

News & Ale



Campaign
for
Real Ale

FREE
Winter 2023
No. 150



**Garden Gate wins Community Pub Award
News and Ale 150th edition, read more inside**

The quarterly CAMRA magazine for beer drinkers in Surrey,
Kingston-upon-Thames, and the Surrey/Hants borders



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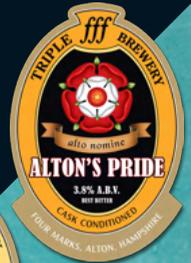


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2008

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2002

CHAMPION
MILD OF BRITAIN
2002





It is amazing that this is the 150th issue of News and Ale and next year will mark 50 years since the formation of what is now the Surrey/Hants Borders branch of CAMRA.

This and future issues of News and Ale will include articles about the history of our newsletter and features from past issues. In this edition also read about the great work the Garden Gate pub in Aldershot is doing to raise money to buy defibrillators.

There is the usual Grumpy Old Man article and a very special Malty story. Also, read about the Lifetime Achievement Award to Diane Crathern the publican at The Richmond Arms in Godalming.

Ed

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History of News and Ale (Part I)

The Early Years

The history of News and Ale is very much tied to the history of the Surrey/Hants Borders branch of CAMRA. This CAMRA branch was formed on 28th May 1974 in the Red Lion at Milford, though initially the branch was named "South Surrey". The first branch newsletter was created in 1975 titled 'Surrey Draught News'. Unfortunately, I don't have copies of the first issues, however issue five that was printed in May 1975 had the headline 'Guildford Beer Show?' The next edition had the headline 'Beer Show On'. Maybe someone reading this article still remembers the Guildford Beer Show? In May 1978 the title changed to 'Shambles'. This was an A4 sheet and some copies of this edition still survive as paper copies and scanned images. The next change of name was in July 1980 when it became 'News of the Booze'. In November 1982 the format changed to an A3 booklet. The final change of name was in November 1983 when it settled to the current title of 'News and Ale'.

Some of the early magazines can be viewed online using the link below:-

<https://shb.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=202603>



1978



1983



1991

The COVID and post COVID Years

There was a gap in the production of the magazine before the current editor took over the reins. The first edition produced by the new editor was printed in time for the CAMRA Woking Beer Festival. Attendance at the festival had declined over the years so it was hoped that the extra publicity that the magazine could provide would increase attendance at the event.

Then in March 2020, COVID occurred, pubs were shut so a printed issue could not be distributed. Instead, an online edition was produced. This online edition included a list of all the pubs and breweries that were selling takeaway beer and food either online or through special arrangements at their premises to allow the collection of their products.



2020

Post COVID and The Future

We talk about post COVID, but it will always be there. The first printed edition post COVID was produced in June 2022. COVID had a big financial impact on many organisations including CAMRA. The magazine now had to be self-financing so had to be fully supported by its advertisers with no branch subsidy. Since then, the magazine has been produced to a regular schedule of up to four issues a year. This has only been possible because of the many people who contribute to its content. These include those who have provided articles, pub clips and brewery news, so many thanks to them. If anyone wants to contribute to News and Ale please do so as the magazine is only as good as its content.

Use the link below to see the most recent issues of News and Ale:-

<https://shb.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=202604>

The Editors

Finally, we must not forget the editors of the magazine. There have been many different editors over the years and perhaps some of them would like to contribute to this series of articles about the evolution of News and Ale? In the early years the editor was not just responsible for the content but also for typing, laying out the pages and even arranging printing! These days word processing technology has made the task more straightforward but it is still a time-consuming task to collate the various articles,

proof read them and produce the magazine in a consistent format, so the editors deserve a big thank you from both the CAMRA branch and our readers for their work over the years. It is thanks to them that the magazine is still being produced.

Future Editions of this Article

In future articles I will look at the content of previous editions of News and Ale and look at how campaigning issues that the Campaign for Real Ale, both locally and nationally, has championed over the years have changed, or in many instances not changed.

Brian Bourne

Shuffleboard at Ascot Brewing Co.

At the end of August, a number of branch members enjoyed a night at Ascot Brewing Company. We drank beers from both the Ascot and Disruption Is Brewing ranges, tucked into pizza and played numerous games of shuffleboard.

It was an easy 12-minute walk from Blackwater railway station to the brewery - a modern venue on a Camberley industrial estate. A fine time was had by all. We have another shuffleboard evening on Thursday 1st February, so hope to see you there.



Val MacT



Fancy a Pitchfork up your Nostrils?



Let's start with a history lesson. Once upon a time when steam locomotives ruled the railways and William Ewart Gladstone was prime minister, the pub was a relatively simple operation. Generally, with a mild and a bitter with some seasonal additions and served from handpump or via gravity. At least there were no 'tickers' or 'bottlers' given the limited range of beers! Breweries were usually local and controlled by paternalistic patriarchs without any sign of the corporate image that was to follow. This cosy existence continued to the 1960/70s with the arrival of the dreaded and dreadful KEG BEER. Some people might regard these as the halcyon years, but was that true? Some 'old timers' were immensely critical of these local breweries and especially the lack of quality and consistency compounded by post war shortages of materials. Landlords also share some responsibility. They were over represented by ex-footballers who were considerably better at drinking their products rather than keeping them in good condition. Then there were the reared military who treated the pub as their personal fiefdom and look out if your hair was too long, your jeans too tight or the failure to wear a tie in the saloon bar with protecting their values the imperative and not the quality of the beer. Also retired policemen, representing authority figures keeping the drinking classes in their place, with the quality of the beer being a secondary consideration.

Returning to the dreadful KEG BEER and what was wrong with it. It was expensive, cold and gassy, but above all it was the ultimate in blandness and totally lacking any flavour. An advert from the time claimed that you could taste the hops in Ben Truman. A popular riposte was that there were more hops in a dead frog than in a pint of Ben Truman! Marketing men spewed out their rubbish which said nothing about the qualities of the beers and everything

about style and image. Watney's had a cavorting Chairman Mao praising the virtues of Red Barrel and the Red Revolution. Other campaigns told us that it was what your right arm was for and that this pint was really a quart. Most famously Double Diamond worked wonders although what these were was never specified. I am reminded of 19th century adverts for pills that cured everything from chilblains, blindness to sexually transmitted diseases! At the same time the brewers were on the rampage buying up others and creating regional monopolies. Single bars disappeared and monstrous changes were undertaken. Behind one Watney's exterior, consisting of alternating black and red horizontal stripes, was an alpine vista including a waterfall and you expected the Sound of Music to burst out at any moment. Not surprisingly consumers revolted and CAMRA was born and the beer festival created.

Over the years beer festivals have introduced many people to the wonderful range of British ales, but I have noticed some backsliding from the original principles. 1) The return of keg and key keg. The keg beer is considerably better than in the old days and I admire their skill, inventiveness and creativity. Not so happy with the term 'craft beer' which rather implies that national brewers somehow are not crafting good beer. However, keg is keg and I am not able to drink such cold beer and have great difficulty in even holding the glass. Neither am I keen to pay such exorbitant prices. 2) The appearance of keg lagers, although they are local rather than the national brands. 3) The proliferation of fruit ciders.

Finally, it was the turn of cider to experience the marketing nonsense. Cider is made from apples and no other fruits, but that did not stop them wanting to add other ridiculous flavours such as mango, passion fruit and strawberry which

made them incredibly sweet, so much so that they really need a health warning. They are modern day alcopops and squarely aimed at young people. It's not as if any real strawberry was actually involved as industrial syrups are the norm. Unfortunately, there are people who believe fruit cider to be real cider. Whilst others believe that fruit cider could be counted as part of their five a day of fruit/veg.

