Draught Copy

CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

Free Magazine
By Maidstone & Mid-Kent CAMRA incorporating Gravesend & Darent Valley and Bexley Branches

Summer 2019 No. 195

10th East Malling Beer and Cider Festival

31st August 2019

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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The copy date for the next issue is 21 July 2019 for publication in August/September 2019.

Website: *www.mmk.camra.org.uk*
Twitter: *www.twitter.com/mmkcamra*

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*

Join up, join in, join the campaign

CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

You are just moments away from a year in beer heaven!

From as little as £25* today, be part of the CAMRA community and enjoy discounted entry to around 200 beer festivals, exclusive member offers and more. Discover all the ins and outs of brewing and beer with fantastic magazines and newsletters, but even more importantly support various causes and campaigns to save pubs, cut beer tax and more.

Join CAMRA today

Enter your details and complete the Direct Debit form below to get 15 months for the price of 12 for the first year and save £2 on your membership fee.

Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit **www.camra.org.uk/joinup** or call **01727 798440.** All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your details:

Title ..... Surname .....

Forename(s) .....

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

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..... Postcode .....

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Joint Membership (Partner at the same address)	£30 ☐	£32 ☐

*For information on Young Member and other concessionary rates please visit **www.camra.org.uk/membership-rates** or call **01727 798440**.

I/we wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association these are available at **camra.org.uk/memorandum** ☐

Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)

Title ..... Surname .....

Forename(s) .....

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

Joint member's Email .....

Joint member's Tel No .....

Signed .....

Date .....

Applications will be processed within 21 days of receipt of this form. 04/17

CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

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Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:
Campaign for Real Ale Ltd. 230 Hatfield Road St. Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

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To the Manager — Bank or Building Society

Address

Postcode

Names(s) of Account Holder

Bank or Building Society Account Number

Branch Sort Code

Reference

Service User Number

9	2	6	1	2	9

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This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Number

Name

Postcode

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Campaign For Real Ale Limited Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Campaign For Real Ale Limited and, if so will be passed electronically to my Bank/ Building Society.

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Date

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The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay by Direct Debits
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society
- If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when The Campaign Real Ale Ltd asks you to
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation my be required. Please also notify us.

New Direct Debit members will receive a 12 month supply of vouchers in their first 15 months of membership.

CAMRA Branch Diaries

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**

May	BEX	29	19:30, (Provisional) New members social, Broken Drum, Blackfen DA15 9PT then George Staples.
	GDV	30	20:00, Open Business Meeting and PotY Winner Presentation, Old House (Ightham Common)
June	BEX	1	12 noon, 9 Micropubs by Foot, starting at Hoppers Hut, 1 Invicta Parade, High St, Sidcup DA14 6ER.
	GDV	6	Pub of the Year runner-up's presentation, Dartford Jug (Dartford)
	MMK	6	Society Rooms, Maidstone, then Rifle Volunteers
	MMK	8	11:00, Stall at Mencap Fair, Mote Park
	BEX	12	20:00, AGM, Montrose Club, 158 Hurst Rd, Sidcup DA15 9AJ
	GDV	13	20:00, Pub off the Year runner-up's presentation, Compass Alehouse (Gravesend)
	MMK	13	Angel, Addington, then Kings Arms, Offham
	BEX	15	Noon, Social at The Anchor, Sevenoaks.
	MMK	20	White House, Hunton, then Good Intent, West Farleigh
	MMK	24	11:58, Bus & Walk, Underriver
	GDV	26	20:00, Plough, Cressy Arms (Wilmington), Fox & Hounds (Dartford)
	MMK	27	19:30, Bat & Trap, Benenden Village Green, then Bull
	MMK	29	11:38, Bus Trip to Ightham Common
July	MMK	4	Milk House, Sissinghurst, then Knoxbridge
	BEX	10	Brch Mtg, the Hangar, 37 the Oval, Sidcup DA15 9ER
	GDV	11	20:00, Manor Farm Barn, Ship (Southfleet)
	MMK	11	19:30, Bat & Trap opposite, then Swan on the Green, West Peckham
	MMK	18	Open Business Meeting, Bell & Jorrocks, Frittenden
	BEX	19	17:00, Bexley Cricket Club beer festival, Manor Way, Bexley DA5 3QG
	MMK	23	12:20, Bus & Walk to Upchurch
	GDV	24	20:00, Open Business Meeting , Flying Boat (Dartford)
	MMK	25	20:00, Malling Jug, West Malling, then Bull
August	MMK	1	Walnut Tree, Maidstone, then Bull, Barming
	GDV	2	20:00, Beer festival social, Three Daws (Gravesend)
	MMK	5	12:15, Bus & Walk to Beckley and Northiam
	MMK	8	Kings Head, Staplehurst, then Robin Smokery
	MMK	10	11:38, Bus Trip to Flimwell (Cellar Head Brewery)
	BEX	14	Brch Mtg, the White Cross, North Cray Road Bexley DA14 5EL
	MMK	15	Nevill Bull, Birling, then Duke of Wellington, Ryarsh
	MMK	22	Woolpack, Benover, then Chequers, Laddingford
	GDV	23	20:00, Beer festival social, Jolly Drayman (Gravesend)
	MMK	24	11:20, Bus Trip to Three Tuns Beer Festival, Lower Halstow
	MMK	29	Rising Sun, East Malling, then King & Queen
	MMK	31	**11:00, East Malling Beer & Cider Festival**

MUSKET BREWERY

CAMRA LOCAL

KENT BEERS!!

ASSURED INDEPENDENT BRITISH CRAFT BREWER SIBA

"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
(Award winning beer!)

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
(Spring/Summer brew!)

FLASH in the PAN
4% Green Hop Ale
(Only available in September!)

BALL PULLER
4% Premier Bitter
(Award winning beer!)

Brewing since 2013, Musket Brewery has earned a well-deserved reputation for providing **GREAT** beers of consistently high quality, supported by exemplary customer service!
You "MUSKET" these beers in at your local.
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THE SOCIETY OF SIBA INDEPENDENT BREWERS

