

CAMRA – R & H BRANCH AGM 2023 NOTES OF MEETING

Revision 1

<u>Date of Meeting, Location, Participants, Apologies for Absence, Start/Close Times</u>		
Date:	Wednesday 19th April 2023	
Location:	Cabbage Patch, Twickenham	
Participants		
Bob Gordon	(BG)	Chairman
Andy Pirson	(AP)	Treasurer
Alistair Boyd	(AB)	
Ellie Eames	(EE)	London regional director (awaiting ratification)
John Austin	(JA)	Press and Publicity Officer
Damian Smeaton	(DS)	Secretary / minutes
Trevor Dawson		
Patricia Sharp	(PS)	
Danny Walsh		
Robin Moore		
Bruce Blackman	(BB)	
Martin Matthews	(MM)	
Sylvie Marie		
John Lisle		Late arrival
AGENDA (All Agenda Items to be followed by 'Matters Arising' where appropriate) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chairman's Welcome Address & 'Apologies for Absence' 2. Minutes of the Last AGM Meeting, held on 18th May 2022 3. Chairman's Report (Bob Gordon) 4. Secretary's Report (Damian Smeaton) 5. Membership Secretary's Report (Clive Owens) 6. Treasurer's Report (Andy Pirson) and Approval of Accounts 7. Appointment of Examiner(s) of Accounts 8. Press and publicity officer (John Austin) 9. NBSS 10. Nominations for and election of Committee (maximum 9 persons) 11. Any Other Business (none notified in advance of the Meeting) 		
Notes of Meeting	Action	
Meeting started 19.45		
BG chaired the meeting welcoming all those present		
1. Apologies for absence Richard Northmore (RN) George Gimber (GG) Philip Harrison		

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<p>Iain Sutherland Clive Owens Disella White</p> <p>2. Minutes of last meeting Minutes of last AGM at Steam Packet, Kew were circulated and approved</p> <p>3. Matters Arising from Last Meeting No matters arising but BG noted that the PoTY award for 2019 had still not been presented.</p> <p>4. Chairman's Report (BG)</p> <p>The branch is now back to normal after the last couple of years, formal and social events are continuing but the attendance is steady! The lockdown hero awards have been made to The Angel and Crown, Richmond and The Jolly Coopers, Hampton. The Pub of the year presentation was made to The Jolly Coopers in October last year.</p> <p>Steve Brown of Twickenham Fine Ales (TFA) was nominated and subsequently won the John Young award, the presentation took place at the brewery in December.</p> <p>I have attended most of the London Liaison Committee (LLC) meetings over the last year, there was an issue with the name Naked Ladies of TFA being offensive, this was by Greene King, who subsequently withdrew Naked Ladies from all their pubs! CAMRA got involved, but it has gone quiet at the moment! Geoff Strawbridge is standing down as London regional director after 9 years, Ellie Eames will take over.</p> <p>Twickenham beer festival took place in October at The Turks Head, St Margaret's a new venue which was successful. The Saturday was quiet and disappointing this was due to local transport issues! In spite of the festival made a surplus. I must thank the festival committee and all the volunteers who gave up their time to made it a success. The festival was officially opened by the mayor of Richmond, the mayor clearly enjoyed the event! The festival will take place at The Turks Head slightly later this year in November 16/17 and 18th November.</p> <p>I must thank the committee for all their hard work and time over the last year, as special mention must go to Andy Pirson despite recent health issues he carried on his work, and the branch is indebted to Andy, it is much appreciated by all!</p> <p>And finally on a sad note, the branch recently learnt of the death of branch stalwart Roy Hurry last October, Roy a branch member and secretary for over 30 years only retired as branch secretary last year. The branch had a tankard engraved to present to Roy, alas this never took place and the tankard is now on display at The Roebuck, Hampton Hill. I propose a toast in honour of Roy!</p> <p>I enjoy the position of branch chairman and happy to continue in this position.</p>	<p>Action</p>
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At the end of the report AP offered support for BG's efforts as chairman over the last few years.

Patricia (PC) a new member asked about social events and there was some discussion about these and the low numbers attending (same old faces!)

5. Treasurer's Report (AP)

AP summarised the TBF accounts (see appendix 1). It had been a successful festival with a surplus of over £2700. AP explained the branch financial restrictions - £1000 plus known expenses was allowed to be held, the rest submitted to HQ.

