

Celebrating the Real Ale Scene in Sussex

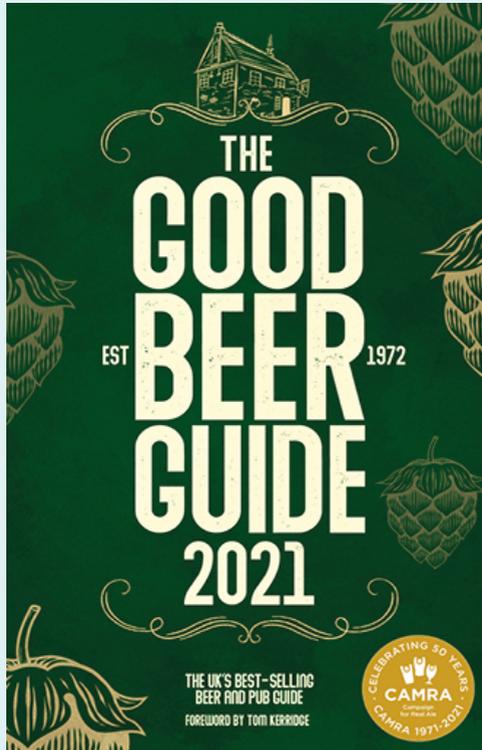
# Sussex Drinker

Winter 2020

Free



Campaign  
for  
Real Ale



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# A view from the bar

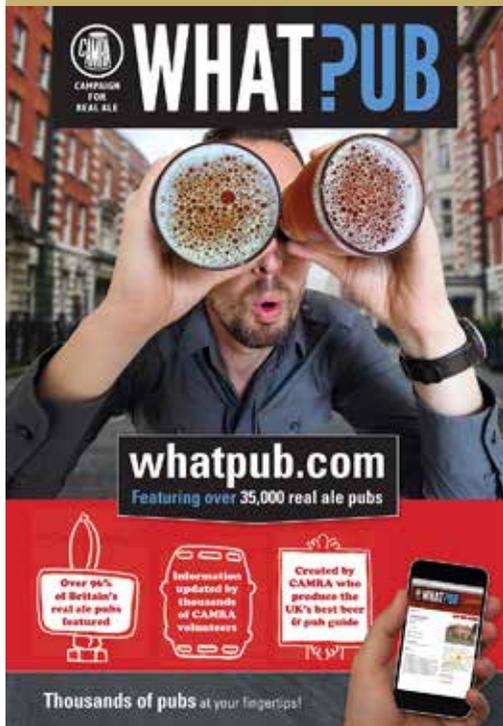
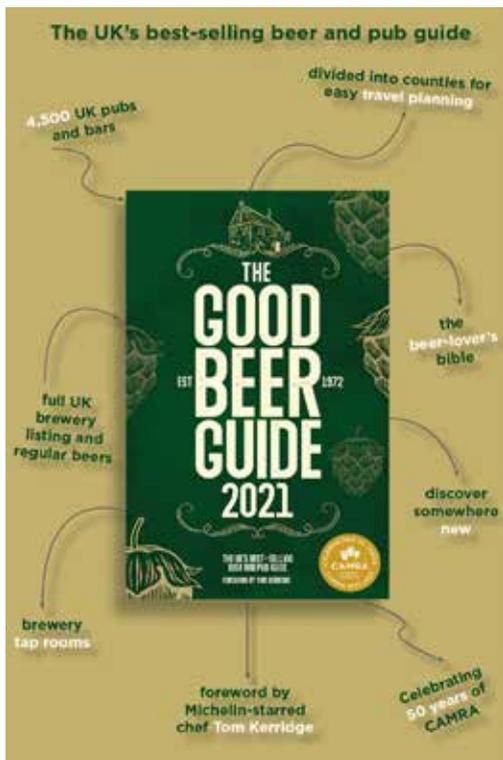
Hello, thank you for reading this publication. It is the result of the combined efforts of many volunteers, whom I wish to thank for their efforts. The last few months have been difficult for branches and the Campaign. We have had to find new ways to meet and carry on getting our message out there. Much of what we have been targeting has been keeping our pubs alive, and there will be much more campaigning on this theme over the next few months. Talking of campaigning there could be something you could please help us with, reader. If you visit pubs, why not keep the local branch updated on pub changes. You can easily do this by contacting the branch (see branch contact details at <https://sussex.camra.org.uk/branches>) or through the update facility on WhatPub? <https://whatpub.com/>. Our branches appreciate this information especially in the current environment where our volunteers cannot visit as many pubs as they would like. Why not consider joining us? <https://join.camra.org.uk/>

