

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

Annual General Meeting - Date, Location, Participants, Apologies for Absence, Start/Close Times

Date 30 April 2018
Start Time 20:00
Location The Cabbage Patch, 67 London Road, Twickenham. TW1 3SJ

Participants

Charles Owens	(CO)	Philip Harrison	(PH)
Roy Hurry	(RH)	Silvie Marie	(SM)
Andy Pirson	(AP)	Martin Mathews	(MM)
Stewart Murray	(SM)	Danny Walsh	(DW)
John Lisle	(JL)	Bob Gordon	(RG)
Chris Lucking	(CL)	Gisela White	(GW)
Iain Sutherland	(IS)	John Lisle	(JL)
George Gimber	(GG)	James Murray	(JM)
Roy Tunstall	(RT)	Richard Northmore	(RN)

CAMRA London
Regional Secretary

Apologies for Absence

John Austin	Paul Read
Doug Scott	Hugh Springall
Cathy Almond	Zainab Hafidh-Hurry

Geoff Strawbridge

CAMRA London
Regional Director

Close time: 20:50

Minutes of Richmond and Hounslow Branch Annual General Meeting

CO opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held at The Roebuck, Richmond on 26 April 2017 were tabled and accepted

Chairman's (CO) Report AGM Report 2018

My report is on a year that has seen considerable changes not only to our branch and the London Region but also to our parent organisation in CAMRA UK. I have attempted to attend as many "Revitalisation" and other regional events through the year and have tried very hard to get our Branch's voice heard at London Liaison Meetings.

Our constitution has been adapted to allow our branch area to include the entirety of Hounslow as well as Richmond Boroughs. The two boroughs pose different challenges. Richmond and the Eastern part of Hounslow have vibrant economies with many pubs continuing to be viable, albeit some rely on the crowds from Twickenham rugby, Brentford soccer and other sporting events to bolster their income. It will be interesting to see what effect the local elections will have on our ability to liaise with both councils.

The Western part of Hounslow has seen a decline in pub-going, suffering from changing demographics and socioeconomic changes such as the move to drinking at home fuelled by cheap supermarket offers. Apart from campaigning for a fairer tax system, there is little if anything that the Branch can do to reverse some of these factors. However, we need to continue to mobilise to protect as far as possible our community and heritage venues and to lend support to licensees and community groups where necessary.

We have seen continuing investment and improving standards in our viable pubs and the competition to get into the Good Beer Guide and be our Pub of the Year is now fierce. I continue to lobby to increase our allocation in the GBG from 18, which we could fill several times over. So congratulations on this Year's PotY the Roebuck in Richmond and last year's winner the Mason's Arms in Teddington for getting runner up in London PotY and all those that made it into the GBG and commiserations to the many excellent venues in our area that did not get in.

I extend my thanks to all our volunteers for their work in campaigning, supporting fund-raising through festivals, collecting and delivering our regional magazine and keeping the branch going. Particularly, I thank those that are standing down for a variety of reasons including, James Murray who has covered our secretarial needs for the last few years and Paul and Fee who are moving from our area. Let us hope that volunteers will come to light to help actively with the campaign.

Our local brewers continue to win awards, so well done to all of them and long may they continue. Brewery liaison is an interesting post, albeit regional rather than Branch and we do need to find someone to work with Kew (replacing Fee), Jeffersons in Barnes and Tiny Vessel in Hampton.

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

I thank our BLOs on behalf of our regional director for their work with Fullers, Twickenham Fine Ales, Kew, Reunion and Oddly (in no particular order).

This will be an interesting year as changes to CAMRA unfold and the direction of our campaigning develops. There will also be challenges with fund raising as pressures increase on CAMRA beer festivals in the face of reducing venues of suitable size and price and competition from other commercial organisations running similar events. We will continue with Twickenham Beer and Cider Festival until at least 2019 but the festival committee will have to be watchful as to future viability.