DDS Scheme

"There's more in the barrel" at

www.musketbrewery.co.uk

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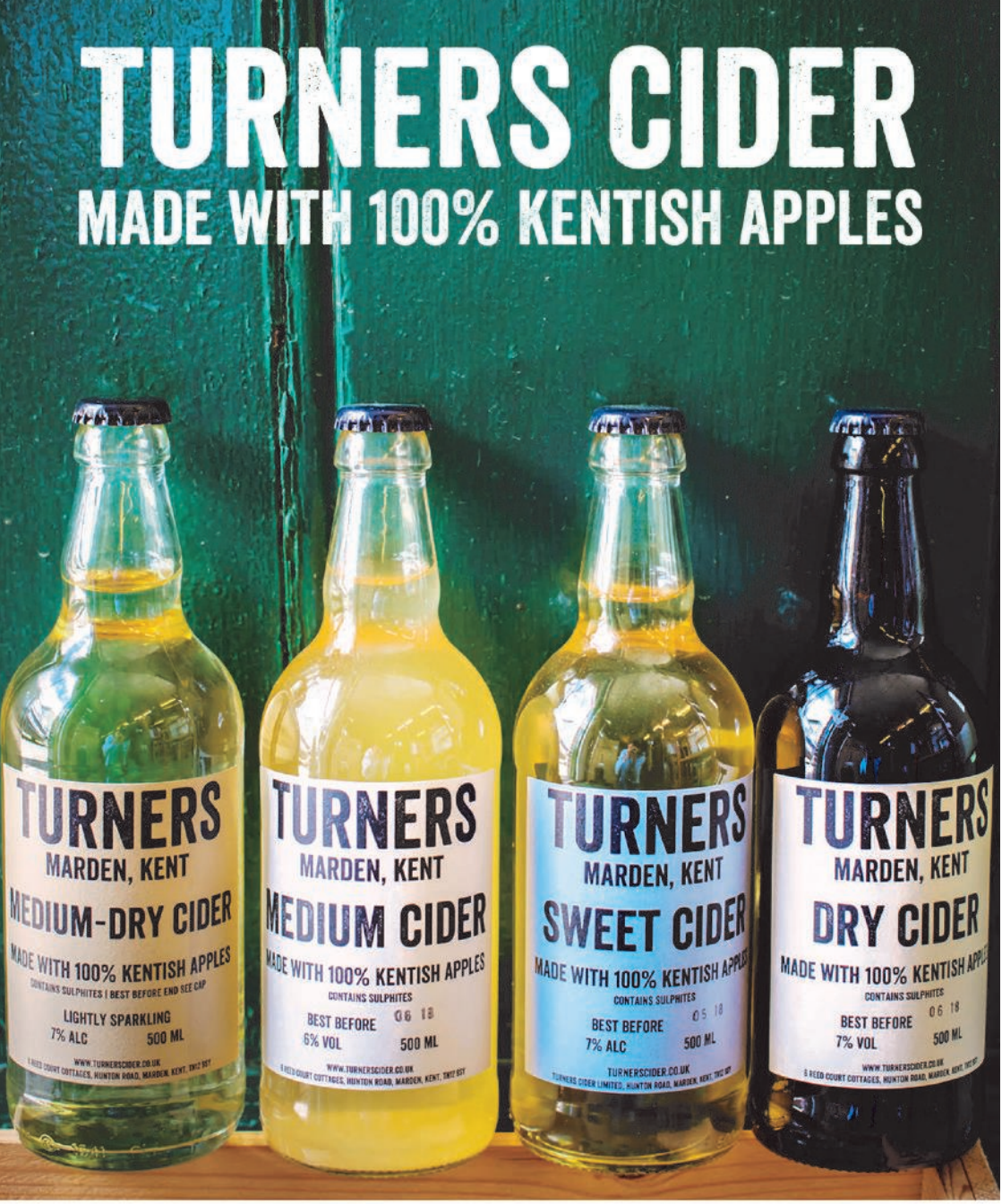

DRY 7% | MEDIUM-DRY (SPARKLING) 7% | MEDIUM 5% | SWEET 7%
PEAR 5.5% | ELDERFLOWER 5.5% | RUSSET 8% | APPLE PIE 4%

TURNERSCIDER.CO.UK @TURNERS_CIDER

CALL 07825 394164 OR MAIL PHIL@TURNERSCIDER.CO.UK

Local Beer & Cider Festivals

CAMRA Festivals:

June 14 - 15 **Kent & East Sussex Railway Beer Festival,**
Tenterden Town Stn, Station Road, Tenterden, Kent. TN30 6HE.
www.camra-afrm.org.uk
Open: Fri 6-1030pm, Sat 11am-1030pm.
Admission: Purchase KESR platform ticket to attend beer fest only, free to card-carrying CAMRA membs + discount on train travel.
Food available Fri eve + Sat all day. Live music Sat afternoon.
Families welcome, limited camping available but must be booked in advance (to book a pitch phone the railway on 01580 765155).

July 18 - 20 **Kent Beer Festival, Canterbury Rugby Club,**
Merton Lane North, Canterbury, CT4 7BA.
www.kentbeerfestival.com. About 200 beers + ciders
Open: Thu 630-11pm; Fri 12noon-4pm, 630-11pm; Sat 12noon-9pm.
Admission: Thu £7 (CAMRA members £4); Fri aft £5 (members £3), eve £9 (advance tickets essential); Sat £7 (members £4).

August 6 - 10 **Great British Beer Festival**
London, Olympia, Hammersmith Road.
gbbf.org.uk 1,000+ British and international beers, ciders and perries

31 **10th East Malling Beer and Cider Festival**
East Malling Research, New Road, East Malling, Kent. ME19 6BJ.
Twitter: @embeerfestival, Website: mmk.camra.org.uk
70+ Real Ales, 30+ Real Kent Ciders & Perries.
Open: 11am to 7pm (or until the beer runs out).
Entry: Free Admission for valid CAMRA card carrying members; £5.00 for non members. Families Welcome. Hot & Cold food available. Live Music sessions throughout the day. Free festival shuttle bus every 30 minutes from West Malling Station (10.50) and Aylesford Station

Other Events:

June 2019

14 - 16 **Windmill Tavern Beer Festival,**
45 Shrubbery Road, Gravesend DA12 1JW
www.windmillpubandgarden.co.uk

26 - 29 **Flower Pot Beer Festival,**
96 Sandling Road, Maidstone ME14 2RJ
www.flowerpotpub.com

July 2019

5 - 6 **13th SIBA South East Beer Festival,**
Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club,
The Slade, Tonbridge TN9 1HR.
150+ Real Ales + Cider. Free Admission
www.tj-beerfest.com

19 - 20 **Bexley Cricket Club Beer and Cider Festival,**
Bexley CC, Manor Way, Bexley. DA5 3QG.
14 Beers, Craft Lagers and Ciders
www.bexleycc.co.uk

August 2019

2 - 4 **Three Daws Beer Festival,**
7 Town Pier, Gravesend DA11 0BJ.
www.threedaws.co.uk

3 - 4 **Duke of Wellington Beer Festival,**
Birling Road, Ryarsh. ME19 5LS.
www.dukeofwellingtonryarsh.com

8 - 10 **Style and Winch Beer Festival,**
72 Union Street, Maidstone. ME14 1ED.
Open 8th (19:00 - 23:00)
9th&10th (noon - 23:00)

23 - 26 **Jolly Drayman Beer Festival,**
1 Love Lane, Gravesend DA12 1JA.
www.jollydrayman.com

24 - 26 **Three Tuns Beer Festival, The Street,**
Lower Halstow, Sittingbourne. ME9 7DY.
www.thethreetunsrestaurant.co.uk