My problems with 1) to 3) above are twofold. Cask sales are falling and we hardly need to give succour to competition. Normally, those not in the know can be offered some tastings and they will generally find something they like after they have successfully left their comfort zone. If they see something they recognise then it is an easy choice to go for the familiar.

Now let me introduce you to Colonel Charles de-Laet Waldo-Sibthorp who was probably

the model for John Bull. He was an Ultra-Tory reactionary MP who opposed any form of modernity that threatened his lifestyle. The arrival of the railway incensed him so much that he sent his agricultural labour force with spades and pitchforks to do battle with the builders, resulting in a battle that lasted three days. I imagine his explosive reaction if a marketing man was to tell him that some exciting changes were to be made to his beer and cider and that this might mean altering the structure of the pub! The dogs would be released on the poor man! We need more Waldos to reverse the backsliding and general apostasy in moving further away from your original principles. After all there is nothing like a pitchfork up your nostrils to reappraise your values.

Bob Southwell

Aka The Grumpy Old Man

Surrey/Hants Borders CAMRA Branch **AGM February 2024**

Hello fellow members, our 2024 AGM will be held on Saturday 17th February at the Woking Railway & Athletic Club, Woking. We plan to start the meeting at 12:00 noon sharp. There will be good beer to be had and we should be finished by around 14:00.

Find out what the branch has been up to in the past 12 months. We will also appoint the new committee for the next 12 months so please use this meeting as an opportunity to meet the committee and other branch members. There will be a review of the 2023 Campaigning Goals and you can help us decide the Campaigning Goals for 2024.

There will be brewery related event after the meeting, we do like to surprise you when we can!

Please join us at the Railway Club and have your say.

Mick Bell

*Chairman of the Surrey/Hants
Borders branch of CAMRA*



Pub News Round Up



Full details of all the pubs mentioned here can be found using 'What Pub' at [Whatpub.com](https://www.whatpub.com).

ADDLESTONE

RAOB Club

The Buffs were delighted to learn that North Surrey had put them into the Good Beer Guide 2024 for the second year running, in recognition of their commitment to quality real ale with regularly changing guests, all kept in tip top condition. Keep it up!

Andy Davies

ALBURY HEATH

King William IV

This Good Beer Guide listed free house in lovely countryside near Shere is up for sale for £1,250,000. **Roy Golding**

ALDERSHOT

White Lion

The WL has settled back nicely into its former rhythms with three Triple fff beers available: Alton's Pride, Moondance and recently Sundown, one of the fff seasonal beers. The side room now houses a pool table (goodness knows how it was squeezed in!) and Monday pool league matches are "televised" on screens in the bar. It's a bit like watching Pot Black! There's regular live music (see the facebook page) and Open Mic night on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Great to see the WL Roaring again. **Peter Broberg**

BADSHOT LEA

Cricketers

The pub was reported as closed in early September, the reason is unknown, but hopefully it will reopen soon. **Kevin Travers**

BLACKWATER

Mr. Bumble

Phillipa and Keith are maintaining the range and quality of their four cask ales here: Fuller's London Pride is the 'House beer' beloved by many of the 'regulars', the alternatives often featuring beers from Windsor and Eton, Portobello, and the nearby Ascot brewery. You can also ask for a 'paddle' of beers, being three thirds of three of the beers on

offer, and card-carrying CAMRA members can get a discount on their pint. **Doug Fish**

BRAMLEY

The Jolly Farmer

Usually has seven or eight beers on offer covering many bases from all over the UK. Hop Tipple, a lovely, refreshing hoppy bitter from Crafty Brewery in Dunsfold seems to have become a constant. To facilitate trying the array of beers on offer a paddle of three thirds of a pint glasses is now available.

CMK

BURPHAM

Anchor & Horseshoes

Well worth a visit, three real ales on offer, huge rear beer and front garden plus easy access by bus! Tankards available. The pub opened in the 1700's so lots of history plus staff are amazing! **Dylan Thomas**

CAMBERLEY

Bear

Since taking over the management of this pub when the late Sully's wife Kat sold the lease Terry has kept it in very good order. A popular spot for 'coffee morning' groups, as well as those who want a good meal and or drink later, and especially busy when they have a band in the evening. Generally has either Sharp's Doom Bar or Hogs Back Tea on Cask, but in recent weeks I've also enjoyed Black Sheep Bitter, and Timothy Taylor's Landlord here. Also, a comprehensive range of keg and bottled Beers/Lagers, and many enjoy the range of Cocktails here! **DF**

The Camberley & District Club

This is a private members' club, founded in 1903, and has recently won Camberley's much prized "Best Long Serving Business Award" 2023. We are not only the oldest licenced premises in the area, but also one of the very few, if not the only, licenced premises free of tie. This enables us to provide a broad choice of cask ales from many brewers, rotating a cask at a time, with a good range of bottled ales also available. The favourite casks include beers from Timothy Taylor, Courage and Windsor and Eton. The club is located close

to Park Street's bustling shops and restaurants, in the middle of Camberley, and is a good place to meet friends, enjoy a good pint, and other drinks at competitive prices, including sparkling and still wines, and ciders.

Beers are sourced through the Beer Warehouse from the wide range which they can supply. The Courage Best was in excellent condition at my recent visit. The choice of beers is regularly reviewed by the bar manager (Kait) and the club's committee, with members invited to state their preferences, which helps to refresh the choices. Guinness, Neck Oil and several lagers are also popular with some of the regular members, and kept in good condition.

The Camberley & District Club provides an ideal spot for a meeting in central Camberley, with plenty of space to relax and invite friends. Guests are welcome to use the facilities, if signed in by a member. Applications for membership are welcome, via the club's website. **Harry Fish**

Duke of York

I was pleased to find that new manager Rhys had restored cask ale to this pub in late 2022, with the introduction of St Austell's Tribute. The pub has many TV screens on which to watch a variety of sports events, and I note that a live band is to play here imminently, so look forward to that. **DF**

Pineridge Golf Centre

I gave up distributing News & Ale magazines here some time ago, when the only cask ale on offer (Sharp's Doom Bar) was often not available at. I was pleased to find it still available when I visited recently **DF**

CATERHAM

The King and Queen

This Fuller's pub continues to offer some well-kept ales, with occasional local guest beers. The Sunday lunchtime roast dinners have restarted and are proving popular. **Peter Spooner**

CHERTSEY

Crown

This town centre Youngs pub has recently added a changing guest ale alongside the Original and Special, with beers from local breweries including Dorking, Surrey Hills and Windsor and Eton. **Anthony Groves**

Olde Swan Hotel

North Surrey's Cider Pub of the Year 2023 hosted a fantastic range of real ciders over summer with up to seven available at once. It also serves top quality real ales and is deservedly in the Good Beer Guide 2024. Landlord Phil will once again be running his beer advent calendar in December for the run up to Christmas with some interesting and varied guest ales which will be changing every 24 hours that the pub is open – so at least one every other day, so get in quick... **AG**

DORKING

The Old House

Has been taken on by Dorking Brewery as a Punch lease. There will be a £200k refurbishment in mid-January. It will be free of tie on cask ale and most of the keg. Will do local food in due course and focus on local cask ale, keeping it a community led pub with live music. Definitely not a gastro pub, but great quality local food. **RG**

EAST MOLESEY

The Bell

This 17th century inn is run by Greene King but generally has at least two guest beers, often featuring a local brewery such as Windsor and Eton or Wimbledon. The pub is a Good Beer Guide regular and a former branch Pub of the Season. **John Burns**

Prince of Wales

Another Greene King pub with an enterprising guest beer policy. Often has a Triple fff beer on - the only outlet in this area - as well as one other local ale. The pub was branch Winter Pub of the Season for 2022/23. **JB**

EGHAM

Red Lion

A popular destination in the High Street with a good and varied range of four or five real ales available. A new entry into the Good Beer Guide for 2024 in recognition of consistent good quality (and the food is darned good too!) **AG**

United Services Club

North Surrey's Club of the Year 2023 progressed to become Surrey Club of the Year and is in the Good Beer Guide 2024. The winter beer festival is due on 9 - 11 November. **AG**

Continued on page 14

Community Defibrillators

Can your Local support one?



