



Chelmsford & Mid-Essex RECOMMENDED PUB GUIDE



WHAT?UB

www.chelmsford.camra.org.uk



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

Welcome to the Chelmsford & Mid-Essex CAMRA branch area.

As the name suggests, the city of Chelmsford is at the centre of our branch, but please note that other substantial towns fall within this area, such as Braintree and Witham.

Not to be overlooked is the surrounding countryside which includes many wonderful rural pubs.



This is an updated guide to our excellent public houses that serve real ale. We have made a selection of those pubs which we consider to be the best in the area, from the point of view of beer quality, features and the attractiveness of the pubs. The pubs have all been recently surveyed, and should be up to date. In recognition of the achievement of having been selected for this guide they have been awarded a plaque to proudly display. We have included some maps to help you find your way, and have listed bus routes which should help you reach those pubs in out of town areas.

The entries include small locals, large town-centre pubs, a micro pub and traditional village inns, who offer a whole range of food from sandwiches through to restaurant meals. The description should give you an indication of what each pub is like, but we hope that you will be tempted to visit them all, and find out more. Expect each one to have a selection of British Real Ales, served in excellent condition, and in many cases from our local breweries.

We would like you to help us by scoring the beers in the pubs that you visit, by using the National Beer Scoring system. To do this, please visit www.whatpub.com to record your scores which may include half scores, eg.3.5. These scores will be used for the 2019 edition of the Good Beer Guide. Also included is a 'Pub of the Year' form, so please submit your vote by 31st January 2018.

Inevitably, over the lifetime of this booklet, some details will change. If you are making a journey it is always worth telephoning the pub to confirm opening hours, food times, and facilities.

Please consider using the train or bus to visit these pubs. The bus information given is a guide only – services may be limited in the evenings or on Sundays. The number to call for all public transport information in Essex is 0871 2002233, or go online at www.traveline.info.



Every January, all members of the local CAMRA branch are invited to vote for their 'Pub of the Year'.

**Branch Pub of the Year,
Highly Commended Cider Pub of the Year
The Hop Beer Shop, Chelmsford**



**Runner-Up
Branch Pub of
the Year is the
Railway
Tavern,
Chelmsford**



**Cider Pub of the Year,
Highly Commended Pub of the Year
The Compasses, Littley Green**



**Runner-Up Branch Cider Pub of the Year
The Three Elms, Chignal St James**



Bicknacre, White Swan

Main Road. CM3 4EX. T: 01245 222826

<http://thewhiteswanbicknacre.co.uk>

5-11 Mon; 12-2.30, 5-11 Tue; 5-11 Wed; 12-2.30, 5-11 Thu; 12-2.30, 5-1am Fri; 12-1am Sat; 12-11 Sun

Adnams Ghost Ship, Greene King IPA, Wibblers Dengie Gold.

Food times: 12-2 Tue; 6-8.30 Wed; 12-2, 6-8.30 Thu-Sat; 12-4 Sun • Bus: 36, 100m

The oldest part of pub is over 100 years old and has been extended and modernised, but has a traditional feel and look. It has a large bar area with ample seating. Fruit and quiz machines plus dart board. Large car park. Hot food is available every day except Monday. The menu is small but varied, the food is substantial and reasonably priced. Sunday lunch available 12-4. There is a Chinese restaurant/take away attached to the pub. Live band most Saturday evenings, quiz night every Thursday, open mic. night every other week and Jam night first Tuesday of the month.



Black Notley, Vine Inn

105 The Street, CM77 8LL. T: 01376 324269

www.vineinn.co.uk

Opening hours: 12-10.30 Mon-Thu; 12-11.30 Fri-Sat; 12-9 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, 2 changing beers.

Food times: 12-2, 6-9 Mon-Fri; 12-9 Sat; 12-8 Sun

Bus: Bus 21, 50m. Crossing station 1580m.

16th century open-plan free house with a central bar, large area to the left and restaurant area to the right. The bar end has a real fire. Above the lounge is a 6-person mezzanine accessible via a steep staircase. There is also a small enclosed patio at the back. Home cooked food.



Blackmore, Leather Bottle

The Green. CM4 ORL. T: 01277 823538

www.theleatherbottle.net

Opening hours: 11-11 Mon-Thu; 11-midnight Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Adnams Ghost Ship, 2 changing beers, 2 local ales. Westons Old Rosie cider.

Bus: 32, 261, 100m • No food

Large village pub refurbished and renovated to a modern open plan room with lighting, antlers and a real fire at one end. Welcomes children, dogs and ramblers. No food at the moment as awaiting new kitchen. A conservatory leads to an enclosed garden with picnic tables. Occasional live music on Saturday evenings. Dog-friendly pub side only.



Boreham, Lion Inn

Main Road. CM3 3JA. T: 01245 394900

www.lioninnhotel.co.uk

Opening hours: 11.30-11; 11.30-11 Sun

Round Tower The Lion Inn, 4 changing beers. Usually a dark beer plus something local from Mighty Oak, Brentwood, Round Tower or Bishop Nick.

Food times: 11.30-2.30, 5.30-9 Mon-Fri; 11.30-9 Sat; 11.30-8 Sun
Bus: 71, 72, 73, 100m

A large modern bistro pub offering an excellent range of food served at lunchtime and evening. Long L shaped bar with stools and armchair and sofa seating area for drinkers. Open plan dining with a function room, conservatory and accommodation in the Hotel. BBQs in summer and monthly comedy nights. Outside courtyard area.



Boreham, Queen's Head

Church Road. CM3 3EG. T: 01245 467298

www.grayandsons.co.uk/QueensHBoreham.htm

Opening hours: 3-midnight Mon; 3-10 Tue; 12-midnight Wed-Sat; 12-midnight Sun

Greene King IPA, 5 changing beers, 2 served by gravity.

Food times: 12-2, 6-9 Wed-Sat; 12-2 Sun

Bus: 71,72,71c 100 m

In the same family for over 20 years this friendly pub, dating from the 16th century, is tucked away behind houses just past the church. Two contrasting bars, one with bench seating, where darts, dominoes and crib are played, the other is for dining. In the warmer months, the garden is a lovely area to sit at one of the picnic benches and enjoy drinks and food in a tranquil setting in view of the village church. Home-cooked food served Wednesday to Sunday.