As we enter the winter months you may be looking for some light reading or looking for a gift idea? Well, I may have the solution. The *Good Beer Guide* 2021 has just been published (see <https://shop1.camra.org.uk/product/the-good-beer-guide-2021/>). If you choose to buy, could I encourage you to buy a copy through our bookshop, as the Campaign will then receive the fullest benefit of your purchase. This fine book is the product of our very professional CAMRA team but the descriptions of pubs are provided by CAMRA members. This is one of the enjoyable things you can get out of being a CAMRA member and being active in a branch, as you can see your words in print.

Finally I would like to thank all our branch members in Sussex for their support of the Campaign over the last few months. I know it has been difficult and the light at the end of the tunnel has still not been seen, but please hang in there, as we must continue to campaign, for pubs, breweries and real ale!

**Paul Sanders**

*Regional Director – Surrey & Sussex*



# SUSSEX PUB SCRATCHINGS

News of new developments and updates on the Sussex pub scene will be gratefully received by the Editor for consideration in Scratchings. The standard disclaimer on p21 applies to all items.

## ■ Ashurstwood

The **Three Crowns** has been closed for a number of years. The council have been communicating with the owners, Star Inns, about the poor condition of the building. The owners are negotiating with a potential licensee, but if it fails, it will be put up for sale.

## ■ Battle

Look out for the new **Battle Brewery Bottle Shop** at 51a High Street, which also offers tastings and cask ale refills, along with their bottled range.

## ■ Berwick



*The Cricketers' Arms photo courtesy of Peter Adams*

The **Cricketers' Arms** reopened in September with new management after a refurbishment. Food remains an important part of their offering. Harvey's ales are served as before, by handpump or direct from casks in the taproom. The Cricketers' is open every day, further information can be found on their website - [www.cricketersberwick.co.uk](http://www.cricketersberwick.co.uk).

## ■ Bpton

A planning application for an extension to the **Country Inn** (currently closed) is under consideration. The intention is to provide a dining area to the rear of the existing building. However, objectors point out that the bar area for drinkers would be severely reduced.

## ■ Bexhill on Sea

**Traffers Bar** has three beers on, Harvey's and other locally produced beers.

The **Sportsman** has three beers, including Long Blonde from Long Man.

The ground floor of the **Albatross Club** is being worked on so the basement bar is being used until mid-November. Up to four real ales and they are now open until 10 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday: with all day opening on Saturdays.

The **Brickmaker's Alehouse** has four to five real ales and also four real ciders. Open till 10 pm on Friday and Saturday.

## ■ Chichester

The **Escapist** is a new micropub which opened on the 31st of July in a pedestrianised road off North Street. There are six taps for keg beers, but currently no real ale until trade increases after covid when sale of up to four will resume. There is currently seating for about twenty in the well ventilated interior and a little more outside when weather permits.

## ■ Eastbourne

The **Rainbow**, behind Waitrose in Old Town, (previously the Counting House - now returned to its former name), reopened in October after major refurbishment outside and in. The large garden has far more tables, many of which are under cover. Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter is a regular with two changing beers. The menu has been revised in line with modern trends.

The **Farm** in Friday Street failed to reopen

and the operating company is under administration. The freeholder, it's been reported, is looking for another organisation to take over the pub, so we await developments.

### ■ East Grinstead

The **Engine Room** is tucked away just off the London Road and continues to offer an interesting selection of beers. These are for consumption on the premises or takeaway.

### ■ Felpham

The **Fox** closed in mid-September, with the lessee unable to negotiate a viable lease renewal. However the EI Group website has the pub currently "under offer".

### ■ Hailsham



The **King's Head**, South Road, was used as a base for Hailsham Crisis Support, a volunteer group set up by landlady Helen Lawrence and local resident Charlotte Brazier, at the start of lockdown in March. They had quickly realised that something needed to be done fast to help those most vulnerable in the town who may not have access to information on the internet. The volunteers helped with shopping, collecting prescriptions, dog walking, well-being calls, and other services; at the height of demand, Hailsham Crisis Support volunteers were shopping for around 40 vulnerable households every week.

