

Welcome to the July newsletter for the Richmond & Hounslow branch. One pub has re-opened after 2 years, one is up for sale, one re-opens after refurbishment, but another branch pub has closed citing rent increases.

Once again it has been a busy month, and we have lots of events coming up; festival visits, pub visits / socials and a brewery tour, so why not get involved? Contact us at secretary@rh.camra.org.uk

if you would like any further information about upcoming events.

Branch pub focus; Pig & Whistle, 86 Sheen Lane, East Sheen, SW14 8LP



Following on from last months oldest pub in the branch, is this the newest? Built in 1988 on the site of the landmark Bull which was demolished.

This is a large comfortable independent pub that serves Greene King beers. The pub serves up to 4 real ales (see below)

Pubs we have lost ; Sheen

Not far from the Pig & Whistle following the railway from Mortlake are three long closed back street locals.



This residential building is on the site of the Spur, which was a distinctive white painted Watneys pub clearly visible from the passing trains.

Closed 1992 demolished 1996.

Not far from the Spur was the Queens's Arms, a Charrington house that closed in 1997. It still retains its distinctive tiling and lettering on the outside, but was converted to residential in 1998.



The other side of the railway and closer to Barnes, tucked down a narrow alley in an area known as Little Chelsea was the small Manor Arms (more recently Idle Hour).

This pub also retains its tiling and name but was closed in 2016 and converted to residential in 2017.

Originally converted from two Victorian cottages.

Branch event reports.



A very successful special event organised by our member Giulietta Cinque was held at the Cross Lances, Hounslow on 7th June. Robb Johnson played to a packed house of 50+ with 4 beers on offer.

Photo by Giulietta, review by Ken Hunt.

The Cross Lances is the last corner pub to have survived in the Hounslow area. With its Victorian tiled exterior, it is said to have been built in 1838 and gets its name from the 12th Royal Prince of Wales Lancers. This was once Robb Johnson's local and my writing 'office'. The old public bar was rammed, like it used to be, with friends, followers, some inquisitive locals and members of CAMRA.

The afternoon's one-off repertoire name-checked Hounslow, Heston and Feltham in song and stage patter. His opener was 'Man Walks Into a Pub', inspired by The Beehive in Brentford and The Cross Lances itself. For 'In Kensington With You' Sian Allen provided vocals and on 'Pay Me What I'm Owed' Graham Larkbey added harmonica and vocal interjections.

"Robb Johnson was brilliant and The Cross Lances Pub was packed!! Great ales on tap

too!! 🍺 😊 "



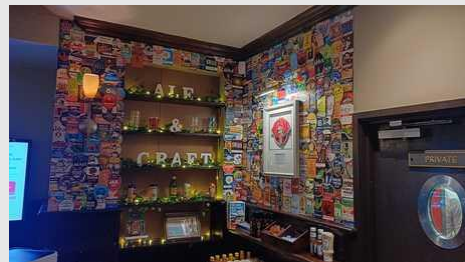
The Pub Project is a mission by Lydia Wood, a SE London based artist to draw all 3500 London pubs.

Here she is outside the Cross Lances in Hounslow on July 1st when she completed her drawing of the pub. She has completed about 350 drawings since starting in 2021. Lydia has already completed drawings of several other branch pubs, such as the Rifleman, Twickenham and both White Swan's.

You can see all her drawings here; <https://lydiawooddrawings.com/>

Have you seen the new beer shrine?

Look out for it in the William Webb Ellis. We are looking to support the pub with developing this area to support CAMRA.



CAMRA news

Some news released recently that you may have missed;

- beer scoring has changed from 1st June (see below)
- July is cider & perry month (see event below)
- not a CAMRA campaign but relevant, follow the link to a campaign to reduce VAT for the hospitality industry; <https://www.vatstheproblem.co.uk/>

CAMRA beer scoring has changed. The way beer scores are recorded is now a descriptive one. We are hoping to run a branch event on beer scoring soon.