Braintree, Eagle

192 Coggeshall Road. CM7 9ER. T: 01376 741272

Opening hours: 12-midnight Mon-Sat; 12-midnight Sun

4 changing beers.

Food times: 12-8 Mon-Sat; 12-8 Sun

Bus: 70, 133, 30, 100 m. Braintree station 1000m.

A friendly community pub with two rooms under new management since summer 2016. A public bar with TV and dartboards, leading to the garden, and a quiet and comfortable saloon bar. Up to four changing beers, including one each from Adnams and Marston's, one national and often a local beer. Good value food available all day.



Braintree, King William IV

114 London Road. CM77 7PU. T: 01376 567755

<http://kingwilliamiv.co.uk/>

Opening hours: 3-11 Mon-Thu; 12-midnight Fri-Sat; 12-midnight Sun

4 changing beers. Usually includes a Moody Goose beer, brewed at the pub. 4 or 5 ciders/perry.

Bus: 70, 352, 50m. Braintree station 2000m. • No food.

Warm and friendly traditional free house serving an ever-changing range of four to five real ales, usually featuring Essex microbreweries. An interesting selection of four or five ciders. There is a main bar and a small back bar. A large patio area with picnic tables and extensive gardens are used to host many events throughout the year including Beer Festivals and Musical Events. This is a traditional drinking pub that does not offer cooked meals. The Moody Goose Brewery is located in the grounds of the pub and at least one of their ales is available in the pub.



Braintree, Picture Palace

Fairfield Road. CM7 3HA. T: 01376 550255

www.jdwetherspoon.com/pubs/all-pubs/england/essex/the-picture-palace-braintree

8-11.30 Mon-Thu; 8-1.30am Fri-Sat; 8-11.30 Sun

Greene King Abbot, Ruddles Best Bitter, Sharp's Doom Bar. 5 changing beers. Minimum of 5 guests including 1 from Bishop Nick. Normally Westons Old Rosie, sometimes from the Gwynt y Ddraig range of cider/perry.

Food times: 8-11 Mon-Sat; 8-11 Sun

Braintree station 300m. Bus: many routes 100m

Originally a cinema, The Picture Palace, built in 1912, and replaced by The Embassy in 1930, this spacious pub retains the character of a picture house. The floor slopes down to the long curved bar at the front where the stage used to be, with a very large TV screen above it, and some eye-catching Art Deco installations. Additional TVs give a choice of channels. Trading as a Lloyds No. 1 bar. Close to the bus and train stations. Guide dogs are welcome.



Broads Green, Walnut Tree

5 Broads Green. CM3 1DT. T: 01245 360222

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Sat; 12-11

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Timothy Taylor Landlord, 1 changing beer from a local brewery. Westons Rosie's Pig and Thatchers Heritage cider.

No food

Bus: 42a, 1200m

Handsome Victorian brick-built pub overlooking the village green. The front door opens directly into what was once the bottle and jug but with the passing of time it now serves as a small snug. To the left is the wood-panelled public bar, little changed since it was built in 1888. To the right is the slightly more modern saloon bar originally converted from the landlord's front parlour and further extended in the 1980s. The half-cellar is accessed from behind the bar with Cask Marque quality beers being served on gravity. Outside, seating in front of the pub is complemented by a children's play area and a large family garden to the side and rear. There is no food offering, the landlord preferring to concentrate on his beers and in maintaining a more traditional atmosphere. Primarily a conversation pub, traditional pub games and an antique piano offer alternative entertainment. An outside Gents, which is still in use, adds to the pubs authenticity.



Chelmsford, Ale House

24 -26 Viaduct Road. CM1 1TS. T: 01245 260535

www.the-ale-house-chelmsford.co.uk

Opening hours: 11-11 Mon-Thu; 11-midnight Fri-Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

12 changing beers. Changing range of 12 ciders/perry.

No food

Chelmsford station 50m. Bus: many routes 50m

In the style of a continental alehouse this pub is situated under three railway arches beneath Chelmsford station. There are twelve real ales, with the continuously changing range always including dark and stronger beers, five craft kegs and 12 real ciders. There are also imported German lagers on tap and a wide range of bottled beers from around the world. No food but customers are welcome to bring their own; plates and cutlery can be provided. A mini beer festival is held quarterly on the last weekend of the month (January, April, July, October).



Chelmsford, Barista

44-45 Duke Street. CM1 1JA. T: 01245 493333

http://baristachelmsford.com

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Tue; 12-midnight Wed-Thu;

12-2am Fri-Sat; Closed Sun

3 changing beers, mostly from local breweries.

Food times: 12-2.30 Mon-Fri

Chelmsford station 200m. Bus: many routes 100m

Small contemporary bar with comfortable leather furniture and subdued lighting, situated very close to the railway and bus stations. Slightly surprising then to find three well-kept real ales which are served by gravity from the first-floor cellar through ceiling-mounted eye-level taps. There is always a different beer to try as they never serve the same beer twice. There is a small cordoned-off area on the pavement with tables and chairs allowing customers to sit outside. Popular beer festivals are held twice a year. Food is served weekday lunchtimes. All ages from 21 upwards are welcomed. Although normally closed, Barista opens 6 pm to 2 am on Sundays preceding a bank holiday. An area is available for private hire.



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Chelmsford, Cricketers

143 Moulsham Street. CM2 0JT. T: 01245 268211

www.thecricketers.biz

Opening hours: 11-11 Mon-Thu; 11-midnight Fri-Sat; 11-11 Sun

Bishop Nick Ridley's Rite, Greene King Abbot,

3 changing beers.

Food times: 12-2.30, 5-8.30 Mon-Fri; 10-2, 5-8.30 Sat; 12-5 Sun

Chelmsford station 1400m

Bus: 42,100,351 200m

Traditional Victorian corner Pub with two bars, a front bar with a games room off of it and a quieter back bar ideal for relaxing which is also available for private functions and club meetings. At least 5 cask ales are always available and food is on offer 7 days a week including Sunday roasts, a full pub classics menu and up to six home-made pies to choose from.

