    | 01227 455899 | <i>www.thefoundrycanterbury.co.uk</i> |
| <b>Caveman Brewery</b>       | 07900-234644 | <i>www.cavemanbrewery.co.uk</i>       |
| <b>Dartford Wobbler</b>      | 01322 866233 | <i>dartfordwobbler.com</i>            |
| <b>Four Candles</b>          | 07947 062063 | <i>mike@thefourcandles.co.uk</i>      |
| <b>Goacher's</b>             | 01622 682112 | <i>www.goachers.com</i>               |
| <b>Goody Ales</b>            | 07790 443810 | <i>www.goodyales.co.uk</i>            |
| <b>G2</b>                    | 01233 630277 | <i>www.g2brewing.com</i>              |
| <b>HopDaemon</b>             | 01795 892078 | <i>www.hopdaemon.com</i>              |
| <b>Hop Fuzz</b>              | 07850 441267 | <i>www.hopfuzz.co.uk</i>              |
| <b>Isla Vale Alesmiths</b>   | 01843 292451 | <i>islavalealesmiths.co.uk</i>        |
| <b>Kent Brewery</b>          | 01634 780037 | <i>www.kentbrewery.com</i>            |
| <b>Larkins</b>               | 01892 870328 | <i>www.larkinsbrewery.co.uk/</i>      |
| <b>Mad Cat Brewery</b>       | 07960 263615 | <i>www.madcatbrewery.co.uk</i>        |
| <b>Maidstone Brewing Co.</b> | 07736 149014 | <i>info@maidstonebrewing.co.uk</i>    |
| <b>Musket Brewery</b>        | 07967 127278 | <i>www.musketbrewery.co.uk</i>        |
| <b>Nelson Brewing Co.</b>    | 01634 832828 | <i>www.nelsonbrewery.co.uk</i>        |
| <b>Old Dairy Brewing Co.</b> | 01580 243185 | <i>www.olddairybrewery.com</i>        |
| <b>Old Forge Brewery</b>     | 01233 720444 | <i>www.thefarriersarms.com</i>        |
| <b>Pig and Porter</b>        | 01424 893519 | <i>pigandporter.co.uk</i>             |
| <b>Ramsgate Brewery</b>      | 01843 868453 | <i>www.ramsgatebrewery.co.uk</i>      |
| <b>Ripple Steam Brewery</b>  | 07917 037611 | <i>www.ripplesteambrewery.co.uk</i>   |
| <b>Rockin' Robin Brewery</b> | 07787 416110 | <i>www.rockinrobinbrewery.co.uk</i>   |
| <b>Romney Marsh Brewery</b>  | 01797 362333 | <i>www.romneymarshbrewery.com</i>     |
| <b>Shepherd Neame</b>        | 01795 532206 | <i>www.shepherd-neame.co.uk</i>       |
| <b>Swan, West Peckham</b>    | 01622 812271 | <i>www.swan-on-the-green.co.uk</i>    |
| <b>Time and Tide</b>         | 07840 327265 | <i>timeandtidebrewing.co.uk</i>       |
| <b>Tír Dhá Ghlas</b>         | 01304 211666 | <i>www.cullinsyard.co.uk</i>          |
| <b>Tonbridge Brewery</b>     | 01732 366770 | <i>www.tonbridgebrewery.co.uk</i>     |
| <b>Turnstone Ales</b>        | See Facebook | page                                  |
| <b>Wantsum Brewery</b>       | 0845 0405980 | <i>www.wantsumbrewery.co.uk</i>       |
| <b>Westerham Brewery</b>     | 01959 565837 | <i>www.westerhambrewery.co.uk</i>     |
| <b>Whitstable Brewery</b>    | 01622 851007 | <i>www.whitstablebrewery.co.uk</i>    |

# MUSKET

## BREWERY



# KENT BEERS!!

*"There's more in the barrel!"*

Musket Brewery is a family owned, Maidstone-based Micro Brewery located at Loddington Farm, Linton, brewing premium REAL ALE at realistic prices. The Musket brewers are **CAMRA** members, who provide these carefully brewed ales for your enjoyment.



**MUZZLELOADER**  
4.5% Kentish Ale



**FLINTLOCK**  
4.2% Best Bitter



**FIFE & DRUM**  
3.8% Golden Ale



**TRIGGER**  
3.6% Pale Ale



**POWDER BURN**  
5.0% Kentish Porter  
(Autumn/Winter brew!)



**MATCHLOCK**  
3.8% KENTISH MILD

Musket Brewery offers a significant promotion campaign on initial orders, to help increase turnover for the licensed trade. Musket has earned a well-deserved reputation for providing **GREAT** beers, supported by exemplary customer service!

**Contact Musket Brewery to find out more!!**

**079671 27 27 8 or 01622 - 749931**

**info@musketbrewery.co.uk**

THE SOCIETY OF  
**SIBA**  
INDEPENDENT  
BREWERS

DDS Scheme

*"There's more in the barrel!"* at  
**www.musketbrewery.co.uk**



# 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>       |
| Big Tree Cider            | 01474 705221 | <i>www.bigtreecider.co.uk</i>           |
| Broomfield Orchard        | 01227 362279 | <i>www.broomfieldorchard.co.uk</i>      |
| Castle Cider Co           | 01732 455977 |   |
| Chafford Cider Co.        | 01892 740437 | <i>ballenden@supanet.com</i>            |
| Core Fruit Products       | 01227 730589 | <i>www.corejuice.co.uk</i>              |
| Double Vision Cider       | 01622 746633 |   |
| Dudda's Tun Cider         | 01795 886266 | <i>www.duddastuncider.com</i>           |
| East Stour Cider Co       | 07880 923398 | <i>danbaldwin@tiscali.co.uk</i>         |
| Gibbet Oak Cider          | 01580 763938 | <i>www.gibbetoak.co.uk</i>              |
| Green Oak Farm            | 01304 821630 | <i>www.greenoakfarm.co.uk</i>           |
| Hush Heath Estate         | 01622 832794 | <i>shop.hushheath.com</i>               |
| Johnson's Farmhouse Cider | 01795 665203 |   |
| Kent Cider Company        | 01795 521317 | <i>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>     |
| Longtail Cider            |              | <i>markwarnett@gmail.com</i>            |
| Magic Bus Cider           | 07887 747569 | <i>chris8mel@ntlworld.com</i>           |
| Merry Moon                | 07707 309041 | <i>jo-anna.bottomley@btinternet.com</i> |
| Northdowns Cider          | 01795 591285 |   |
| Pawley Farm Cider         | 01795 532043 | <i>pawleyfarmcider@tiscali.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>             |
| St Dunstan's Cider        |              | <i>r.f.lancaster@sky.com</i>            |
| Stiles Cider              | 01795 830615 | <i>MikeBispham@aol.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>           |



# 100% KENTISH



## TURNERS CIDER MADE WITH 100% KENTISH APPLES

DRY 7% | MEDIUM-DRY (SPARKLING) 7% | MEDIUM 5.5%  
SWEET 7% | PEAR 5.5% | ELDERFLOWER 5.5% | RUSSET 8%

TURNERSCIDER.CO.UK [@TURNERS\\_CIDER](#)  
CALL 07825 394164 OR MAIL PHIL@TURNERSCIDER.CO.UK

# Last Copy?

It is with considerable sadness that we tell you that with the departure of editor, Tim Mathews, to Emsworth, your free local newsletter must take a break until a new editor and production team can be mustered.

Thank you for reading us over the many years that this publication has been available. Thank you, too, to our advertisers who have kept the production costs viable for us within the Maidstone & Mid-Kent branch. It has been an enjoyable time putting together *Draught Copy* and it will be missed.