Best wishes to all for the forthcoming year,

Charles Owens
Chairman
30 April 2018

Secretary's Report:

JM confirmed that all Branch, Committee and Beer Festival Sub-Committee meetings had been constitutionally called and duly minuted.

Treasurer's Report:

AP reported that the R&H Branch had made a £2,000.00 contribution to CAMRA from the beer festival surplus. He added that a booking for the 2019 Beer Festival at York House had been made and the deposit paid.

With regard to the Beer Festival AP mentioned that in some ways it had been disappointing that less beer had been sold than had been hoped despite a reduction in in the quantity ordered in previous years. In addition, around £500.00 went missing presumably stolen from a locked office in York house. This was reported to the police and the venue authorities.

A summary of CAMRA Richmond & Hounslow Branch ACCOUNTS for 2017/18 dated 17/04/18 form Attachment 1 to these minutes.

AP prosed acceptance of the accounts for 2017/18 those present approved these unanimously.

Appointment of Examiners of Accounts

The continued appointment of Paul Manning was proposed by AP and seconded by Sm and approved unanimously by those present.

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

Membership Secretary's Report:

General

The following bullet points may be of interest. Please refer to the 'Branch Membership Figures' attachment and to the 'Membership Secretary's Report - April 2018' where necessary.

- * Over the last year (May 2017 to April 2018) Branch membership has increased from 931 to 1,126 members. This is predominantly due to the London District Boundary changes implemented in October 2017.
- * These changes resulted in approximately 200 members from neighbouring CAMRA Branches being eligible for transfer to the Richmond and Hounslow Branch. In the event some 170 moved over whilst the remainder opted to stay with their current Branch.
- * During the period May 2017 to April 2018 I have despatched approximately 500 letters, primarily by email but also by surface post, to:
 - Welcome new members to CAMRA and to the Richmond and Hounslow Branch.
 - Welcome existing members who have moved into the Richmond and Hounslow Branch area.
 - Ask lapsed members to reconsider their departure from CAMRA.
- * In late 2017 I took over responsibility for the production of the Branch e-newsletter using an email database hosted by MailChimp. The imminent General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) May 2018 may require us to discontinue the MailChimp database and move to the CAMRA Communications tool for future newsletters.

Membership trends

- * Membership trends this year have, of course, been distorted by the influx of new members to the Richmond and Hounslow Branch as a consequence of the Boundary changes.
- * Nonetheless, indications are that Branch membership remains buoyant although active participation by members in Branch events, polls and NBSS scoring remains disappointingly low.
- * Almost all Branch members who left CAMRA in the last year:
 - Did so at the expiry of their initial 12/15 month membership period.
 - Had paid their subscription by cheque or cash.

Stewart Murray
Membership Secretary
26 April 2018

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

Press, Publicity and Public Affairs Offer Report:

Coverage of the Twickenham Beer and Cider Festival from the **Richmond & Twickenham Times** and **the Hounslow Chronicle**, is now only on line, and of limited value. However, I managed to get an article with photo of the POTY presentation into the R&T newspaper.

I organised and erected the **Festival banner** in Church St. and the **25 laminated A5 Festival flyers** on lamp columns.

As before, I produced and arranged the printing of the **Festival programme**, having secured advertising from local pubs, breweries, shops etc., which more than covered the total printing cost. I analysed all the voting slips for BOTF and to obtain data on how people heard of 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.

I attended the CAMRA National AGM in Bournemouth last year. I analysed all the voting slips for BOTF and to obtain data on how people heard of 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.

I attended the CAMRA National AGM in Bournemouth last year.

I have written reports for London Drinker on the Festival and the POTY.

John Austin
Public Affairs and Publicity Officer
30 April 2018

Social Secretary's Report

Few events purely of a 'social' nature (i.e. not a 'business' meeting) have been held over the past year.

Last August we had a visit planned to Reunion Ales in Feltham, but unfortunately it had to be cancelled at the last-minute owing to the owner's ill health.