Local Beweries

Bexley Brewery	01322 337368	*www.bexleybrewery.co.uk*
Boutilliers	07715 698441	*www.boutilliers.com*
Brew Buddies Ltd		*brew-buddies.co.uk*
Brumaison	07831 704089	*www.brumaison.beer*
Canterbury Ales	01227 732541	*www.canterbury-ales.co.uk*
Cellar Head	01580 879523	*www.cellarheadbrewing.com*
Dartford Wobbler	01322 866233	*www.dartfordwobbler.com*
Goachers	01622 682112	*www.goachers.com*
Iron Pier Brewing	01474 569460	*www.ironpier.beer*
Kent Brewery	01634 780037	*www.kentbrewery.com*
Larkins Brewery	01892 870328	*www.larkinsbrewery.co.uk*
Mad Cat Brewery Ltd	07960 263615	*www.madcatbrewery.co.uk*
Musket Brewery	07967 127278	*www.musketbrewery.co.uk*
Nelson Brewery	01634 832828	*www.nelsonbrewery.co.uk*
No Frills Jo	07516 725577	*www.nofrillsjoe.co.uk*
Old Dairy Brewery	01580 763867	*www.olddairybrewery.com*
Pig & Porter	01892 615071	*www.pigandporter.co.uk*
Ramsgate Brewery	01843 868453	*www.ramsgatebrewery.co.uk*
Rockin' Robin Brewery	01622 747106	*www.rockinrobinbrewery.co.uk*
Shepherd Neame	01795 532206	*www.shepherdneame.co.uk*
Swan on the Green	01622 812271	*www.swan-on-the-green.co.uk*
Tonbridge Brewery	07962 016286	*www.tonbridgebrewery.co.uk*
Wantsum Brewery	01227 910135	*www.wantsumbrewery.co.uk*
Westerham Brewery Co.	01732 864427	*www.westerhambrewery.co.uk*
Whitstable Brewery	01622 851007	

Map available at www.kentcamra.org.uk/kent/breweries

Local Cider Makers

Beardspoon Cider Works		*www.beardspoon.com*
Biddenden Cider	01580 291726	*www.biddendenvineyards.com*
Cider Works	01304 821630	*www.greenoakfarm.co.uk*
Double Vision Cider	01622 746633	*doublevisioncider@outlook.com*
Dudda's Tun Cider	01795 886266	*www.duddastuncider.com*
East Stour Cider Co	07880 923398	
Johnson's Farmhouse Cider	01795 665203	
Kent Cider Company	01795 521317	*www.kentcider.co.uk*
Kentish Pip Cider	01227 250151	*www.kentishpip.co.uk*
Little Stour Orchard	07771 711252	*www.littlestourorchard.co.uk*
Merry Moon	07707 309041	
Nightingale Cider Company	01580 763938	*www.nightingalecider.com*
Pippins Cider Company	01892 824544	*www.pippinsfarm.co.uk*
Rough Old Wife Cider	01227 700757	*www.rougholdwife.com*
Tiddly Pomme's Woolly Pig	01795 529100	*www.tiddlypommeshop.co.uk*
Turners Cider	07825 394164	*www.turnerscider.co.uk*
Wise Owl Cider	01233 850664	*wiseowlcider@gmail.com*

Map available at www.kentcamra.org.uk/kent/cider

Kent Brewery

Our Farmhouse Crafted beers offer
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Campaign for Real Ale

Maidstone and Mid-Kent CAMRA presents:

The 10th East Malling Beer & Cider Festival

East Malling Research • ME19 6BJ

Saturday 31st August • 11am to 7pm

Over
70 Real Ales
30 Kent Ciders & Perries
Hot and Cold food available

LIVE MUSIC from:

KickBacks

&

Lew Lewis and his Allstar Trio

Admission FREE for card-carrying CAMRA members;
£5.00 for non-members; No alcohol to be brought on site

FREE festival shuttle bus service every 30 minutes from 11am
Aylesford Station and hourly from 10.50am West Malling Station

Follow us on @EMbeerfestival

Maidstone and Mid Kent CAMRA
East Malling Beer Festival

Beer Festival Aims For Perfect 10

Organisers of CAMRA's East Malling Beer and Cider Festival are making special plans for this year's event on **Saturday August 31st** as it marks the tenth since it returned to the local area, once again to take place in the grounds of NIAB EMR, the world-famous horticultural and agricultural research institute at East Malling.

The one-day event is being organised and staffed by volunteer members of the Maidstone and Mid-Kent Branch of CAMRA and follows in the footsteps of similar events organised by the Branch since the 1970s. The Festival is renowned for showcasing local microbreweries and cider producers, as well as varied brews from around the UK.

Jeff Tucker, organiser of CAMRA's East Malling Beer and Cider Festival, said: "We are planning one or two surprises to mark our tenth Festival at the venue which allows us to put on an event that continues to be an enjoyable experience for all the family. Rest assured, we'll carry on providing a good selection of beers and ciders, as well as live music."

Ian Clennett, Chairman of Maidstone and Mid-Kent CAMRA, said: "Last year, scores of festival-goers told us how much they are looking forward to coming back. We think we have a winning formula and will be working hard throughout the summer to ensure this year's event matches the success of previous years. NIAB EMR and its grounds provide the perfect backdrop for what has become a regular fixture for fans of real ale and cider, not just from the local area, but further afield."

Admission to the event (11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.) costs £5, free for card-carrying CAMRA members.

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Beer Festival Competition

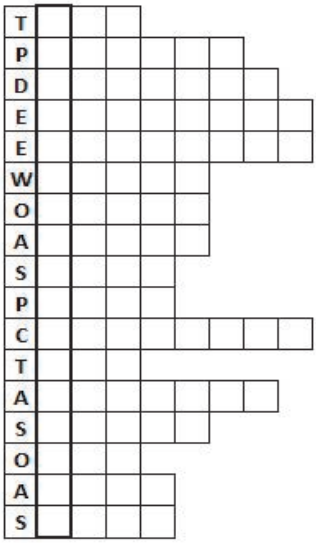
Here is a chance to win one of two prizes; each of two complimentary entrance tickets to the East Malling Beer & Cider Festival on Saturday 31st August at East Malling Research Centre. Please note that this competition is not available to people under 18 years of age.

All you have to do, is solve the 17 cryptic clues below. The first letter and length of each answer is given. The second letters of each answer make up the names of three birds (4, 4 and 9 letters) which feature in pub names.

Send the answers to the 17 clues (or as many as you can do) plus the bird names, either by photocopying/scanning this completed page or on a plain sheet of paper and email it to jeff.tucker@blueyonder.co.uk. The closing date for entries is 18th August 2019.

Two winners will receive the prize, so please supply contact details. In the event of a tie, in the number of clues answered correctly, the winners will be picked at random by the landlord of one of the pubs where we meet on 22nd August.

Good luck! Answers in the next issue.