But we trust that this will only be a hiatus and not a funeral. If there are any members from the three branches *Draught Copy* represents, who would like to take on the role(s) of editor and typesetter, then do please let us know.

Please email [dc@braymead.com](mailto:dc@braymead.com) or any of the branch contacts listed on the local news pages.

## THE DRAUGHT COPY CAMRA DISCOUNT LIST

Here are the pubs and clubs we know of that offer discounted pints to any card-carrying CAMRA member. The discount applies to whole pints only. Please email the editor ([dc@braymead.com](mailto:dc@braymead.com)) to let us know of any other hostelrys offering similar discounts.

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| All Chef & Brewer pubs          | 10 percent                                 |
| Anchor, Bexley                  | 10p per pint                               |
| Bell, Smarden                   | 10p per pint                               |
| Bell & Jorrocks, Frittenden     | 20p per pint                               |
| Campbell Arms, Northfleet       | 20p per pint                               |
| Cellars Alehouse, Maidstone     | 10p per pint, 5p per half                  |
| Cock Inn, Boughton Monchelsea   | 20p per pint                               |
| Earl Haig, Bexleyheath          | 10p per pint                               |
| Flower Pot, Maidstone           | 10p per pint                               |
| George Staples, Blackfen        | 20 percent ( <i>also buy 6, 7th free</i> ) |
| Jolly Drayman, Gravesend        | 10p per pint                               |
| Jolly Fenman, Blackfen          | 10 percent                                 |
| Moody Mare, Mereworth           | 30p per pint                               |
| Olde Thirsty Pig, Maidstone     | 10p per pint                               |
| Old Prince of Orange, Gravesend | 20p per pint                               |
| Portrait, Sidcup                | 10 percent                                 |
| Stag, Maidstone                 | 10p per pint ( <i>off guest beers</i> )    |
| Swan, Loose Road, Maidstone     | 20p per pint, 10p per half                 |
| We Anchor in Hope, Welling      | 10 percent                                 |
| Yacht, Bexleyheath              | 10 percent                                 |
| Ye Olde Black Horse, Sidcup     | 10 percent                                 |

# 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
- 4 diamond bed & breakfast accommodation

We are proud of our

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

CAMRA Good Beer Guide & Cask Marque award

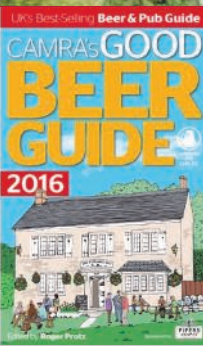
## Quiz Night on Monday

Open 12 – 2.30 and 5 – 11 Monday – Thursday

12 – 11 Friday and Saturday

12 – 10.30 Sunday

The Bull  
High Street  
West Malling



# One Weekend in August

by Jeff Tucker



Two events on one weekend in August caught my eye, so I decided to attend both of them! Firstly, on Saturday 6 August, the **Chequers** at Laddingford held its annual Transport Fair, with some interesting guest beers on the pumps, model railway layouts in the marquee, vehicles of all types in the adjacent field, and a well-patronised barbeque. The weather was fabulous, showing off the magnificent floral display across the front of the pub, and everyone seemed to be having a good

time. The roads around were all open this year, so the 23 and 26 buses were able to operate a full service, which helped. Well done to Charles and Tracey for another great event.



On the Sunday, I walked to the **Duke of Wellington** at Ryarsh for day two of their beer festival to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the pub. Landlord Jon was busy serving the twelve beers which were set up in the restaurant, and Dr Jazz were providing their usual music, which is popular with many people.

All in all, a wonderful weekend.



## CAMRA Says This Is Real Ale ...in a can

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) has given its first ever accreditation for real ale to a canned beer – from Moor Beer Company in Bristol. The campaigning organisation carried out tests on the "micro-canned" beer from Moor Beer at its recent Great British Beer Festival and concluded that the beer qualified as real ale under its definition.

CAMRA's quality control laboratory at the Great British Beer Festival reported that the beer in Moor Beer cans still contained live yeast, and further test results showed that any carbonation was created by natural secondary fermentation. It makes Moor Beer the first brewery in the world to be granted the *CAMRA says this is real ale* logo to use on a canned beer.

National chairman of CAMRA, Colin Valentine, said: *There have been a lot of developments in the brewing industry and CAMRA has been working hard to make sure that we understand them and how they fit with our real ale definition. I'm delighted that we've been able to show that "micro-canned" beer under the right circumstances can qualify as real ale, which means that more drinkers can get access to what we believe is the pinnacle of brewing skill – live beer which continues to ferment and develop in whichever container it's served from.*

*We carried out similar tests on key-cask beers several years ago and accepted those as real ale and we're hopeful brewers will continue to innovate and find ways of making real ale as accessible to drinkers as possible through these sorts of developments. We look forward to granting the accreditation to many more breweries producing canned beers in similar ways to Justin at Moor.*

Justin Hawke from Moor Beer said: *I moved to England because of my love for real ale, so when I made the decision to can our beer there was only one way we were going to do it – fully can-conditioned with live yeast. We invested very heavily in our canning line and process control to get it right, taking a huge risk being the first to go down this path. Cans had a horrible reputation, but actually it is the best package type for portability because it blocks all light and oxygen from getting in and ruining the beer.*

*It is also a much more environmentally friendly container, being lighter in weight, more recyclable, and safer than glass. We worked really hard with our designer Ben King from Ich Bin Ben to make the outside of the can as awesome as the beer inside. The beer itself is amazing, and getting CAMRA's recognition gives us a huge sense of achievement.*

# THE BLACK HORSE INN

## FREEHOUSE

Pilgrims Way  
Thurnham  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME14 3LD

Tel 01622 737185

[info@wellieboot.net](mailto:info@wellieboot.net)

[www.wellieboot.net](http://www.wellieboot.net)



A family-run business with pub, restaurant and lovely bed and breakfast rooms at the foot of the North Downs in the Kent countryside

Dog friendly in the bar

Cask Conditioned Ales – Westerham Grasshopper and 4 Guest Ales, which could include Old Dairy Spring Top, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Sharps Doom Bar, Black Sheep Best, Skinners Betty Stogs, Adnams Ghost Ship - the list is endless but all well kept!

Open all day every day with food served all day!

Traditional pub favourites along with A La Carte and blackboard daily specials

# UK Chief Medical Officer's Proposed Alcohol Guidelines

CAMRA is concerned about the UK Chief Medical Officer's (CMO) new proposed Government guidelines for alcohol consumption, namely:

- ◇ Both men and women are safest not to drink more than 14 units per week, and it is best to spread this evenly over 3 or more days
- ◇ The risk of developing a range of illnesses increases with any amount you drink on a regular basis
- ◇ There is 'no safe level' of alcohol consumption

## **CAMRA response to the *Health risks from alcohol: new guidelines consultation***

CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, is a UK consumer organisation representing over 183,000 individual consumers on matters relating to beer and pubs. We are an independent, voluntary organisation campaigning for real ale, community pubs and consumer rights. CAMRA promotes responsible drinking and recognises the harmful effects of high levels of alcohol consumption. We support the use of guidelines to enable consumers to make informed choices about responsible drinking and safe levels of alcohol consumption.

However, we are concerned about the lack of transparency in the process through which the proposed guidelines were formulated. This impenetrable setup brings the credibility of public health advice into question, as it reduces the ability of consumers to make an informed interpretation of the proposed guidelines. Furthermore, the statement that there is 'no safe level' of alcohol consumption is untruthful, inaccurate and misleading to consumers, and also ignores the existence of the international evidence base for the protective effects of moderate alcohol consumption on a range of diseases and on total mortality. In particular, and in relation to the outcome of the consultation, CAMRA would like to see:

- ◇ A full and open consultation on the meaning and scientific evidence base of the proposed guidelines, with the public withdrawal of the proposed guidance until this is completed. This is because the process so far has been fundamentally flawed and the outcomes do not reflect the available scientific evidence.
- ◇ Recognition of the protective effects of moderate alcohol consumption and withdrawal of the claims that there is 'no safe level' of alcohol consumption and that there is 'increased risk with any amount you drink'.

