

CAMRANGLE

The magazine from the Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead branch of The Campaign for Real Ale

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INSIDE THIS EDITION

BREWERS' NEWS

Rebellion raises £65k for local charity

MAIDENHEAD BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

Phew! Festival basks in record temperatures

Supporting Real Ale, Real Cider & Real Pubs in East Berkshire & South Buckinghamshire

TASTING AND TESTING

Why Windsor's a hoppy place to be

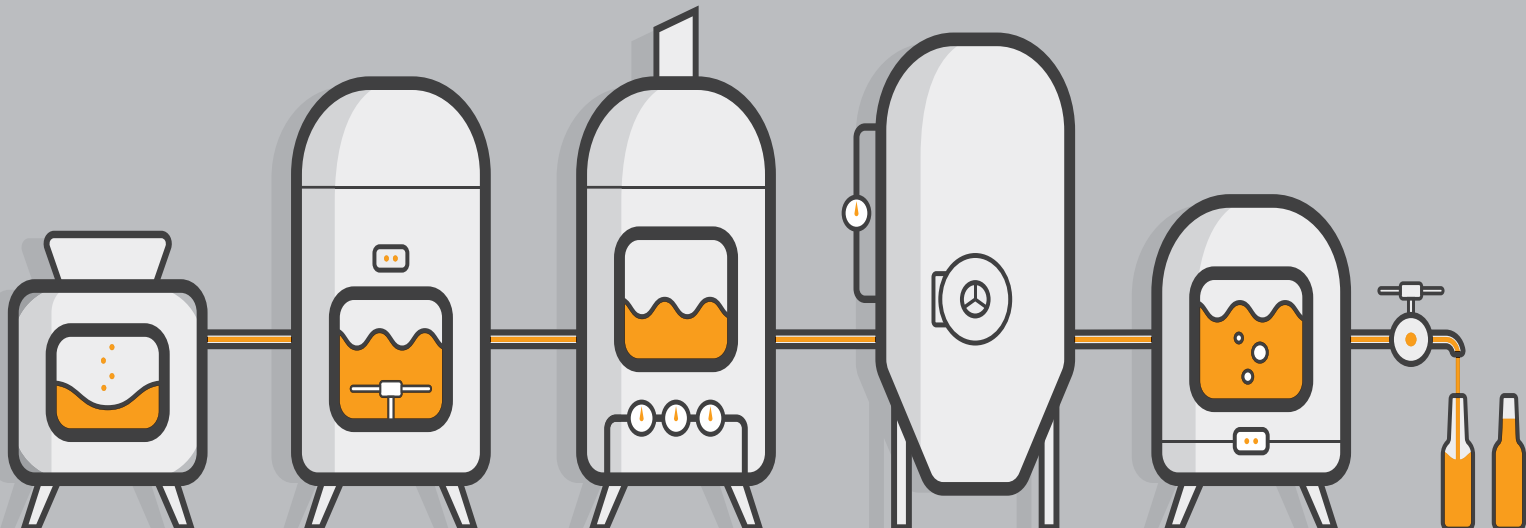
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FROM THE EDITOR



Phew what a scorcher! On the hottest day of the year - and staggeringly the hottest day since records began - the Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival welcomed frazzled crowds replete with their factor 50, sunglasses and sun hats, all keen to slake their thirst on more than just their wisely purchased bottles of water.

Met Office recommendations to stay at home if you could went largely unheeded and the determined British Public bounded through the entrance to enjoy the 120 beers and 50 ciders which were ready and waiting, alongside a plethora of entertainment and festival food. You'll find a full report from Festival Organiser Allan Willoughby on pages 12-13.

A glutton for punishment, Allan then went on to help out at CAMRA's biggest event of the year, the Great British Beer Festival held on 6-10 August at Olympia, London. Details of whose brews won accolades, including our very own local West Berkshire Brewery, can be found on pages 4-5. Great news for a worthy winner.

More good news came with the official reopening of community pub The Swan in Clewer, three years after its doors were last closed for business. Safe to say a good time was had by all and there's no doubt that it's a shining example of what can be done when a community comes together to protect local assets. You can get a flavour of the day in our photo-gallery on pages 8-9.

Still on the community theme, a huge congratulations to The Rebellion Beer Company and its biennial charity event. Staff, supporters and guests raised a staggering £65,000 for local charity Scannappeal in the space of just two days. A truly remarkable feat which you can learn more about on pages 19-20.

There's no doubt that we're in a very privileged region when it comes to local brewers, as evidenced by the opening of Windsor's very unique Hoppy Place, a family run, craft beer establishment which will be showcasing and sampling local beers.

But when it comes to sampling and tasting, can you do any better than joining the local CAMRA crew on a local jaunt? If you're not a member already then turn to the Branch Diary pages (15-16) to see why you might like to join up and join in.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

Sean Ferris
Editor

SUBSCRIPTION

We now offer the facility of posting the quarterly magazine to your home. Contact the Editor with your address details along with a cheque for £5 (made payable to CAMRA Ltd) to cover the postage and leave the rest to us! (Turn to page 30 in this issue.)



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CAMRANGLE

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The George, Eton now free of tie



Windsor and Eton Brewery, which operates the George Inn, Eton, are pleased to announce that they are now able to sell all their products, including Uprising beers.

This follows the successful conclusion of the Market Rent Only (MRO) process with Enterprise Inns (Ei), MRO being the right of a tied-pub tenant to go free of tie.

Whilst the outcome of this agreed process has been a higher rental arrangement the brewery can now showcase all their products in cask, keg and bottles.

"Such beers as Eton Rifles IPA, Uprising's White Riot and Treason are now available joining the rotating six cask beers that have been available for some time," said Paddy Johnson, Windsor and Eton Brewery.

www.webrew.co.uk

KEEP FIT & ENJOY BEER AT THE SAME TIME!

The Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble has been held on a quarterly basis for more than 10 years and is a great way to keep fit and enjoy some excellent beers and good company at the same time. The walk covers about eight miles and takes in three of the area's best real ale pubs - The Blackwood Arms, The Royal Standard at Wooburn Common and The White Horse in Hedgerley (in that order).



We meet at Hedgerley Pond, which is very near the White Horse, at 10.00am and then take a scenic route which varies from walk to walk to keep things interesting for regular participants. Lunch is optional and is taken at the Royal Standard before returning to the White Horse around 4.30pm.

Between them these pubs have around 25 different real ales for our thirsty walkers to savour, more than enough to keep anyone happy! The next Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble will take place on **September 8**

All are welcome, please call Mark the walk leader on 07871 777062 if you have any queries and to reserve a dining place, as the Standard does get very busy on Sunday lunchtimes. Come and join us!

Ed Sheeran hits the Brakspear Henley Ale Trail

Rock star Ed Sheeran has added another prestigious award to his collection of gold discs, Grammys and BRITs, after completing the Brakspear Henley Ale Trail.