Pie & pint deals on Thursday. Outdoor patio area and seating in front of the pub. There is a popular quiz night every Wednesday and a monthly soul night on the third Saturday of the month.



Chelmsford, Endeavour

351 Springfield Road. CM2 6AW. T: 01245 257717
www.grayandsons.co.uk/Endeavour.htm

Opening hours: 11-11 Mon-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Harvey's Sussex Bitter,
 Mighty Oak Maldon Gold, Wibblers Dengie IPA,
 2 changing beers.

Food times: 12-3 Mon-Thu; 12-3, 7-9 Fri; 12-9 Sat; 12-3 Sun
 Chelmsford station 2300m. Bus: 54, 71c, 73, 100m

Busy and friendly pub made up of three rooms. Serving light meals and sandwiches at lunchtimes and all day Saturdays. Evening meals available Fridays and Saturdays. All food is locally sourced and home cooked. A true community pub with a darts team and charity events. The pub also shows BT Sports. There is a new courtyard garden planned for summer 2017.



Chelmsford, Golden Fleece

84 Duke Street CM1 1JP 01245 256752
www.craft-pubs.co.uk/thegoldenfleece-chelmsford

Opening hours: 11-midnight Mon-Wed; 11-1am Thu; 11-2am Fri-Sat;
 12-10.30 Sun

Sharp's Doom Bar, 5 changing beers. Up to 5 guests with
 Mighty Oak, Crouch Vale, Brentwood & Adnams being
 regularly represented. Cider: Mango on draught,
 1 or 2 boxed on bar.

Food times: 11-9 Mon-Thu; 11-8 Fri-Sat; 12-8 Sun
 Chelmsford station 300m. Bus: Many 100m

A lively city centre pub, with a beer garden, which appeals to all ages.
 Serving 6 real ales, up to 3 ciders and 4 craft beers on draught plus 10 in
 bottles. Food served all week. 20% discount on real ales to CAMRA
 members. On Mondays and Tuesdays from 5pm all real ales are
 £2.15 per pint, with free cheese on Tuesday. Quiz every Thursday
 and cover bands every Friday and Saturday evenings.



Chelmsford, Hop Beer Shop

173 Moulsham Street. CM2 0LD. T: 01245 353570
www.thehopbeershop.co.uk

Closed Mon; 12-9 Tue-Sat; Closed Sun

4 changing beers, 2 or 3 ciders and a perry.

Food: No food

Chelmsford station 1100m. Bus 42, 100, 351, 300m

Essex's first microbrew. Four beers are served by gravity, and always include
 local breweries as well as interesting beers from around the country, with
 usually a stout or porter and a golden beer. In addition, there are craft kegs,
 around 100 bottled beers from local and international breweries, and bottled
 cider, which may be drunk there or purchased to take home. The atmosphere
 is one of a traditional pub where people can meet and talk. Branch Pub of
 the Year 2016 and 2017.

CME branch members can vote for their
 Pub of the Year on page 22 or email
puboftheyear@chelmsford.camra.org.uk

Chelmsford, Ivory Peg

7 New London Road. CM2 0NA. T: 01245 253130
www.jdwetherspoon.com/en/pubs/all-pubs/england/essex/the-ivory-peg-chelmsford

Opening hours: 8-midnight Mon-Thu; 8-1am Fri-Sat; 8-midnight Sun
 Greene King Abbot, Ruddles Best Bitter, 5 changing beers,
 one of Fullers London Pride, Sharp's Doom Bar, Adnams
 Broadside. Changing range of ciders from Westons
 Gwynt Y Ddraig and others.

Food times: 8-11 Mon-Sat; 8-11 Sun

Chelmsford station 500m. Bus: many routes 100m

Town centre pub with a single open-plan area at ground level featuring large
 windows onto the street, and toilets upstairs with a good collection of old
 photographs on the walls. Excavations prior to its building produced an ivory
 tuning peg from a mediaeval musical instrument (now in Chelmsford
 museum). Food is served all day with alcohol available from 9am.
 As with other Wetherspoon pubs Beer Festivals are held twice a year
 with a Cider Festival in the Summer.



Chelmsford, Oddfellows Arms

195 Springfield Road. CM2 6JP. T: 01245 490514
www.theoddfellowsarms.com

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Wed; 12-midnight Thu-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Adnams Ghost Ship, Mighty Oak Captain Bob,
 Wibblers Dengie IPA, 2 changing beers.

Food times: 12-2.30, 6-9 Mon-Fri; 12-9 Sat; 12-9 Sun

Chelmsford station 1200m. Bus: 54, 56a, 71c, 73, 100m

A pub with a modern wood interior but maintaining the feel of a local.
 There is a large U-shaped bar area with a back room containing a pool table
 leading out to the garden/smoking area. Beer festivals are held annually.
 Extensive home-made food is served lunchtimes and evenings weekdays, and
 all day at weekends up to 9pm with 2 for 1 food offers Monday-Wednesday.
 There is monthly live music, a quiz night on the last Sunday of each
 month, karaoke on the last Monday of the month and poker nights
 are held every Tuesday and Wednesday.



Chelmsford, Orange Tree

6 Lower Anchor Street. CM2 0AS. T: 01245 262664
www.the-ot.com

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Thu; 12-11.30 Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Dark Star Hophead, Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde, Plain Sheep
 Dip, 5 changing beers. Westons Rosie's pig cider.

Food times: 12-2.30 Mon-Wed; 12-2.30, 6-9 Thu;

12-2.30 Fri-Sat; 12-3 Sun

Chelmsford station 1100m. Bus 42, 100, 351, 200m

The Orange Tree is one of the best real ale pubs in Chelmsford and was
 voted CAMRA Pub of the Year 2014 and 2015. A place for conversation and
 meeting friends. A refurbishment in 2015 has made the separate public and
 saloon bars both much larger. If rugby is your sport this is the pub for you
 as the Landlord loves his rugby. A great range of beers is served, always
 something dark. Lunchtime food is served, including Sunday
 roasts, with a steak and curry night on Thursday evening.
 Dog-friendly in public bar.