# GOOD BEER GUIDE 2017...AVAILABLE NOW!

The Campaign for Real Ale's (CAMRA) best-selling beer and pub guide is back for 2017. Fully updated with the input of CAMRA's 180,000+ members, the Guide is indispensable for beer and pub lovers young and old.

Buying the book directly from CAMRA helps us campaign to support and protect real ale, real cider & real perry, and pubs & pub-goers.

The new Guide will be published in **September 2016**, you can order a copy now (details below).

## HOW TO ORDER\*

**Post:** Complete the form on this page and send to: CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans AL1 4LW

**Phone:** To order by credit card please phone 01727 867201 during office hours

**Online:** Please visit [www.camra.org.uk/shop](http://www.camra.org.uk/shop)

### Your details (please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS)

I wish to buy the 2017 Good Beer Guide for **£11** (CAMRA Members only) plus p&p

I wish to buy the 2017 Good Beer Guide for **£15.99** plus p&p

### Postal Charges†

UK £2.50

EU £7.50

Rest of the World £10.00

Name

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Postcode

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I wish to pay by cheque (payable to CAMRA). Please remember to add postal charges to all orders

Please charge my Credit/Debit card. Please note that we are unable to accept payment via American Express.

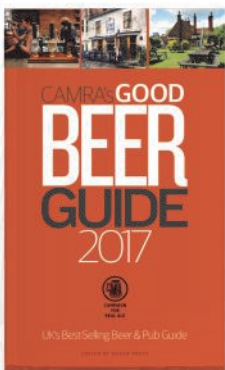
Card Number

Expiry Date

CSV Number (last 3 numbers on reverse of card)

Name of cardholder

Signature



UK's Best Selling Beer & Pub Guide

© 2016 CAMRA

www.camra.org.uk

\*Further discounts available at [www.camra.org.uk/gbg](http://www.camra.org.uk/gbg)

†Please note postal charges stated apply to orders for one copy of the *Good Beer Guide 2017* only. Full details available at [www.camra.org.uk/shop](http://www.camra.org.uk/shop)

## The Rising Sun Inn & Inglenooks Restaurant

A 17th century Traditional Public House with a large Inglenook fireplace, old wooden beams, & a large wholesome menu to choose from.

A very friendly inn situated in the heart of Fawkham Green, The Rising Sun Inn & Inglenooks Restaurant is an excellent choice for food and drink. With a 40 seater restaurant an extensive menu to tempt any palette & a fully stocked bar there are plenty of refreshments to choose from including a variety of six real cask ales, a varied wine list & large choice of fine brandies & single malt whiskeys. Accommodation is also available with two amazing 4 poster rooms & three twin bedded rooms all with ensuite, flat screen TVs & tea & coffee making facilities.

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---

**Sir Thomas Wyatt, Allington** – A refit in the bar here with the name on the inn sign replaced by the word *Beefeater*. *Shepherd Neame Spitfire* is a permanent fixture on the bar, with a guest beer that changes only occasionally.

**White Hart, Claygate** – We understand this has been sold as a pub and await further news.

**K Sports Bar, Ditton** – This is the new name for the former Ditton Sports & Social Club facility which now operates under the K Sports banner. New all-weather hockey pitches are to be built to enhance usage. The refit of the bar area has been completed and the function room will follow. Two changing real ales are usually available.

**Walnut Tree, East Farleigh** – The new licensee at this *Shepherd Neame* outlet, Daniel Sandison, keeps *Master Brew*, *Spitfire Gold* and a seasonal brew. He is hoping to be able to offer food towards the end of the year.

**Goudhurst Inn, Goudhurst** – Very busy inside and out when we visited in August, so we had to use the designated overflow school car park up the road. *Dark Star Hophead* and *Whitstable East India Pale Ale* were our choices but *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter* was also available.

**Vine, Goudhurst** – A welcome return of this 17<sup>th</sup>-century coaching inn in the village centre re-opened with new owners following a closure of 11 months. It has been re-fitted and now has the benefit of a courtyard garden at the rear. Badged as a pub, grill and lounge providing good quality food and local ales. The bar will be kept as a locals' bar. The initial ales were

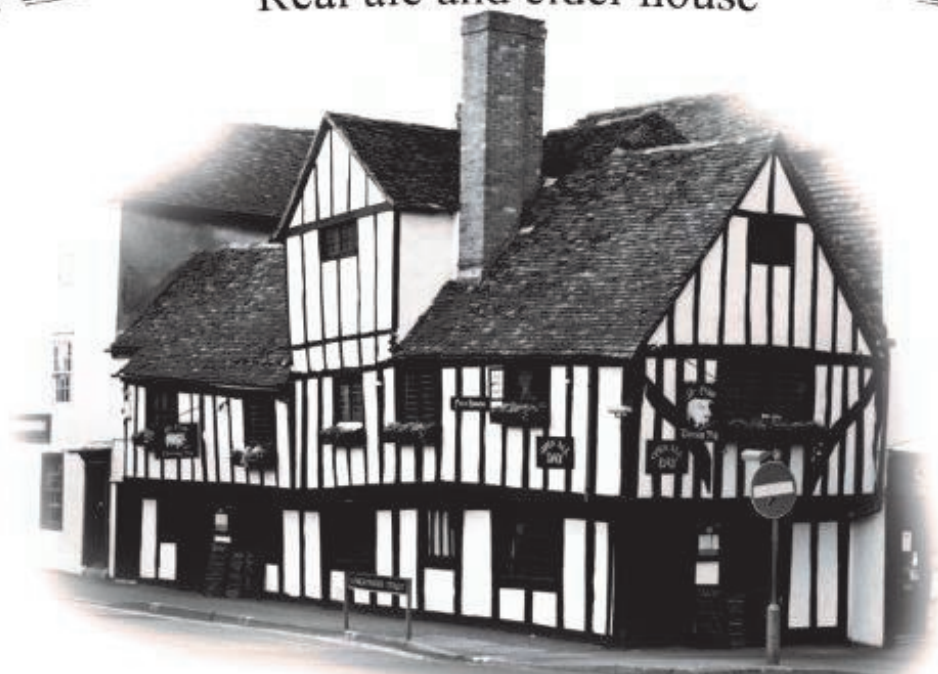


*Harveys Sussex Best Bitter*, *Old Dairy Summer Top* and *Romney Amber Ale* with *Wychwood Hobgoblin Gold* as a guest. [vinegoudhurst.com](http://vinegoudhurst.com)

**Hawkenbury, Hawkenbury** – Fancy a game of skittles? Then this could be the place to go. Please contact the pub to arrange. Also, it has 3 B&B rooms. Some good local ale was found here, from *Dartford Wobbler*, *Goody* and *Tonbridge*, though other Kent micro-breweries may also be found. [www.thehawkenburyinn.com](http://www.thehawkenburyinn.com)

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### **Hook & Hatchet, Hucking** –

Fully refurbished by new licensees Sharon Hodgson & Allan Bishop following a two-year period of closure and who are now providing a welcoming venue at this isolated pub. It has big-screen TVs inside and out to cover large events. Food is served Tuesday-Saturday 12-9 and Sunday-Monday 12-6. Beers are



likely to change but *Fullers London Pride* seems to have been available for a while. *Caledonian Deuchars IPA* and *Sharp's Doom Bar* have also been on the bar. Various events are organised including cards on Mondays, motor cycles on Tuesdays, open mic sessions alternate Thursdays, horses (and riders) are welcomed on second Saturday in month and classic cars third Sunday in month. [www.hookandhatchetpub.co.uk](http://www.hookandhatchetpub.co.uk)

**Peacock, Iden Green** (near Goudhurst) – Terry Horton has now taken on the tenancy here and the beer was in good order when the branch visited in August. *Shepherd Neame Master Brew*, *Spitfire Gold* and *Bishops Finger* are the usual ales.