Ed Sheeran outside the Saracen's Head

The acclaimed songwriter and a group of friends stopped off for a pint at the Saracen's Head pub on Greys Road as part of the trail, which involves a visit to 10 Brakspear pubs in the town.

Co-licensee Mel Roberson, who run the Saracen's Head with husband Colin, said: "Colin came to me and said, 'I think Ed Sheeran's in the bar'. We Googled a picture of him to make sure it was, and he was so friendly. He stayed for a game of pool and said what a great idea he thinks the Ale Trail is – apparently he only has one local pub where he lives."

By getting their card stamped in each pub, Ale Trailers qualify for rewards including exclusive Ale Trail t-shirts.

Details of the Brakspear Henley Ale Trail are www.henleyaletrail.co.uk. Participants have a full year from starting the trail to visit all 10 pubs and claim their rewards.

New Homebrew club launches

Windsor & Eton Brewery are supporting the launch of a new Homebrew club to be hosted within the brewery itself. From September, WE Homebrew will meet on the last Wednesday of the month with the aim of equipping members with feedback, advice, experience and help so they can brew the exact pint they had in mind, on purpose, every time.

Meetings will revolve around tasting and giving feedback on beers brought in by members but also hopes to include technical talks and advice by Windsor & Eton's brewers and other experts. The club is hoping to welcome all homebrewers, whatever their level of experience.

For further details contact ian.m.scott@sky.com

CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN 2019

Over 70 breweries were in the running for CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain Award, which took place on the opening day of the Great British Beer Festival (6 August).

Judges chose the winning beer based on its appearance, aroma, taste and aftertaste across 10 categories. And the winners are:



Congratulations to Surrey Hills Brewery. Its Shere Drop won 2019's Supreme Champion Gold at CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival.

SUPREME CHAMPION GOLD

Shere Drop, Surrey Hills Brewery

Description: The brewer's flagship beer (ABV 4.2%) is pale in colour with a subtle hint of grapefruit and lemon in the aroma. The hop bitterness is complemented by a balanced malt flavour. The beer has a long finish, which is moderately dry.

SUPREME CHAMPION SILVER

Afghan Pale, Grey Trees Brewery

Description: Afghan Pale Ale (ABV 5.4%) is crafted like an American pale ale, using Cascade, Citra and Simcoe hops. The Maris Otter malt provides a light colour and dryness to complement the crisp taste and full aroma of the hops.

SUPREME CHAMPION BRONZE

Citra, Oakham Ales

Description: Citra (ABV 4.2%) is light gold in colour, with citrus and tropical hop flavours. No stranger to Awards, Citra achieved Bronze in the 2017 Champion Beer of Britain, Golden Ales.

Local winners in other categories included a Bronze (Mild category) for **Maggs' Magnificent Mild** (ABV 3.5%), West Berkshire Brewery, described as a traditional rich, dark mild with big hitting biscuit malt flavours, a light earth hop aroma and a velvety smooth finish.



Local success came in the form of a Bronze for West Berkshire Brewery's Maggs' Magnificent Mild.

Call for nominations - Pub Design Awards!



The Cardigan Arms, Leeds, winner of last year's Best Street Corner Local.

Entries are now being sought for CAMRA's prestigious Pub Design Awards! Anyone can submit a pub into the competition - as long as it has a stunning design to showcase.

The Pub Design Awards, held in conjunction with Historic England, recognise

the highest standards of pub design, in categories ranging from the refurbishment and conservation of existing pubs to the construction of new ones.

Judged by a panel of experts in design and conservation, they showcase the very best architectural projects completed between 1 January, 2018 and 30 June, 2019. This year's categories include:

- Refurbishment Award – given for a successful makeover of a pub. Judges are looking for work which reflects the building's individual qualities, rather than something that looks like lots of others.
- Conversion to Pub Use Award – given for a project which sees a building designed for some other use converted to a pub. The judges are looking for imagination and flair in the conversion.
- New Build Award – given to a completely new pub. Judges are looking for individuality, rather than 'off the peg' design.
- Joe Goodwin Award – named after a former CAMRA national chairman, who was a champion of the 'ordinary street-corner local'. The judges are looking for projects which give a new lease of life to the building, however it is done.

Do you know of a pub that fits the bill, and deserves recognition for its stunning design?

Nominations/applications close on 30 September 2019.

<https://www.camra.org.uk/pubs/awards/pub-design-awards/>

OUT AND ABOUT

Look who you can bump into locally. David Emanuel, international couturier, with Dave Snowden of Crazy Dave's Cider. Among Emanuel's many achievements are the designing of Virgin Atlantic Airline's uniforms, a broad range of TV programmes in both the UK and US and, of course,

co-designing the wedding gown for H.R.H. The Princess of Wales, watched by an estimated 750 million people worldwide. (More on both Davids can be found at <http://davidemanuel.com> and <https://crazydavescider.co.uk> respectively.)



Local Publican takes to the screen



Local licensee and top chef Tom Kerridge is calling for ailing pubs to get involved with a new primetime TV Series for BBC 2 which focuses on British pubs under threat.

The series will see Kerridge working with ailing pubs and passionate publicans to help keep their local open.

Kerridge has three pubs in Marlow - The Hand & Flowers, the Coach and the Butcher's Tap. First to open was the Hand & Flowers in 2005 which achieved its first Michelin Star within a year of opening and a second in 2012, making it the first pub to hold two Michelin stars. It was also named the AA Restaurant of the Year for 2011-12.



The series is being created by Bone Soup Productions, a business established by Kerridge and Award-winning television producer Richard Bowron after they met in 2015 on the set of Bake Off: Crème de la Crème.

Stonegate Pub Co builds estate



The Crown in Egham, just one outlet in Stonegate Pub Co's vast pub estate.

Stonegate Pub Company has agreed to buy pubco Ei Group for £1.27bn, which will see the operator's estate rise by 4,000 sites, making Stonegate the UK's largest pub owner.

The operator, which also owns pub chains Slug & Lettuce, Walkabout and Yates currently has 760 sites, a number it has reached incrementally since buying 333 sites from Mitchells & Butlers almost a decade ago.



As our farmers know all too well: no pain, no grain.

They say nothing worth having comes easy. Unfortunately for our farmers that's true of the barley we use to brew our beers. We use a classic variety called Golden Promise, grown to our own unique specification. The biscuity, golden malt it produces is the perfect partner to our natural spring water, and is vital to Landlord's depth and delicate balance of flavour. It's also a type of barley that's notoriously hard to grow, and our exacting specification makes it even more difficult. Which makes it a costly ingredient and a real challenge even for experienced farmers. Luckily we can offer some liquid therapy.