1. A book coming in my direction
2. Smelly joke man
3. A round is about a Mesozoic reptile
4. Two boys at the start of the 20th century
5. Ivy led ten around, so it seems
6. The Royal Artillery are in with a ghost
7. Get boat in a spin
8. The first two letters posted are missing
9. Hard up, making a terrible stink
10. Some people attempt to fold
11. He makes a door and fish come in
12. Some white albino ducks
13. Jade can't arrange it nearby
14. Run with a South Indian dish
15. A vegetable which some cook rare
16. Let in and make a confession
17. Twenty points

The hidden birds are: _____ .

My name is _____

My contact details are (address or phone or email):

_____

THE CHEQUERS AYLESFORD

Enjoy Your Favourite Ales at The Chequers

The Chequers is Aylesford's oldest inn, dating back to 1511, and we're proud of the extensive history and character of the pub. We serve a wide variety of top class beers and ales, along with a wholesome lunch and dinner food offering, including the traditional carvery every Sunday.

Every Wednesday, all real ales are just £3 a pint, including favourites such as Harvey's Best and a selection from local Tonbridge Brewery.

Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

THE WALNUT TREE YALDING

Under New Ownership

Built in 1492, the Walnut Tree is a former Tudor Kentish Yeoman's house, starting it's life as a beer-house in the nineteenth century. We serve a wide variety of top class beers and ales, along with a wholesome lunch and dinner food offering, including the traditional carvery every Sunday.

Every Wednesday, all real ales are just £3 a pint, including favourites such as Harvey's Best and a selection from local Tonbridge Brewery.

Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Contact: *John Mills 01732 840603* or email *pubs.officer@mmk.camra.org.uk*
For more information on these pubs, see CAMRA's online pub database *whatpub.com*

With the completion of the judging of the Branch Pub of the Year (PotY), Cider Pub of the Year (CPotY) and Club of the Year (CotY), we can, with great pleasure, announce the winners and runners up.

PotY Winner: **Larkin's Ale House, Cranbrook.**

PotY Runners Up: **Rifle Volunteers, Maidstone, Olde Thirsty Pig, Maidstone.**

CPotY Winner: **Larkin's Ale House, Cranbrook.**

CotY Winner: **Marden Village Club, Marden.**

CotY Runner Up: **Teston Club, Teston.**

Our congratulations to all involved with all venues and wish the winners well in the Regional heats of the competition.

Poppy Fields, Allington – Large family restaurant that now has four reserved places in the car park for charging electric cars. The bar has *Marston's Pedigree, Wychwood Hobgoblin* and two varying beers from the same stable.

Rockin Robin on the Green, Barming – The pub was rockin' when the branch visited in early April with musicians playing. Michelle kindly provided some snacks that proved very popular for which we thank her. On the bar were *Rockin' Robin Reliant, RPA, Blizzard of Oz* and *Reckless*.

Oak on the Green, Bearsted – Always busy here but we found a parking place close to the pub, found a table inside and started on the guest ale *Samuel Adams Blonde Ambition* from Shepherd Neame (4.2%). *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* and *Shepherd Neame Spitfire Gold* also proved to be in good order.

Yeoman, Bearsted – On a visit in mid-March, I found the *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* to be permanent along with one other changing beer that was *Musket Flintlock* and previous had been *Adnams Mosaic*. The revamped pub is strong on food and now has an invitingly light

and airy interior. A special food offer was for two meals for £14. Work on the rear garden was progressing.

King & Queen, East Malling – A change of licensee here with Steve Catchpole taking over. Branch members had a meal here in March and we were happy to find that the same quality of service and good food continues. Beers at that time were *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter, Musket Fife & Drum, Hook Norton Hooky* and *Adnams Lighthouse.*

Knoxbridge, Frittenden – Do you have a classic car or vehicle that you want to show off? The Knoxbridge holds a 'Petrol heads' event once a month, where anyone can bring an interesting vehicle. Dates for the rest of the summer are June 2nd, July 7th, August 4th and September 1st. Go along and see what's turned up in the car park or the back field.

G**reat House, Gills Green –** A visit here found two places in the front car park reserved for electric cars to be recharged. The bar has *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* permanently and accompanied by two others mostly from *Musket* and *Old Dairy* although *Timothy Taylor Boltmaker* was seen alongside *Musket Trigger* on a branch visit.

Woodcock, Iden Green – Re-opened in March, having been closed for over a year. Lindora is the new licensee and the pub is now free of tie. The garden has been tidied up as well as the interior. Food should be available now. The phone number is 01580 240009. *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* is always on and *Rother Valley* provides the house *Woodcock* ales.

Small Holding, Kilndown – Recently celebrated their first year here in which it was voted Kent Restaurant of the Year at the Taste of Kent Awards and Chef Will Devlin won the Kent Chef of the Year at Kent Life's Food & Drink Awards 2018. Brother Matt Devlin looks after the bar where Pig & Porter and Cellar Head beers are among those local products stocked.

https://thesmallholding.restaurant/

Drakes, Maidstone – Ollie has bands playing here on Fridays, open mic on Tuesdays and free pool on Sundays. The large courtyard area at the rear provides tables and benches in the sun. *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter, St Austell*

LARKINS' ALEHOUSE

Cranbrook's first Micropub

Proud Winners of the
Maidstone and Mid Kent
CAMRA Branch Pub of the Year,
plus **Cider Pub of the Year**.

It's a place to meet up with friends, chat and enjoy a pint of real ale straight from the cask. Local ciders and wines are also available, as are soft drinks. Free from TV, music and mobile phones. We now have our back garden open for customers. Check out the daily updated Facebook or Twitter pages to see which ales and ciders are currently available.

Cranbrook Town Market

Exciting New Market - The White Horse Car Park, Cranbrook, Saturdays - 10am - 2pm

2019 dates:

March 9th	July 13th
April 6th	September 14th
May 11th	October 12th
June 1st	November 9th

Christmas Market Friday 6th December 3.30pm - 7.30pm

For more information please contact

Julie 07917 252585, Wendy 07786 707476
Elaine 07803 340682

info@larkins-alehouse.co.uk

Opening Times

Mon to Wed 14.00 - 21.00
Thur to Fri 12.00 - 22.00
Saturday 12.00 - 22.30
Sunday 12.00 - 18.00

**7 High Street,
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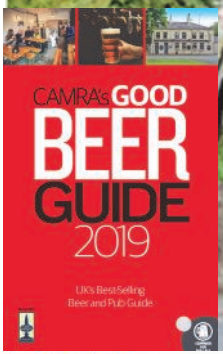

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CAMRA Good Beer Guide & Cask Marque award

Tribute and a guest ale, latterly from *Musket*, are on the bar.

Unicorn, Marden – Julia Goodwin has just taken over here as the new licensee so there may be a few changes. *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* and *Shepherd Neame Master Brew* continue on the bar.

Duke of Wellington, Ryarsh – The annual Beer Festival is scheduled for the first weekend in August. Meanwhile, the regular beer is *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* with *St Austell Proper Job*, *Twickenham Naked Ladies* and *Kent Pale* proving popular guest ales.