**Plough, Langley** – A refit is taking place here but it should be open soon.

**Potting Shed, Langley** – Building work is moving ahead here with a new car parking area and a rear extension which will contain the restaurant and open kitchen. It is expected to open in October but no information on Elite Pubs website at time of writing.

**Chequers, Loose** – On Boxing Day, the pub will as usual be hosting 2 or 3 sets of Morris Dancers, including the 'Loose Women', who will be performing (weather permitting) in the road outside from around midday. This event is always very popular and is supported by many of the local villagers. At least 6 beers will be available, *Fullers London Pride*, *Sharp's Doom Bar*, *Harveys Sussex Best*, *LocAles Shepherd Neame Master Brew* and *Rockin' Robin Reliant Robin* plus one 1 guest.

**4Degrees, Maidstone** – A new restaurant and bar in the Royal Star Arcade with a range of bottled, keg and KeyKeg beers. Food often uses beer as an ingredient. Beer tastings may be booked whereby various

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styles of beer are offered to awaken the taste buds. More information via [www.4degreesmaidstone.co.uk](http://www.4degreesmaidstone.co.uk) or on Facebook: 4degreesmaidstone.

**Eagle, Maidstone** – New licensee Andy Lamport is apparently trying several ales at present. The appearance of *Sharp's Doom Bar* did not go down well, and *Adnams Broadside* promptly reappeared. A second handpump has been added, which is used at the weekends and recently has dispensed *Butcombe Bitter*.

**First & Last, Maidstone** – An evening visit here found both *Timothy Taylor Boltmaker* and *Landlord* supplemented by *Sharp's Atlantic IPA* and *Sambrook's Junction*.

**Fox, Maidstone** – Reported as closed.

**Kingsley Arms, Maidstone** – A planning application for housing has been approved and work is in progress.

**Olde Thirsty Pig, Maidstone** – Won the Best Real Ale award from the 'Worth A Butchers' team who reviewed many of the real ale pubs in Maidstone. The team also ran a popular beer festival at the **Style and Winch** earlier in the year. .

**Walnut Tree, Maidstone** – Several beers from micro-breweries have been appearing here as well as the permanent *Goachers Fine Light* and *Courage Best*. Well worth a visit. Thursday evening comedians appear on the stage. [www.thewalnuttreemairstone.com](http://www.thewalnuttreemairstone.com)

**Malta Inn, Sandling** – Another case of the inn sign being replaced by the word *Beefeater* – somewhat unnecessary as the branding abounds all around. Permanent ale is *Shepherd Neame Spitfire* and a guest, which at time of visit was *Sharp's Atlantic IPA*.

**Lord Raglan, Staplehurst** – *Goachers Fine Light* is permanently on the bar together with *Harveys Sussex Best Bitter*. On this occasion the guest ale was *Tonbridge Coppernob*.

**Plough, Trottscliffe** – Found closed in August.

**Railway, Wateringbury** – The new licensees here are Carlee and Alister. It is now open all week. Live music sessions continue. For further information see Facebook: [TheRailwayInWateringbury](https://www.facebook.com/TheRailwayInWateringbury)

**Wateringbury, Wateringbury** – Manager Clive Coleridge keeps a *Tonbridge* beer on and another local micro as well as the required *Greene King IPA* and another from the same source.



Congratulations are the order of the day to Liz and Mark Twort, ably assisted by their daughter Milly Mae with boyfriend Matt Daniels, on the opening of Bexley's fourth micropub.

The **Hackney Carriage** (named after Mark's cabbie career), was in previous guise a school outfitters and opened officially on Friday 19 August. Luckily, friends and family were invited for a sneak preview the previous day.

Liz, who has been getting to know the micropub ropes, helping out with Andy Wheeler at the **Broken Drum** in Blackfen, was full of praise for the support she has had from both Bexley Council and Bexley CAMRA.

The opening beer range was *Bexley Bob*, *Southwark Bermondsey Best*, *Humpty Dumpty Lemon and Ginger*, and *Titanic Plum Porter*. A *Bradfield Brewery Farmers Blonde* was taken off the list, as it was found the barrel had leaked on the trip down from Sheffield, and, although it tasted OK there was a certain lack of sparkle in the beer. Oh, and I forgot the couple of ciders on, too!

Apparently the pub was heaving on the Friday night, and they were drunk dry on the night by 8pm!

The **Hackney Carriage**, 165 Station Road, Sidcup DA15 7AA  
Opening times: Mon-Thu 3-10pm Fri-Sat 12-10:30pm Sun 12-4pm

# BIZARRE BUDAPEST

by Jeff Tucker

I spent a few days in Budapest recently to check out the brewpubs, most of which were interesting, and details can be found on [Ratebeer.com](http://Ratebeer.com). However, this article is about a type of pub which seems unique to Budapest.

I was in a bar having an evening meal, when I picked up an English language copy of a *What to see in Budapest* magazine, and my eyes were drawn to the pub section. It was about the 'Ruin Pubs' in Budapest. Apparently there are at least four in the city, and the original one, the best supposedly, was within easy walking distance, so off I set.



It is called **Szimpla Kert**, and can be found at the southern end of Kazinczy utca, two streets north-east from Astoria metro station, in the Jewish Quarter of Budapest. The idea of ruin pubs is that they take over a derelict building and turn it into a pub. Simple! This one has been there for nearly ten years. Deciding where and how to start describing the pub is difficult, to say the least, but here we go.....

There is a central corridor with a rough stone floor, with several rooms off to the sides, some of which have a bar in them. The only draught beers are two from *Dreher*, at 650 forint for half a litre, which is fairly ordinary, but beer is not the main attraction here.

At the back is a courtyard, containing part of the body of a Trabant car. Two staircases lead to a smaller upstairs area, and every surface is covered with a mixture of junk and graffiti.

Rooms include the 'computer room', which contains numerous old computer screens hanging from the walls, showing weird geometric patterns. There is a 'shisha room', guarded by a large green plastic animal, where shisha pipes may be experienced (no, I didn't!).



The whole place is like 'shabby chic' on steroids! You could spend hours here just wandering around, which is easier to do before 5pm, when it gets really busy. If you find yourself in Budapest, you must try it..