All for that taste of Taylor's

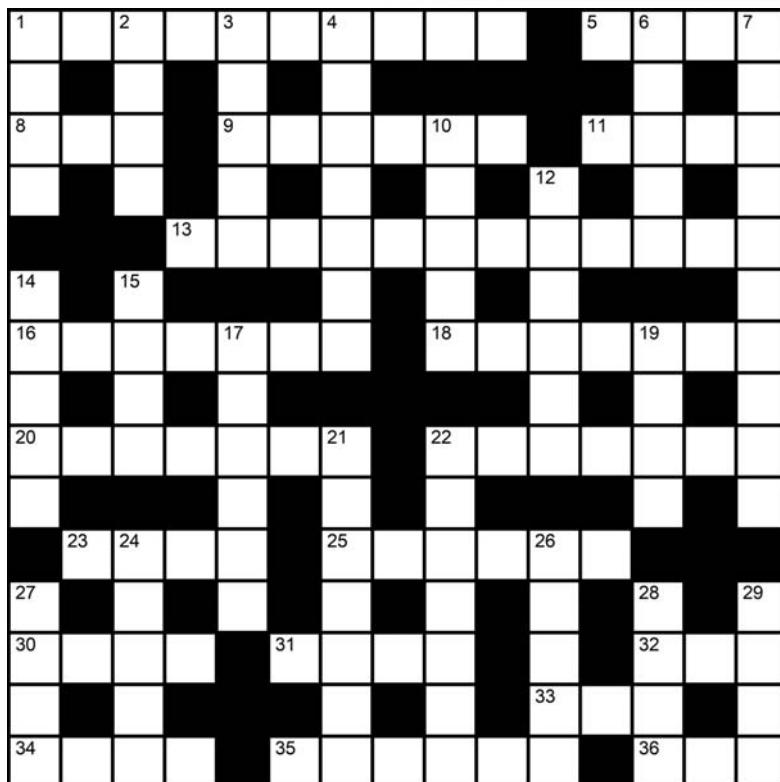


QUIZ CORNER

Welcome to Quiz Corner. Test out your beer prowess on our beer-themed cryptic crossword



You'll find the answers on page 20



ACROSS

- 1 Lift ration imposition, but it's not for beers with body! (10)
- 5 Wobble we left as a shapeless lump. (4)
- 8 Eggs said to be in line. How fishy! (3)
- 9 Wild liberation excludes earl from B vitamin in brewing. (6)
- 11 Honest, but can still misconstrue in the end. (4)
- 13 Daniel has a pile with a peculiar export tipple. (5,4,3)
- 16 Lightly hopped, but not over to beer! (4,3)
- 18 Darting about doing business. (7)
- 20 Wee romp could be taken to give ability. (7)
- 22 Draw, with pen, when the darkest hours are said to be? (3-4)
- 23 Spot osprey (or not, perhaps?) (4)
- 25 State of a comical leg extension. (6)
- 30 Run into Ron without one. (4)
- 31 Primary ocean? (4)
- 32 States of accusations (3)
- 33 Singing firstly to call cheap lager real ale! (3)
- 34 Even ancient Hebrews had a way to make beer!
- 35 Got to know of rental deal. (6)
- 36 Acquire fringe to trim. (3)

DOWN

- 1 Sack to warm next to. (4)
- 2 Must be sediment (else it's confusing). (4)
- 3 Flier, in the middle of disrobing. (5)
- 4 Cheat to omit wet arrangements. (3-4)
- 6 Insect stage - from Etna, say? (5)
- 7 Could engineer be working with a hand pump? (4,6)

- 10 Contribution to computer? (5)
- 12 Ode all ruined by dark and malty stuff! (3,3)
- 14 Arm to be twisted to have drink this colour? (5)
- 15 It's a mistake to make sloppy clay. (4)
- 17 Constantly, 'tis said, in every direction. (6)
- 19 Firstly I'm a major religious leader. (4)
- 21 Carefully reallocates - at no cost - for a *proper* pint! (4,3)
- 22 Rip lens off drink you might turn your nose up at! (7)
- 24 Vanished, and not about to bung! (5)
- 26 Gratis, without a change in the ground grain. (5)
- 27 Deadened area of penumbra. (4)
- 28 Stop - with a backhander? (4)
- 29 Admiralty to cut out dairy from barley sprout. (4)

ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE (ACV) PUBS IN OUR BRANCH

SOUTH BUCKS COUNCIL

- The Bull, Iver - currently boarded-up
- Rose & Crown, Stoke Poges

WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD

- Golden Harp, Maidenhead - now a Tesco Express
- Fifield Inn, Fifield
- Crown, Burchetts Green
- Craufurd Arms, Maidenhead
- Dew Drop Inn, Hurley
- Boundary Arms, Pinkneys Green
- Jolly Farmer, Cookham Dean
- Ye Olde Red Lion, Oakley Green
- Old Swan Uppers, Cookham
- Uncle Toms Cabin, Cookham Dean
- North Star, Maidenhead

COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO EMBRACE NEW COMMUNITY HUB

After the 'Last Orders' bell rang for the very last time three years ago at The Swan in Clewer, the 18th Century pub has now reopened to the sound of quite a different bell – Windsor's very own Town Crier. Hear ye, Hear ye, Hear ye!

For locals and regular readers, The Swan Pub in Clewer has been a focus of much attention. And not just because it was part of a national statistic surrounding pub closures, but because it has been a pivotal part in bringing the local community together to regenerate this venerable establishment into a community hub.

Our vision was to restore it as a local pub, a real community hub and as a social enterprise, assisting young people with additional needs.

This demanded significant work, however, funded by the local community.



And the great news? The pub opened for business on Saturday, 20 July. The Windsor Town Crier made the official announcement booming it across the courtyard and adjacent Mill Lane too.

There is still much work to do. We do hope you will come down on a regular basis and see the progress we are making. In line with our vision from the outset, from this autumn we will have a fully functioning and cosy - if a little rustic - pub, proudly serving the community of Clewer and beyond.



THE SWAN IN ACTION

Opening hours

Until late August the pub will be operating from a temporary bar with seating predominantly in the courtyard. All food and drink will – of course – be properly stored and served at the correct temperature.

- Mon-Fri: 6pm - dusk.
- Weekends: 11am - 10pm

What's on offer?

During opening weeks: a range of beers, spirits, juices and mixers (encouraging feedback from customers)

On tap: a range of Windsor & Eton ales and a lager. Cider on tap plus potentially a guest ale or lager too.

Wine: based on feedback pre-opening, the community gave a resounding "we want good wine please". As a result the team has been building a good quality wine list.



However, to get us to this point, there is much renovation work still to be done.

We took the decision to open ASAP in order to give investors and, indeed, all of our customers, the opportunity to sample the atmosphere of The Swan and quench their thirst during the summer months. The renovation work will still progress as The Swan continues on its journey to becoming a fully-fledged pub.

Hundreds attended the Opening Weekend. We had a lucky break with the weather that unexpectedly cleared up for us. It was a really busy day!

This included:

- Setting up the temporary bar.
- Putting a door on the ladies!
- Welcoming the Windsor & Eton Dray as it delivered ceremonial beer barrels.
- Unveiling of the new pub sign
- Greeting the Windsor Town Cryer (who recited a very funny poem about drinking)
- Overseeing excellent food from the Italian Street Food van
- Singing and dancing into the night
- Oh ...and some drinking was done too



WHEN WILL SLOUGH, WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD GET ITS FIRST MICRO PUB?