Garden Gate Aldershot wins CAMRA Community Award

At the start of June SHB CAMRA presented a special award to Bob & Yvonne Swann, landlord and landlady of the Garden Gate, Aldershot in recognition of the strong support the pub gives to the local community.

The Special Awards which CAMRA present, recognise when a pub makes an outstanding contribution to the communities which they serve. This award recognises the purchase of a community defibrillator along with the training offered to locals in its use.

Every Thursday evening the pub hosts a quiz, for which participants are charged £1 to enter. There are no prizes, but this money is put into a Charity Quiz Fund and used to provide tangible gifts to the local community. These are made without credit and in the past have include a 'chemo bell' for a local hospital and an installation at the local children's cemetery.

The latest contribution followed an incident involving one of the locals, with the money raised used to fund the purchase a defibrillator and public access cabinet. In the last six months this has been 'allocated' over 12 times. Though thankfully not used to date, it has demonstrated the need should the emergency services or first responders not arrive in time.

It was hoped that these efforts and initiative would lead to other local venues following with the installation of their own defibrillator and it is fantastic to see that this has come to fruition. There are now five public access machines in the local area to our knowledge and at least two more are pending.

However, it has not just been about providing the machines as the Garden Gate has also been fighting the great misconception about the use of these machines. It has set out its own very successful campaign to train locals in how to perform CPR, an essential element in their effective use. Courses have been run at the pub and to date 85 people have attended, giving one hour of their time to potentially save a life.

We think this is a superb and perfectly demonstrates the value of pubs in their local community and how much they can offer support to the people living there. What has been done at the Garden Gate is a fantastic example of how pubs can make a practical difference and potentially save lives, though simple and valuable projects such as this one.

On the next page is a selection of pubs and clubs across our Branch area that either have a community defibrillator inside, or nearby. It is not intended to be a definitive list but gives a snapshot of some of the facilities available.

We are now looking at how we can support other pubs in the area to provide similar facilities, so if you know a pub that would like to get involved, please let us know.

Kevin Travers/Ian Johnson

Pub/Club	Location	Type of Access
Garden Gate	Aldershot	24/7 public access
Traco Club	Aldershot	24/7 public access
Bear	Camberley	24/7 public access
Plough & Horses	Cove	24/7 public access
Thatched Cottage	Cove	24/7 public access
Plume of Feathers	Croddall	24/7 public access
Crookham Street Social Club	Crookham Village	24/7 public access
Exchequer	Crookham Village	Restricted access
Cody Sports & Social Club	Farnborough	24/7 public access
Ivy Lane Club	Farnham	24/7 public access
Frimley Green Club	Frimley Green	24/7 public access
Charterhouse Arms	Godalming	In phone box opposite (24/7 public access)
Wheatsheaf	Horsell	Restricted access
New Inn	Send	24/7 public access
Saddlers Arms	Send	24/7 public access
Barley Mow	Winchfield	24/7 public access



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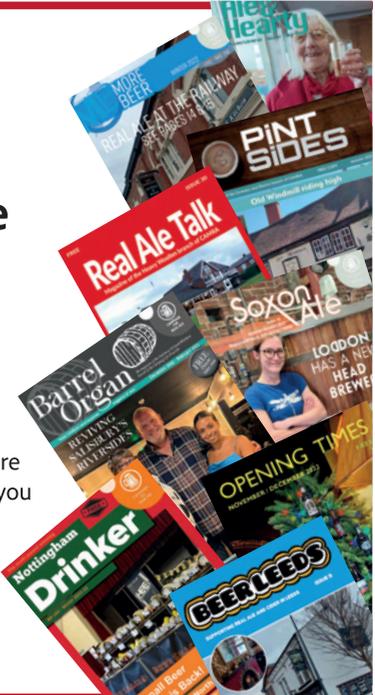
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46th Farnham Beerex



Thursday 18th to Saturday 20th April 2024

The sale of tickets for 46th Farnham Beerex are expected to be launched on or around 8th December 2023, again with an early bird offer for a limited period. They can be purchased at <https://www.farnhambeerex.org.uk/booking/>

Session times for 2024 are the same as for 2023; 6.00pm - 11.00pm for the three evening sessions and 11.00 am - 3.00pm for the Friday and Saturday lunchtime sessions. The minimum age for entry is 18 years.

Tickets give entry to Beerex, a Beerex pint polyglass, a souvenir programme and live music at each session, apart from Friday lunchtime which will be a quiet session with tables and chairs laid out in the Great Hall.

Farnham Maltings provide food at all sessions and this year for the first time there will also be a variety of street food vendors located immediately outside the event with easy access to them.

Latest details about Beerex can be found at <https://www.farnhambeerex.org.uk/index.html>

Organisation for Beerex 2024 has started and we always need Beerex volunteers to organise and run the event. If you worked at Beerex 2023 then you will receive a staff recruitment email. If you would like to volunteer for Beerex 2024 then please contact us using this link https://www.farnhambeerex.org.uk/_contact.html



The staffing form identifies the Setup and Take-down tasks, which are mostly physical, plus the beer serving sessions when Beerex is open, which are also physical.

Additionally, there are many other essential but sometimes overlooked background tasks which are less physical and not so intense as serving beer. These are the mysterious "admin" tasks

which support the smooth running of Beerex and can often only require a few hours of your time. Such tasks, in no particular order, include the following:-

1. Ticket scanning on the door
2. Helping to direct customers around the building and control queues
3. Selling Beer Tokens to customers using card scanners
4. Supervising the customer collection of their polyglass
5. Staff room desk work to sign in Beerex volunteers
6. CAMRA/Information stand to promote CAMRA membership, provide information to customers and often chat with friends!

If you have worked at Beerex in the past then you will probably recognise these tasks, if you are a newcomer and wish to help then full training and instruction will be provided.

Cheers, we hope to see you at Beerex, and please help if you can!



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**GREAT
BRITISH
BEER
FESTIVAL**

WINTER
15-17 FEB



Campaign
for
Real Ale

ENGLEFIELD GREEN

Bailiwick

This foody pub at the entrance to Windsor Great Park is now open seven days a week and serves Windsor and Eton Guardsman and Bailiwick Great Park Ale along with several of the Windsor and Eton range on keg. **Richard Snell**

Barley Mow

A smart, food-oriented pub on the village green. A recent visit found St Austell Tribute, Hogs Back Surrey Nirvana, Timothy Taylor Landlord and Sharp's Doom Bar on cask. **RS**

Beehive

Another entry by North Surrey into the Good Beer Guide 2024. A smart little local Fuller's pub serving London Pride and Dark Star Hophead. **"Spike"**

Milligan

Happy Man

Whilst visiting the latest beer festival in September, North Surrey delighted James with his Good Beer Guide 2024 promotional pack. The garden benefits from a new large tv screen under the canopy which has been useful for displaying the festival lists and for watching the rugby world cup. **AG**

EPSOM

Jolly Coopers

Current Kingston and Leatherhead joint Pub of the Year, located at the edge of Epsom Common. The pub has its own brewery, Fuzzchat, which is the name given historically to someone born on Epsom Common. One Fuzzchat beer normally available alongside Surrey Hills Ranmore and two other guest ales. **JB**

Rifleman

Traditional street corner pub run by Greene King but with Surrey Hills Ranmore as a regular and up to two other local guest ales. **JB**

Rising Sun

Now managed by Big Smoke Brewery, this traditional suburban pub has a good range of cask and keg ales and holds regular beer festivals in the large garden. **JB**

ESHER

Prince of Wales

Located in the village of West End, opposite the duck pond, this former Chef and Brewer has been rebranded as a Greene King "Crafted Pub" and is due to reopen in November after a major refurbishment. **JB**

EVERSLEY

The White Hart

This traditional pub is on the edge of Eversley village, known for its close connections with Charles Kingsley and the local cricket club, one of the oldest in the country. The pub is now run by Tori and Zoe, their first pub, but they have extensive experience in the hospitality industry, and are keen to provide good food, as well as a range of drinks. The "Hart" is owned by the Stonegate group, which is able to provide a range of beers, the most popular ones being London Pride and Courage Best. At my recent visit I enjoyed a pint of Best, which was in good condition and much to my liking. A range of ciders is available, together with Guinness, and several popular brands of lager.