Black Horse, Thurnham – A popular venue for weddings, celebrations and conferences now has two charging points for vehicles in the lower car park by the B&B. The house ale is from *Canterbury Ales. Sharp's Doom Bar* is permanent and there are two guests that, at the time the branch visited, were *Old Dairy Spring Top* and *Whitstable Winkle Picker*.

Walnut Tree, Yalding – Rejuvenated by the new business owner who also has the Chequers in Aylesford. Up to five real ales which are all reduced to £3 on Wednesdays. *Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter* is permanent and guests ales may come from *Adnams*, *Tonbridge*, *Wantsum* or other local breweries may be found. Noted for good food that is made from fresh local produce wherever possible. There are special offers on pies on Mondays and fish and chips on Thursdays; a carvery operates on Sundays. At the rear of the car park, is a large enclosed patio with tables and benches.

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The branch Pub of the Year for 2019 is the **Old House** at Ightham Common, which also won the title in 2018. For readers who don't know the pub, it's an old-fashioned gem hidden away on the outskirts of Ightham village. By contrast, the two runners-up are both modern micropubs, the **Compass Alehouse**, Gravesend and the **Dartford Jug**, Dartford. Certificates will be presented to all three around the time this magazine appears and dates and times can be found in the CAMRA Branch Diaries section.

Two issues ago we reported on the planning application for a change of use to a micropub in Gravesend High Street, to be known as the **Mole Hole**. The process took a lot longer than would have seemed likely but as these notes were being compiled we heard that approval had finally been granted, a licence had been applied for and work was about to start on the conversion from a tattoo parlour. It is even possible that it might be open by the time you read this. Another application for change of use has been submitted and approved, this time by Sevenoaks Council and more quickly. As a result New Ash Green will be gaining a micropub in a former bank in the village centre.

There have been changes at the **Rose & Crown** in Shorne. Landlord Andrew Doorey reported that *Greene King* beer is no longer sold but there are three alternating guest beers from local breweries, with *Kent Brewery*, *Whitstable* and *Westerham* regularly featured. There was also a mini beer festival with these breweries at Easter. The pub will also be offering CAMRA members a discount of 10% on real ales.

Another pub in the area giving a 10% discount to CAMRA members is the **Ship** at Cobham which on a recent visit had *Old Dairy Red Top* and *Tonbridge Countryman* as well as *Greene King IPA and Abbot*. The **Railway** at Meopham has been closed for a while and some work was underway in April. We understand that this is likely to reopen as a pub.

Another Easter beer festival took place at the **Prince of Orange** in Gravesend. On Good Friday nine beers from Kent breweries were on with another seven plus a craft keg in reserve. Six of the 27 gins available were also made in Kent. Perhaps the highlight was *Kent Brewery Elysium*, 5.9% ABV and unfined, less common for them.

The mention of **TJ's** in Gravesend in the last edition was rather overtaken by events. In addition to the *Greene King IPA* there are currently two rotating *Kent Brewery* beers available. *KGB, Pale* and *Session Pale* have been seen a few times but there is the chance of finding something more unusual from time to time. Another update to the last edition is that the refit of the kitchen at the **Grapes** didn't quite go to plan and at the time of writing it still needed a power supply. Hopefully all will be well by the time this appears. It was intended to replace the bar at the **Echo** by Easter but gremlins struck here as well and the work has been postponed. On the other hand the exterior has been redecorated with improved lighting and new signage and it certainly makes a welcoming sight when approaching down the hill from the town centre.

As feared, a planning application has been submitted to build flats on 3 storeys on the site of the **Alma** in Swanscombe which has been closed for some time now. On a happier note the **Rising Sun (Top House)** is 150 years old this summer, though we don't know of any planned celebrations.

A recent branch social took us to the **Railway** at Longfield. There were normally four beers on but one had just run out. The survivors were *Otter Bitter, Young's Bitter* and *Titanic Plum Porter* and the last was apparently the closest thing to a regular beer. However as the proof copy of this was being checked, it was reported that the pub was closed and boarded up. We await further developments. Down the road at the **Rising Sun** at Fawkham the choice was *Courage Best Bitter* and *Directors, Sharp's Doom Bar* and *Fuller's London Pride* and *St Austell Tribute* is often to be found as well. *Directors* is quite rare now though it can also be found at the **Rising Sun** at Swanscombe.

The **Royal Victoria & Bull** in Dartford has, since Christmas, been offering four real ales along with a handpumped *Weston's* cider. Alongside *Sharp's Doom Bar, Dartford Wobbler Guinea Guzzler* and *Penny Red* are pretty regular, and *Hancock's HB* is sometimes available. Sue, the manageress, wants to keep *Dartford Wobbler* beers but this depends on continuing demand.

The **Woodman** on East Hill now keeps very irregular hours and is mainly a weekend music venue with no real ale. Local opinion suggests that new owners may wish to demolish the pub and build on the site which has a large garden.

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The stumbling block for developers would be lack of road access to the site on the main road and side alley.

Graham Rowe supplied an update on the **Ivy Leaf** where there are normally four and sometimes five beers on from various breweries including *Dorset, Bexley, Dartford Wobbler, Hereford, Southwark,* etc. At the time he had a choice of *Sharp's Doom Bar*, two *Caveman* beers and "a very nice pint of *Laine Doubloon Golden Ale*".

Lyndon Jones reported that the **Plough** at Wilmington was facing an uncertain future and closed for a short while. However it's reopened under new management and the plan is to see how business goes and, if satisfactory, to close again for a full refurbishment in September. The pub has had a clean-up and a lick of paint and *Courage Best Bitter* has been joined by *Sharp's Doom Bar* and a third beer. *Harvey's Best Bitter* and *Fuller's London Pride* have been seen. Late news as this was being written was that Shepherd Neame have bought the **Horse & Groom** up the road at Leyton Cross. The attraction for them was no doubt the substantial food trade which had been built up but one fears for the future of the local independent real ales the pub was selling.

By now an additional handpump will have been fitted at the **Ship** at Sutton at Hone and will be used exclusively for a *Timothy Taylors* beer with the current two pumps continuing to provide changing guest beers.

In April *Iron Pier* were brewing 6 regular cask beers (*Perry Street Pale, Joined at the Hop, Bitter, Wealdway, Rosherville Red and Cast Iron Stout*) and cask made up over 85% of their output. They now have six ex Speyside whisky barrels which are used to age special brews. These will be available for pre order in cask. They will be brewing two beers on their pilot kit for the **Three Daws** beer festival as part of the Waterfront Weekend in August. They will also have a bar as part of the event.

No Frills Joe's brewery had been operating under temporary planning permission but Dartford Council have now made this permanent. *Dartford Wobbler Curiously Dark Mild* won the gold medal in the mild category at the Gosport Winterfest.