Just Beer, Newark

For anyone not conversant with the concept, a Micro Pub is a small venue selling great cask conditioned beer without a juke box, large screen television, gaming machine etc but with the added bonus of a quiet pint and good conversation.

Often opening what now seem restricted hours (but in reality the times most people want to go to the pub) it does not fall into the trap of trying to satisfy the needs of all its customers but failing spectacularly and satisfying no-one. Its target market is those people who want to enjoy great cask conditioned ale and this is its unique niche as other types of cold, fizzy beers can be obtained at a third of the price from one of the big four supermarkets.

The Micro Pub movement can be traced back just over a decade to the opening of The Butchers Arms in Herne Bay, Kent by Martyn Hillier who converted a former butcher's shop (hence the name) into a cosy venue for the enjoyment of great beer. Whereas 30 years ago the retail drinks industry was dominated by the big six brewers, the powerbase has changed such that now the large supermarket chains and pub companies dominate.

The 2003 Licensing Act eased restrictions on the granting of pub licences and thus, in November 2005, the first Micro Pub opened, taking a lead from the Micro breweries that were springing up around the country. It offered an outlet which was intimate and did not demand the need for 500 barrel runs of the same beer or huge discounts in order to be stocked.

There are now over 200 Micro Pubs in the country. Berkshire, however, currently has just one, the Cow & Cask in Market Street, Newbury, whereas Kent, the home of the Micro Pub, has over 20 and the town of Dover has no less than four!

The premises used are traditionally not former pubs but may have been shops or offices in a former existence (echoes of the Wetherspoons business model in converting cinemas, banks, churches etc) with basic furnishings and none of the trappings of most modern pubs. It must be remembered however that they are a commercial venture and at least one person's livelihood depends on its success, therefore it is not sufficient to visit once a year at Christmas for half a shandy. Its survival depends on a regular turnover of quality beers giving good choice with lower than normal overheads.



Barrel Drop, Nottingham

One reason that there may be so few local Micro Pubs may be linked to the exorbitant property prices in Berkshire, Having said that, even London now has more than half a dozen Micro Pubs. With the growth of local breweries it would be a welcome addition to the local real ale scene and I believe would also help stem the tide of pub closures.

Anthony Springall

Secretary, CAMRA Berkshire South East branch

Local Brewery Listings

To qualify as a LocAle brewery for the Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead Branch brewers must be within a radius of 25 miles from Maidenhead train station as measured by Google maps.

BREWERY	MILES	BREWERY	MILES
Ascot Ales, Camberley	15	Moogbrew, Taplow	3
Amwell Springs Brewery, Wallingford	25	New Wharf Brewing, Maidenhead	3
Andwell Brewing, Hook	25	Old Luxters Farm Brewery, Hambleden	12
Anomaly Brewery, New Malden	22	Old Windsor Brewery, Old Windsor	9
Aylesbury Brewhouse, Aylesbury	25	Paradigm Brewery, Sarrett	18
Bad Seed Brewery, Amersham	15	Park Brewery, Kingston-upon-Thames	23
Bell Street Brewery, Henley-on-Thames	12	Perivale Brewery, Perivale	21
Big Smoke Brew, Surbiton	23	Philsters Ales, Little Haseley	25
Binghams Brewery, Ruscombe	8	Pinnora Brewing, Pinner	22
Bond Brews, Wokingham	12	Popes Yard Brewery, Hemel Hempstead	23
Brightwater Brewery, Esher	23	Portobello Brewing, North Kensington	25
Chiltern Brewery, Terrick	21	Rebellion Beer, Marlow	7
Double-Barrelled Brewery, Reading	17	Reunion Ales, Feltham	17
Ealing Brewing, Brentford	23	Sherfield Village Brewery, Sherfield on Loddon	24
Elusive Brewing, Wokingham	15	Siren Craft Brew, Finchampstead	15
Fisher's Brewing, High Wycombe	11	Stardust Brewery, White Waltham	4
Fuller, Smith & Turner, Chiswick	22	Thame Brewery, Thame	22
Fuzzchat Brewery, Epsom	25	Thames Side Brewery, Staines-upon-Thames	13
Haresfoot Brewery, Chesham	18	Tiny Vessel Brewing, Hampton	20
Hedgedog Brewing, Virginia Water	14	Tring Brewery, Tring	24
Hogs Back Brewery, Tongham	23	Thurstons Brewery, Horsell	17
Jeffersons Brewery, Barnes	25	Twickenham Fine Ales, Twickenham	19
Kew Brewery, Richmond	22	Watling Street Beer, Watford	23
Little London Brewery, Little London	23	Weird Beard Brew, Hanwell	19
Loddon Brewery, Dunsden	12	West Berkshire Brewery, Yattendon	25
Lovibond's Brewery, Henley-on-Thames	9	Wild Weather Brewery, Silchester	22
Mad Squirrel Brewery, Potten End	24	Willy's Brew, Aylesbury	25
Mad Yank Brewery, Pinner	22	Windsor & Eton Brewery, Windsor	6
Malt The Brewery, Great Missenden	15	XT Brewing Company Ltd, Long Crendon	25
Marko Paulo Brewery, London	20	Zerodegrees (Reading), Reading	13
Mix Brewery, Hemel Hempstead	23		



CAMRA LocAle 2019 Pub Listings

- Acre – Windsor
- A Hoppy Place - Windsor
- Barleycorn – Cippenham
- Barley Mow – Cox Green
- Bear - Maidenhead
- Bell & Bottle – Littlewick Green
- Bexley Arms – Windsor
- Boatman - Windsor
- Boulters – Maidenhead
- Boundary Arms – Pinkneys Green
- Bounty – Cookham
- Conservative Club – Maidenhead
- Corner House - Windsor
- Crauford Arms - Maidenhead
- Drew Drop Inn – Hurley
- Duke of Connaught - Windsor
- Fox & Castle – Old Windsor
- George Inn – Eton
- George on the Green - Holyport
- Green Man – Denham
- Grenfell Arms - Maidenhead
- Greyhound – Eton Wick
- Horse & Groom – Windsor
- Hurley House Hotel - Hurley
- Jolly Farmer – Cookham Dean
- Jolly Woodman – Littlewick Common
- Kings Arms – Cookham
- Maiden's Head – Maidenhead
- Moon & Spoon - Slough
- Norden Farm Cafe & Bar – Maidenhead
- Oak & Saw - Taplow
- Old Windsor Club – Old Windsor
- Pinkneys Arms – Pinkneys Green
- Prince Albert – Windsor
- Prince Harry – Windsor
- Queen Charlotte - Windsor
- Rising Sun – Hurley
- Rising Sun - Slough
- Rose - Maidenhead
- Royal Stag – Datchet
- Shire Horse – Littlewick Green
- Stag & Hounds – Farnham Common
- Swan – Clewer Village
- Uncle Tom's Cabin - Cookham Dean
- Vansittart Arms - Windsor
- Watermans Arms – Eton
- White Hart – Moneyrow Green
- White Horse – Hedgerley
- Windlesora – Windsor
- Windsor & Eton Brewery Tap Room - Windsor

IT AIN'T ARF HOT MAIDENHEAD... BEER COOLING SYSTEM STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT!