Chelmsford, Queen's Head

30 Lower Anchor St. CM2 0AS. T: 01245 265181
<http://queensheadchelmsford.co.uk>

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Thur; 12-11.30 Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Crouch Vale Brewers Gold, Crouch Vale Essex Boys Bitter, 5 changing beers. Always another Crouch Vale and a dark beer.

Food times: 12-2 Mon-Fri

Chelmsford station 1000m. Bus: 42, 100, 351, 300m

Crouch Vale Brewery's first pub, the Queen's Head, sells three of its beers permanently, with four guests which may include a Crouch Vale seasonal and always include a dark beer. The Victorian L-shaped pub has bare board flooring and comfortable bench seating. Two fires make it cosy in winter. This popular local can be busy when there is a match at the nearby county cricket ground. The Essex Beard Club meets here once a year in February.



Chelmsford, United Brethren

New Writtle Street. CM2 0LF. T: 01245 257478
www.theub.co.uk/

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Thur; 12-1am Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Dark Star Hophead Woodforde's Wherry 1 changing beer.

Food times: 12-2.30 Mon-Tue; 12-2.30, 5.30-8.30 Wed-Sat; 12-5 Sun.

Chelmsford station 1000m. Bus: 42,100,351 200m

Recently updated and now run by the Pin up Brewery Co (a microbrewery based near Brighton). A Beer, Cider & Gin House, serving a large selection of their own craft keg beers and cider alongside 3 cask ales. 3rd's flights available. A mixture of comfortable sofas and tables inside and a good-sized beer garden with barbeques in the summer. Home cooked food, live music every Saturday, and open mic. last Thursday of every month.



Chelmsford, Railway Tavern

63 Duke Street. CM1 1LW. T: 01245 280679
www.grayandsons.co.uk/RailwayTavern.htm

Opening hours: 10-11 Mon-Thur; 10-11.30 Fri-Sat; 12-8 Sun

Greene King Abbot, Red Fox IPA, Sharp's Special, 5 changing beers. Changing beers are 2 golden, 1 bitter, 1 mild and 1 stout or porter with East Anglian breweries usually well represented. 1 changing real cider.

Food times: 10.30-2 Tues-Sat

Chelmsford station 25m. Bus: many routes 50m

A tardis-like corner pub right outside Chelmsford station, more visible now due to nearby development. Not surprisingly a railway theme dominates. Refurbished in February 2017, a long narrow pub with banks of handpumps at opposite ends of the central bar counter. There is even a small garden where you can listen to the station announcements and marvel at the ever-changing mural. May stay open later on Sundays in the summer. This traditional pub also sells craft beers and over 50 different gins. Dog-friendly after 2 pm (must be on lead).



Chelmsford, White Horse

25 Townfield Street. CM1 1QJ. T: 01245 269556
www.whbl.co.uk

Opening hours: 11.30-11; 11.30-12.30am Fri & Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

Butcombe Butcombe Gold, Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde, Mighty Oak Captain Bob, 2 changing beers. Up to 5 guests, sourced locally and nationally. 1 changing real cider.

Food times: 12-2 Mon-Sat; 12-2 Sun

Chelmsford station 300m. Bus: many routes 300m

This traditional Victorian pub on a corner behind Chelmsford railway station has a long carved wooden bar with eight handpumps. The comfy lounge area has a big screen which shows all major sporting events, and is available for corporate or private hire. There is now a dartboard. Monthly musical events including fundraising for Parkinson's UK and the Alzheimer's Society.



Chelmsford, Ship

18 Broomfield Road. CM1 1SW. T: 01245 265961
www.theshipchelmsford.co.uk

Opening hours: 10-11 Mon-Thur; 10-1am Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Greene King IPA, Greene King Abbot, 4 changing beers.

Food times: 10-3, 5.30-9 Mon-Fri; 10-9 Sat; 12-4 Sun

Chelmsford station 300m. Bus: many routes 300m

Traditional medium-sized pub with a comfortable interior and some outside seating in front. The decor is very nautical with dark brown panelling, portholes, masts, rope, rigging and other maritime artefacts. The pub has been run since 1970 by three generations of the same family. Close to rail and bus stations with a public car park at the rear. A wide range of food is offered with daily specials. There is a juke box but no live music on a regular basis. Sport is shown on the TV.



Chelmsford, Woolpack

23 Mildmay Road. CM2 0DN. T: 01245 259295
<http://thewoolpack.wix.com/woolpackchelmsford>

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Thur; 12-midnight Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Greene King St Edmunds, Hardys & Hansons Bitter, 6 changing beers, including beers from SIBA list, Westons Old Rosie and Thatchers Heritage cider.

Food times: 12-2.30, 6-9.30 Mon-Sat; 12-2.30, 6-9.30 Sun

Chelmsford station 1000m. Bus: several routes 100m

It is an easy walk from the town centre to this award winning friendly, Victorian local. There are three rooms with a lounge area overlooking the large garden. Darts and a pool table are in a smaller room. Pub grub is served, specialising in different flavoured sausages with light snacks until 11pm. Music on 1st, 2nd and last Sundays, quiz on Tuesdays. Chelmsford CAMRA Pub of the Year 2010 and 2011. Beer Festivals Easter Weekend and first weekend in September with up to 80 beers, ciders and perries. Smaller festivals at Halloween and December. Opens at 4pm Mon-Thur from September to Easter.



When scoring beers on **whatpub.com**
 please put the Brewery and the Name of the Beer.
 Half scores may be used, eg. 3.5

Festival dates for your diary
 14th -17th Feb and First week in July 2018
www.cbcf.info

Chignal St James, Three Elms

Mashbury Road. CM1 4TZ. T: 01245 443151
www.the-three-elms.com

12-3, 5-11 Mon; 5-11 Tue; 12-3, 5-11 Wed-Thu; 12-midnight Fri-Sat;
12-midnight Sun

4 changing beers usually from East Anglia.
Usually a minimum of 16 ciders and perries, including one
from local Berties Cider. Up to 5 perries in summer.