Rating	Description	Your reaction
Excellent	Exceptional and clear (if intended to be) with fantastic aromas, flavours and ideal carbonation.	Superb! You tell your friends and compliment the cellar manager.
Very good	Satisfying and well-kept with a great appearance, good carbonation and enticing aromas and flavours.	You consider having another and may cancel plans to move to another pub.
Good	Nice appearance, good carbonation, aromas and flavour.	Pleasant but not memorable. You're happy to have another but might consider something else.
Acceptable	Unremarkable and ordinary, with no noteworthy characteristics.	You're unlikely to have another unless it is all there is and there isn't another pub to go to.
Poor	Noticeably imperfect.	Drinkable with resentment, but you politely ask for a replacement.
Undrinkable	Unpleasant to drink, likely with a disgusting taste, incorrect appearance and off/foul aroma.	You politely ask for it to be replaced and consider asking the publican to take it off.

Future Branch Events: <https://rh.camra.org.uk/diary.html>

July

Thursday 9th – branch social at Ealing Beer Festival; 3pm. This will also be a belated outing if you worked at our last branch beer festival. Some money is left in the kitty which will be used for beer tokens. Please contact us if you worked at Turks Head, St Margarets in November 2023 and want to be added to the list. secretary@rh.camra.org.uk

Tuesday 14th - Harveys Brewery tour ; 18.30pm tour 1.5 hours; train from Clapham Junction; £18 for tour + train fare. Please let us know if this is of interest
- secretary@rh.camra.org.uk

Wednesday 29th - cider & perry month social at Black Dog, Brentford 7.30pm. Also branch Cider Pub of the Year presentation.

August

Monday 3rd August, 3pm: Quiet Pint at the Mitre, St Marys Grove, Richmond, Kingston branch event. ('cheap pints at Richmond & Hounslow's Pub of the Year')

Monday 3rd - branch committee meeting, Admiral Nelson, Whitton 7.30pm

Saturday 29th - social at Acton Real Ale festival - West London Trades Union Club, 33-35 High St, Acton, W3 6ND (West London Branch). 3pm.

September

Tuesday 1st - branch committee meeting, Cross Lances, Hounslow 7.30pm

Sunday 8th - Beer by bus (267 route). Start Fulwell (Prince of Wales) then Twickenham (Webb Ellis), Brentford (Black Dog), Kew (Express Tavern), Chiswick (George IV), finish Hammersmith.

Wednesday 16th - Twickenham social; start Barmy Arms, The Embankment, Twickenham, TW1 3DU, then Fox / Brewery Market / Eel Pie all Church Street. Details tbc.

October

Date tbc; St Margarets social - Rising Sun, Crown, St Margarets, Turks Head

The visit to some historic interior pubs in London, originally set for May, will be moved to later in the year.

Pub & brewery news

The Railway Bell, Hampton (the Dip) re-opened unexpectedly on 23rd June. It has been closed for 2 years since the previous tenant passed away. The freehold has been bought by a local businessman. Currently there is no real ale.

The Swan Hampton Wick closed again on June 6th after Big Smoke pulled out of their partnership with Shepherd Neame. It should re-open again soon with a new Shepherd Neame tenant.

The Teddington Arms, 38-40 High Street, Teddington, TW11 8EW currently a Greene King pub is up for sale as part of a pub estate strategy.

The following update was posted on the 'Save The Rifleman' facebook page on 20th June;

"We submitted an offer to take over the lease for the Rifleman and have been pushing Savills, the agents acting on behalf of Global Mutual, for a response.

As part of their process, they asked for proof of funds. We explained that any funding would come through a community share offer, which we would only launch once there is some progress in discussions and a clearer path forward.

They know we have completed a community survey, which has given us a really positive indication of the level of support and financial backing to cover the costs needed to reopen and operate the pub under a community model.

Our Community Benefit Society has now been formally approved by and registered with the Financial Conduct Authority. We've set up a bank account with the appropriate controls in place, so that any funds raised can be managed securely and transparently. TFA and the freeholder's agents are moving towards a short-term tenancy arrangement to keep the pub open while longer-term options are considered. We get this.... as an interim step.

We've written to Global Mutual to let them know we will apply to make the pub an Asset of Community Value (it may help stop any change of use if new owners have that in mind), if we think that will help protect the future of the pub.

We're keeping the dialogue open and seek a positive outcome around our offer on the lease, as well as exploring the option of buying the freehold. It is of course possible that another party may take on a new lease for the pub, which would fulfil the main aim of keeping The Rifleman open - we understand that there is an interested party and we'll keep you updated as things progress."

The Hole in the Wall, Sutton Lane North, Chiswick closed down on 13th June and is now boarded up. Rent rises have been blamed for the closure. It is owned by Stonegate but the freehold is owned by an offshore company. The pub's future remains uncertain.