It was the hottest day since records begun, even the Met Office had advised to stay indoors, but the show went on. Keeping 120 beers and 50 ciders cool was indeed a challenge on the opening day. And just to rub salt into the wound, it poured with rain on the Saturday a day earmarked for families... pretty unlucky, I say!

At 12 noon, the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, Councillor Mrs Sayonara Luxton dutifully pulled the first pint speedily followed by Chris Brown, Town Crier, reading out his hilarious Festival Proclamation in his inimitable style.

The event saw judges including the Maidenhead

Advertiser editor James Preston, take their seats to blind taste entries into the CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain competition. This year's category for the London and South East heat was for Speciality Beers and was won by Downton Brewery's Chocolate Orange Delight.



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Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival



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@MaidenheadBeer



Maidenheadbeerandcider

During the festival punters had the opportunity to vote for their Beer & Cider of the Festival – quite a challenge with more than 110 beers and 50 ciders to choose from. In first place as Brewery and Beer of the Festival was Ascot Brewing Co with Anastasia's, in 2nd place Paradigm Brewery's Black Friday and in 3rd place MoogBrew with Pretty in Pink. The Cider award went to Crazy Dave with Cloudy Katy....well done to all!

This year for the first time we had a keg bar showcasing 20 brands, it was an instant success illustrating that CAMRA's relaxation of the cask v keg debate is paying dividends. A popular Quiz took place in the chill-out zone on the Saturday evening... another 'first' for the festival.

Our chosen charity, Thames Hospice, signed up new lottery ticket members and rattled their buckets, they have now confirmed that £928.65 was raised throughout the festival, fantastic with a special mention to Tommy and his games team and Lorraine, my better half, who hassled drinkers on the way out to donate their unused beer tokens to the Hospice.

Finally, a big thank you go our Sponsors without whom we would find it difficult to provide the entertainment which we know goes down so well and, just as important, another big thank you to the CAMRA volunteers who served the beer, kept the site clean, secure and safe. Without them the festival would not exist.

Hope to see you next year!

Allan Willoughby
Festival Organiser



AND THERE'S MORE...

Not being content to limit myself to our festival, I then had a four-day stint at CAMRA's flagship event the Great British Beer Festival, and on the opening day the following was announced

CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN 2019

We are proud to announce the winners of the Campaign for Real Ale's prestigious Champion Beer of Britain competition, awarded at the Great British Beer Festival!

SUPREME CHAMPION GOLD

Shere Drop, Surrey Hills Brewery

SUPREME CHAMPION SILVER

Afghan Pale, Grey Trees Brewery

SUPREME CHAMPION BRONZE

Citra, Oakham Ales



THE VANSITTART ARMS WINDSOR



Welcome to our Traditional English Pub with a lovely winter ambiance and a large beer garden!

We serve delicious, home cooked food 7 days a week and breakfasts at weekends

Functions catered for

Children and dogs welcome

Opening Hours

Mon - Wed 12pm - 11pm, Thurs 12pm - 11:30pm

Fri 12pm - 12am, Sat 10:30am - 12am & Sun 10:30 - 11pm

The Vansittart Arms, 105 Vansittart Road
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Call: 01753 865988 www.vansittartarmswindsor.co.uk

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MARLOW RBL CLUB
WINTERFEST 2019



CIRCA 14 CHRISTMAS & SEASONAL BREWS

Opening Hours:

Thursday 12 th December 17.00 ~ 23.00	Friday 13 th December 11.00 ~ 23.00
Saturday 14 th December 11.00 ~ 23.00	Sunday 15 th December 12.00 ~ 20.00

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LocAle

BRANCH DIARY

MORE INFORMATION



For more information on CAMRA activities in the area contact Social Secretary Tracey Bottomley

e. social.sec@swm.camra.org.uk
t.07917 564194

Both CAMRA members and non members are welcome to all our Social Events. Branch Meetings are for members only. Please check website for any last minute changes and for more details on Beer Festivals. Please contact Tracey on 07917564194 our Social Secretary if you have any questions. QR code above.

SEPTEMBER

7 - SATURDAY

1pm. Social to be held by Paul at the Stardust Brewery Open Day. Opens 11am – 8pm. First two pints free, £3 thereafter. BBQ & food vans (Funky Pickle Co. will be selling Buffalo wings). Stardust Brewery, Unit 5, Howe Lane Farm Estate, Howe Lane, White Waltham, Berks SL6 3JP.

8 - SUNDAY

10am. Hedgerley Pub Walk from The White Horse. Meet at the Village Pond. Please let Mark Carter 07871 777062 know in advance if you will be having lunch at the Royal Standard.

11 - WEDNESDAY

7pm. Branch Meeting at Maidenhead & Bray Cricket Club, High Street, Bray SL6 2AA. All CAMRA Members welcome.

14 - SATURDAY

12pm. CAMRA regional meeting at The Griffin, Caversham, 10-12 Church Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire, RG4 7AD. All CAMRA members welcome.



20 - FRIDAY

7pm. Curry Night in Southall hosted by West Middlesex Branch. Starts at the Southall Conservative Club, Fairlawn, High Street, Southall UB1 3HB. Followed by curry venue (TBC) at 8.30pm.



28 - SATURDAY

1pm, Slough & Eton Pub walk hosted by Steve, starting at The Rose & Crown, Slough, 312 High Street, Slough SL1 1NB.



OCTOBER

9 - WEDNESDAY

7pm. Branch Meeting at The Feathers, Taplow Common Road, Burnham, Slough, SL1 8NS. All CAMRA members welcome.



19 - SATURDAY

1pm. Maidenhead Pub Walk with Steve, starting at The Grenfell Arms, 22 Oldfield Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1TW.

22 - TUESDAY

Social Planning Meeting at the Moon and Spoon Slough. All CAMRA members welcome

25 – 26 FRIDAY/SATURDAY

Datchet Beer Festival



26 SATURDAY

12-5pm. Social held by Steve and Tracey at the Datchet Beer Festival, held in Datchet Village Hall, 3 Allen Way, Datchet, Berks SL3 9HR. This is a ticketed event. Visit www.datchetbeerfestival.co.uk to order your tickets.

NOVEMBER

31 OCTOBER – 2 NOVEMBER, THURSDAY– SUNDAY

34th Egham Real Ale & Cider Festival, Egham United Services Club, 111 Spring Rise, Egham TW20 9PE

1- FRIDAY

12pm. Social held by Alan at the Egham Real Ale & Cider Festival.

2 - SATURDAY

1pm. Social held by Steve and Tracey at the Egham Real Ale & Cider Festival.