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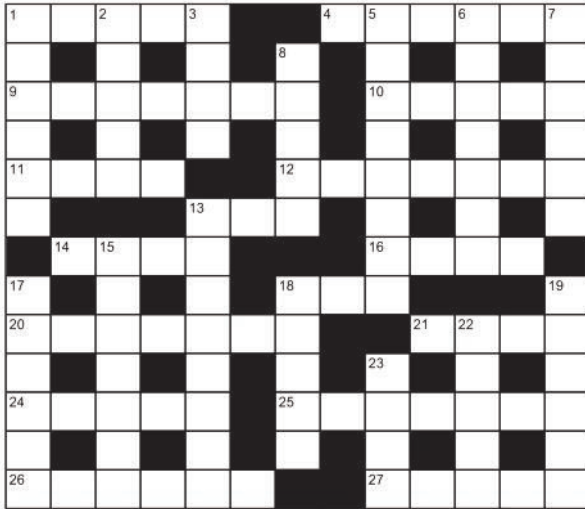
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| Sat   | 12pm - 3pm & 6pm - 11pm |
| Sun   | 12pm - 6pm              |



# The Draught Copy Crossword No. 24

compiled by MICK NORMAN

*Solution in next issue*



## Across

- 1 Involved in close race, but no medal for this contestant (5)
- 4 Poor Elton's nicked! (6)
- 9 Deranged, loveless teen upon another planet (7)
- 10 Rang steeple bells, filled with misgiving (5)
- 11 One ruled this country (4)
- 12 Renew army repository? (7)
- 13 Call for rum, maybe (3)
- 14 Local shop hits back (4)
- 16 Animal rearing up in the morning (4)
- 18 Add a drop of rum, perhaps (3)
- 20 Litterbug loses footing and could become fragile (7)
- 21 Swindle bird from 'The Castle' (4)
- 24 Another wide, for example (5)
- 25 Quiet! Dury is taking on Beethoven's Fourth. What a performer! (7)
- 26 Rests at first, remains around then wanders (6)
- 27 Hirudinean surgeon's assistant? (5)

## Down

- 1 One-nil to the King of Skiffle (6)
- 2 Old photograph, next door to the first day of Autumn? (5)
- 3 Disastrous tour resulting in heavy defeat (4)
- 5 Artist spent time dancing in the cathedral (8)
- 6 Rum glow riddled for bait (7)
- 7 Crops may be scored (6)
- 8 Chuck fruit in Walmer pub (5)
- 13 Tiny brat lost in France (8)
- 15 Artist to father Italian football team (7)
- 17 Scabies treated, excising one nasty boil (6)
- 18 Attract model - casual at first (5)
- 19 Outline an old paper (6)
- 22 No wire is green (5)
- 23 Long or short total (4)

## Solution to Crossword No. 23



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My opening paragraph last month mentioned the top five pubs in the branch Pub of the Year competition and the presentations to the winner and joint runners-up. However, it has been pointed out that I neglected to mention a presentation to the inaugural branch Cider Pub of the Year. This is partly because I don't drink cider myself, so it doesn't register on my radar, and mainly because the branch genuinely forgot to arrange one. This has been rectified and there will be a presentation to **Campbell Arms** in Northfleet on Thursday 10 November. The real ciders are kept in boxes on a shelf behind the bar, visible to customers, and were from *Dudda's Tun* during my visit in September. Nevertheless, I didn't try them and opted for beers *Elgood Indian Summer* and *Loddon Golden Bullet*. By the way the **Campbell Arms** now offers a 20 pence a pint discount to card carrying CAMRA members, and they also offer third of a pint tasting glasses.

As I'm personally not qualified to comment on the quality of cider and perry, I'm open to comments from readers and I invited recommendations in the summer issue, number 183. We didn't receive any response from general readers, but members at meetings confirmed that the **Old House** at Ightham Common has a good selection of ciders and the **Compass** in Gravesend, the **Ship & Lobster** in Gravesend, the **Bird in Hand** in Dartford, the **Coach & Horses** in Northfleet, the **George & Dragon** in Swanscombe, **Dartford Working Men's Club** and both Wetherspoon pubs were mentioned.

Regarding Wetherspoon pubs I wrote about the closure of the **Paper Moon**, also in the summer issue, which remains closed and boarded, a very sad loss to the drinking public of Dartford. I alluded to the other Wetherspoon pub but not by name. The surviving Dartford outlet is the **Flying Boat** in Spital Street, which is a large imposing building (1910), formerly a car showroom and offices for Beadles, which has a high ceiling, impressive staircase and a substantial outside drinking area to the rear. Tania and her team are promoting the real ales, which include beers from breweries in Kent but, in the opinion of several local CAMRA members, it will be difficult to match the standard of the **Paper Moon**, which had a traditional pub atmosphere, whereas the **Flying Boat** functions more as a restaurant.

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The other Wetherspoon pub in our branch area is the **Robert Pocock** in Gravesend town centre, with entrances in both Windmill Street and Stone Street. It is a pleasant, split-level pub with a good selection of real ales. The branch held an open business meeting here in September and we thank Rob, Luke and the team for reserving a separate area for the meeting, supplying a generous assortment of nibbles and, of course, excellent beer. We particularly enjoyed the *Kent Brewery Pale*. The **Robert Pocock** appears in the 2017 *Good Beer Guide*. It also hosts a quiz on Monday nights.

The other pub between these two streets, the **Troadero**, closed for several months, has finally become a florist shop. Further up Windmill Street, the former **Railway Tavern**, closed for years, has finally been converted and re-opened as an ice-cream parlour and restaurant. Work is going on inside the former **New Inn** in Milton Road; all the furniture and fittings have gone but the bar counter is conspicuously still present, so it may re-open as a licensed venue, maybe even a pub again?

In the autumn issue I mentioned the closure of the former **Borough Shades** in Windmill Street and the re-introduction of real ale in the **Milton Ale Shades**. As we'd heard of other pubs in Gravesend which had the word "*Shades*" in the title my colleague Mick Allen researched the derivation of the name. He enquired with Gravesend Library and was referred to an article from an August 1974 issue of the *Gravesend Reporter* entitled "*Four Shades Riddle*".

The Four Shades at the time were the two mentioned above, the **Manor Shades** and the **Royal Victoria Shades** and a reference was made to the recently closed **Wrotham Ale Shades**. In all, eleven pubs with the term "*Shades*" have been identified in Gravesham Borough, of which only the **Milton Ale Shades** survives as an operating pub.

The newspaper article didn't identify conclusively the etymology of the name "*Shades*" with regard to drinking places, which is not exclusive to Gravesend as pubs including that name have been identified in London and Brighton. The article goes on to report that the Oxford Dictionary says "*the Shades were originally wine or beer vaults with a drinking bar, either underground or sheltered from the sun by an arcade*". I've seen a photograph of the **Rosherville Hotel Shades**, demolished in the 1960s, which fits this description, but I'm not entirely convinced about all the others. Can anyone shed any light on the Shades?

Going back to the cider theme I picked up a *Bexley Cider Trail 2016* leaflet at the **Broken Drum** in Blackfen. This involved a jaunt around the four micropubs in the Bexley branch in October. I actually tried two halves of cider in the **Broken Drum** in September, being *Dudda's Delight*, flavoured with apricots at 4% abv, and *Turner's Dry* at 7% abv. The former was sickly sweet and the latter could take the enamel off your teeth. I poured them both into a pint glass and made a tolerable "medium" cider' presumably at 5.5% abv.

At the end of the article in the Autumn issue, I promised to advise further developments regarding the **Hoppers Hut** in Sidcup High Street, in a parade of shops opposite the junction with Rectory Road. This venue was granted full planning permission on 1 September and, at the time of writing, planned to open fully on 7 October. On my September visit the four real ales came from *Black Jack*, *Reunion*, *Saltaire* and *Wildweather* breweries.

Technically, this becomes the fifth micropub in Bexley branch and, in football score terms, they are now beating Gravesend and Darent Valley branch 5-1, as the **Compass** in Gravesend is our only outlet. Personally, I prefer not to use the generic term *micropub*. There are now over 300 such establishments in the UK, some of which are relatively large and many have diverged from the original concept of tiny premises selling just real ale and cider on gravity (mainly from local producers), no keg beers, no hot food, no music and no mobile phones. Incidentally, the tiniest micropub I've been to is the **Little Prince** in Margate, which accommodates no more than six people standing. It is located in the impressive indoor Old Kent Market, which now showcases many craft and food stalls with plenty of seating for all customers.