There is an extensive car park and garden area, with picnic benches at the back of the pub, facing out to the local countryside. This is a family-friendly and dog-friendly pub, with canine treats in jars on the bar, and an outside patio provided with brollies and heaters for chilly evenings. On cold winter days you will be welcomed by a log fire.

This is a small, friendly pub on the outskirts of Eversley, and worth a visit, if you are in the area. A warm welcome awaits you from Tori and Zoe, with beers kept in good condition and pub grub available. Best to phone in advance for your bookings and information: 01183-437031. **HF**

FARNHAM

Six Town Hall Buildings

A planning application is being considered by Waverley Borough Council to convert this vacant shop unit into a public house. It is understood the application has been made by the owners of the Alfred Free House and the intention is to focus on craft beers from British and International independent brewers. This sounds like an excellent opportunity to see good beer in Farnham town centre, which with the honourable exception of the Hop Blossom, can be a bit limited. **KT**

FRIMLEY

Olde White Hart

Being a Greene King pub, they generally have their IPA on, but on a visit in mid-September I was pleased to see an additional new Greene King beer on, called 'Fresh Legs', and clearly in line with the imminent Rugby World Cup. I found it very tasty and will hope to find it in some of our other local Greene King pubs – thanks, Nathan! **DF**

Railway Arms

This pub has been closed for about two years now. At the time of publication of this magazine the pub was due to open on 3rd November so it should be open by the time you read this. **DF**

Toby Carvery

This is another pub I lost faith in some time ago, as too often no beer was available from any of the three Sharp's Doom Bar hand-pulls. However, on a recent visit (also to get What Pub details) I was pleased to find that the Doom Bar was actually on, and apparently now more often than not. As it happens, I used to know one of the floor managers, Ollie, from when he worked at the old Cambridge Hotel in Camberley, so I hope they continue to maintain a good cask ale here and I will be happy to revisit soon. **DF**

GODSTONE

Godstone Inn

Has been closed and boarded up for several months and is now for sale. **PS**

GUILDFORD

Rodboro Buildings (Wetherspoon)

Huge selection of real ales, today's sample was Old Peculier which is a rare treat for Guildford. **DT**

The Star

Full range of bottled Shepherd Neame Beers available. Bishop finger in fine form. **DT**

Three Pigeons

Great selection of craft beers and real ales. Outside front seating on High Street plus small courtyard area. Two floor venue. **DT**

White House

Drinking Fullers Honey Drew sitting by the River Wey in Summer is amazing. The pub has extended their beer garden. **DT**

HERSHAM

Bricklayers Arms

Run by the same Landlord for over 40 years, this excellent free house with separate lounge and public bar is the only local outlet for Hop Back Crop Circle. Hogs Back TEA and Shepherd Neame Spitfire are also on offer. There is an attractive garden at the back and good quality home cooked food is available at lunchtimes. **JB**

HOOKWOOD

Black Horse

Up for sale for £1,500,000, this Badger pub has been bought by the team who run the Parsons Pig near Crawley. **RG**

HORLEY

Air Balloon

This Greene King pub has been bought by Lidl and will be converted to a supermarket, probably next year. It remains open until then. **RG**

LEATHERHEAD COMMON

Star

This large pub situated on the A243 is now part of the Barons pub chain and although food oriented usually has up to three local ales from the likes of Surrey Hills, Hogs Back and Dorking. The pub is convenient for walkers, being next to Princes Coverts and opposite Ashtead Common. **JB**

LIMPSFIELD CHART

Carpenters Arms

Has been taken over by the Titsey Brewing Company, two of their beers are available alongside a couple from Westerham Brewery. **PS**

LONG DITTON

Plough and Harrow

The pub has reverted to its original name after being acquired by Heartwood Collection (formerly Brasserie Blanc). The pub is due to reopen in November after an extensive refurbishment and will be food oriented. It was previously known as the George Evelyn and before that the Ditton. **JB**

Continued on page 26

Social Events and CAMRA Contacts



All social events can change due to unforeseen circumstances such as rail strikes that were not known at the time of publication. Please check the latest updates on each respective CAMRA branch web site before attending an event. Only social events known at the time of publication are shown. If you are attending your first social event, then you may wish to email the respective branch and let them know that you are attending their event so they can look out for you at the event.

£2 single bus fares scheme extended to end of 2024

The Government scheme to limit single bus fares to £2 (two singles are often cheaper than a return ticket) has been extended to the end of 2024 (please check if your route is covered by this scheme before travelling <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/2-bus-fare-cap#south-east>). Please take advantage of this scheme to travel by bus (where possible) to your pub as travelling by bus is still below the level pre-Covid and many bus routes are under threat of being withdrawn.

NOVEMBER 2023

Wednesday 8th 7:00pm Egham Beer Festival social preview evening social [NS]

Tuesday 14th 7:30pm Branch meeting Freeman's Arms, Ashford [NS]

Saturday 18th 12:00pm Underneath the arches tour
Meet at 12:00pm under the clock at London Waterloo Station. We will get on the Jubilee line (east bound) to Bermondsey Station. Then walk just over half a kilometre (7 mins) to Kernel Brewery. This will be followed by a visit to a select number of pubs [SHB]

Saturday 25th 2:00pm Englefield Green wander [NS]

Tuesday 28th 6:30pm Ash Vale beer and curry night.
We will meet at the nearby Admiral pub followed by a Curry Banquet night at the Spice of India in Ash Vale if you would like to eat then please confirm by 18th November on social@shb.camra.org.uk. [SHB]

DECEMBER 2023

Saturday 2nd 10:30am Guildford area pub tour
A tour of pubs in and around Guildford. Optional breakfast and early pint at Cricketers at Rydes Hill then Wooden Bridge at 12:00pm, Bench at Surrey Sports Park from approximately 1:30pm and Guildford town centre pubs from 3:00pm. [SHB]

Monday 4th 7:30pm Branch meeting White Lion, Egham [NS]

Thursday 7th 7:30pm Presentation to Four Horseshoes, Long Sutton
As the pub is in a remote area not served by public transport, a lift will be available. Please email contact@shb.camra.org.uk if you require a lift [SHB]

Monday 11th 7:00pm Beer and Burger night at Antelope in Surbiton
We will meet at the Antelope at 7:00pm which is a 0.4 mile walk from the station. [SHB]

Friday 15th 7:00pm Surrey/Hants Borders CAMRA Christmas Party, Railway Athletic Club, Woking.
Join the local branch for an enjoyable evening of good beer. There will be a raffle, quiz and food will be available if booked in advance. For food, please confirm on social@shb.camra.org.uk. [SHB]