In addition, shops had been stripped of essentials and the shelves were bare, so

Helen liaised with the pub's wholesalers and within days had set up a Pub Community Food Hub: sourcing household essentials which could be ordered and paid for by phone, then safely collected with minimal contact by appointment.



In September local MP Nus Ghani presented the Wealden Hero Award to Helen and Charlotte: it's awarded to those who showed community spirit and kindness throughout the crisis. The pub is celebrating too as it's regaining a place in CAMRA's annual *Good Beer Guide* (2021), just published. In recent weeks both Harvey's Best Bitter and Old Ale have been served in very good form. For more details: [www.kingsheadcacklebury.co.uk](http://www.kingsheadcacklebury.co.uk).

### ■ Handcross

The **Royal Oak** didn't reopen back in July when the restrictions were eased. A 'To Let' sign is displayed.

### ■ Hastings

The **Prince Albert** held an Octoberfest evening with all the trimmings. Local beers included Rother Valley.

At the **Dolphin** six real Ales were being served recently, including three guests. Covid-19 precautions mean reduced seating but still plenty of room when not busy so it's worth popping in. Nearby at the Crown two real ales were on with Kent and Sussex Breweries preferred. Again, there's plenty of room, if you are patient, despite the reduced seating. It has taken some time for the Real Ale drinkers to return.

The **FILO** was up to six real ales including

Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter. Very 'Covid-19' but well worth a visit.

At the **Jenny Lind** five real ales and three ciders were available. Plenty of seating - wait at far door to be shown to your seat, like most places at the moment! Beers from Kent, Franklins, Angels and Demons and Greene King.

The **Albion** had four real ales and six real ciders: Harvey's, including Old and their November special, Bonfire Boy, plus a beer from Bedlam.

#### ■ Lewes

The **Beak Brewery Taproom** is open every Friday (5 - 10 pm) and Saturday (12 - 10 pm). A short walk takes you there from the town centre: keep going after the end of South Street until you reach Cliffe Industrial Estate. Eight keg lines feature brews from Beak and elsewhere. An ever-changing choice of street food is served, it's best to book: [www.beakbrewery.com](http://www.beakbrewery.com).

#### ■ Polegate

The **Junction** failed to reopen after lockdown and was sold at auction in September. We await developments to see if the new owners intend reopening it as a pub-restaurant to serve the ever-increasing population in this area.

#### ■ St Leonards on Sea

In Silverhill the **Duke** is serving two Gun beers, proving very popular in this newly refurbished local.

The **Welcome** has excellent food, friendly staff and beers from Battle and Long Man - our correspondent reported that Battle Abbey Pale Ale was superb during his recent visit.

The **Tower** now has five real ales and although can be busy it's well worth popping into. Awnings are being installed at the front to ensure there's some seating outside as we head into winter! CAMRA members have commented how well Covid-19 regulations are being applied and

adhered to here.

The **North Star** in Clarence Road will have new management when it reopens as Jamie has departed.

In Lower St Leonards the **Horse and Groom** offers three real ales and plenty of safe Covid-19 carefully spaced seating.

#### ■ Selsey

The **Crab Pot** has evolved. The wide choice of ciders and three real ales remain, though with beers from further afield than before regularly appearing. For those missing their drinking trips to the mainland, there are out-of-the-ordinary keg beers from Belgium and Germany on draught as well.

#### ■ Turner's Hill

At the **Red Lion**, this excellent Harvey's pub is currently offering six cask ales from Lewes. The regular Dark Mild, IPA and Sussex Best are joined at the moment by Old Ale, Bonfire Boy and Wharf IPA. Lunches are not available at the moment, although a selection of filled rolls are available.

#### ■ West Dean

The **Dean** has reverted to its former name: good to have the Selsey Arms back!

#### ■ Worthing

Nigel Watson at the **Anchored** micropub is in process of opening a concession stall in the food hall inside the new community-focused department store '15:17 Limited', in the former Beales store in Worthing. Nigel plans to sell Sussex beer, wine, cider and gins in bottles and cans when it opens and he gets a licence sorted. The 15:17 business is due to open soon, and well in time for Christmas shopping.