The full branch accounts were available to be reviewed.

Branch assets at 31/3; £1468.96 and cash £267.40

£300 is set aside for the 2019 beer festival party and £200 for 2022.

MM asked about other sales such as T shirts at the TBF. It was explained that only Good Beer Guides were sold, no other CAMRA sundries.

DS asked about the correlation between staff party budgets and beer festival takings and whether there were any specific guidelines from CAMRA.

Paul Manning has once again expressed willingness to examine branch accounts. This was seconded by MM.

6. Secretary's Report (DS)

Nothing specific to report. It was noted that we had often talked about the lack of attendance at social events and the need to expand social media presence but little had been done to address this yet.

7. Membership secretary's report (CO)

Latest report from Phoenix shows 10 new members in March 6 of whom have details and have been sent welcome letters.

One leaver.

Branch membership currently 950.

No report for yearly figures.

8. Social secretary's report (BG)

The branch social and formal branch and committee meetings continue, with the same hard core attendees with very new members attending. We should try and get some more interesting events such as brewery visits etc. This year I will try to arrange more of a variety.

9. Press and Publicity Officer Report (JA)

Twickenham Beer Festival 2022

I sent a press release to local media about the TBF, but not all of them responded with articles. Next time we should use social media as well.

I erected and removed the **25 laminated A5 Festival flyers** on lamp columns in Twickenham town centre.

AP

BG

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I produced a draft **Festival programme** ready for conversion to a digital format, having secured advertising revenue from Twickenham Fine Ales which covered the cost of production.

I counted and analysed all the festival voting slips for BOTF and COTF to produce the winners and to obtain data on who attended the festival. Data was passed on to CAMRA for further usage. The offer of a case of beers each night of the festival encouraged more people to vote.

Other activities

I have written articles for London Drinker about the 2022 Festival, the POTY presentation, the John Young award to TFA, as well as organising with Christine Cryne and others the Champion Beer of London presentation in front of the Naked Ladies in York House gardens to TFA.

I ordered an inscribed pewter tankard for the late Roy Hurry, a tribute/gift from the branch committee. Unfortunately, it did not reach him in time, but it is now on display at the Roebuck in Hampton Hill.

After JA's report some discussion took place about the presentation of this years beer / cider of the festival certificates. Tiny Rebel based in Newport. No definitive decision was made.

10. Branch contact, Pub Records Officer, Webmaster & GBG coordinator report (GG)

Apologies for not attending this year's AGM. When the committee stands down for re-election I will be prepared to stand again for the above roles, unless others at the meeting wish to take on any of the roles.

Branch Website

After a review of our website by National Branch Website Support Coordinator (Andy Shaw) last year, it was apparent that the R&H Branch would need to make changes to conform to the latest CAMRA web standards. There were two major issues that needed addressing: (1) it was not hosted on a secure server (https), and (2) non-conformance to current brand guidelines.

Quote from the CAMRA Branch Website Guidelines: Branch websites have become an essential component of CAMRA's communication. Kept up to date with Branch information and wider information about CAMRA, they provide an opportunity to connect the Campaign with your local community. A 'shop window' for the local branch, each website has the potential to convert the casual pub-goer or beer lover into a member and demonstrate the tangible benefits of getting involved.

(1) To this end, I have migrated the branch website to the CAMRA Plesk server in November 2022. This move necessitated a change to the branch website address to – **rh.camra.org.uk**. To make this transition seamless to users and with support from the CAMRA Hosting Support Team, a redirect from rhcamra.org.uk has been put in place on the previously used IONOS hosting server. So now any requests on the old site address (rhcamra.org.uk) get automatically redirected to the new (rh.camra.org.uk). All existing email addresses have been duplicated with the new host name, but still

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can be used. The URL (rhcamra.org.uk) will be de-activate end May 2023 removing the cost to the branch of £23.98 for 24months URL renewal.

I have also redesigned the page banner graphic to meet branding guidelines including some home page additions and text changes. Whilst doing this I have edited the coding behind all webpages to conform to the HTML5 standard. The Web Links pages have been rewritten and the picture gallery removed (for now). I am also exploring other facilities available on the CAMRA Plesk server. For instance, creating a 'Google Group' replacement, password protected areas, Web Statistics etc.