Sunday 24th 3:00pm Christmas Eve. Celebrations
Join SHB CAMRA members for a pre-Christmas beer at either Prince of Wales, Farnborough or Hop Blossom, Farnham. [SHB]

Wednesday 27th Wokingham mid-week pub tour
Details to be provided on the SHB website. [SHB]

JANUARY 2024

Saturday 5th 12:00pm Westy Beer Festival social
Join Branch members for the Saturday afternoon session (12:00pm to 4:00pm) at the excellent Westy Beer Festival. Book tickets here <https://www.westendcentre.co.uk/event/westy-beer-festival-2024> [SHB]

Wednesday 10th 8:00pm Good Beer Guide 2025 first selection meeting.
Guildford Hospital's Social Club, Guildford. [SHB]

Sunday 14th 1:15pm Sunday lunch at the Bricklayers Arms, Shamley Green.
Booking is essential, so please email social@shb.camra.org.uk by 5th January if you would like to come along. [SHB]

Wednesday 17th Bus tour to visit pubs in the Horsley & Effingham area.
Details to be provided on the SHB website. [SHB]

Saturday 20th Good Beer Guide surveying trip. Booking is essential, so please email social@shb.camra.org.uk if you would like to come along. [SHB]

FEBRUARY 2024

Thursday 1st 7:30pm Shuffleboard and beer evening at Ascot Brewery Ascot Brewing Company Tap Room, Camberley. We have acquired exclusive use of the brewery's shuffleboard free of charge from 7:30pm until close. To have an idea of numbers please let Les know you are going by emailing social@shb.camra.org.uk [SHB]

Wednesday 7th Quiz night at the Thameside Brewery in Staines. Details to be provided on the SHB website. [SHB]

Saturday 10th Good Beer Guide 2025 surveying trip. Booking is essential, so please email social@shb.camra.org.uk if you would like to come along. [SHB]

Saturday 17th 12:00pm Surrey/Hants Borders CAMRA AGM Railway Club, Woking. Join the SHB branch for their Annual General Meeting. The meeting will be followed by a brewery related event. [SHB]

Tuesday 27th 8:00pm Final Good Beer Guide 2025 selection meeting. Railway Athletic Club, Woking. [SHB]

BEER FESTIVALS

LOCAL BEER FESTIVALS

Thursday 9th to Saturday 11th November 41st Egham Real Ale and Cider Festival Open 10:00am until late, 40 plus ales and ciders, many from Britain's newest breweries. BBQ, hot and cold food, live music Friday

SURREY/HANTS BORDERS [SHB]

Includes all of the boroughs of Rushmoor, Surrey Heath & Woking and parts of Guildford, Hart and Waverley. Join the SHB Google group requests: shb_camra@shb.camra.org.uk
Contact (Les Murrell): social@shb.camra.org.uk
Web: <https://shb.camra.org.uk>

NORTH SURREY [NS]

Includes the Boroughs of Runnymede and Spelthorne, from Stanwell in the north to Woodham in the south.
Contact: contact@northsurrey.camra.org.uk
Web: <https://northsurrey.camra.org.uk>

and Saturday evening. The Egham United Services Club is five minutes' walk from Egham Rail Station and buses 8,441 and an occasional 500 from the nearby High Street. <http://www.eghambeerfestival.co.uk/>

Friday 5th to Saturday 6th January Westy Beer Festival, Aldershot The Westy Beer Festival is back for its 10th Anniversary, with Friday Evening, Saturday Lunch and Saturday Evening sessions. Details and tickets are available at <https://www.westendcentre.co.uk/event/westy-beer-festival-2024>. Entry costs £10 and includes a commemorative glass. Beers will be sold by token that will cost £13.50 for six half pints. Approximately 50 casks and ciders will be available with live music and hot food each session. A Branch social will be held on Saturday afternoon.

Thursday 18th to Saturday 20th April Farnham Beerex. At Farnham Maltings. The sale of tickets for the 46th Farnham Beerex. are expected to be launched on or around 8th December 2023. Again, with an early bird offer for a limited period. They can be purchased at <https://farnhambeerex.org.uk/booking/>

CAMRA NATIONAL EVENTS

Thursday 14th to Saturday 17th February 2024 Winter Great British Beer Festival (GBBF). The Winter GBBF will be held at Burton Town Hall in Burton-upon-Trent. Full information and tickets sales can be found at <https://winter.gbbf.org.uk>

Friday 26th to Sunday 28th April 2024 CAMRA's Members weekend, AGM and Conference. To be held in Dundee. Full details can be found at <https://camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference>

KINGSTON AND LEATHERHEAD [K&L]

Includes Kingston Borough, Leatherhead & Elmbridge. You can also find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter [@CAMRAKL](https://twitter.com/CAMRAKL)
Contact: (Clive Taylor): 020 8949 2099 (H) ctaylor2007@freeuk.com
Web: <https://kandl.camra.org.uk>

EAST AND MID SURREY [EMS]

Includes Boroughs of Reigate & Banstead, Tandridge, and parts of Guildford, Mole Valley and Waverley.
Contact (Roy Golding): info@ems.camra.org.uk
Web: <https://ems.camra.org.uk/>

NATIONAL CAMRA

Web: <https://camra.org.uk/>
What's Brewing: <https://wb.camra.org.uk/>
Podcast: <https://camra.org.uk/podcast/>

"Malty, where art thou?"



It was mid-summer and Malty was visiting one of his favourite pubs. It was built in Elizabethan times and was rumoured to have been visited by none other than William Shakespeare. There was a microbrewery to the rear of the pub and its beers were very popular with the pub clientele.

Being so old and characterful, it attracted many tourists. Two Americans wandered in, "You know this craft beer first started in the USA" one of the Americans started to explain to the barman. "It all started with the Anchor Brewing Company". Malty was mildly annoyed by this statement and was going to walk over to him and express his views when he started to feel very dizzy. The next thing he could remember was being helped into a chair by a man dressed in Elizabethan clothing. That was a bit strange, but when he looked around the pub everyone else was dressed in the same manner. Was there an Elizabethan re-creation event happening nearby? Malty was very confused. "How art thou?" said the person helping Malty. He helped Malty to a chair at his table. On the table was a quill, ink and a blank piece of parchment. "My name is Will. What is your name?" Will asked.

"My name is Malty" was the reply. "What are you writing today?" Malty continued. Will looked frustrated at the blank parchment. "Writer's block" Will confessed to Malty. Malty was still feeling confused and confessed to Will "I must be having a Mid-summer Nights Dream".

There was a woman behind the serving hatch. "Who is she?" Malty asked Will. "That'll be Katherine the Brewster, we call her the Shrew as no man has managed to tame her".

Two foreign gentlemen came into the pub, "Where are you from?" asked Katherine. "We are from Verona" one of them replied. Katherine

asked them what they wanted to drink. They didn't seem to understand the question. "Two beers or not two beers, that is the question" Katherine frustratingly stated. Will wrote something on his parchment. "Are you friends of the Merchant of Venice?" Will asked them.

"That's right, we are here looking for Romeo and Juliet". "Those young lovers have not been here for a while". Will explained "They blamed Katherine of trying to poison them last time they were here". "It was Much Ado About Nothing" was Katherine's remark about them. "The Lady doth protest too much" Will remarked. "As You Like It" she replied. Another person drinking on the next table asked Will if he knew Yorick, as he had died last week. "Alas poor Yorick, I knew him Malty" was Will's reply. Will had been writing on his parchment all evening and it was now full. As he was leaving Will shouted to Malty, "A horse a horse my beer for a horse" which were his final witty remarks.

After Will left Malty started talking to Katherine. Being a Brewster meant she brewed her own beer. This was a time when every pub brewed their own beer. Every pub was, in effect, a microbrewery. This beer was un-fined and un-filtered. It was before the big six UK breweries came into being, before keg beer was invented. Malty was in heaven. Malty felt dizzy.