Approx. every 2 months we have done an evening pub walk in a particular area to get updates on 3 or 4 pubs; we always hope that members living locally will join us for the evening, but this rarely happens, although it was gratifying to see new faces on both the Chiswick and East Sheen walks.

Similarly, numbers at Branch Meetings have been very low – mainly just the Committee and a few 'regulars' who are thanked for their participation and input.

Suggestions for events that might attract more of our 1000+ Branch membership will be welcome.

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

You will know that last year's Twickenham Beer & Cider Festival was not quite the financial success that we had planned. It has consequently been decided that we should not run to the expense of coach hire and a brewery visit for last year's Festival volunteer staff, but that we should, as we did 2 years ago, invite them to come along on a London "travelcard tour" that we have been planning to have on **Sat. 23 June** (*but see note below*), when participants will have to pay their own travel and 'refreshment' costs, but Festival staff will be given some cash towards this as a 'thank you' for volunteering.

The itinerary for the day has still to be finalised, but it is likely to concentrate on iconic central London pubs (City and West End).

Our Festival Staffing Officer will shortly be sending an email about this to all last year's volunteers.

Roy Hurry,
Social Secretary
30 April 2018

Web Master Report

GG led a discussion relating to GDPR requirements. It is recognised that data held needs to be covered by some sort of agreement with the members. GG confirmed that hard copy volunteer information collected for previous Bee Festivals has been shredded.

The way forward will be addressed once CAMRA HQ has provided guidance and instructions.

Cider Representative Report

There has not been much change in the branch outlets this year. The Sussex Arm Twickenham has been nominated as Branch Cider pub of the year. I received no nominations so I entered it judging will take place April/May, the Express Tavern Kew Bridge was last year's nomination. We sold about 80% of the cider and perry at this year's beer festival, although the attendance was down, we experimented with 2 fruit ciders which were very popular although we had sweet cider left at the end. Shipman's Revenge made with apples from west London and Monmouthshire was a late entry due to recommendation, this sold out first!

My self and Ian White are planning a Cider/Perry event at the Stable pizza restaurant in Kew Bridge sometime in October. Not the same weekend as our festival!

I intend to visit all our known cider pubs in the next few months to take a look at what is going on.

Bob Gordon
Cider Representative
30 April 2018

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

Brewery Liaison Officer Reports

BLO reports have been received relating to:

- Oddly Limited - AP
- Twickenham Fine Ales - JA

These are available for perusal on request.

Nominations for Committee Positions/Roles

The nominations for election of the committee were as follows:

- Those not continuing:
James Murray - Secretary
- Those willing to continue:
 1. Chairman Charles Owens also Beer Festival Organiser and Pub Preservation Officer
 2. Branch Contact Roy Hurry
 3. Membership Secretary Stewart Murray
 4. Treasurer Andy Pirson
 5. Press and Publicity/Public Affairs Officer John Austin
 6. Cider and Perry Representative Bob Gordan
 7. Clubs Officer John Lisle

All positions were unanimously accepted with a show of hands.

- Change of Role (addition):
Secretary Roy Hurry
Unanimously accepted with a show of hands

Continued

CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes

30 April 2018

- Election of Additional Committee Members:

8. Richard Northmore

Proposed by Roy Hurry, seconded by Andy Pirson

9. George Gimber – Web Master and Pub Database Co-ordinator

Proposed by Roy Hurry, seconded by Stewart Murray

Matters Arising:

RH mentioned that he has just learned about the London Brewers' Alliance Festival, to be held at Fuller's, on 23 June. Therefore, it was decided to change the date for our 'travelcard tour' tentatively to 7 July.

Prepared by: RN

Date: 2 May 2018

**CAMRA Richmond and Hounslow – AGM Minutes
30 April 2018**

Attachment 1

**CAMRA RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW BRANCH ACCOUNTS2017/18 -
SUMMARY Date 17/04/18**



R&H account 2017 -
summary.pdf