9 - SATURDAY

12pm. London Pub Walk held by Bob and Anne. Starting at the Mad Bishop and Bear, Paddington Station (Upper Level, The Lawn, Paddington Station, London W2 1HB).



13 - WEDNESDAY

7.30pm. Branch Meeting at The Waterman's Arms, Brocas Street, Windsor, SL4 6BW. All CAMRA members welcome.



21 - THURSDAY

1pm. Midweek Social held by Bob and Anne at The Bear, 8 High Street, Maidenhead, SL6 1QJ.



30 - SATURDAY

12pm. Social held by Paul at Stardust Brewery Open Day. Open 11am – 8pm. First two pints free, £3 thereafter, BBQ. Brew talk at 1pm. Stardust Brewery, Unit 5, Howe Lane Farm Estate, Howe Lane, White Waltham, Berks SL6 3JP.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL PUB OR BREWERY?

Any beer related stories to tell? Send them to editor@swm.camra.co.uk. It's your mag!

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Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead CAMRA
Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival



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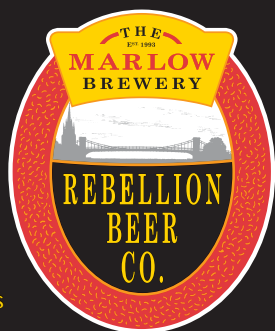
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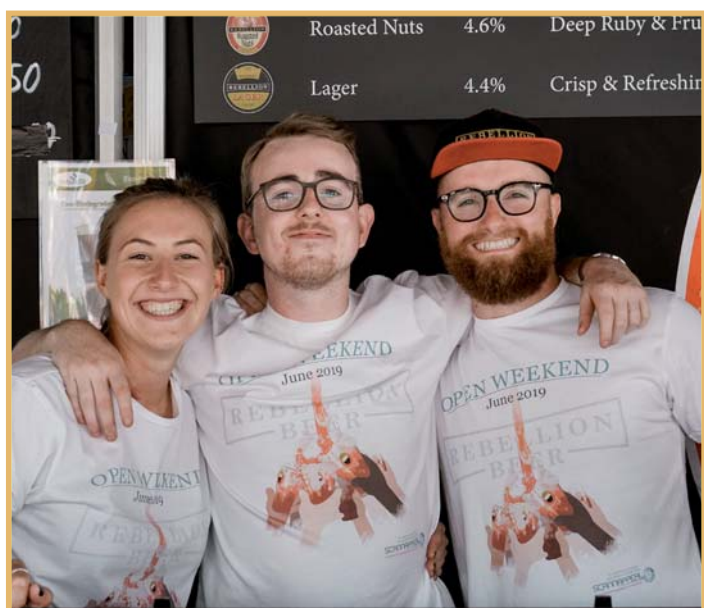
www.craufurdarms.com

LOCAL BREWER RAISES THE ROOF FOR CHARITY

The Rebellion Beer Company held its biennial charity event over the weekend of 29 and 30 June. The result? A whopping £65,000 raised for Scannappeal, a local hospital charity based at Wycombe Hospital. Rebellion's Stu Sutherland explains.

Scannappeal focus on raising money to purchase specialist heart and cancer scanning equipment plus their most recent appeal for specialist MRI scanners. Over our last seven charity weekends we've now raised just under £300,000 for this fantastic local hospital charity.

With the 4,500 people attending, the sun shining, free beer and six bands playing over the course of the weekend, the Rebellion Charity weekend was a great success.



The aim of the free weekend is to say thank you to all our customers while raising as much as we can for the local hospital charity. As always, the event was entirely free, and the money is raised from customers donating whilst at the event and from staff donations.



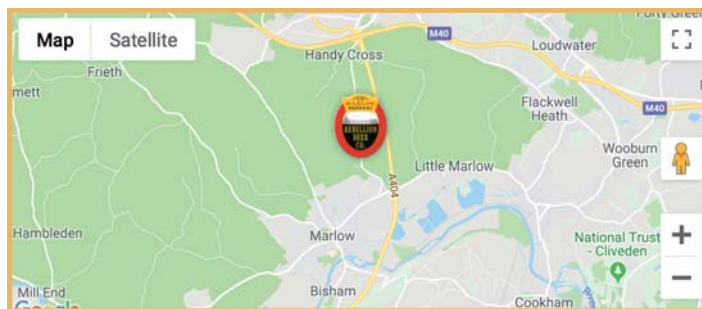


A huge thankyou to all those who came along and gave so generously. Thanks to the bands who play for free. Thanks to the staff and volunteers. Thanks to Marlow-based aerialfilmandphoto.com who took some aerial shots of the site. Thanks to our landlord, without whose help the event would not happen and finally a big thank you to our neighbours, who bear with us during the inevitable disruption an event like this can cause.

We look forward to the next weekend in 2021!



CROSSWORD ANSWERS



UPCOMING BEERS

24 Carat is back in the shop in 500ml bottles - Strength, 5%. Hops dominate the character of this beer! We have used New World hops and a blend of traditional, home grown Malted Barley to give this golden beer an intense, tropical aroma and a distinctive bittersweet flavour, typical of a contemporary American Pale Ale.



Nose Dive - Strength 4.2%, Golden & Crisp. Available September



Crash Landing - Strength 4.2%, Pale & Hoppy. Available October



Wing Man - Strength 4.2%, Amber & Malty. Available November



AWARDS

We're very happy that two of our bottled beers were recognised with awards within the UK section of the World Beer Awards in August. Black won the Oatmeal Stout category and Lager earned Silver in the Classic Pilsner category.



This is the 4th award in two years for our lager and the first for our Black. We're really chuffed.

www.Rebellionbeer.co.uk

AWARD WINNING BEERS BREWED IN HERTFORDSHIRE

For 2019 our Monthly Specials will be raising funds and awareness for Gaddesden Row Riding for the Disabled.



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Tel: 01628 484360

WINDSOR PROVES A HOPPY PLACE

Friday August 9 saw the opening of A Hoppy Place, a family run, craft beer establishment which aims to present the most exciting local beers, along with international craft beer, wine and spirits. Co-owner Dave Heyward explains.

What is so exciting about opening up is the astounding selection of fabulous local brewers in our area.

We aim to bring the absolute best of the fantastic local beer market to the masses, as well as key guest beers from the craft community worldwide. No mainstream brews here, we are all about finding and championing the absolute best there is to offer from the craft sector.



Craft is a bit of a buzzword at the moment, and your description may vary. For what it's worth, we consider craft to be majority independent, family owned, and wherever possible not tied to the behemoths that are Miller Coors, AB InBev, Heineken or Diageo. We particularly champion beer, wines and spirits from our own home counties and the Royal Borough, but that won't stop us ruling out an excellent brew from further afield. If Sierra create a fantastic special release Barley wine, we'll stock it if we can.



Fifteen years ago our most widely drunk local brewery would probably have been Brakspear in Henley on Thames. But the vast majority of local pubs would have given you the same thing. Foster's or Carling.