Food times: 2-3 Mon; 12-3, 6.30-8.30 Wed-Thu;
12-3, 6-9 Fri-Sat; 12-5 Sun

Bus: 54, 56, 1500m

Traditional village pub. One large room with a cosy log burner and a single bar. Wood beam ceiling and a piano in one corner. TV, darts and bar billiards are tucked away in a small annex. Beer garden at rear and wooden benches in front of pub. Essex Cider Pub of the Year 2015 and 2016. Petanque terrain; practice on Saturday afternoons. All food from local suppliers. Homemade Pork Scratchings, Pork Pies and Scotch eggs. Beer and cider festivals in May, August and October.



Cressing, Willows Inn

The Street. CM77 8DQ. T: 01376 741436
www.thewillowsinncreasing.co.uk

Opening hours: Closed Mon; 12-3, 5-11 Tue-Thu; 12-11 Fri-Sat;
12-9 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Red Fox Willows Own.
2 changing beers from Essex microbreweries.
At least 1 cider from local Berties Cider Co.

Food times: 12-2.30, 6-9 Tue-Sat; 12-5 Sun
Cressing station 2200m. Bus: 38, 100m

Dating from the 16th Century, this is a traditional, low ceilinged (with original wooden beams), community pub. It has a saloon bar, with a separate restaurant area. The cooking style may be described as 'modern British pub grub'. Willows classic motorcycle meeting every Thursday evening.
Dog-friendly in bar area only.



Danbury, Bakers Arms

7 Maldon Road. CM3 4QH. T: 01245 227300
www.grayandsons.co.uk/Bakers-Arms.htm

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Sat; 12-8 Sun

Adnams Ghost Ship, Adnams Broadside, Sharp's Doom Bar
1 changing beer

Food times: 12-2.30, 6-9 Mon-Sat; 12-4.30 Sun
Bus: 31, 36, 150m

200 year old pub with a warm welcome. Parts of the current building date from the 1820s and there is a history of the site from 1799 displayed in the pub. 2 bar areas, 1 with a comfy sofa area, the other a restaurant area which can be hired free for meetings or events. The pub is renowned for its fish and chips and create your own pizza, both eat in and take away.

Pub holds a beer festival at the end of May. Poker nights every Wednesday and bonus ball competition each week.
Changing beer is often a local one.



Felsted, Chequers

Braintree Road. CM6 3DL. T: 01371 828226

Opening hours: 6-11 Mon-Tue; 12-2, 6-11 Wed-Thu;
12-11 Fri-Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

Sharp's Doom Bar, 2 changing beers.

Food times: 12-2 Wed-Fri; 5.30-7 Fri • Bus: 16, 133, 100m

Traditional village local with public bar, a smaller lounge bar and another room with pool table and dart board which can be reserved for functions. A mixture of local residents, and staff and parents from the nearby public school use the pub. The rear patio overlooks the school cricket pitch and playing fields. The TVs show most sporting events. Cricket photos abound. The licence has been in the same family for over 60 years. Fresh fish and chips on Friday early evening.



Fuller Street, Square & Compasses

CM3 2BB. T: 01245 361477

www.thesquareandcompasses.co.uk

Opening hours: 11.30-11 Mon-Fri; 12-midnight Sat; 12-11 Sun

3 changing beers, 2 to 3 guest beers, predominantly from
local breweries. Local Berties cider and perry.

Food: 12-2, 6.30-9.30 Mon-Sat; 12-6 Sun • Bus: 70, 352, 2600m

17th century free house known locally as the Stokehole. Set in attractive countryside and handy for the Essex Way long distance footpath this is a small well looked after country pub. There are exposed beams throughout with two wood-burning stoves in inglenook fireplaces. Old local woodworking tools adorn the taproom bar. Up to three real ales and local Berties cider are served. Fresh locally sourced home-cooked food is available daily including game from the surrounding estates (no food Sunday evenings). Dog-friendly only in Tap Room.



Galleywood, Horse & Groom

The Common. CM2 8PJ. T: 01245 261653

www.grayandsons.co.uk/H&G.htm

Opening hours: 11.30-3, 6-11 Mon-Fri; 12-midnight Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

Greene King IPA, Sharp's Doom Bar, 3 changing beers

Food times: 12-2 Mon-Tue; 12-2, 7-9 Wed-Sat; 12-2 Sun
Bus: 42, 100, 400m

Traditional pub, tucked away on Galleywood Common overlooking the old racecourse, ideal for walkers, with two bars with home cooked meals. 1 quiet bar and 1 with music, pool table and darts board. Many photos of Old Chelmsford on the walls, in particular of the old racecourse; also a 1908 map of Essex. Various car and biker clubs meet at the pub, often with outside BBQs available. Holds a winter beer festival and there is occasional live music. Dog-friendly, but not at meal times.



Great Waltham, Rose & Crown

Minnows End, Chelmsford Rd. CM3 1AG. T: 01245 360359

www.roseandcrowngreatwaltham.co.uk

Open: 11.30-midnight Mon-Thu; 12-1am Fri-Sat; 12-midnight Sun

Bishop Nick 1555, Fuller's London Pride, Greene King IPA

Food times: 11.30-2, 5.30-9 Mon-Thu; 12-2, 5.30-9 Fri; 12-9 Sat;
12-8 Sun • Bus: 42, 42a, 50m

A rural pub with a traditional bar, a separate snug seating 10 people and a small function room. 22 seater restaurant serving home cooking from mainly local produce. 10% discount on food for NHS workers with NHS ID. Patio area and new outside decking area with themed table tops. Jazz nights last Wednesday of each month.



Hatfield Peverel, Wheatsheaf

The Green. CM3 2JF. T: 01245 380330

www.thewheatsheaf-pub.com

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Sat; 12-9 Sun

Greene King IPA, 2 changing beers. Between 2 and 4 guest ales with Crouch Vale Brewers Gold frequently featured.