## Sussex pubs that are open

Since our last edition published in early August, we know of an addition 69 pubs which have reopened after the lockdown. These pubs are listed below. We estimate that 76% of all Sussex pubs have now reopened.

Most pubs have re-opened with a range of restrictions, and those restrictions are very likely to change over time, and we recommend that you check the pub's website and/or Facebook page before visiting any pub listed here.

CAMRA's online pub guide WhatPub is the best way to check if a pub is open and to find the pub's website or Facebook page for more details. Search by location (town or village name) on the home page. The grey box will indicate if CAMRA knows that the pubs should be open.

Alfold Bars, Sir Roger Tichborne - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/156>

Ashurstwood, Maypole - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/004>

Balls Cross, Stag Inn - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/008>

Battle, Bull Inn - <https://whatpub.com/HES/BATTL-2000>

Berwick, Cricketers' Arms - <https://whatpub.com/HES/BERWI-2000>

Bexhill on Sea, Sovereign - <https://whatpub.com/HES/BEXHI-5000>

Billingshurst, Kings Arms - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/010>

Billingshurst, Kings Head - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/011>

Billingshurst, Six Bells - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/013>

Bognor Regis, Claremont - <https://whatpub.com/CHI/010>

Bognor Regis, Hothampton Arms - <https://whatpub.com/CHI/019>

Bolney, Bolney Stage - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/015>

Brighton, Black Horse - <https://whatpub.com/BRI/387>

Brighton, French Horn - <https://whatpub.com/BRI/393>

Brighton, Lord Nelson Inn - <https://whatpub.com/BRI/7>

Chichester, Trents - <https://whatpub.com/CHI/062>

Cowfold, Hare & Hounds - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/028>

Crawley, New Moon - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/048>

Crawley, Plough - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/065>

East Grinstead, Engine Room - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/237>

East Hoathly, King's Head - <https://whatpub.com/HES/EASTH-2000>

Eastbourne, Eastbourne Working Mens Club - <https://whatpub.com/HES/74>

Eastbourne, Hurst Arms - <https://whatpub.com/HES/EASTB-3500>

Fairwarp, Foresters Arms - <https://whatpub.com/HES/FAIRW-1000>

Falmer, Swan Inn - <https://whatpub.com/BRI/15>

Faygate, Holmbush Inn - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/099>

Forest Row, Beer Discoveries - <https://whatpub.com/NSX/100>

Hadlow Down, New Inn - <https://whatpub.com/HES/HADLO-1000>

Hastings, Dripping Well - <https://whatpub.com/HES/HASTI-2200>

Hastings, Plough Inn - <https://whatpub.com/HES/HASTI-6500>

Hastings, Porters -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/75>

Hastings, Smugglers -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/HASTI-8200>

Horsham, Dog & Bacon -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/122>

Horsham, Foresters Arms -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/123>

Horsham, Kings Arms -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/127>

Horsham, Lynd Cross -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/128>

Jevington, Eight Bells -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/JEVIN-1000>

Lewes, Elephant & Castle -

<https://whatpub.com/BRI/26>

Littlehampton, Crown -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/57>

Littlehampton, Locomotive -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/68>

Lower Beeding, Plough -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/154>

Mayfield, Rose & Crown -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/MAYFI-5000>

Milton Street, Sussex Ox -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/MILTO-1000>

Netherfield, White Hart Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/NETHE-2000>

Newhaven, White Hart -

<https://whatpub.com/BRI/383>

Pagham, Inglenook -

<https://whatpub.com/CHI/130>

Patching, Fox -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/75>

Petworth, Angel Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/77>

Petworth, Star -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/78>

Pevensey, Smugglers Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/PEVEN-5000>

Plummers Plain, Wheatsheaf -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/164>

Selsey, Crab Pot -

<https://whatpub.com/CHI/212>

Sheffield Park Station, Bessemer Arms -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/173>

Shoreham-by-Sea, Bridge Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/BRI/100>

Shoreham-by-Sea, Ferry Rigg Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/BRI/138>

Shoreham-by-Sea, Old Star Ale & Cider

House - <https://whatpub.com/BRI/470>

Southwater, Lintot -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/178>

St. Leonards on Sea, Royal -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/72>

Stopham, White Hart -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/96>

Stoughton, Hare & Hounds -

<https://whatpub.com/CHI/153>

Tismans Common, Mucky Duck Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/182>