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Contact: *Rob Archer* at *camr@rcher.org.uk* or Roland Amos on *07881 316125*
www.bexley.camra.org.uk

Branch AGM

Bexley Branch will hold its AGM on Wednesday 12th June 2019 19:30 for 20:00. The venue is The **Montrose Club**, Sidcup, 158 Hurst Road DA15 9AJ; a venue we happily used for the first time last year. Attendance up to around 50 will be comfortable and good beer should be on. A small amount of constitutional business is on the agenda and we're hoping to get a local brewer in to talk briefly under A.O.B about progressive taxation and the "squeezed middle" in brewing; further details can be gained from the Branch Chair on *chair@bexley.camra.org.uk*.

Pub News

Our winners for the Branch competitions (Branch Pub of the Year (PotY), Cider Pub of the Year (CPotY) and Club of the Year (CotY)) have become known in the interim and we can announce them here. Some presentation dates have been set, watch the website for news. We extend our congratulations to all the awardees.

PotY:	Gold:	**Penny Farthing**, Crayford
	Silver:	**Robin Hood and Little John**, Bexleyheath
	Bronze:	**Broken Drum**, Blackfen
CPotY:		**Kentish Belle**, Bexleyheath
CotY:		**Dartfordians Community SC**, Bexley.

Elsewhere, the **Volunteer,** Church Rd in Bexleyheath continues, but has not yet achieved, any success in respect of food provision with further costs having become apparent relating to power. Our earlier publicised attempt to do something about the **Coach House,** Watling St, foundered and it now seems the pub will have closed finally, by the end of April. There is a new buyer, but as yet it is not known who; more will follow.

One or two locals are planning Summer festivals; notably the **Anchor** at Bexley, 23-31 Bridgen Road Bridgen Bexley DA5 1JE, a Milton pub for several years now, where landlord Phil and his people will be trying to

enlarge on a good venture last year with an event on Father's Day, June 15th, weekend.

First anniversaries for micropubs are in the frame; the spate continues. The **Halfway House,** Sidcup & **Kentish Belle**, Bexleyheath have had theirs, as I write, and next up will be the **Hangar, Blackfen**, in June.

On Saturday 13th your scribe was at the **Bird and Barrel,** Barnehurst, who celebrated with an open-air event in their new rear patio garden, which will look amazing once the yet-young plants have had some growing time. Nine barrels were on the go, namely: *Milestone - Shine on Citrus Pale*; *Rudgate - Jorvik Blonde* and *Ruby Mild*; *Great Heck - Treasure IPA*; *Franklins - English Garden Pale*; *Reunion - Beardtongue Ruby Ale*; and the brewery's own *Cascade Pale* and 12-month-aged *Dark Ale*, plus the anniversary *Alcock and Brown Bitter*. This all went quite quickly, by close on the Sunday, once the brewer's appreciative visitorship had got cracking.

No sooner had we got used to all these startups, than we have had news of a further application in the Blackfen area, which on principle the Branch Committee has written to support, in the old Pet Stores, 17 Wellington Parade - reference **19/00143/FUL** on the Bexley planning website.

And don't miss our **9-micros-by-foot** walking tour on June 1st, where we will take up the challenge posed by Bromley's "Cramble" event!

Nine Micropub Walking Crawl in Bexley – 1st June 2019

This is a crawl (a proper crawl, by foot!) of all nine excellent micropubs in the Bexley Branch area. The total walking distance is 8 miles, and each section is between half and one-and-a-half miles. At a very conservative walking rate there will be an average of 40 minutes at each pub – more if you walk at a normal speed!

It all starts at 12 noon on Sat 1st June at the **Hoppers Hut** in Sidcup and ends at the **Penny Farthing** in Crayford at about 10:30pm – time enough to get to the **Flying Boat** in Dartford (closing time 1am) or **Furze Wren** or **Wrong 'Un** in Bexleyheath (midnight) if you want to!

Those of you with devices and apps that can use gpx or kml files will find the route on the website at http://bexley.camra.org.uk/index.html in these formats. Suggested leaving times for the next pub will also be available

there. Either make your own way whenever suits you or tag along with others.

If anyone does feel like cheating, there will be information available on the day about public transport, which is very frequent. It will also be available beforehand on the website.

Please note that everyone is responsible for themselves. Any queries should be addressed to the Bexley branch contact at *camr@rcher.org.uk*. Obviously everyone can go where they want when they want but the suggested leaving times will be as follows.

Hoppers Hut:	12:40
Hackney Carriage:	14:00
Halfway House:	15:00
Hangar:	16:15
Broken Drum:	17:15
Door Hinge:	18:25
Kentish Belle:	19:40
Bird and Barrel:	21:05
Penny Farthing:	

Arrival time is likely to be very roughly ¾ hour before departure time.

gad |gad|
verb (**gadded, gadding**)
[intrans.] informal
go around from one place to another, in the pursuit of pleasure or entertainment... possibly in the search of **fresh local beer**:
'help out around the house and not be **gadding about** the town in the search of fresh kentish ale'
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Board Game: DRAUGHTS (History)

The Alquerque Family

Draughts is a very ancient game indeed, the origins of which, like Chess, aren't completely clear. However, early forms of Alquerque, its venerable ancestor, have been found in Egypt dating at least as early as 600BC. Alquerque boards can be seen carved into the stone slabs which form the roof of the great temple at Kurna, Egypt, which was built in 1400BC (of course, they might have been carved at any point since). The game of Alquerque was played like Draughts on a 5 x 5 point board with the pieces starting in a non-symmetrical pattern. The game clearly had staying power - it is mentioned under the name of Quirkat in the Arabic work Kitab-al Aghani, the author of which died in 976 AD. Quirkat was first brought to Europe by the Moors during their invasion of Spain. It was recorded as Alquerque (Spanish form of El-Quirkat) in the Alfonso X Manuscript which was written between 1251 - 1282 at the command of Alfonso X, King of Leon and Castile.

The Madagascan game of Fanorona is a descendant of Alquerque. It seems to have been invented around 1680 AD and is still played today. Sometime later, around 1100, possibly in the South of France, somebody decided to play Alquerque on a Chess board instead of the standard Alquerque board. The game was played with 12 pieces on each side and was called Fierges or Ferses at first although this changed to Dames later. The game did not force a player to take enemy pieces when the opportunity presented itself.

The compulsory rule forcing a player to take whenever possible was introduced in France around 1535, the resulting new game being called Jeu Force. At this point the old game without huffing became known as Le Jeu Plaisant De Dames or Plaisant for short. The first book written on the game was published in Valencia, Spain in 1547 and now resides in the Royal Library of Madrid. Jeu Force is the game played in England today under the name of Draughts and the game was taken to America and called Checkers. The first book in English about it was written in 1756 by William Payne, a mathematician from London.

Draughts is known by different names around the world: Checkers (USA), Dama (Spain and Italy), La Jeu de Dames (France), Warcaby (Poland) and - das Damenspiel (Germany).