The London Apprentice, 62 Church Street, Isleworth, TW7 6BG is due to re-open on July 9th after refurbishment.

Controversy in Strand on the Green, Chiswick. The three pubs along the river bank (Bull's Head, City Barge and Bell & Crown) are in dispute with Hounslow Council about their outside seating along the river. The pubs have been asked to remove some or all of their seating as it contravenes license restrictions. The pubs are obviously contesting this

- https://chiswickcalendar.co.uk/news-and-features/?mc_cid=369c622aa5&mc_eid=99e6aaf543

The Cross Lances will celebrate its' first year since being saved in September. We have a meeting there and also possibly another event to be confirmed. The real ale is still less than £5 a pint.

Coming up at the Cross Lances

Sat Jul 4th Judas Rising (Classic rock, 5 piece) 9.00 - 11.00 Free

Sat Jul 11th The Tease (Rock/pop, 3 piece) 9.00 - 11.30 Free

Sun Jul 12th Open Mic with Elaine Samuels 7.00- 10.30 Free

Sat Jul 18th Broken Bones (Classic rock, 3 piece) 9.00 - 11.30 Free

Sat Jul 25th Phoenix Rising (Classic rock, 4 piece) 9.00 - 11.30 Free

Mon Jul 27th Open Mic with Elaine Samuels 7.00- 10.30 Free NOTE CHANGE OF DAY due to Kindred Spirit band appearing at High Tide, Twickenham on Sun Jul 26th

Sat Aug 1st Dead Machines (Rock/Metal, 3 piece) 9.00 - 11.30 Free

Sat Aug 8th Executive Relief (Classic rock, 5 piece) 9.00 - 11.00 Free

Sun Aug 9th Open Mic with Elaine Samuels 7.00- 10.30 Free

The Victoria Tavern, 56 Worple Road, Isleworth, TW7 7HU also celebrates a year under new management since re-opening last September. It also still has the blues music on a Sunday afternoon.

On Saturday 25th July there is an event at Jolly Coopers, Hampton celebrating 40 years since the Withams, Nick and Jane, took over the pub.

London Pub of the Year judging of the 12 pubs should now be nearly completed. Several members have travelled around London to visit all 12 and scores will now be collated. The deadline for submissions is 15th July. Please remember you must visit all the pubs and submit your scores to secretary@rh.camra.org.uk

What's on the bar?

A feature highlighting the range of beers on offer in some of our branch pubs.

The Bulls Head, Strand on the Green,
Chiswick 22-6-26.



Victoria Tavern, Isleworth 21-6-26.

Pig & Whistle, East Sheen, 25/6/26



Red Lion, Barnes 25/6/26

Get involved - send us your images of the range of beers you see when out and about in branch pubs.

Upcoming beer festivals.

July 8th - 11th; Ealing Beer Festival, Walpole Park, Ealing W5

July 24th - 26th Windsor Beer Festival, Windsor & Eton Brewery, Unit 4 Vansittart Estate, Duke Street, Windsor, SL4 1SE

July 29th - August 1st - Egham Beer Festival, 111 Spring Rise, Egham, TW20 9PE

August 5th - 8th; Wandsworth summer beer festival. Royal Victoria Patriotic Building, John Archer Way, Wandsworth, SW18 3SX. This takes place on the same dates that GBBf used to be held.

August 28th - 30th; Acton Real Ale Festival, West London Trades Union Club, 33-35 Acton Hight St, W3 6ND. We are holding a social there on the afternoon of Saturday 29th.

There is a proposed London Welsh beer festival at their ground in Old Deer Park, Richmond in September. Date tbc when fixtures are announced.

If you've read this far you must be interested. What can you do to help? Please do one or all of the following this month!

- Score your beers - this is really important for getting pubs into the Good Beer Guide. There are 32 pubs with no scores yet this year.
- Send us information about the beers and events in pubs near you. There are 150+ pubs that serve real ale in the branch so difficult to keep up with all of them. We need more area representatives to monitor their local pubs eg in Chiswick, Barnes, Sheen, Richmond.

- Suggest future event ideas you would like to see. The 281 beer by bus event was a member suggestion.
- Attend a future event.

Please contact us at secretary@rh.camra.org.uk or come and talk to us at a future event.

Until next month cheers!