When he woke, he could hear the American talking, "It was 1965 when it all started". Malty thought to himself, well maybe craft beer and microbreweries started a few hundred years before then.

Surrey/Hants Borders CAMRA Summer Party



Back in July this year, we held our first ever SHB CAMRA Summer Party. Thirty-six members attended the event, held in the garden at The Crown in Horsell. There was a choice of four different Thurston's beers available, including my personal favourite, Thurston's Milk Stout. The sun shone all afternoon and conversation, a pub quiz, pizza and beer were the order of the day.



CAMRA members enjoying their beer



The pizzas were very popular

Our next big event will be our Christmas gathering at Woking Railway Club, from 7pm on Friday 15th December.

And then our branch is 50, yes 50, in May 2024! Keep your eyes open for events and dates for our Golden Celebrations.

Val MacT



Presentation by Mick Bell to Antoinette Harvey and John Mintram

All the beers were presented in tip top condition, as you would expect to be the case in one of our then 2023, and now 2024, Good Beer Guide pubs. As well as the GBG accolade, our branch chairman Mick Bell presented a certificate to the landlady, Antoinette Harvey and her partner John Mintram. The certificate was to recognise The Crown as Surrey Hants Borders CAMRA Branch "Pub of the Year 2023".

Is your local pub under threat?

CAMRA has the tools
to help you save it



camra.org.uk/saveyourlocal



Lifetime Achievement Winner at Punch Pubs & Co National Publican of the Year Awards



Publican Diane Crathern of The Richmond Arms in Godalming received the Punch Pubs & Co's Lifetime Achievement award. Hosted by Punch Pubs & Co at their Burton-On-Trent headquarters, it was this award in particular which left guests in the room feeling nothing but pride and admiration.

Lovingly known as 'Aunty Di', Diane first took over the pub with her late husband Stephen in 1982. She has since become a stalwart of the community and is adored by her team, who she says are like her extended family.

With huge pride and passion for the Richmond Arms, Diane still loves to be behind the bar and

her enthusiasm for the beloved pub and the community still shines bright.

Speaking on behalf of her win, Diane who on the night was noticeably overwhelmed by the room's response said: "I was absolutely amazed, I didn't expect it at all. Last year I celebrated 40 years in the pub, which I credit to having good family, good friends, and support around me. I also have a fantastic team, our chef Anne has been with me for 39 years and Joe, our Bar Manager has been here for 20 years. It is a special pub, and it feels lovely to have that recognition."



Publican Diane Crathern, collects her award from Punch Pubs & Co CEO Clive Chesser and awards host Mark Durden-Smith. (Picture credited to Ian Hodgkinson and Alex Cantrill-Jones of PictureIt Media)

CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2024 Launch Event

The 2024 edition of CAMRA's best-selling Good Beer Guide was launched on Thursday 28th September 2023.



Congratulations to all the pubs that made it in this time.

We held a special launch event at the Grantley Arms, Womersley, where we presented a certificate to Warren, the manager, to mark the pub's first entry in the Guide for many years. In The Good Beer Guide, you'll find over 4,500 listings across the UK's best pubs, bars and breweries, chosen by local CAMRA volunteers as having the best cask beers available – or you can check out the special brewery section to discover new breweries setting the scene alight with interesting, exciting new brews.

The Guide retails at £16.99. It is available from all good bookshops and from CAMRA direct from the website gbgshop.camra.org.uk where a CAMRA member discount is available.

Kevin Travers

The only guide you need to find the best pubs and beer.

THE UK'S BEST SELLING BEER AND PUB GUIDE

THE GOOD BEER GUIDE 2024

FORWARDED BY BRUCE DICKINSON

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS CAMRA 1974-2024

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- 4500 of the best pubs in the UK & NI
- Full listing of active breweries
- Colour features section

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gbgshop.camra.org.uk

CAMRA Campaign for Real Ale

Pubs are social spaces which encourage social interaction and help combat loneliness

Find out more about the work they do:
www.camra.org.uk/loneliness

Brewery News



CRAFTY, Dunsfold

www.craftybrewing.co.uk



Crafty are still producing their core cask-conditioned ales: Hop Tipple 4.2%, Crafty One 3.9%, Blind Side

4% and Loxhill Biscuit 3.6%. The latest seasonal cask ale is "Eternal Summer", a 4% pale ale, dry-hopped with the New Zealand hop "Nectaron". The in-house canning and labelling capability is a continuing success and custom-labelled wedding and event beers have sold well. Crafty are the official beer partners of Godalming Town FC, Bolton Wanderers and Burnley FC, supplying a selection of club branded beers and cider in cans.

Joining the existing range e.g., Wave Catcher 4.2%, Laughing Wolf 4.4%, and the Pale Ale 4%, there will be another "Golden Daze" and a new hazy "Stellar Drift".

The brewery is open Monday to Friday for off-site sales 10:00-16:30 (closed Bank Holidays) and beers are available to order online in cans, bottles, polypins and mini-kegs.

The W3W location of the main gate is ///drama.bonus.corrects

Mike Sanders

CRUMBS, Reigate

www.crumbsbrewery.co.uk



As part of CAMRA's Cask week Crumbs, which does not normally produce cask beer, did a very limited-edition cask run of their Rye Ruby Ale. The company has gained their B-Corp certification, which is

about measuring a company's entire social and environmental impact and have also won the Marie Claire Sustainability Award for the best small food and drink business.

Sally Gingell

HEDGEDOG BREWERY, Virginia Water

www.hedgedog.co.uk/



Some new equipment has been added to the brewery to speed up production so they can offer more beers at a time.

It is planned to add more cans to the range, but more storage is needed, so in the meantime production has been more focused on cask and keg beers.

Plans for a golden ale earlier in the year were delayed after problems with yeast supply but this should now be out in November. A 6% bockbier was made specially for the Ascot Beer Festival in October but it turned out so well that the brewery is hoping to put it into full production and wider distribution.

Anthony Groves

HOGS BACK, Tongham

hogsback.co.uk/



At the time of writing the hops in the hop garden will have been harvested. Some of these will be used for Green TEA which was available at the recent weekend celebrations. A fantastic weekend of music, locally sourced food and good beer. The brewery produced "La Glorie D'Angleterre", a 4.4% robust malty golden beer for the recent rugby World Cup. The pilot plant continues to produce limited batch beers. Currently there is "Harvest Home Pale '23" a 4% ABV golden cask ale using Fuggles and English Cascade hops from the hop garden and "Ratfink and Ripsnorter" a 5% rich ruby ale with a hint of plums. It is worth following the brewery on social media to take advantage of these limited-edition beers.

The solar panels are now producing electricity which is very exciting.

Michele Axton

MAVERICK, Kingsleywww.maverickbrewingco.com

Maverick have continued to expand their range of beers, some of which you may see on craft bars in our area. The taproom is thriving and often features live music from local musicians with street food vendors in attendance.

Chris Truin**TERRA TEMPO, Tongham**Terratempobrewery.com

TERRA TEMPO

From a barn at Hogs Back Brewery, Lee Daniels has started brewing a small selection of beers using wort from Hogs Back. The pilot plant brewed his beers using his recipes. Lee has lots of brewing experience and is keen to explore different genres of beer. The two beers sampled were 4.8% fruit beers, one using plum and the other autumn berries. Hand bottled and using paper labels giving details of the beer, they are available to buy in the Hogs Back shop. They use naturally occurring yeasts and are matured for up to 3 months in Portuguese wine casks. Expect some very exciting beers in the future.