As a self-confessed pub and beer ticker I'm endeavouring to visit as many newly opened pubs as possible (large and small, traditional or otherwise) in Kent and South East London, which are helping to stem the flow of pub closures in general. I've visited most of the micropubs and haven't found one I wouldn't happily return to. Even the **Twelve Taps** in Whitstable, which only sells key keg (craft) beers, had a pleasant convivial atmosphere and the *Time & Tide Spratwaffler* tasted surprisingly good. I've also been impressed with new Wetherspoon (*macropubs*?) the **Thomas Waghorn**, the former main Post Office in Chatham, and especially the **Golden Hope**, the former magistrates Court, in Sittingbourne, where I particularly applaud the conversion of the three holding cells into drinking alcoves.



Once again Bexley branch is ahead of GDV, leading us 4-2 in the number of Wetherspoon pubs, and they probably have more clubs selling real ale as well. However, we lay claim to the club with the most CAMRA awards. The **Dartford Working Men's Club** has won every annual branch Club of the Year award, several Kent Club of the Year awards, including this year's, and was once the National Club of the Year. Need I say more? Please come along and sample one or several of the ever changing beers from 15 handpumps at the current price of £2.60 a pint and....oh....there's plenty for cider and perry drinkers too! The Club is hosting the CAMRA Kent Region Meeting on Saturday 12 November and the first branch open business meeting of 2017 on Thursday 5 January.

The pub with the most branch Pub of the Year awards including the current year 2016, is the ever popular **Cock Inn** at Luddesdown. The long-serving owner, Andrew Turner, is recovering from his kidney transplant operation (see page 37 in the previous issue) and his wife Denise is recovering from a broken ankle. Andrew and Denise have run this marvellous traditional hostelry for more than 30 years and, in recognition, the branch presented them with a CAMRA Lifetime Achievement Award at our social on 22 September. They are taking a reduced role at present, and son Adnam is now the man at the helm, and we trust he'll continue to operate the pub along traditional lines for many years to come.

As we say every year at this time it'll soon be Christmas and we'd like to mention two branch events in December. Firstly, card carrying CAMRA members are invited to attend the branch AGM, which will be held at the **Three Daws** in Gravesend on Wednesday 7 December. We would especially appreciate seeing new faces and hearing different opinions, and information about local pubs and clubs is always welcome. Secondly, the Xmas social and buffet will be held at the **George & Dragon** in Swanscombe for members and friends, including neighbouring CAMRA branches on the evening of Monday 19 December.

Enjoy the festive season and best wishes for 2017.

**Just in:** *Brakspear* is reported to have demolished the **Battle of Britain**, their pub in Northfleet, without planning consent!

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

Greetings from all at Bexley CAMRA.

In pub news: The good news is that we saw the opening of two new micro pubs in this quarter, firstly the **Hackney Carriage** opened its doors on 19 August (see page 22) and then on 1 September it was followed by the **Hoppers Hut** (see page 32). Both are in Sidcup, albeit at opposite ends of the town, and are completely different in style. As yet we have no further news as to the one in Barnehurst. Sadly, we have to report the closure of the **Charlotte** in Crayford as of 20 August, although the branch was successful in obtaining an Asset of Community Value (ACV) status on the pub. Two other pubs have also been listed: the **Crayford Arms** and **Earl Haig** (Bexleyheath). We also have to report that the **Fanny on the Hill** in Welling has been demolished. If you have any other pub news, please get in touch, either by using the branch details at the top of this article or by contacting our Pubs Officer Ian Wright on 07779 319196 or [bexleypubs@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bexleypubs@yahoo.co.uk). The easiest way for you to do this when you are in the pub is to log on to *WhatPub.com* with your tablet or smartphone, check out the details shown and advise us at the time of any changes. We would also ask all CAMRA members to use WhatPub to submit beer scores for our branch pubs. Whenever you visit a pub anywhere, simply go to *Whatpub.com*, find the pub, go to **Submit Beer Score** and follow the simple instructions.

Our monthly branch meetings have taken place on the second Wednesday of each month as usual. In July we visited the **Railway Tavern** in Bexley, August the **Broken Drum** in Blackfen, and in September the **Charcoal Burner**, Sidcup. We thank the licensees for accommodating us.

Late in June we held a social at the **Broken Drum** to present Andy Wheeler with a certificate for runner-up in the pub of the year competition.



In July we held three socials, the first was a Saturday crawl around Crayford, starting at the **Charlotte**, which had two real ales; we then caught a bus to the other end of town to the **One Bell** with three ales,

down the back hill to the **Wellington**, just one here, along the road to the **Dukes Head**, two real ales, across to our *Good Beer Guide* pub, the **Crayford Arms**, which did not have any real ale on at the time, then down the hill to the **Bear & Ragged Staff**, two ales, and finally across the road to our last stop, the **Penny Farthing**, which had five ales and four ciders available.

The second was a trip to Beckenham for the Bromley branch beer festival. This was well attended and, like our own festival, sold out this year after a disaster last year at Eden Park. The weather was slightly breezy but warm enough to sit outside. Our final social was at the **Door Hinge** where we presented Ray Hurley with a certificate for 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the pub of the year competition.



Our two August socials both took us out of branch, firstly to the capital where we had a long crawl. Starting at the well-renowned **Harp**, where we were joined by a member of West London branch, we proceeded to the **White Swan** and the **Salisbury** before heading to the **Shakespeare's Head** for a lunch stop. After this we continued on to the **Swan** and the **Lamb** before ending our crawl in the *Shepherd Neame* pub, **Mabel's Tavern**. The second social was held jointly with our colleagues from Bromley, and was a crawl of Petts Wood, starting at their micro pub, **One Inn the Wood**, a former Greater London Pub of the Year. We then walked around the corner to the **Daylight Inn** before crossing the railway bridge to the **Sovereign of the Seas**.

In September, the quiz team were in action again at the **Broken Drum**, where they were again beaten into second place. Our first social was a crawl of the Medway towns starting at the **10:50 from Victoria** in Strood, where four of our members were joined by some from Bromley branch and one from the local branch. During the afternoon, we walked through to Rochester and visited the **Coopers Tavern**, **Good Intent**, **Man of Kent**, **Flippin' Frog** and **Northern Seaman**. After this we walked to Chatham, boarded the train for the short hop to Gillingham where we ended the day at the **Past and Present**. It was a very enjoyable day out with plenty of good beer in all the pubs. Our second social of the month

started at the **Door Hinge** before taking a short walk up the road to the **New Cross Turnpike**. From here we caught a bus to the top of Shooters Hill to the **Bull** and then we walked down to the **Red Lion**. The quiz team were also in action at the end of September at the Penny Farthing where they finished fifth.