Most of the rest of Western Europe took to playing a different development of Le Jeu Plaisant De Dames which appeared in Paris in 1727 and which is now the internationally recognised game of Polish Draughts or Continental Draughts. This game is superior in complexity to English draughts by virtue of the fact that it is played on a board ten squares by ten squares and that capturing moves have an extended scope. It isn't believed to have been invented in Poland at all and they apparently know it as 'French Draughts' there! Polish Draughts was probably the name given in order to make it sound slightly different to West European ears in the same way as for Chinese Checkers and Russian Billiards.

Some areas of South East Asia go one better and play on a board of twelve by twelve squares and 24 pieces each side. The Canadian Draughts variant is also played upon a board this size.

Next Edition: The rules of the Draughts (according to the 1991 EDA Handbook).

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Beer of the Festival

SPA VALLEY BEER FESTIVAL 2018

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More Accolades for Harvey's

by Don Croker

A double presentation was recently made to Miles Jenner, Head Brewer at multiple award-winning Harvey's Brewery in Lewes, East Sussex.

A coach full of West Kent CAMRA, and other volunteers who served over 14,000 pints of beer at the 8th annual Spa Valley Railway Beer and Cider Festival in October 2018, the largest and most successful to date, were greeted by Miles in the brewery yard who then proceeded to provide an engaging and entertaining tour of the brewery culminating in the tasting of a range of Harvey's fine cask ales in the racking room.

Emerging into the spring sunshine Craig Beeson, West Kent Vice Chair and festival organiser, presented Miles with a Gold Award certificate for Bonfire Boy, having been voted "Beer of the Festival" by the public who chose from over 200 beers available. The three day festival is now one of the largest to be held in the south east and is unique with its three locations, as well as beers being available on the train, and will feature other favourites from Harvey's this year. This award for the Lewes brewery is very appropriate for a town with a renowned reputation for its Bonfire Night celebrations!

Craig was joined by Ian Hodge, BLO for Harvey's, who on behalf of CAMRA, officially presented Miles with the Silver Award certificate for Harvey's Old Ale in the Old Ales/Strong Milds category in the Champion Winter Beer of Britain competition at the GBBF Winterfest held in Norwich in February.

We would like to thank Miles for his hospitality and the time and effort he devoted to making the occasion so enjoyable, and look forward to welcoming Harvey's beers among the 200 which will be available at the 2019 festival; to be held over the three days 18th-20th October. The main bar will be in Tunbridge Wells West Victorian engine shed with additional bars on the platforms at Groombridge and Eridge stations and beer also available on the train.

[photo l-r; Ian Hodge, Harvey's BLO; Miles Jenner, Head brewer and joint MD; Craig Beeson, West Kent CAMRA]

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	Spitfire an easy-drinking lager
	San Miguel Pale Pilsen
	Paulaner Munchen German Lager
Ciders	**Biddenden Bushels** Kentish strong still cider
	Kentish Pip High Diver sparkling Kentish cider
	Section of boxed Kentish Cider

Drinking in Tallinn

by Mick Allen

This is the final chapter of our trip to the ex-USSR Baltic States, allowing three nights in each of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Following on from my last article about Riga, this time round it is the turn of Tallinn, a destination popular for the infamous 'stag' and 'hen' weekends from the UK. The craft beer scene here has been active for the past six years, and, being a two hour ferry journey from Finland, is much Westernised.

Again, I have included a basic map; the Tourist Information Centres all provide free, more detailed maps of the City Centre. I have also omitted the opening hours, as these vary with season.

Having arrived mid-afternoon, we opted to purchase a 72 hour transport pass as the accommodation was a twenty minute walk from the centre. This covers all trams, trolley buses and buses in Tallinn, and costs a mere €5 (all residents of Tallinn are entitled to free public transport). As a guide price for beer, expect to pay €4-6 for ½ litre.

The first bar visited was **Pudel** (3), to be found at Telliskivi 60a. This is situated in an up and coming area of Tallinn, and could

even be considered a micropub. Fourteen beers on tap here, but only one from Estonia, the *Mäepea Pale Ale*, from a microbrewery east of Tallinn. The second was **St Vitus** (12), close by at Telliskivi 61b, next to the Rimi supermarket. Eighteen beers here, plus *Old Rosie* cider. My eye was drawn to one of three St Vitus beers, *NISU*. This was a wheat beer, apparently brewed by St Vitus, but with no staff letting on where the brewery was, I can only guess that it was an offering from a major player. Time then for something to eat. We're in Estonia, why not find an Indian restaurant? I can highly recommend the Spice Wagon, uniquely to be found in two shipping containers perched precariously on top of one another. I decided against going for a *Cobra* in here (not even sure they serve it in Estonia), and went for a bottle of *Saku Dark*, proving again that the Carlsberg Group do have some nice offerings. Suitably full, we now headed for

Humalakoda (4), situated on the second floor of the indoor market. This opened May 2017 and has been brewing since December that year. I was lucky enough to get a brewery tour here from head brewer Jaan, before tasting a *Humalakoda Dark (Tume)* and a *Turu Varblane APA*.

Friday, the start of a new day. More sightseeing in a rather damp Tallinn was followed by a visit to **Uba ja Humal** (10), a bottle shop and bar located close to the docks at Võrgu 3. Here you'll find the largest collection of bottled beers in Estonia, stocking 250 in winter and 450 in the summer. Unfortunately the bar is not manned until 2pm, so a *Muddis Baltic Porter* weighing in at 6.5% had to suffice. From here it was a twenty minute walk over to **Kochi Aidad** (11), another microbrewery at Lootsi 10. This is the first (or last) pub before the ferry terminals, and *Kochi Ronk Stout* was the beer of choice. Moving back into the city, next it was the **Beer Garden** (7) at Inseneri 1. If live sports are your thing, then this place has TV screens all over the place. Beer of choice was a *Karksi Must Nunn*, a 6% dark lager from southern Estonia. The final destination of the day for us was **Drink Bar & Grill** (6), to be found at Väike-Karja 8. I actually do not remember the beer drunk in here, but my Facebook pictures tell me that it was a

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7.7% IPA named *Gracious* by *Sori Brewery* from Tallinn. Notes also tell me that three other Estonian beers were available on tap. This left four bars to complete on the Saturday.