Turners Hill, Crown -

<https://whatpub.com/NSX/183>

Wadhurst, White Hart -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/WADHU-9000>

Walderton, Barley Mow -

<https://whatpub.com/CHI/157>

West Chiltington, Queens Head -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/106>

Westfield, New Inn -

<https://whatpub.com/HES/WESTF-1000>

Worthing, Hare & Hounds -

<https://whatpub.com/AAA/125>

# Bru News

## The Sussex Breweries Pages

Information here is generally supplied by the Brewery Liaison Officers (BLOs) named at the end of each report. The Brewery Liaison Coordinator for the Surrey, Sussex and Kent Area is Peter Page-Mitchell. A complete list of the breweries operating in Sussex, and their contact details, can be found at [sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries](http://sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries):

**1648**

### *East Hoathly*

Currently brewing four brews at present, Triple Champion 4.0%, La Blonde 4.0%, Bee Head 4.6% & Laughing Frog 5.2%. These will be changed to Hop Pocket 3.7%, Winter Solstice 4.3%, Signature 4.4% & Gold Angel 4.8% during the coming months. They are also likely to brew light & dark, medium and strong ales for variety over winter. During lock down the brewery refurbished a new cold room and also updated their bottle labels to go along with the beer which contain only natural gas.

**BLO Barry Blewitt**

**360 DEGREES BREWING**  
*Sheffield Park*

More exciting developments at 360 Degree Brewing. The



brewery has invested in new equipment; a canning machine to bring that in-house and a new set of kettle, tun and boiler that doubles the brew capacity of the set-up. Plans are in place to move to a larger premises on the same Sheffield Park site when production expands. Cask beers planned for the Autumn & Winter season are: Oatmeal Stout, Sussex Haze, Blood Orange IPA. The brewery member's scheme is being re-launched with new generous benefits for members. Contact 360 Brewery for full details and prices. Your BLO is a member and thoroughly recommends this club.

**BLO Jason Phillips**

**81 ARTISAN**

*Lavant, Chichester*

**BLO tbc**

**ABYSS**

*Framfield*

The brewery continues to be very busy and offers a range of at least ten beers in keg and cans, although not all are available at any one time. Details of the beers and their current availability for home ordering can be found on the brewery website (see [sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries](http://sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries)).

**BLO John Quick**

**ARUNDEL**

*Ford, Nr Arundel*

Arundel Brewery have had a very busy couple of months post lockdown especially at the Brewhouse Project where the venue's outdoor space has been really popular. New beers in September include a strawberry version of their Berliner Weisse series (currently scoring in the Top 10 UK Berliner Weisse's in the UK on Untappd) which uses strawberries from The Summer Berry Company in Chichester. Also a new Oat Cream IPA called Go Ask your Mum which again should score very highly on Untappd. Finally the 7th edition of their Clockwork IPA will feature Kveik yeast for the first time. If you are planning a visit to the Brewhouse Project please check their website first (which is always up to date) as there have been frequent changes to opening hours and days recently to keep up with demand and government guidelines.

**BLO Tony Ashcroft**

**BATTLE***Battle*

Brewing has continued at Battle Brewery throughout the crisis with varied packaging into beer boxes, bottles and cask to cater for their loyal customers. They have launched two new beers this summer, Fyrds Gold a Golden Ale and One Hop Wonder with Citra. Like all breweries they have seen a significant impact from the loss of their valued trade businesses. Sadly, they have been unable to open the Tap Room as the Covid-19 regulations and guidelines make it impossible given their small workforce and limited opening hours. They are extremely grateful to all their customers near and far for their support. Look out for their brand-new winter beers available soon.

Bottling is no longer done in house; the beer is not filtered but cannot now be classed as Bottle Conditioned.

**BLO Mac McCutcheon****BEDLAM***Ditching*

In these uncertain times, one thing you can be certain of is the fact that they will be brewing beer and releasing some exciting limited edition ales in time for winter and Christmas. Fest Bier 5.4% is their first premium lager, a malty German lager with a golden/amber colour and clean, rich, slightly toasty flavour. The Dame, a 4.2% amber ale

is excitingly for Bedlam, as they have released a limited edition beer dedicated to the memory of local resident, Dame Vera Lynn, the forces sweetheart who sadly passed away earlier this year. 20p from every bottle or pint of The Dame sold will be donated by Bedlam to a servicemen's charity in consultation with Dame Vera's family, who are supporting this initiative. At Christmas do look out for their limited edition ales including a Porter Noir which will be a fuller, richer and fruitier version of their award-winning porter using an infusion of local Pinot Noir grape skins from a local vineyard, which bring brighter, fruit notes, as well as hints of acidity and tannin, all of which add layers of subtle complexity to a rich and robust dark beer!