We are privileged to be opening at a time when there are literally 200 breweries that could offer us direct distribution. It makes for a new challenge on the brewing side; Craft Beer is here to stay and the Taproom model is growing, but just how do you carve out a niche as a craft brewer when in the arch next door is another one?

Well for me it's simple. Craft is nowhere near its peak. The guys on the Bermondsey Beer Mile don't groan when another local brewer (though I wonder how they feel when nationwide breweries try to muscle in) opens up. They know the footfall warrants it. And so I feel when another brewery opens within range of our shop, I'm delighted on two fronts: firstly, we aren't brewing so don't feel the pinch of increased competition, but secondly, in a market that's still tiny in the grand scheme with around 80% of beer sales going to mass produced lager beers, every bit of differentiation is another opportunity to convert. To champion our craft beer revolution.



That's why I got so excited when planning our opening beer choices. I got to talk to all of these guys, to select from the very best of local beer, and to put together a beer menu that will excite our patrons and lift the veil on what I think are some of East Berkshire and beyond's best kept secrets. To have all of these fantastic breweries within 20 miles is for us simply fantastic. Cheers!

**A Hoppy Place can be found at:
11, St Leonards Road,
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<https://ahoppyplace.co.uk>**

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BREWERY NEWS

THE CHILTERN BREWERY

It may have been a strange Summer this year, but that hasn't stopped the fun at The Chiltern Brewery!

Visitors to the brewery have been kept refreshed thanks to the brilliant Session IPA, first brewed in 2018 and made even better for 2019. The use of new UK hop Olicana gives Session IPA a punchy citrus profile that simply can't be beaten. Although Session IPA has finished for this year, Tom Jenkinson, Head Brewer at The Chiltern Brewery, promised us that we will see lots more of it next year.

Tom also told us that 2020 will be "our biggest year yet, as we celebrate our 40th anniversary! We are currently putting the final details on our plans for next year and can't wait to share them with you all".



Our brewery has grown steadily over the years with the dedicated help of other family members and a strong team. The brewery shop sells our full range of bottled and draught beers; plus locally made wines, ciders, condiments and a delicious range of products such as fresh beer bread, malt fudge, beer cheese and fruit cake that are all made using our fine ales.

In the last few years we have taken over The Farmers' Bar at The King's Head in the heart of Aylesbury, which is now award winning. This has become popular with local people as a place to relax and enjoy our full range of beers along with craft beers, guest beers and ciders, a range of wines from the Rothschild Estate and a great lunchtime menu.

Please peruse the website to find out more about brewery tours, where to find stockists and keep an eye on the news column for events and celebrations in the year ahead. Most importantly we hope you will enjoy browsing our online shop.

Visitors to the brewery in August can enjoy Chiltern Gold, a classic English golden ale. September and beyond will see the return of old-favourites Kop Hill Ale, Copper Beech and 300s Old Ale.

Our tours include an introduction to the art of craft brewing, a brief history of the Chiltern Brewery, a tour of the Brew House and a tutored beer and food tasting session with a delicious selection of our locally made chandlery.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Tours are on most Fridays and Saturdays and last for approximately 1½ hours. The cost is £15.00/£17.50 (Fridays / Saturdays) per person which is non-refundable and non-exchangeable. We also offer several Premium Tasting Tours throughout the year. The maximum number of people per booking online is 10 but we are now offering larger group bookings on Fridays if you call to discuss with us on 01296 613647. The minimum age is 12 years.

www.chilternbrewery.co.uk

Facebook & Twitter - @ChilternBrewery

WEST BERKSHIRE BREWERY

We've got another month filled with events and beery happenings so please take a look at our latest 'What's On' blog by clicking the button below. It's got all the info you need on our current specials, in house events and what beers are pouring further afield.

If you're looking for a beery gift or need to please different taste buds at a get together, the beer box blog below is the place to go. It's all about the various mixed cases of beer we have on offer online and in our shop, from IPA to Lager and everything in between, we've got you covered.

NEWS AND OFFERS

- Our new cask beer for the summer is 'No Worries' a 3.6% Australian Pale and in keg we have the return of Tropic Like It's Hot, Pineapple Pale Ale. Imagery attached.
- Maggs' Mild has just won bronze at the GBBF in the mild category too.
- We're now offering 10% off in our shop to Reading Football Club Season Ticket Holders.
- OktoberWest has SOLD OUT. Of course if we release any extra tickets you'll be the first to know. The traditional German beers have been ordered and we've got something super special from us making an appearance as well. Prost!



CAMRA Members Discount

- Acre, Windsor - 20% OFF Ales
- Maiden's Head, Maidenhead - 10% OFF pints of ale, not halves
- Off The Tap, Maidenhead - 10% OFF cask ales
- Thatched Cottage, Cox Green - 10% OFF ales
- Wheatsheaf, Slough - 10% OFF ales

Plus, we understand that Chef & Brewer pubs are offering 10% OFF ales, and that covers:

- Ethorpe Hotel, Gerrards Cross
- Feathers, Taplow
- Red Lion, Shreding Green, Iver
- Royal Oak, Farnham Common
- Shire Horse, Littlewick Green.

If any pub or club would like to offer discounts, please email the details to be included in the next issue to:

editor@swm.camra.co.uk

T&C's Apply

- Our Oxford pub The Grapes is now offering £10 lunches from 12-3pm. Tacos & Chips served with your choice of WBB beer, glass of house wine or a soft drink. The perfect excuse to venture over, if you haven't already.

WATCH THE RUGBY WORLD CUP 2019 AT THE TAPROOM



Yup, we're showing all the following matches PLUS opening early and serving breakfast on selected days! Choose from a full English or breakfast muffin with your choice of bacon, sausage or smoked salmon & cream cheese with extras available. Want some even better news? If you book in for breakfast with a party of 6 or more, we'll give you 15% off your final bill! Call us on 01635 767090 or click on your preferred day below to book in, it's the only way to guarantee your seat.

Sunday 22.09 England Vs Tonga 11:15am
 Monday 23.09 Wales Vs Georgia 11:15am
 Thursday 26.09 England Vs USA 11:45am
 Monday 30.09 Scotland Vs Samoa 11:15am
 Thursday 03.10 Ireland Vs Russia 11:15am
 Saturday 05.10 England Vs Argentina 9am
 Wednesday 09.10 Wales Vs Fiji 10:45am
 Saturday 12.10 England Vs France 9.15am
 Saturday 12.10 Ireland Vs Samoa 11:45am
 Sunday 13.10 Japan Vs Scotland

We'll let you know what the plans for finals are nearer to the time. We'll also be serving pitchers of beer throughout to make your trips to the bar easier, we don't want you to miss a thing.

West Berkshire Brewery PLC
 The Old Dairy
 Yattendon
 Berks RG18 0XT
www.wbbrew.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL PUB OR BREWERY?

Any beer related stories to tell? Send them to editor@swm.camra.co.uk. It's your mag!

