

Chelmsford & Mid-Essex CAMRA

Your Local Branch Newsletter



BRANCH DIARY

Branch Committee Meeting - Tuesday 4 June 2024 20:00. Ship, Chelmsford - 18 Broomfield Road, CM1 1SW. All members welcome.

Visit to Ipswich by Train - Saturday 15 June 2024

Further details to follow, including timings, groupsave etc. As a branch we haven't visited Ipswich for some time, but there are some great places to explore. We will be visiting by train & stopping by recommended pubs, taprooms and micros. All are welcome, CAMRA member or not.

East Anglia PotY Judging Trip - Saturday 6 – Sunday 7 July 2024

East Anglia Pub of the Year judging trip by minibus over two days, Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July, staying overnight in Norwich. Minibus subsidised but there will be some costs involved, further details to follow. Members only due to CAMRA minibus insurance arrangements. You must be prepared to judge each pub we visit over the weekend fairly. Book your own accommodation. Visiting all six counties of CAMRA East Anglia and their respective Pubs of the Year. A great weekend visiting the best pubs in East Anglia, with the added attraction of an evening in Norwich with its brilliant establishments.

Branch Committee Meeting - Tue 9 July 2024 20:00 United Brethren - New Writtle Street, Chelmsford CM2 0LF. All members are welcome.

Trip to Epping & Ongar Railway Beer festival - Sat 27 July 2024
We will catch the vintage bus from Shenfield to the event.
All are welcome to join. Times to be advised.

Branch Meeting & Social Ale House - Mon 5 Aug 2024 20:00 – 23:00. Everyone is welcome to attend our branch meeting, & also enjoy a social evening. * First time CAMRA member attendees receive a free pint *.

Visit to Chappel Beer Festival - Saturday 7 September 2024
Chappel Beer Festival. By train. Details to follow...

Branch Committee Meeting Sir Evelyn Wood - Tue 10 Sept 2024 20:00 - 56 Widford Road, Widford CM2 8SY. All members welcome.

Weekend Trip to Derby - Saturday 28 – Sunday 29 September 2024

By Minibus- collect 9 am opposite Chelmsford Railway Station
Estimated Cost £35 per person. Members Only. Stay overnight in Derby. Please Book your own accommodation. Derby is the Real Ale Capital of Britain & has some excellent pubs & microbreweries. We'll also stop off at the Tamworth Tap - The national Pub of the Year. Please book your place asap.

Brentwood Real Ale Runabout - Sat 19 October 2024 11:30 – 20:00
By Minibus. 11.30 am opposite Chelmsford Railway Station, also will pick up at Shenfield and Brentwood if there is demand.
Members Only estimated cost £15 per person.
As we welcome Brentwood into the Branch, we thought we'd take you out to explore and find some of their best pubs, rural & in town.

BOOKINGS For social bookings **CAMRA MEMBERS** by email socialsecretary@chelmsford.camra.org.uk or contact **Martin Joy 07878 624443 (Social Secretary)**. Last minute arrivals may be accepted at some events but for most pre-booking is suggested or compulsory. On all Minibus trips you will be dropped off in reasonable walking distance to your home. Please note that for over-subscribed events we reserve the right to give priority to CME Branch members over members of other Branches or non-members.



Chelmsford & Mid-Essex CAMRA

Real Ale & Cider FESTIVAL

Tue 16th - Sat 20th July 2024
12 to 11pm



250+ Real Ales

50+ Real Ciders, Perries & Pyders



Live Entertainment every evening



Wine & Gin Bar



Food & Snacks

Get your Tickets early to avoid disappointment.

More Info @ cbcf.camra.org.uk



**Admirals Park, Rainsford Road,
Chelmsford, CM1 2PL**

Its nearly Beer Festival time!

Tickets are now on sale for this years Chelmsford Beer & Cider Festival @ cbcf.camra.org.uk or use the QR code above.
Remember to book early to avoid disappointment.
Day & weekly tickets available including Entrance, Festival Glass & £10 drink tokens. Over the week there will be a great selection of Real Ales & Ciders a Gin & Wine Bar and an exciting choice of food & snack outlets. Local Live entertainment every evening everything to make a great festival in 2024.
Want to be part of the team? Volunteers old and new can sign up to help @ cbcf.co.uk.

WELCOME to Brentwood

Transfer of Brentwood CAMRA members to Chelmsford & Mid Essex

I'd like to offer a very warm welcome to the CAMRA members from the Brentwood area who are due to transfer to our Branch following the winding down and breakup of the South West Essex branch. Once we receive their details from CAMRA HQ we will be in contact with them via email. In the meantime please have a look at our website (chelmsford.camra.org.uk) for current news and our Social Diary, or contact me direct.