The Branch website should now I believe, be compliant with the Guidelines, except for being 'responsive/smartphone friendly' although the site can be usefully viewed on a smartphone.

I have advised all local branches, CAMRA HQ and other interested parties of the new Branch Website URL and changes to email addresses and other systems that communicates with the branch like WhatPub user feedback.

Because of the URL redirect all interactions continue as normal if someone types or uses a bookmark of the old URL until the end of May this year. What you get from Google is another story!

The final and most significant task will be to undertake a complete redesign of the website to meet the 'mobile friendly' responsive requirement. To this end I have elected to use a Content Management System (CMS) called WordPress, to develop a new website. A development area has been setup and WordPress program installed in preparation for this work. Using WordPress to develop a new website will entail a significant learning challenge for me and will also require involvement of branch members to agree new content, colour scheme and graphic design etc. At some later stage I hope some committee members will be able to directly edit and update content on the new site as it will require less technical (HTML/CSS) skills as for the current (hand coded) website.

Pubs and Bars

With so much change taking place in the pub trade over the years, keeping track of what is happening over the entire branch area (covering two Greater London boroughs) has been a demanding task. Maintaining branch pub records relies on what I can discover and on very few people reporting news of changes to keep this information up to date. Our branch covers a wide area, a large part I'm sure still remains unreported.

WhatPub

This national CAMRA Website is fed data from a section of a national CAMRA database called Pubzilla. This section is maintained by our Branch. When changes are made to Pubzilla, these are then exported to the WhatPub.com server to update its website. In addition to our updates, I also receive occasional pub feedback from other CAMRA Members from both inside and outside our branch area via the 'Submit Updates' facility on the WhatPub website. When visiting other pubs outside our area, I too have submitted updates (and sometime pictures). We have **419** pubs & Clubs entered on Pubzilla for our branch area. Not all are still trading (or still in existence!). In fact there are only **292** listed as active and of those **39** have been declared 'long term closed'. This gives an indication of how many pubs we have lost over the years.

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We need to get more members to provide feedback on the pubs they visit, especially those that have not been visited for years and the additional pubs that have been added to our branch area. To help I will be preparing a simple guide as to the key information to be recorded. I feel this is needed as many reports I receive are frankly far too 'woolly' to be of much use in updating WhatPub. WhatPub.com currently lists 32,499 real ale venues nationwide.

GBG Coordinator

Carried out four surveys for the 2024 Good Beer Guide and coordinated and checked the submissions of a further eighteen. The Pubzilla database was subsequently updated and then used to compile, check/correct WhatPub Status errors, and then used to submit these final GBG candidates to the CAMRA Regional Director (Geoff Strawbridge) by the stated deadline. At the time of writing, I have not been advised if any of our reserve pubs have been included on top of our eighteen allocations for our Branch.

London Drinker Magazine

I have distributed copies every two months to pubs in Teddington, Ham, Hampton Wick and Hampton Court. However, I would like to advise the committee that after the current April/May 2023 issue I no longer wish to continue distributing this magazine.

11. NBSS

AP presented the summary of scores for the year to date. It was noted that there seemed to be more scores than in the past – was this due to the CAMRA work on promoting NBSS? It was suggested that a review/comparison of first quarter scores with last year could be made.

A discussion was initiated about the use of NBSS scores for pubs in GBG and ways to encourage more members to score their beers. JA explained the process and that it was based on NBSS scores, but AP also explained that there was a geographical element as well, wanting to have a good spread of pubs in the branch areas.

EE showed new NBSS explanation cards (business card size). DS asked if any enquiry had been made to CAMRA about the NBSS posters for branch pubs. BG to enquire at national AGM

12. Nominations for and election of committee

All current members were willing to stand again and were re-elected. BB had expressed an interest in the role of social secretary and was nominated by AP / seconded by BG.

DS mentioned that maybe the committee should try to fill all the local representative positions to get them to help monitor area pubs for NBSS and GBG.

BG

AP

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13. AOB

BG talked about TBF 2023. Ollie at Turks Head had been contacted and dates agreed. 16-18th November for festival and hall booked 14-20th.

AB mentioned that the Castle in Isleworth had changed hands recently.

There was some discussion about the pickup point for LD mags as a new venue was required to replace Black Dog. Several possible pubs were discussed and pros/cons evaluated. AP to visit Magpie & Crown.