WINDSOR & ETON BREWERY

WINDSOR AND ETON BREWERY UPCOMING BEERS

There are a lot of special beers coming out of Windsor and Eton at present including:

- Angel's Share – a 5% Export Ale brewed in collaboration with Macleod's Brewery, Los Angeles. It uses a lot of US malts and hops but the real distinguishing feature is that it has Double IPA aged in wooden whisky casks blended in to give this beer a unique and complex character.
- Champions Ale – the 4% bitter that was so successful last year returns.
- Last Drop - the rose red bitter that actually has some rose water added – all in time to watch the World Cup rugby at the brewery!
- Green Hop Guardsman – again using the freshest hops from Little Pell Farm, rushed back to the brewery and used immediately with no drying.
- Canberra Autumn Ale.
- Father Thames ESB.



Also on the bar at the brewery tap are specials such as Marula Matata NEIPA using the very difficult to get hold of Marula fruit from South Africa as well as a Graf

i.e. a beer brewed with cider apple juice mixed into the wort!

EVENTS AT THE BREWERY

The brewery continues to have regular comedy and music nights – see the web-site for details. The brewery tap is open every day except Sunday with food vans in place on Fridays and Saturdays

A Homebrew club is being set up at the brewery. If you want to come along and learn with other Home Brew enthusiasts then see details on the web-site.



THE GEORGE, ETON

Has won its "MRO" right to be allowed to sell all its own beers, so now as well as cask, the bottles and kegs are supplied by the brewery.

www.webrew.co.uk

NEW BEER GARDEN AT MOOGBREW

Moogbrew and its taproom and beer garden reopened for business in May, following a relocation. A major feature of the new premises is the new beer garden, which offers much more space to visitors.



Since reopening, several new beers have been brewed, including Wigmore's Wake Up - a coffee porter (5%) - and Pretty In Pink, a saison style beer infused with pink peppercorns and juniper seeds (6.2%). Both these beers featured at the Maidenhead Beer & Cider festival in July. Pretty In Pink became the fastest selling beer of the festival - selling out in just 90 minutes - and was voted third best beer of the festival, despite being available only briefly, on the Saturday evening.

The taproom & beer garden is open alternate weekends and visitors are advised to check the website or social media for opening dates and times, which may change during the autumn and winter months. There are usually four different Moogbrew beers serving at any one time, plus a selection of guest beers in bottle or cans to take away. Visitors are advised to travel by foot, bicycle, or public transport, as parking is limited.

www.moogbrew.co.uk

CRAZY DAVE'S CIDER



If you don't have time to visit the brewery at Oak Tree Farm, Gays Lane, Holyport, you can find Crazy Dave's Cider at local markets.

- Windsor Farmers' Market - 1st Saturday of the month
- Queen's Park Farmers' Market - 1st Sunday of the month
- Ealing Farmers' Market - 2nd Saturday of the month
- Maidenhead Farmers' Market - 2nd Sunday of the month
- Abingdon Farmers' Market - 3rd Friday of the month
- Reading Farmers' Market - 3rd Saturday of the month
- Ascot Farmers' Market - 3rd Sunday of the month
- Henley on Thames Farmers' Market - 4th Thursday of the month
- Beaconsfield Farmers' Market - 4th Saturday of the month
- The Food Market, Chiswick - 4th Sunday of the month

www.crazydaves cider.co.uk

BINGHAMS BREWERY

Binghams are proud to announce that Vanilla Stout has won Gold in class for the second time at CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival at Olympia, following on from their 2016 success as Champion Beer of Britain. Well done to Chris, Ricky, Andy and team!

Binghams were super excited to be part of opening of the new craft bottle shop and tasting room, A Hoppy Place, in Windsor [Editor's note: See page 23 in this issue.] Dave and Naomi Hayward have made a wonderful job of this venue and having chosen the Vanilla Stout as one of the cask offerings for their opening week, Delia was even able to have some canned on their crowler machine to take away – the ultimate in "one for the road"!



Saturdays - Why not enjoy a pint or two with friends at Bingham's Tap Yard every Saturday 11:30-16:30? After all, you can't get fresher beer than straight from the brewery with free tasters to help you decide. There are up to seven beers available. From the session bitter Twyford Tipple at 3.7% to the delicious APA at 5% and Vanilla Stout, of course, there's something for everyone.

NHS discounts - Bingham's love the National Health Service and what makes it great are all the dedicated staff. To show their appreciation, all NHS staff producing a NHS ID badge can get 10% off at Bingham's Brewery shop and in the Tap Yard.

www.binghams.co.uk



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Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead CAMRA
Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival



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PUB SIGNS

A UNIQUE ART FORM

Anyone who passes a pub will often see a unique art form in the shape of a painted sign board advertising the name of the pub and often the brewery if it is a tied house. These signs are the descendants of the Roman tradition of hanging a bush outside of a house where drink and food could be obtained (hence the popular pub name "The Bush") or a chequer board showing that games were played within (hence the pub name "The Chequers").



The Queens Head, Wokingham

the painter some leeway in the design of each sign and breweries would employ specialist painters to create each new sign and to refurbish older signage.

The sign would be painted in very high quality paint as it was expected to stand up to all weathers and would have a lifespan of around 10 years but modern technology has been used in some signs to create plastic relief signage which it was felt would last longer. The artist would often double up as the sign writer and for a very classy sign may actually use gold leaf to ensure the lettering remained perfect for as long as possible.



The pub sign painter gets little recognition but their works may be seen by many more people than a picture in an art gallery. One of the most famous painters of pub signs was George Mackenney who had studied at the Westham School of Art before undertaking a number of commissions after his wife contacted breweries to ask for work. In his career he painted over 6,000 signs which considering a sign is double sided meant 12,000 pictures! It is no wonder that when working he spent around 14 hours a day in the studio and rarely took a holiday.



The Red Lion, Wokingham

Some signs would use humour and many people will remember the sign at the "Whod a tho't it" in Crowthorne with an astronaut on the moon being confronted with a bottle of Morlands beer!. Another sign using humour is "The world turned upside down" in Reading (now converted to a carvery) where events are not what one would expect!



A similar named pub in Southwark (now closed) used a theme of fishing to give a very funny interpretation of the name.

It is a sad fact that economics has forced many pubs to abandon a

painted pictorial sign and instead use a mere name board in its place. The Golden Farmer in Bracknell used to have a picture of William Davis, the infamous highwayman and "golden farmer" to adorn the premises but this has been replaced with a rather boring name board.



The Golden Farmer, Bracknell

A very special signage is that of the gallows sign that spans the whole road. The Swan in Fittleworth, West Sussex has one of the most famous of these signs and there is no missing it for a weary traveller.



The Swan, Fittleworth

Pub signs are a very unique and British art form and breweries and pub companies should be encouraged to keep this piece of pub tradition alive and not to revert to mere name boards or plastic signage.

Anthony Springall

Secretary, CAMRA Berkshire South East branch

BRANCH CONTACTS

Details of the local CAMRA Branch Officers.
Please make contact to discuss pubs, breweries
and anything relevant, you have a listening ear!

Chairman - Steve Goodall
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