Michele Axton**THAMES SIDE, Staines-upon-Thames**www.thamessidebrewery.co.uk

There are always 10 to 12 ales available on the taproom bar, selected from across the whole core, specials and seasonal range along with a good selection of real ciders. The cider and sausage festival in September was successful and Andy now plans to hold a cider festival twice a year. October saw 'Rocktoberfest' take place which was a celebration of beer and music across the whole month, with a busy schedule of music and a completely new beer released every Wednesday through the month. These included a green hopped beer with Fuggles and Golding hops grown on Thames Side, a peach IPA, a cold fermented IPA/lager and a hazy pale using four

different hops from New Zealand. Live music now features on every Friday and Saturday plus often on Sundays too with a full schedule booked to the end of the year.

As well as being the only brewery in Staines, it is the only taproom between Windsor and Twickenham selling a house-brewed range of ales. A new heat-exchange and air conditioning system was installed in summer and a small garden area was opened at the rear. Next steps are a small movement of the bar and a refurb of the kitchen to enable the food offering to expand. The current premises opened on 8th December 2022 so the first anniversary is rapidly approaching, expect some celebrations in the run up to Christmas!

Anthony Groves**SURREY HILLS, Dorking**SurreyHills.co.uk

The Brewery is extremely busy. They still cannot keep up with demand for cask beer, so have not had any spare beer to bottle for some time. As always, there are new recipes ready to roll, but they are struggling to produce enough of their existing beers, so the new ones will have to wait.

Roy Golding**THURSTONS, Horsell**www.thurstonsbrewery.co.uk/

Thurstons Porter has been available both locally and at Great British Beer Festival. VIPA was brewed in the summer, but some casks have been held back and I recently enjoyed a pint at the White Hart in Chobham. During the rugby internationals Horsell Hooker was brewed. John plans to brew Small IPA as soon as the schedule allows. The cropping of their own yeast is going well and subtle developments in flavour have been noted.

Nick Banyard

TILFORD, Tilford

www.tilfordbrewery.beer/



First keg product has just gone into the Castle (Farnham) and has been very well received and will be going into the Royal Exchange (Lindford) and then hopefully a few other places to follow. Farnham hoppers harvested locally grown hops which were used to brew Primadonna, a 4% golden green hopped ale due to be available locally towards the end of September. The brewery is hoping to be able to offer tours later this year.

Ian Johnson

TRIPLE FFF, Four Marks

www.triplefff.com/



The brewery continues to do well. It is over a year now since the new business partner joined the brewery. Sales continue to grow, particularly helped by strong sales of “Sundown” a 4.3% Golden IPA. Sales are double what they were in September last year.

“Pressed Rat and Warhog” is now being brewed more often to meet demand. “Old Dray” has just been brewed again after an absence of 10 years! They are also brewing “Team Spirit” a green hopped beer which uses donated hops from local sources which is due to be available from October. Their ever popular “Witches Promise” will make its usual return in time for Halloween. The installation of the new five barrel brew kit is nearly complete and will be used for brewing smaller quantities of seasonal beers and new special beers. Cask Beer Week during the first week of October was celebrated at the Brewery taproom with seven beers due to be available. “Alton’s Pride”, “Moondance”, “Pressed Rat & Warhog” and “Sundown” as well as “Goldffinger”, “Dazed and Confused” and “Stairway”. Brewery tours have now resumed and can be arranged by contacting the brewery. The brewery have also commissioned students from Farnham College of Art to paint a mural on the side wall of the brewery.

Dave Patey

Why we love the rain in Yorkshire

Taylor’s brewery sits upon The Knowle Spring, the unique source of water we use to brew our beers. This particularly pure and consistent spring water is one of the reasons we’re able to brew beer of such reliable quality and taste. Filtered over time through layers of sandstone and black rock, Knowle Spring water has special mineral qualities that marry perfectly with our Golden Promise barley malt. This unique combination is the foundation of the complex flavour and subtlety of Landlord. And it all begins with rain falling upon the Yorkshire hills. That’s why we’re always happiest when it pours.

All for that taste of Taylor’s

Headscratcher No. 96 Results



The winner of Headscratcher No 96 was Doug Fish of Camberley.

Other correct entries were received from: Ian Amy, John Barker, Dennis Batty, Barry Cox, Jane Cox, Jim Davies, John Dodd, Norman Donachie, John Drake, John Graham, Roger Grant, Bob Heaps, John Hook, Trevor Lambert, Iain Murray, Mark Nichols, Chris Truin, Alan Welsh.

There were no incorrect entries.

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IS YOUR PINT NOT A PINT? UNHAPPY ABOUT THE QUALITY?

Should you be served with a pint that you feel is a short measure, always ask for a top up. If you feel that reasonable requests for a legal measure are not being honoured, you should contact Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 03454 040506

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Please let us know for our records.

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LYNE

Royal Marine

A perfect example of a community pub, the Royal Marine is off the beaten track but keeps local residents and other regulars happy with consistently top-quality ales and good pub food. Pat the landlord was delighted to once again be in the Good Beer Guide 2024. Opening hours are varied – not open on Saturdays – so check before you go. **AG**

MOORHOUSE

Grasshopper

After years of closure and promises to renovate, an application has been submitted to convert this pub into old person's housing. **RG**

NEW HAW

White Hart

The White Hart were delighted to learn that they had been included in the Good Beer Guide 2024 in recognition of good quality ales with a regularly changing ale offering. **Steve Clanford**

NEWCHAPEL

Wiremill

Has been acquired by Hall & Woodhouse and their ales are now available. **PS**

NEWDIGATE

Six Bells

Has been bought by the team who run the Good Beer Guide Listed Abinger Hatch at Abinger Common. Expect the beer and food to be good. **RG**

SHALFORD

The Parrot

Sadly, it has been closed since the lockdowns and remains closed with the metaphorical columbine fronds blowing around it. A local pubco has been looking into redeveloping and reopening the pub, but as yet nothing has happened of a definite positive nature. **CMK**

The Queen Victoria

Was closed in August for a refurbishment and at the time of writing was due to reopen at the beginning of September. The pub has at least three beers available: Otter, Timothy Taylor's Landlord and Sharp's Doom Bar and sometimes Harvey's Best. **CMK**

SHAMLEY GREEN

Bricklayers Arms

The Dickens to the Red Lion's Thackeray, if you like, is the Bricklayers Arms only a few hundred yards further down the road. The pub has a grand flower display looking onto the road and a well thought out and designed outdoor seating area of charm, considering it surrounds the pub's car park. Beers on offer at the time of visiting were Young's Original, Surrey Hills Shere Drop, Harvey's Sussex Best and Sharp's Doom Bar. **CMK**

The Red Lion

Has an attractive aspect overlooking the cricket ground, snug bars and a popular dining area. The real ales on draught were Shere Drop, Doom Bar and Crafty's Blind Side. Often available is a beer from Firebird Brewery or DB One from Dorking Brewery. **CMK**

SHEPPERTON

Barley Mow

North Surrey's Pub of the Year 2023 is deservedly in the Good Beer Guide 2024 for its varied and consistently top-quality real ales and real ciders. There is also regular music on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. No food served but there's a pizza van in the garden at weekends. **Chris Collier**

STAINES-UPON-THAMES

Beehive

A community local near Staines railway station, the Courage Best is often joined by a guest beer which was Windsor and Eton Guardsman on a recent visit. **David Macdonald**

Swan Hotel

A nice surprise to find a non-Fuller's beer on with London Pride and ESB joined by Twickenham Naked Ladies on a recent visit. Popular during the rugby world cup with screens throughout the bar area. **DM**

Wheatsheaf & Pigeon

Popular local pub near Staines Town FC alongside the Thames. Recent visits have found Gale's HSB, Otter Ale, London Pride, Theakston's Best and Sharp's Sea Fury. **DM**