Food times: 12-3 Mon; 12-3, 5.30-8.45 Tue-Sat; 12-4.30 Sun

Hatfield Peverel station 1500m • Bus: 73, 200 m

Traditional country pub with one bar and a restaurant serving locally-sourced, home-cooked food. Has four beer festivals a year in a barn behind the pub, Easter, Early May Bank Holiday, August Bank Holiday and Christmas. Quiz 2nd Monday of every month. The quizzes and beer festivals raise money for Helen Rollason cancer charity. Caravan Club site adjacent to pub (booking necessary). Open till 10.30 pm on Sundays in summer. About a 20 minute walk from Hatfield Peverel station.

Dog-friendly (but not in restaurant).



Little Waltham, White Hart

107 The Street. CM3 3NY. T: 01245 360205

<http://whitehartessex.co.uk>

Opening hours: 9-11 Mon-Thu; 9-11.30 Fri-Sat; 9-10.30 Sun

4 changing beers, always 3 from local breweries.

Changing cider

Food times: 9-9.30 Mon-Sat; 9-8 Sun • Bus: 70, 352, 100m

This village pub has been revived as a very popular gastropub which still welcomes those who just want a drink. Grade II listed, the outside has been attractively refurbished while a complete renovation has produced a modern, light and airy interior. Two areas are reserved for those having meals but the bar area is not. Five handpumps normally supply four beers and one cider. The beers change regularly with at least one local ale. Meals start at 9am with breakfast, and include dairy-free and gluten-free options. Two for one food deals on Monday (roasts), Tuesday (fish) and Wednesday (burgers). Occasional music, quiz and themed nights on Thursdays.



Howe Street, Green Man

Main Road. CM3 1BG. T: 01245 408820

www.galvinggreenman.com

Opening hours: 11-11 Mon-Thu; 11-11.30 Fri-Sat; 11-10.30 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Adnams Ghost Ship, 2 changing beers

Food times: 11.30-2.30, 5.30-9.30 Mon-Sat; 11.30-6.30 Sun

Bus: 42a, 0m

The Green Man, one of the oldest pubs in Essex, was completely refurbished by the Galvin Brothers carefully keeping its traditional feel with cosy sofas and tables for enjoying a drink or food from the up-market restaurant. A bar snack menu is also available when the restaurant is not open. The new modern restaurant extension looks out onto a large garden with benches and outside bar, BBQ and countryside views over the river Chelmer. Private dining rooms available, occasional live music, Quiz night last Wednesday of the month and movie nights 2nd Monday of the month. Dog-friendly (in bar).



Littley Green, Compasses

CM3 1BU. T: 01245 362308

www.compasseslittleygreen.co.uk

Opening hours: 12-3, 5.30-11.30 Mon-Wed; 12-11.30 Thu-Sat; 12-11.30 Sun

Bishop Nick Ridley's Rite, Crouch Vale Essex Boys Bitter, 3 changing beers. Always includes another Essex beer. Always 3 ciders and a perry, up to 5 during the summer.

Food times: 12-2.30, 7-9.30 Mon-Fri; 12-4, 7-9.30 Sat; 12-5, 7-9.30 Sun

Essex Pub of the Year 2012 and 2013 and East Anglian Pub of the Year 2012. Formerly Ridley's Brewery tap this is a picturesque Victorian country pub in a quiet hamlet. A wood-panelled bar has benches around the walls and a tiled floor. Beers are drawn direct from casks in the half-cellar. Branch Cider POTY 2017. Renowned filled huffers (giant baps) are available lunchtimes and evenings, plus other traditional dishes. Seats and tables outside and in the large gardens. Five high quality rooms available. Annual Events: Easter Steam Up - Easter Weekend, Summer Beer Festival - 3rd weekend in August, Winter Beer Festival - Christmas Week.



Ingatestone, Star Inn

43-45 High Street. CM4 9DU. T: 01277 356441

www.thestar.uk.com

Opening hours: 4-11 Mon; 11.30-11 Tue-Thu; 11.30-midnight Fri-Sat; 12-10 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Mighty Oak Maldon Gold, 1 changing beer.

Food times: 12-3, 6-9 Tue-Fri; 12-9 Sat; 12-3.30 Sun

Ingatestone station 500m. Bus: 35, 50m

Grade II listed pub with a modernised interior and bar and snug areas. A warm relaxed atmosphere. A log fire on chilly days and candle lit tables in the evening. Outside is a courtyard garden with flower borders and beautiful furniture. Lunchtime and evening meals available throughout the week, a la carte Saturday evening, roasts on Sunday. Quiz and curry night first Monday of the month and every Friday is tapas night. Occasional live music.



Margaretting Tye, White Hart Inn

The Tye. CM4 9JX. T: 01277 840478

www.thewhitehart.uk.com

Opening hours: 11.30-2.30, 6-11 Mon; 11.30-3, 6-11 Tue-Fri; 11.30-midnight Sat; 12-midnight Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Adnams Broadside, Mighty Oak IPA, Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde, 2 changing beers, 2 to 4 guest beers.

Food times: 12-2.30 Mon; 12-2.30, 6-9 Tue-Thu; 12-2.30, 6-9.30 Fri; 12-3, 6-9.30 Sat; 12-7.30 Sun

Bus: 100, 2700 m

Traditional olde English pub in a pleasant rural location with a large garden including seating. Several beers served on gravity from the taproom. A la carte menu and bar snacks available. Beer festivals in July and November. Beer paddles available with 3 1/3 pints. Closed Monday evenings except from Spring Bank Holiday to September. Check website for any changes.



Mill Green, Viper

Mill Green Road. CM4 OPT. T: 01277 352010

Opening hours: 12-3, 6-11 Mon-Fri; 12-11 Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde, Mighty Oak Jake the Snake Nethergate VIPA. 2 changing beers. Cider from Westons range, Gwynt Y Ddraig range and Cromwell cider.

Food times: 12-2 Mon-Fri; 12-3 Sat; 12-3 Sun
Ingatstone station 3500m. Bus: 351, 3200m

Isolated unspoilt country pub with a lounge, public bar and wood-panelled snug. Small tap room with service via a hatch/door. Good home-cooked food with vegetarian options. Beer festivals at Easter and August Bank Holiday. Folk music 2nd Friday of month and Irish band one Monday a month. Morris dancers 3 times a year. Nethergate real ales also sold in bottles.