Norman Robinson
Chair, Chelmsford & Mid Essex.
Email: chair@chelmsford.camra.org.uk

Chelmsford & Mid-Essex CAMRA

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ESSEX POTY Judging Trip

On Saturday 20th April we took a minibus out with a good group of eager judges to Visit 7 pubs scattered in all 4 corners of Essex. We visited each Essex branches Pubs of the Year in an effort to judge them all and help choose an overall winner for the Essex Pub of the Year. As you would expect all the pubs were very good, all different in their own way. Listed in the order we visited.

We started off at the **Mile & a Third** in Westcliff South East Essex branch POTY for the 3rd time in a row. It's a Rock music

themed Bar serving Cask and Keg Beers. Vinyl records are played on turntables for entertainment.

Next stop the **Queen Victoria**.

This is well known to many of us that venture to Maldon and especially the Mighty Oak open day near Christmas. It's a cracking Grays pub serving great food and always a good selection of Ales and it is Maldon and Dengies' current Branch POTY. The Main bar area is fronted by comfortable bar stools, where you can sit if you are just wanting a drink whilst all other tables in the pub appeared to be prepared for eating. It was very busy and they were certainly doing a roaring trade on this particular Saturday afternoon.

Next on the list was the

Alehouse Colchester.

I've known about this excellent pub for a while & was glad that they had been voted as Colchester & NE Essex POTY.

It's a proper pub, always serving an excellent selection of Ales and Ciders. Very nice to see Fullers London Pride served direct from the Cask. Landlady was very friendly and pleased to see us, said she would have done some roast spuds for us if she'd have known we were visiting but I reminded her that these judging trips are supposed to be strictly incognito. Our next stop was a short journey to Great Oakley near Harwich. We visited the lovely community run pub called the **Maybush**, which was Tendring Branches POTY. It was a lovely welcoming pub and you could tell it was part of the community as there was a friendly bunch of locals in the main bar. A very pleasant lady served us with some decent beers. Nice to see Directors Bitter & a couple of local beers. Our next stop was a bit of a trek across to Saffron Walden. The **Railway Arms** is a fantastic community pub and very well run. It's North West Essex branch POTY. Big and

bustling and certainly used by the local community. Its obviously thriving and anyone can buy shares into it as well. It's a Brilliant story of how a community can come in re-

invigorate a pub for everyone. They make their own Cider on site, the outside courtyard and garden area is really nice. It was very busy when we arrived late afternoon. Families and children were outside filling all the tables and covered snug area. Beers on offer were excellent and If I lived in Saffron Walden it would be my local without doubt. Next stop down the M11 and onto the M25 to Brentwood. The **Victoria Arms** is another excellent Grays pub. It's South West Essex Branch POTY. This pub is well known to me as I have regular a meet up there at least once a month and it's a real friendly locals pub. They always have a good selection of beers and usually Harveys Sussex Best, which is always in tip top Condition. By this time, we were all requiring some sustenance so I asked the landlady Mary (who I know) if we could bring some Food from outside into the pub. I knew from past experience that they allow this, But it's always polite to ask. Short trip up the A12 to our last pub for the Day. The excellent **Endeavour**. Yet another Grays pub, Naomi and her team have done a fantastic job in taking this pub to the next level. Always a friendly welcome and an excellent selection of Ales on Offer and its now the Essex Cider POTY to boot. It was a very enjoyable day, the pubs and company were excellent and everyone had a good time



Beer Quiz Name the Beers:

1. I ran a Pub
2. I went to Readong Jail
3. Pale Mamouth
4. X Falsehoods
5. Character played by Rowan Atkinson?
6. I flew in the war
7. Phantom Galleon
8. Light Roman Flooring
9. Capital Joy
10. Cocoa Luggage Carrier



Local Beery NEWS

Colchester Summer Beer & Cider Festival 29th May-1st June
Arts Centre, Colchester

Voodoo Keller Bar, Beer & Cider Festival 5th-9th June
Chelmsford

Braintree Real Ale Festival 6th-8th June Bocking Arts Theatre,
Braintree

Cross Keys White Notley Beer Festival 14th-16th June

Chelmsford Beer & Cider Festival 16th-20th July Admirals Park,
Chelmsford

Epping & Ongar Railway Beer Festival 26th-28th July Epping &
Ongar Railway, Ongar Station



Visit our website @
chelmsford.camra.org.uk

Join CAMRA online @ join.camra.org.uk or pick up a leaflet in this pub or join up at our Summer Beer & Cider Festival