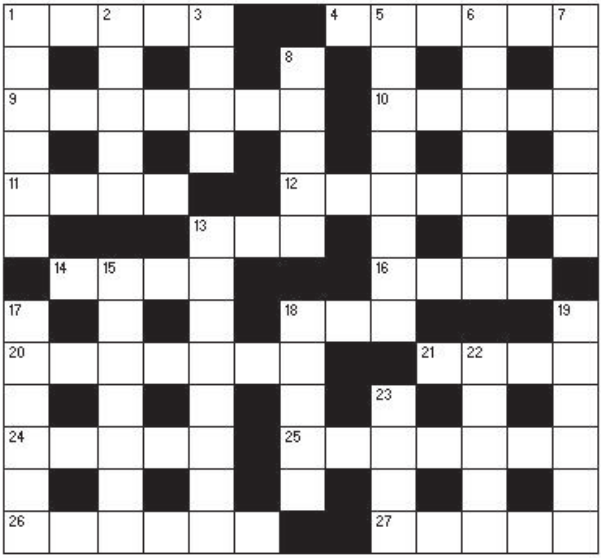
Saturday started with a bus trip out to the Estonian Open Air Museum. It wasn't exactly the best day for this as it was raining heavily, but the journey there and back was covered on the 72 hour pass anyhow. Set in acres of woods and open space, this place offers an insight into old Estonia, but whilst it was relaxing, it offered no chance of a decent beer. Back in Tallinn, I headed for ***Põrgu*** (2) at Rüütli 4. A nice cellar bar hidden off the main street, it offers four of its own beers, cuckoo brewed (although overseas they always use the words 'gipsy brewed') at various other breweries, plus five others. I went for the *Populism IPA* at 4.5%, but wasn't tempted by the *Põhjala Szechuan Bänger*, a Baltic Stout of 12.5% costing a reasonable €6.50 for ½ litre. Incidentally, it also has some of the heaviest cast iron seats imaginable! Next it was off to the **Beer House** (8). Close to the Town Hall Square at Dunkri 5, this a German Bierkeller type establishment that's been brewing on the premises since 2002. I had the *Dunkles Extra* for €5.50 for ½ litre, but a sampler tray is available for 7 x 250ml at €20. Also to be noted in here is the interior smoking room. A glass fronted room with its own chimney, I'm not sure if this a good idea or not? A pub that you'll either love or hate was next on the list, the **Old Hansa** (1), just off Town Hall Square. What I would call a tourist trap, in here I drunk a Honey Beer. When I asked which brewery it came from I was told it was "brewed by the monk downstairs!" If medieval Disneyland coupled with a Robin Hood theme park is for you…

On the other side of the square, at Pikk 1, lies **Brewery Õlleklubi** (9), the penultimate bar visit in Tallinn. Despite the name, this place only pretends to be a brewery and their 'own' beers are mostly rebranded Latvian ones. The one I had was marked as *Dark* at 6%, and was rumoured to have come from the Valga area of Estonia, next to the Latvian border. Last up was **Hell Hunt**, just up the road at Pikk 39, another bar that you would assume has some local beers on. Most of the beers in here are, however, brewed at Viru Õlu, part of the Harboe Group, the second largest producer in the Nordic Countries. The *Hell Hunt Tume* was nice nevertheless.

So, to sum up Tallinn for beer purposes, be prepared to weed out the tourist traps and to investigate the back streets!

Crossword No. 34

compiled by Mick Norman



Across

1 After Obama, a faithful, drug-free politician (5)
4 Company car? (6)
9 Drunken leaders of Oman, Zambia and Zimbabwe found in snow vehicle (7)
10 I find I am partly in the country (5)
11 Spot drugs outside the party (4)
12 Space for the church to apply the law (7)
13 22 stuff on board ship (3)
14 Before backing the mountain (4)
16 Basic and abusive (4)
18 See 27
20, 13d Asian subtraction in the High Street? (7,8)
21 Competent, but a murder victim, we hear (4)
24 Wot no 6? A sign displayed should 4 require recovery (2,3)
25 Composer's country (7)
26 Communist spy has a problem with selfies (3-3)
27,18a Y for unaided vision? (5,3)

Down

1 Tried at Ted's. Ghastly! (6)
2 International body requires energy to undress (5)
3 Procol Harum's beer of choice? From 10 or maybe Perry Street (4)
5 Faversham beer issuing forth from dragon? A triumph! (8)
6 Directed fluidity of *Der Oder* (7)
7 Exchanged part of extra deduction (6)
8 See 22
13 See 20
15 Bent at Chubby Checker's instruction? Balls! (7)
17 Orient at first getting misplaced cheer from parrot, possibly (6)
18 Creepy lake, we hear (5)
19 Demented space traveller removed and repaired (6)
22,8 Endorse snake swallowing bit of lamb in classic TV series (10)
23 The Beatles' Mr Mustard was average (4)

Solution to Crossword No. 33

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

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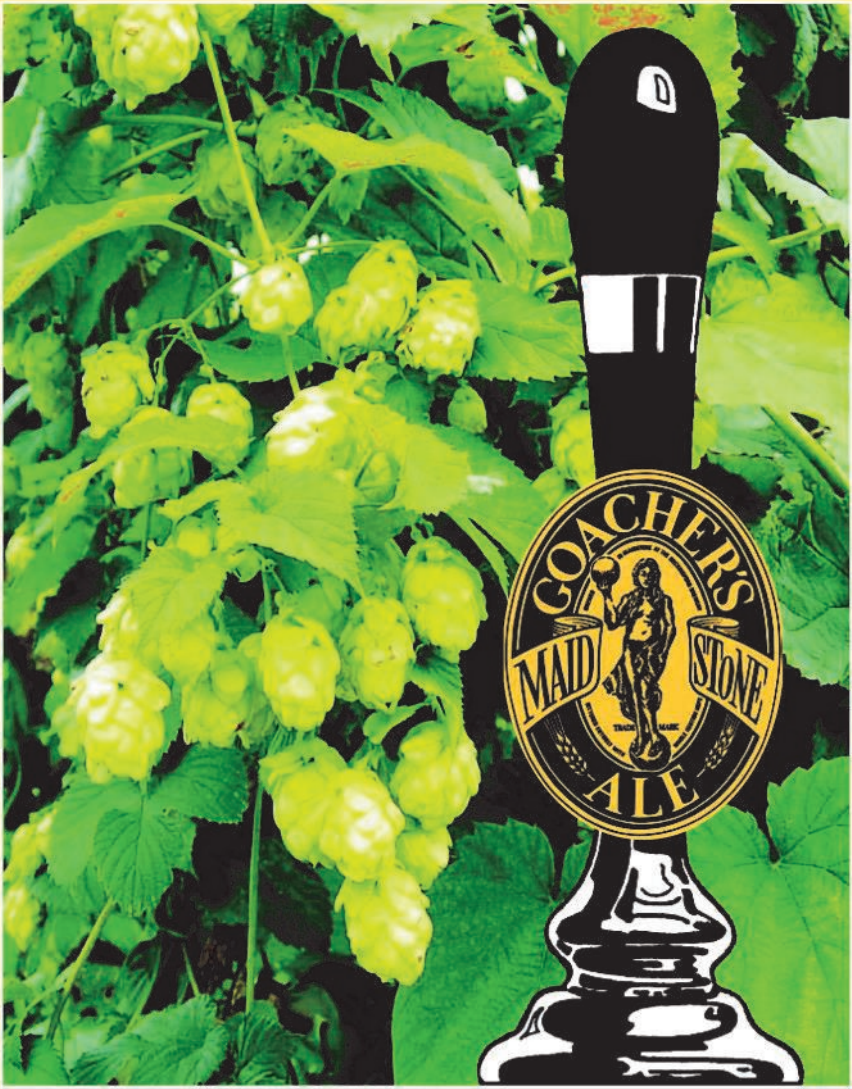

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