**BLO Peter Mitchell****BEAK BREWERY***Lewes*

Life-affirming ales from a little neighbourhood brewery, taproom and street-food canteen in beautiful Lewes. Mixed-fermentation project coming up soon.

**BLO TBC****BEER ME***Eastbourne*

The brewery are launching two new beers: a 5% abv Dunkel Weiss, with a new 7% abv ruby beer to follow. Their very popular seasonal Christmas beer (7.3% abv)

will be available from 1st November, and for every pint of Christmas beer purchased, they are giving £1 to Eastbourne Hospital emergency staff as a thank you.

**BLO Scott O'Rourke****BESTENS***Lower Beeding***BLO tbc****BREW STUDIO***Sompting***BLO Lee Argent****BREWHOUSE & KITCHEN***Horsham*

Robin Shephard has replaced Oliver as the Brewer. Alongside Rock Session Bitter (3.6%) and Saxon Warrior golden ale (4.2%), there was a "Project Cask" ale on, on my visit 24th Sept. The ale is Called Heritage, and it is a 4.5% Dark Mild. (The Scarfoulkes amber ale is now being produced for keg, rather than cask). BTW the pub is still offering 10% CAMRA discount.

**BLO Terry Shouler****BREWING BROTHERS***Hastings*

Exciting changes at Brewing Brothers with news that they are moving into an industrial unit in Ivy House Lane on the Ridge, Hastings. The move will mean a significant increase in capacity with a 28 hectolitre kit being installed plus a new canning line enabling increased sales to the free trade over a wider area.

They anticipate that brewing will commence before Christmas. They will still be keeping their existing kit at the Imperial, Hastings which will be used for small batch, specials and experimental brews. Their core range of beers, mainly available in keg, is currently Gallagher's IPA, Belushi's APA, Marley's Stout, Wachowski's Hibiscus Pale and Wright's Pale. The Imperial is now open again seven days a week with home deliveries available Thursday to Sunday 4pm-9pm.

#### **BLO Robin Hill**

#### **BRIGHTON BIERHAUS**

##### *Brighton*

BrightonBier's Min? Bier, nominated by @SchoolofBooze is brewed in collaboration with one of Japan's leading craft breweries, @minohbeer. It is also served as cask ale in their pubs in Osaka.

#### **BLO Peter Mitchell**

#### **BROLLY**

##### *Wisborough Green*

The successful beer and picnic sessions have now finished for the year but the Brolly Delivery Truck is still going strong. Orders can be placed up until 18.00 on Wednesday evening for delivery on Friday. Beer availability and ordering information can be found on the website.

#### **BLO Timothy Ayre**

#### **BRZN**

##### *Brighton*

They'd like to thank

everybody that came and visited them over the summer. You turned a wild pipe dream into a reality. However, as pubs are getting back to some sort of normality it's time to shift our focus back to trade.

#### **BLO TBC**

#### **BURNING SKY**

##### *Firle*

The brewery remains busy. Cask ale production continues with Plateau widely available. Keg and canned beer production is in full swing. The innovative side of the business continues apace. Coolship No3 is now available in 750ml bottles at 7.2% ABV. Saison Anniversaire is expected to be available in late October and Curvee in late November, again, both in 750ml bottles. The brewery is active on Twitter - @burningskybeer - with regular updates on their activity and interactions with others. The online shop - [www.burningsky.com/shop](http://www.burningsky.com/shop) - details the full range of beers currently available together with a range of merchandise. Bottled and canned beers are also available from a range of local outlets.

#### **BLO Ian Hodge**

#### **CELLAR HEAD**

##### *Flimwell*

The Cellar Head Tap Room has been open for a while now, with full adherence to current Government guidelines - face masks when mobile please! It's

green hop season and Cellar Head's (oh so popular !!) Pole Dancer is back, brewed with fresh 'Ernest' hops, locally sourced from Tenterden. Off sales of the current range of brews are available and can be delivered within a 15 mile radius of the Brewery. Visit the website for details.