White Notley, Cross Keys

1 The Street. CM8 1RQ. T: 01376 583297

Opening times: 12-3, 5-11 Mon-Fri; 12-11 Sat; 12-10 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, 2 changing beers usually from local breweries

Food times: 12-2.30, 6-9 Mon; 12-2.30, 6-9 Wed-Sat; 12-5 Sun
White Notley station 600m

Traditional beamed pub, Grade II listed, dating from the 1700s. Two wooden floored bars, one small and another medium sized, plus a separate area which is used as restaurant or occasional function room. Some interesting historical artworks and photos on the walls with an intriguing comic history of the village on a frieze in the back corridor. Tastefully refurbished inside and out in 2016.



Rettendon Common, Bell

Main Road. CM3 8DY. T: 01245 400616

www.bellandchimesrettendon.co.uk

Opening times: 11.30-11 Mon-Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

Crouch Vale Brewers Gold, Greene King IPA, 1 changing beer.

Food times: 12-8.30 Mon-Wed; 12-9 Thu-Sat; 12-8.30 Sun
Bus: 1,3,13, 100m

Large traditional pub built in the 18th century with a beamed ceiling supported on brick pillars. There is a single large rectangular room with the bar running along its length. Alcove seating bays are around the perimeter with a brick fireplace at one end. Historical pictures of the locality decorate the walls. Outside at the front of the pub there are plenty of tables with large parasols. Harley Davidson, BAC Phantoms, Southend Motor Cycle Club and a Steam Engine Club meet here regularly.



Widford, Sir Evelyn Wood

56 Widford Road. CM2 8SY. T: 01245 269239

Opening times: 12-midnight Mon-Sat; 12-midnight Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Mighty Oak IPA, 1 changing beer. Occasional guest beer. At least 1 Westons cider.

Food times: 12-3.30 Tue-Fri; 12-4 Sat

Bus: 351, 200 m

Pub named after the British Army Field Marshall who won the VC in 1858 during the Indian Mutiny. Two connected bars and games room in traditional pub including bench window seats, covered patio area and largish garden. Extraordinary collection of salt and pepper pots on display on shelves and in cabinets. Pin table, pool table and darts board in games room. Selection of second-hand books on sale for charity. Occasional live music.



Terling, Monkey

1 Owls Hill. CM3 2PW. T: 01245 233113

Opening times: 12-11 Mon-Sat; 12-10.30 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, 2 changing beers.

Food times: 12-3, 6-9 Mon-Fri; 12-9 Sat; 12-6 Sun

Built in 1840, this pub is probably the most prominent building in Terling, and cannot be missed. Having been closed for nearly four years, this pub has been extensively renovated in a modern way, but keeping its original style. The pub comprises a large bar area, with a separate restaurant and lounge at the back. Three real ales are served, of which two are served under gravity. The restaurant serves good quality English food. Dog-friendly (but clean dogs and only in bar area).



W.Hanningfield, Three Compasses

Church Road. CM2 8UQ. T: 01245 400447

Opening hours: 11.30-3, 6-11 Mon-Sat; 12-3, 7-10.30 Sun

Bishop Nick Ridley's Rite, 1 changing beer often from a local brewer.

Food: 12-2.30 Mon-Tue; 12-2.30, 7-9 Wed-Sat; 12-2.30 Sun
Bus: 13,13a, 200m

A delightful small country pub dating from 1425 (the landlords from 1758 are listed inside). A timber-framed and plastered Grade II-listed building with many low beams, two bars and bench seats in front of the windows. Ideally situated for country walkers and cyclists with outside seating. A free house with a very experienced landlady (who has been there since 1971; her son is now joint licensee). Home-cooked food available every lunchtime and some evenings.



Witham, Battersford Court

100-102 Newland Street. CM8 1AH. T: 01376 504080

www.jdwetherspoon.com/pubs/all-pubs/england/essex/the-battersford-court-witham

Opening hours: 8-midnight Mon-Thu; 8-1am Fri-Sat; 8-11 Sun

Greene King Abbot, Ruddles Best Bitter, Sharp's Doom Bar, 5 changing beers. Up to 5 guests. Cider from the ranges of Westons and Gwynt y Ddraig.

Witham station 1000m.

Bus: 38, 71, 72, 90, 50m

Large Wetherspoon conversion of a former hotel of the same name. The 16th Century building was previously the courthouse of the manor of Battersford. It has distinct areas with wood panelling and oak beams. There is a family area. Up to five regional beers are served including something local, usually from Bishop Nick or Wibblers, plus up to two ciders and perries, usually from Westons and Gwynt Y Ddraig. The standard Wetherspoon food offering is available.



**CME branch members can vote for their
 Pub of the Year on page 22 or email
 puboftheyear@chelmsford.camra.org.uk**

Witham, White Hart

Newland Street. CM8 2AF. T: 01376 512245
www.whitehartinwitham.co.uk

Opening hours: 7-11 Mon-Thu; 7-midnight Fri; 8-midnight Sat;
 8-10.30 Sun

Greene King Abbot, Greene King IPA, Greene King IPA Reserve, Greene King London Glory. Reserve 8 changing beers served in the separate cask ale bar. Usually includes a local beer. 3 real ciders.

Food times: 7-10 Mon-Fri; 8-9 Sat; 8-9 Sun
 Witham station 700m. Bus: 38,71,72,9, 100m

Situated on the main street, this is a large, many-roomed, busy, hotel. Up to 14 beers are served, of which 4 are regulars from the GK range and 8 are guests, including 2 from local breweries. 8 beers are served on gravity in a separate cask ale bar with a temperature-controlled cabinet behind the bar. Note the self-tilting stillage. Three beer festivals are held annually, to coincide with St George's day, the Witham Puppet Festival in September, and near Christmas.