## Online training now available

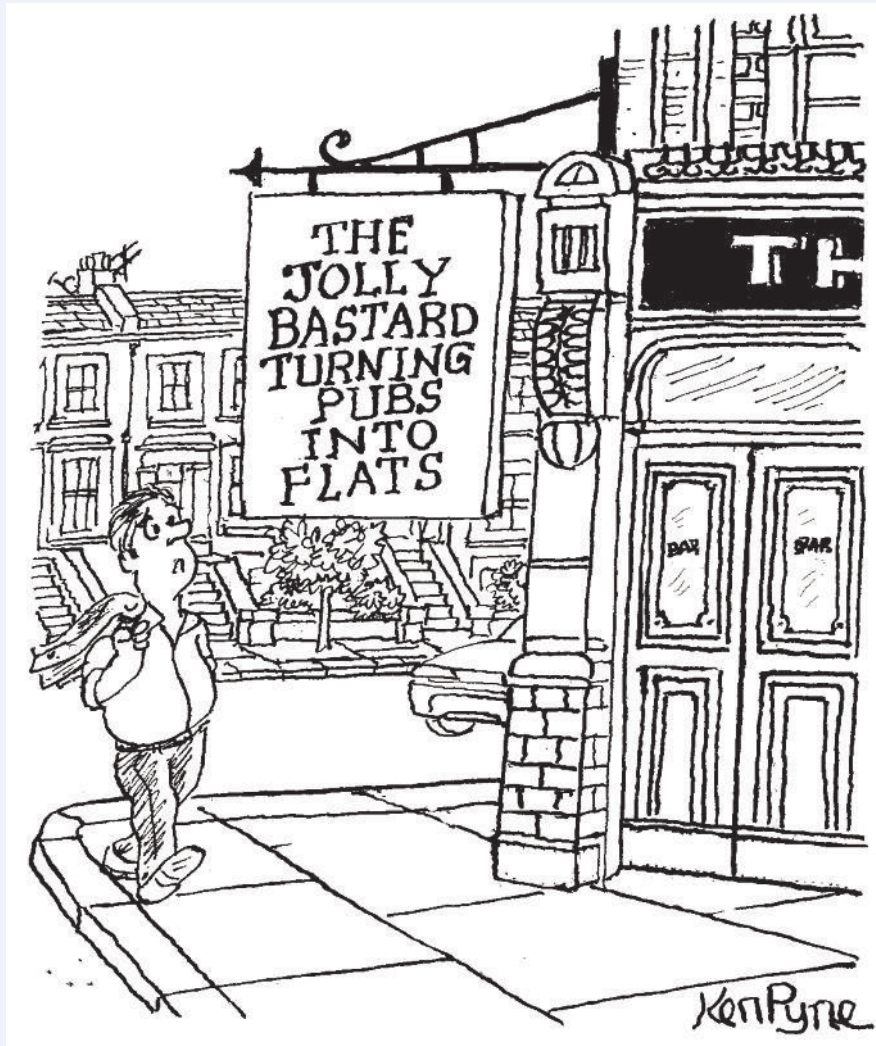
CAMRA would be nothing without our army of volunteers. Many bring existing knowledge and skills from their daily lives to help the organisation. However, we also recognise that a little training will give others confidence to take on new roles. In other cases training is essential for safety and legal compliance. As well as helping you to help CAMRA, such training can be useful to members in other walks of life too.

We can now give CAMRA volunteers access to online courses offered by CPL, a leading provider of training to the retail and hospitality sectors. Their City and Guilds approved courses are designed to be interactive, providing information in a variety of ways. You can complete them in your own time, at your own pace.

You can see some of the courses below. More detail about each course can be found at [www.cpl-learning.co.uk/courses](http://www.cpl-learning.co.uk/courses). If you believe you might benefit from one of these, please email your branch chairman or training co-ordinator and request the course. If they are satisfied that the course is suitable and there is room in the budget they have been allocated, they will approve it and you will receive an email with a link that will allow you to access the course.

We hope many of you will take advantage of this fantastic new facility offered by CAMRA.

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  Age Verification                               |  Allergen Awareness                                   |  ALPS<br>(Award for Licensed Premises Staff)           |
|  AUASP<br>(Award for Underage Sales Prevention) |  BII PEAT<br>(Pre-Entry Awareness Training)           |  Bribery Act Awareness                                 |
|  Conflict Management                            |  COSHH<br>(Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) |  Disability Awareness                                  |
|  Drugs Awareness                                |  Emergency First Aid                                  |  Equality and Diversity                                |
|  Fire Awareness<br>2016                         |  Food Safety<br>2016                                  |  Food Safety<br>in Manufacturing                       |
|  Fuel Safety                                    |  HACCP<br>(Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point)    |  Health and Safety<br>2016                             |
|  Manual Handling                                |  Money Laundering<br>Awareness                        |  SALPS<br>(Scottish Award for Licensed Premises Staff) |



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# The Flower Pot



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There are two breweries in the Maltese Islands, one of which only produces keg beers and lagers.

*Simonds-Farsons-Cisk* is based just outside the capital Valetta, on the island of Malta, and was formed through a series of mergers starting with *Simonds* of Reading in 1929. Some people may recall that the UK *Simonds* brewery and brands were taken over by *Courage Barclays* in 1960.



I tried a couple of their English-style beers and found them disappointing and thin - *Hopleaf* at 3.8% abv and *Blue Label* at 3.3% abv. I also found in bottle *Lacto Milk Stout* at 3.8%, which was quite palatable. I can only imagine that we would all be drinking beers like these now without the formation of CAMRA! Trying to find the nearest outlet to the brewery proved problematic. The closest I could find was **L-Akwadott**, that only sold bottled Cisk, a ten minute walk away. [www.farsons.com](http://www.farsons.com) (brewery tours by prior arrangement).

The *Lord Chambray* brewery is a true craft brewery, located on the neighbouring island of Gozo, close to the main town of Victoria. Named after Fort Chambray on the island, the brewery was opened in July 2014 by Samuele D'Imperio, and partner Valentina Rosetto following a €1million investment. All of the brewing equipment was manufactured in Italy by Spadoni.

After arriving at the brewery unannounced, I was given a tour and samples of course! The current beer range is *Blue Lagoon* 5.0% abv (wheat beer), *San Blas* 5.7% (English IPA), *Fungus Rock* 5.5% (dry stout), *Golden Bay* 5.2% (blonde ale), and *Special Bitter* 3.8%. They also now have a seasonal beer, currently *Flinders Rose* 4.2%. Samuele told me that at sometime in the future they are looking to grow some ingredients on the island, as currently everything used has to be imported at a cost to both the brewery and the environment!



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## **The Bell & Jorrock's**

**Biddenden Road, Frittenden TN17 2EJ**

01580 852415 [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/thebellandjorrock) [www.thebellandjorrock's.co.uk](http://www.thebellandjorrock's.co.uk)

Sean & Rosie welcome you to their 18<sup>th</sup> century pub  
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**Kitchen Open Hours**

Wed – Sun 12 – 2:30

Wed – Sat 6:30 – 8:45

Master brewer, Andrea Bertola, is based in Italy and spends nine days each month at the brewery. Most of the beer is currently bottled on a state of the art machine also made in Italy by GAI, and an on-site laboratory takes care of checking the beers at all stages of the brewing process. I was told that the reason that most of the production is bottled is that Malta and Gozo are difficult



places to sell draught beer, as most bars and restaurants are supplied under contract to *Farsons*, hence only limited outlets exist on the islands. However, Lord Chambray are investigating expanding further afield, and are looking to tie up a deal with a distributor. To this end, they took a 20-litre cask and many bottles to exhibit in the Italian section at the GBBF in August. Apparently the cask lasted only 2 hours from being broached! [www.lordchambray.com.mt](http://www.lordchambray.com.mt) (brewery tours available at most times, free).

While in Malta, I thought I would hunt down a couple of their outlets. Close to our hotel in Bugibba was the **Plum Tree**. The good news was I managed to find *San Blas*. The bad news, the bottles were three months past the best before date and the bar was not selling them. After some quick



negotiation and convincing them that the beer would only be better and not worse, I got to drink two bottles for the bargain price of €3.

The next night I ventured to the 1930s **Carpentry Wine Bar** in San Pawl. Here I found *Fungus Rock* and the *Special Bitter* (I think that the whole range was sold), although, unfortunately not such a bargain as the previous night!

Here's to the next beer hunting trip!