#### **BLO Philip Banister**

#### **CHAPEAU BREWING**

##### *Horsham*

Chapeau have continued brewing through the period, their core beers are available through the tap room and some selected pubs. On the horizon is an Imperial Russian Stout, as yet unnamed.

#### **BLO Paul Sanders**

#### **CLOAK & DAGGER (NEW)**

##### *Ringmer*

Still Cuckoo brewing at Franklins, Ringmer for their bar in Kemp Town, Brighton.

#### **BLO TBC**

#### **DARK STAR**

##### *Partridge Green*

All beers are now produced at Partridge Green.

#### **BLO Clive Watson**

#### **DOWNLANDS**

##### *Small Dole*

Apologies to those of you who don't like dark beers but this morning another gyle of Devils went in to our cold store. They will be kegging the CAM-RAA later this week and it won't be long until our Old is ready for sale.

#### **BLO Peter Mitchell**

#### **ENGINEER**

*High Hurstwood*

The Engineer Brewery is probably the smallest micro brewery in our area with all brewing taking place in the owner/brewer's garage. Since lockdown brewing has continued but has been on an even smaller scale with batches of only 25L. A range of beer styles is still being produced with all batches now being bottled. The beers are not bottle conditioned but are not filtered or pasteurised either and with the natural carbon dioxide level being carefully controlled they come out of the bottle as close to cask ale as possible. These beers are obtainable from Five Ash Down Post Office and from the Hurstwood and Coopers Arms pubs. The 'Beer and Conversation' evenings at the Hurstwood have restarted but are now on the first Wednesday of the month. These are currently held in the pub garden where a range of Engineer bottled beers and snacks provided by the pub are available. Bespoke cask brews, usually in pins, are also available by contacting the brewery.

**BLO Richard Saunders****FILO***Hastings*

Brewing now resumed, following the temporary halt, due to the lockdown. Regular beers have been back in production for a while and brewing of Cardinal Porter has just

been re-started for the winter period.

**BLO Bill Turner****FIREBIRD***Horsham*

Firebird have weathered the current situation well with increased home sales offsetting much of the loss in pub sales. The brewery bar has been refurbished and increased in size; a new mural was unveiled on Saturday 3rd October and on the same day the new tanks for Bohemia came into use. The single hop Rakau will continue until the end of October when the Old Ale will replace it for the winter. Plans for the Christmas period are not set but the Belgian PA may appear rather than a dedicated Christmas Ale. Because of the restrictions no events beyond the normal weekly ones are currently planned.

**BLO Dave Sharp****FRANKLINS***Ringmer*

Things have been busy at Franklins as they try to adapt to the current situation. They are running a home delivery service alongside their trade routes. They are offering free home delivery within 20 miles radius of the brewery and can ship further afield. You can also collect beer from the brewery. New beers coming up include Pineapple of my Eye, a collaboration with Sanctuary Brewing and Little Lights in

the Gloaming an Oat Shake Stout. They are taking delivery of two new tanks at the end of October in the hope of increasing their keg and can range.

**BLO Kris Crymer****FURNACE BROOK (New)***Trolliloes*

Three beers now produced. Also see p. 18.

**BLO TBC****GOLDMARK***Poling, nr Arundel***BLO Jim Waterston****GOOD THINGS***West Hoathly***BLO John Packer****GOODWOOD***North Heath***BLO Les Johnson****GREYHOUND***West Chiltington*

Greyhound have been brewing continuously through Lockdown and COVID-19. Current brews include regular cask ale favourites Cosmos, Seagull, Blonde Bird and Amber Eyes available in firkins and pins. Plus, Astro Pilsner, a new lager will be available in keg and can from November. In September they ran their first-ever TV ad, on Sky, in craft beer-loving households in Sussex, to raise awareness of the brewery, emphasise quality, establish their West Sussex roots and promote direct-to-home sales through the new Greyhound online shop. It's aimed to boost on-trade and bottle shop sales too.

**BLO Colin Pennifold**

**GRIBBLE***The Gribble Inn*

We're sorry to report that Rob Cooper, the Gribble's head brewer of 35 years, has had a stroke so Simon Wood has taken over brewing.