RM mentioned the recent young CAMRA event at Covent Garden that was in the LD.

DS asked if CAMRA had a policy of reaching out to young members e.g., at fresher fairs etc in universities and that it may be something to consider at St Marys in our branch.

Meeting closed 10.12pm

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Appendix 1

CAMRA RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW BRANCH ACCOUNTS 2022/23 - SUMMARY

Date 03/04/23

TWICKENHAM BEER FESTIVAL 2022 - ACCOUNT

Item	Income	Expenditure	Surplus	Budget			Compare budget
				Income	Expenditure	Surplus	
Draught Beer	£7,964.28	£4,194.59	£3,769.69	11,650.00	4,486.50	7,163.50	(£3,393.81)
Cider	£760.69	£477.60	£283.09	1,420.00	555.12	864.88	(£581.79)
Products	£246.00	£160.00	£86.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£86.00
Membership	£30.50	£30.50	£0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£0.00
Glasses	£192.00	£0.00	£192.00	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	£392.00
Admissions	£1,002.00		£1,002.00	1,456.00	0.00	1,456.00	(£454.00)
Hall Hire	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	£1,000.00
Printing & Publicity (incl advertising income)	£130.00	£306.82	(£176.82)	0.00	670.00	(670.00)	£493.18
Site Expenses	£0.00	£641.61	(£641.61)	0.00	1,260.00	(1,260.00)	£618.39
Staff Meals (excl sec. staff)	£148.00	£172.00	(£24.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(£24.00)
Sundries	£0.00	£64.40	(£64.40)	0.00	190.00	(190.00)	£125.60
Transport	£0.00	£1,620.00	(£1,620.00)	0.00	1,580.00	(1,580.00)	(£40.00)
Door Security	£0.00	£60.00	(£60.00)	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	£140.00
Contingency	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	200.00	(200.00)	£200.00
Other Advertising (glasses)	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£0.00
Charity Bins (cash & tokens)	£309.05	£309.05	£0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£0.00
Other Income	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	£0.00
TOTALS	£10,782.52	£8,036.57		14,526.00	10,341.62		
SURPLUS ON 2022 FESTIVAL			£2,745.95	Surplus	4,184.38		(£1,438.43)
Adjustments to 2021/22 account			£0.00				
Gross Surplus on Festival Trading			£2,745.95				
Dispersals:							
To CAMRA Central Funds			£2,500.00				
Allowance for staff outing			£200.00				
Total Dispersals			£2,700.00				

Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Beer Festival £45.95

GENERAL INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/(deficit)
Summary of transactions	£0.00	£9.85	(£9.85)

Overall surplus/(deficit) on year (to date) £36.10

I confirm the above Statement of Accounts for Richmond & Hounslow Branch 2022/23

Signed *[Signature]* Treasurer
Treasurer for Richmond & Hounslow Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale

Date: *04/04/2023*

I have verified the existing balance as at and have examined the books and vouchers for the period ending at that date.

The above is a true statement of receipts, payments and bank balance.

Signed *[Signature]* Branch Financial Referee

Date: *12-4-23*

Notes:

1. Site expenses covers public liability insurance, hire of radios and printing beer vouchers together with beer dispense consumables.
2. Sundries includes stationery, postage and general administrative expenses.
3. CAMRA "Team Tango" staff used. Cost is for staff meals for stewards not drinking during operating hours

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TWICKENHAM BEER FESTIVAL 2022 - SUMMARY

Attendance:

	Budget	Actual	percent
Members	400	306	76.5%
Non-members	400	230	57.5%
Total	800	536	67.0%
Income	£1,456.00	£1,002.00	68.8%

Beer/Cider:

	Order/Budget		Sales	
Beer	19.5 kils	2418 pints	1881 pints	77.8%
Cider	180 litres	279 pints	159 pints	56.9%
Combined		2697 pints	2040 pints	75.6%
Income (from dips)		£12,511.60	£9,386.40	75.0%
Income (actual)		£12,511.60	£8,670.97	69.3%
Pints per person		3.4 p/person	3.8 p/person	112.9%

Note: Cider income excludes sale of leftovers after event

Glasses:

	Budget	Actual
Sales	0	96
Income	£0.00	£192.00