# COMPETITION ANSWERS – ISSUE 184

Two people had the correct brewery name, and had all of the correct answers. The lucky winners were Alan White and Bill Lancaster, and beer festival tickets were sent to them. The hidden brewery was **Charrington**, and the answers to the clues were:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | R | I | C | K | L | E |   |   |
| M | A | R | T | I | A | N |   |   |
| L | I | N | K | S |   |   |   |   |
| M | O | U | L | D |   |   |   |   |
| P | R | E | S | T | I | G | E |   |
| E | C | L | A | I | R |   |   |   |
| T | H | E | R | E |   |   |   |   |
| A | N | N | E | X |   |   |   |   |
| I | N | N | O | C | E | N | T |   |
| A | G | G | R | E | G | A | T | E |
| S | T | A | N | D | A | R | D |   |

- Puncture the French with something sharp
- Vehicle reverses into man from another planet
- Connects a golf course
- Fungus shape
- Tree pigs somehow have a good reputation
- Eastern woman with a cake
- Article about that place
- Take possession of a girl with a kiss
- A pub with a round coin? Not guilty!
- Collect stones
- An ordinary flag

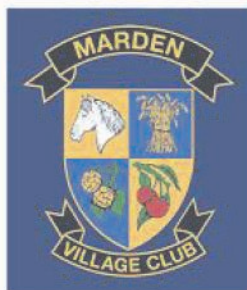
## ***Marden Village Club***

### **CAMRA MMK Club of the Year**

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*[www.mardenvillageclub.co.uk](http://www.mardenvillageclub.co.uk)*



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Working Mens Clubs & Institutes (1996)*

# A trip out to Keynsham

by Mick Allen

Back in August I decided a trip to Keynsham, midway between Bath and Bristol, was in order. There are nine pubs, on a roughly circular route from the station, and I reckoned on visiting all of them in the four hours available.

The first pub, a short distance from the station, was the **Lock Keeper**. This *Youngs* pub overlooks the River Avon and the canal cut, with the usual range of *Youngs* beers on and *Bath Ales Gem*. I opted for the *Gem*. A short stroll away brought me to the **Brassmills**. I would consider this more of a restaurant than a pub. Beers on offer, *Sharps Doom Bar* and *Purity UBU*, you can guess which beer I had. The only disappointment was that it was £2.10 a half!

After a walk through the park along the River Chew, I quickly arrived at the **Talbot** and then the **New Inn**. The **Talbot** is a Hungry Horse pub serving just *Greene King IPA* (have they changed the recipe on this beer, as it was rather good?). It also had an *Old Rosie* handpump with the clip turned round. The **New Inn** was surprisingly empty on a Saturday afternoon; with *Sharps Doom Bar* and *Bass* on, I chose the *Bass*.

Next it was on to the **Ship**. A range of *Marstons* beers was on in here, including three *Ringwoods*. I went for the *Old Empire*, good value at £1.60 for a half of 5.7% beer.



Just along into town is the **Trout Tavern**. I expect this pub is lively in the evening with live bands. Beer in here was an indifferent *Sharps Trout Bitter*, which I suspect, going by the abv, was *Cornish Coaster*.

A quick half of *Doom Bar* in the **Wine Bar** opposite (previously known as the **London Tavern**) led me to pass the **Old Bank** (I wanted to save this one for before the train back) and head along the Bristol Road to find the **Crown**, opposite the Rugby Club.



This pub reopened in 2015 with 6 letting rooms. The *Butcombe Bitter* here was in good nick (and all credit to the licensee for firstly pouring off the stale beer in the pipes!).

Back into town saw me arrive at the **Old Bank**. Unfortunately I'd been dawdling around the rest of the pubs and only had half an hour to spare to select from two ciders (*Worleys Beatnik Billy*, *Orchard Pig Explorer*), *Otter Ale*, *Stonehenge Danish Dynamite*, *Coastal Fantastic Five* and *Exmoor Beast*. As I had a three hour journey back to London and needed a little 'shut eye', I managed to sink a pint of *Beast*.

It was an enjoyable crawl around a few pubs that are normally bypassed by the delights of Bath and Bristol. And yes, the journey back was peaceful!

# A Campaign of Two Halves

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Complete the Direct Debit form and you will receive 15 months membership for the price of 12 and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription.

Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinus](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinus) or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to the: Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

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# CAMRA BRANCH DIARIES

CAMRA branches arrange socials and trips throughout the year. Non-members are welcome to come along to our meetings. If you would like more information, or would like a lift (if possible), please ring the local branch contact—see **Local News** sections. Meetings are at 8.30pm unless otherwise noted.

**BEX** = Bexley, **GDV** = Gravesend and Darent Valley, and

**MMK** = Maidstone & Mid-Kent (*OBM* = Open Business Meeting)

## NOVEMBER

- 3 **GDV** **Malt Shovel**, Dartford [*OBM*]
- 3 **MMK** **Red Lion**, Biddenden, then **Three Chimneys**
- 5 **BEX** 12noon – East London Line crawl – meet **Royal Albert**, New Cross
- 9 **BEX** **Robin Hood & Little John**, Bexleyheath, [*OBM*]
- 10 **GDV** Social and presentation – **Campbell Arms**, Northfleet
- 10 **MMK** **Hook & Hatchet**, Hucking, then **Black Horse**, Thurnham
- 12 **GDV** 11:30am Kent Region Meeting – **Dartford Working Men’s Club**.
- 17 **MMK** **Bull**, West Malling [*OBM*]
- 19 **BEX** **2pm Penny Farthing**, Crayford, then **Bird in Hand**, Dartford
- 19 **GDV** 2pm: joint social with Bexley branch – *see above*
- 19 **MMK** Bus or Train Trip to SE London
- 24 **MMK** **Hare & Hounds**, Maidstone, then **Swan**, **Society Rooms**
- 30 **BEX** 7pm social – **George Staples**, Blackfen, then **Broken Drum**
- 30 **GDV** Cobham social: **Leather Bottle**, **Darnley Arms**, **Ship**

## DECEMBER

- 1 **MMK** **Public House**, Sandling, then **Yew Tree**
- 2 **BEX** 7:30pm Xmas social – **Earl Haig**, Bexleyheath,
- 7 **GDV** **Branch AGM; Three Daws**, Gravesend [*OBM*]
- 8 **MMK** **Stag**, Maidstone, then **Olde Thirsty Pig**
- 13 **MMK** Bus & Walk to Ryarsh and West Malling
- 14 **BEX** **Royal Oak**, Bexleyheath [*OBM*]
- 15 **MMK** **Chequers**, Loose, then **Cock**, Boughton Monchelsea
- 17 **MMK** Bus Trip to the Weald
- 19 **GDV** Christmas social – **George & Dragon**, Swanscombe
- 21 **BEX** 8pm **Jolly Millers**, Bexleyheath, then **Rose**, **Foresters**, Welling
- 22 **MMK** **Redstart**, Barming, then **Duke of Edinburgh** and **Bull**
- 28 **BEX** 12noon Twixmas social – **Robin Hood & Little John**, Bexleyheath
- 29 **MMK** **Bower Inn**, Maidstone, then **Cellars**

## JANUARY

- 5 **GDV** **Dartford Working Men’s Club** [*OBM*]
- 6 **MMK** Goacher's Old Evening, **Rifle Volunteers**
- 10 **MMK** Bus & Walk Vigo to Harvel
- 11 **BEX** **Door Hinge**, Welling [*OBM*]
- 12 **MMK** **Milk House**, Sissinghurst, then **Bell & Jorrocks**, Frittenden
- 18 **BEX** 7:30pm **Tailor’s Chalk**, Sidcup, then **Alma & Hackney Carriage**
- 19 **MMK** **Stile Bridge** [*OBM*] [*GBG selection*]
- 26 **MMK** **Swan** (Loose Rd), Maidstone, then **Wheatsheaf**
- 28 **BEX** 12noon social – **Crystal Palace** – meet **Westow House**
- 28 **MMK** Bus Trip to Temple Ewell and Lydden

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