Writtle, Wheatsheaf

70 The Green. CM1 3DU. T: 01245 420672
www.thewheatsheafwrittle.co.uk

Opening hours: 11-11.30 Mon-Thu; 11-midnight Fri-Sat; 12-11 Sun

Adnams Southwold Bitter, Adnams Broadside, Maldon Drop of Nelson's Blood, Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde, Mighty Oak Maldon Gold, Wibblers Dengie IPA, 2 changing beers.

Food times: 12-3 Tue-Sat
 Bus: 45, 32,46, 100m

Traditional village pub built 1813 with a small public bar, an equally compact lounge, and a covered patio by the road. A long-time favourite of the branch and voted East Anglian Pub of the Year 2009. The atmosphere is generally quiet, with the TV switched on only for occasional sporting events.

Traditional pub food served Tuesday to Saturday lunchtimes.

Note the old Gray's sign in the public bar.



Witham, Woolpack Inn

7 Church Street. CM8 2JP. T: 01376 511195

Opening hours: 11.30-11.30 Mon-Thu; 11.30-midnight Fri-Sat;
 12-10.30 Sun

Greene King IPA, Witham Scruffy, Witham No Name, 2 changing beers. Up to two guests available, always from the local area. Real cider in summer only.

No food

Witham station 500m. Bus: 40, 200m

A traditional local pub. It is the only regular outlet for The Witham Brewery, which is now based in Coggeshall. Set in the conservation area, the building probably dates from the 15th century. It has two rooms with low wooden beams and a real log fire during the winter. Up to two guests are served, always from the local area. Westons cider in summer. Note the extensive collection of glass soda syphon bottles. Bar Snacks available Mon-Sat.



Winter Beer & Cider Festival 2018

King Edward VI Grammar School (KEGS)
 Broomfield Road CM1 3SX

14th - 17th Feb 2018

www.cbcbf.info

Writtle, Horse & Groom

Roxwell Road. CM1 3RU. T: 01245 420245
www.chefandbrewer.com/pub/horse-and-groom-writtle-chelmsford/c3880

Opening hours: 12-11 Mon-Sat; 12-10 Sun

Greene King IPA, 2 changing beers, Adnams Southwold Bitter, Greene King IPA, and Fullers ESB are the most regular guests.

Food times: 12-10 Mon-Sat; 12-9.30 Sun

Bus: 46,59, 100m

Old coaching house with many beams remaining. Now an open plan inn serving a typical Chef and Brewer menu. Part of the garden has an excellent view of the surrounding countryside. Quiz night first Monday of the month.



Summer Beer & Cider Festival 2018

Admirals Park, Rainsford Rd,
 Chelmsford CM1 2PL

First week of July

www.cbcbf.info

National Beer Scoring System

Have you ever wondered how CAMRA members select pubs for the CAMRA Good Beer Guide? The National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) is a 0-5 (0 = No cask ale available) point scale for judging beer quality in pubs.

It is an easy to use system that has been designed to assist CAMRA branches in selecting pubs for the Good Beer Guide and also monitor beer quality by encouraging CAMRA members from any part of the world to report beer quality on any pub in the UK.

If you are a CAMRA member, we want you to tell us about the quality of beer in the pubs you visit.

CAMRA CRITERIA FOR JUDGING PUBS

Category	Mark out of 10	Factor	Score
Quality of Beer/Cider/Perry		X2	
Style/Décor/Furnishing/Cleanliness		X1	
Service, Welcome & Offering		X1	
Community Focus & Atmosphere		X1	
Alignment with CAMRA Principles		X1	
Overall Impression		X1	
Total Scores			

Comments

MY VOTE FOR CME CAMRA PUB OF THE YEAR 2018 IS.....

Name of pub

Location of pub

Member Name

CAMRA Membership No.....

Tel.No.

Email

VOTES MAY BE posted to :

Doug Irons, 2 Pertwee Mews, Writtle Rd, Chelmsford, CM1 3BL OR
email puboftheyear@chelmsford.camra.org.uk or handed in at a
branch meeting. FREE drink for first time attendees.

*** CLOSING DATE MIDNIGHT 31ST JANUARY 2018 ***

If you are not a member, why not join Europe's most successful consumer organisation?

How do I take part?

To submit your scores please visit <http://whatpub.com>

Log into the site using your CAMRA membership number and password. Once you have agreed to the terms and conditions and found a pub on the site, you can start scoring.

You can find out more here <http://whatpub.com/beerscoring>

You can get handy NBSS cards to take with you to the pub to record the information.

What do I need to record?

- Your name & Membership No.
- The date you visited the pub
- The Name of the Pub
- Where the pub is located
- A score out of 5
- The name of the beer

What do the scores mean?

0. No cask ale available.
1. Poor. Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.
2. Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.
3. Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.
4. Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition.
5. Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

How do I delete or edit a submitted score?

Editing scores on whatpub.com will be coming soon, but in the meantime login to <http://data.beerscoring.org.uk> and use the 'Score' tab in the main navigation to edit your scores.
Edit Beer Scores

How is the information being collated?

Once you have submitted your scores online your Branch GBG Co-ordinators can see scores for their area by going to www.data.beerscoring.org.uk



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

The Campaign for Real Ale - CAMRA - is an independent, voluntary, consumer organisation which campaigns for real ale, real pubs and consumer rights. It has 188,000 members and is still growing. You can find out more about the campaign at www.camra.org.uk

Here in the Chelmsford and mid-Essex branch we have approximately 1880 members. You will find details of our campaigning activities on our website - **www.chelmsford.camra.org.uk**

These include surveying pubs in our area, real ale runabouts (by bus), brewery visits, beer cuisine evenings, and more.

We also run two beer and cider festivals in Chelmsford, In February and July. The outdoor Summer Festival is not to be missed!

Visit **www.cbcf.info**

If you care about traditional real ale, cider and perry you should join CAMRA and get various member benefits. Visit www.camra.org.uk

Annual membership costs from £25 (single), £30.50 (joint), with concessionary rates to those under 26 or over 60 from £17.00 and £20 (joint).

For an application form or more information please email

membership@chelmsford.camra.org.uk
or telephone **01245 290710**

Essex County Council Trading Standards
03454 040506

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