SUNBURY-ON-THAMES

Maggie

North Surrey held a meeting here in September and the bar team were delighted when we presented them with the Good Beer Guide 2024 promotional pack confirming they are in it. Being in the middle of the rugby world cup the cask ales from Twickenham and Windsor & Eton were rugby themed and very tasty. Overlooking the Thames this is a popular spot for quality food. **AG**

VIRGINIA WATER

Rose & Olive Branch

After being shut for several months after a fire last December, the pub was reopened in September by a chef from Cornwall. The food looks mouthwatering and Windsor and Eton Guardsman is available on cask. **RS**

WALTON ON THAMES

George

This traditional town centre Shepherd Neame pub dates back to 1888 and recently came under new management. The beer range has been extended to include Whitstable Bay, Bishops Finger and a Shepherd Neame seasonal. The pub has an attractive patio area at the rear. **JB**

Weir

This delightful dog friendly riverside pub, about twenty minutes walk along the towpath from the town centre, recently came under new management who are keen to promote local cask ales. Recent guests have included Southwark, Hogs Back, Dorking and Surrey Hills. A successful beer festival was held on the August Bank Holiday weekend featuring a wide range of local ales and similar events are planned in the future. The pub has an extensive riverside terrace, six ensuite bedrooms and a wide range of good quality food on offer. **JB**

WINDLESHAM

Brickmakers

The pub was taken over by Pearmain pubs in Summer 2023, closed for refurbishment and is due to reopen in mid-October. **KT**

WONERSH

Grantley Arms

Provides a warm welcome and always has Young's Original and Surrey Hills Shere Drop on offer and depending on the season and weather a third beer, often from Hog's Back. **CMK**



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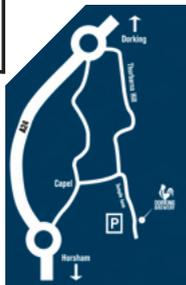


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National Beer Scoring System Update

Score your Beers to Win



In order to encourage more members to submit beer scores the Surrey/Hants Borders branch are holding a competition. If you submit at least 25 scores spread across ten or more pubs and clubs in the branch area between the start of May and the end of 2023 you will be entered into a draw. The prize winner will be announced in time for the AGM in February 2024. You can find a list of all our pubs on the branch website at <https://shb.camra.org.uk/pubs>

Alternatively check the "Responsible Branch" at the bottom of each WhatPub listing.

There is still plenty of time to qualify even if you have not yet started, so next time you visit a pub pop over to <https://whatpub.com/> and submit a score using the scale below.

Scale of NBSS scores

0. No cask ale available.

1. Poor. Beer is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.

2. Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.

3. Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.

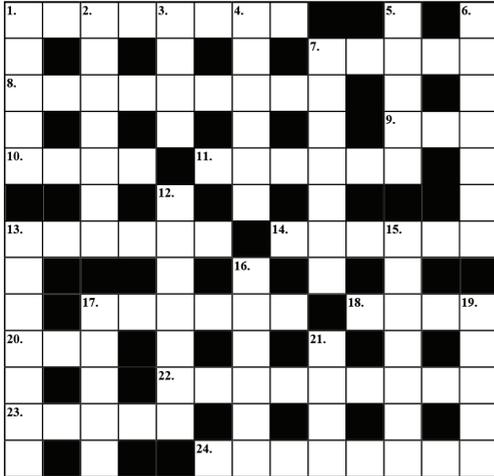
4. Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition. You stay put!

5. Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

Beer Scoring Form		
Name	Member N ^o	Date
<hr/>		
Pub	Brewery/Beer	Score

0 No cask ale available.
1 Poor Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.
2 Average Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.
3 Good Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.
4 Very Good Excellent beer in excellent condition.
5 Perfect Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

Headscratcher No. 97



£20 Prize Crossword

Clues for Headscratcher No.97

Down

1. Training a bird is mad. (5)
2. A disbeliever is infected with the first commandment. (7)
3. Reposes on an exotic isle. (4)
4. Pep it up with a lager top to get your favourite drink. (6)
5. Food from cooked pasta. (5)
6. After university Luke played the French instrument. (7)
7. I can't change after the extreme fervour. It's frenetic. (7)
12. Discover a foreign planet. (7)
13. Credit an old writer maybe. (7)
15. An identical costume. (7)
16. Two ducks fly over the harbour and find a city. (6)
17. Ants get excited after finally seeing other insects. (5)
19. Somehow Ruby kept a first edition for a customer. (5)
21. X. (4)

Across

1. Determined to process our steel. (8)
7. A plain spoken loud row. (5)
8. He takes care of hives. (9)
9. Everyone is part of the royal lineage. (3)
10. Facts are available regularly in draft papers. (4)
11. 150 singles are copies. (6)
13. Rise up with strange dances. (6)
14. The new arrangement of the minuet takes 60 seconds. (6)
17. After King George, spas are up for grabs. (6)
18. After 50 I'm the first British member. (4)
20. Scarper from the broken urn. (3)
22. Terry covers an organised riot for the county. (9)
23. Top barmen chat about quantity. (5)
24. Some rags decompose into a diaphanous fabric. (8)

£20 Prize Crossword.

Closing date for entries is Friday 20th January.

All correct answers will be entered into a prize draw. Entries to:

**William Hill, Pendennis, Frimley Road,
Ash Vale, Surrey GU12 5NN**

Name

Address

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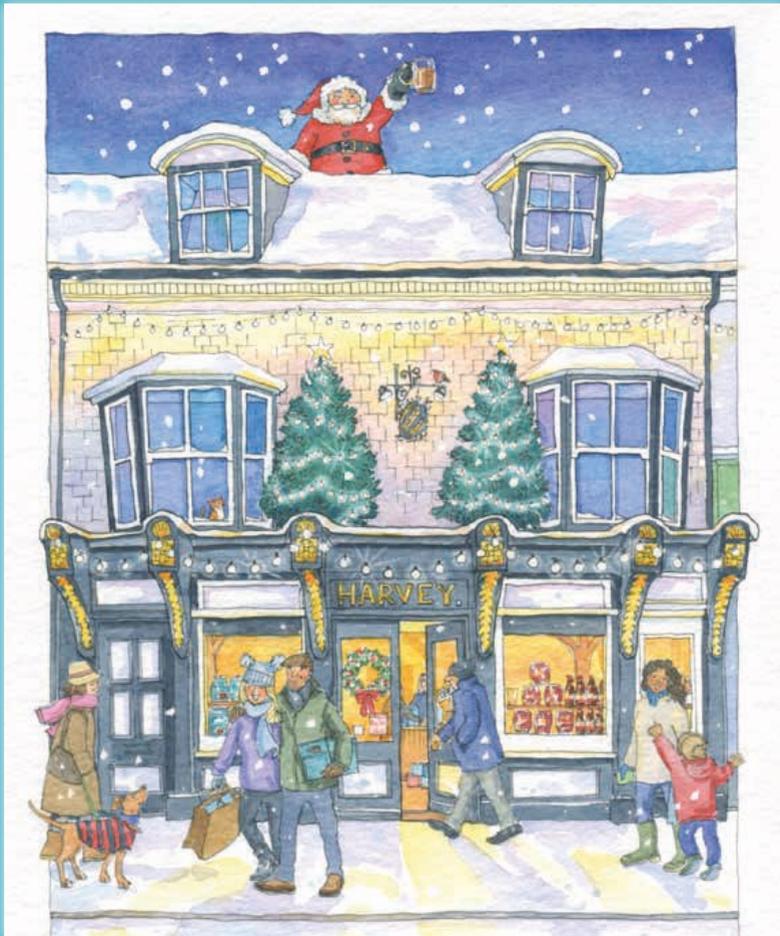
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