They are looking for someone to join their team who has experience to help out in the brewery so please get in touch if you are interested. The current beers they have available are Pigs Ear, Fuzzy Duck, The Gribble and Reg's Tipple. They have no seasonal beer in the works. They have expanded their beautiful garden to help with social distancing and are still serving food. The landlord is swapping between working at the Gribble and The Selsey Arms, which features one rotating guest beer. We wish Rob a speedy recovery.

**BLO David Blythe****GUN***Gun Hill, Heathfield*

Work has started on a new purpose-built brewery closer to the main road. This will incorporate a tap room. The brewery continues to be very busy and home deliveries continue.

**BLO Steve Obey****HAIRY DOG***Wivelsfield*

The brewery is still open during the corona virus lockdown period, for orders and collections; beers available include the cask ales Far Fetched Pale (4.2%ABV), Hounded Best

Bitter (4.1% ABV), Bloodhound Red IPA (5.5 ABV) and Pure Bred Pilsner Lager (4.6% ABV). The brewery shop is open 1pm to 6pm Wednesday - Friday and 10.30am to 2pm on Saturdays. Please contact the brewery for more information. As stated above the brewery tap room is still open although there is a reminder to bring a face-mask!

**BLO Paul Free****HAND BREW CO***Brighton*

Glad to say the brewery is back at full production after lockdown and looking forward to when the pubs get back to normal. They are currently working on their winter seasonal beers to be released over the coming months including an Old Ale and an ESB. The new production site in Worthing is due to be operational at the start of October after some delays with the utilities. They hope to have the tap room open there towards the end of October so please watch out for announcements. You'll be able to find them at Unit 6a, Garcia Trading Estate, Canterbury Road, Worthing, BN13 1AL. Brewery tours and beer tastings will be available later in the year.

**BLO Peter Mitchell****HARVEY'S***Lewes*

Brewing continues and is currently about half of last year's production. At the

time of writing, Wharf Ale is available in cask at a slightly reduced ABV of 4.2%. Old Ale is back with good sales, although sadly the annual dancing-in celebration is not possible due to the restrictions on social distancing. Bonfire Boy is set to brew in October. The Cliffe High Street shop reopened on 22 September with the Depot pop-up shop now closed except for customers collecting pre-orders via their online shop. The brewery filmed a virtual brewery tour for this year's innovative Great British Beer Festival and has plans to make that more widely available. Unfortunately real-life brewery tours remain suspended for the foreseeable future.

**BLO Ian Hodge****HEATHEN***Haywards Heath*

The brewery have introduced their first step into sour beers: Medlar Sour. Easy drinking with a refreshing tartness, the medlar fruit gives notes of ripe kiwis and quince. A simple malt base of pilsner and wheat was mashed as normal, before being soured in the kettle with lactobacillus for three days. This was then boiled, with Sussex hops and the medlar being added during the whirlpool. The resulting beer has a hazy, golden colour and an ABV of 4.8%. Heathen Brewers are pleased to announce the

acquisition of new premises in Haywards Heath which will enable the expansion of brewing activities and provide a new social venue and local hub for the southern end of the town. The site, Transit House, is located in Triangle Road opposite the Heath Tavern and was latterly used as a mortuary, whilst previously being home to an abattoir and smokehouse. Planning permission has been obtained to create a new 10-barrel brewery with associated tap room, café and community area (to be known as The Hop Sun). The intention is to create a unique atmosphere in which to sell our own and other craft beers, along with a range of other local produce, in a community space where friends, families, and strangers can get to know each other. Conversion works are likely to take some months, but we intend to make sympathetic changes in order to provide comfortable facilities whilst retaining the character of the 19th century buildings and featuring evidence of some of their former use. Permitted opening hours have been set from 8am until 9pm and the intention is to operate on six days, closing on Mondays.

**BLO Paul Free**

**HEPWORTH**

*North Heath*

Despite the trials and

tribulations of trading through the pandemic the team at Hepworth have managed to prevail and continue to supply the local pub scene whilst offering take away sales from their brewery shop and home deliveries of Hepworth products and selected local guests incl. wines, ciders and soft drinks. Additionally, a program of interesting taproom events have been introduced usually from 5.30pm to 8pm on Thursday evenings with suitably matched Street Food also available. Check for details at [www.hepworthbrewery.co.uk](http://www.hepworthbrewery.co.uk). Apart from the eagerly awaited launch of this years traditional Sussex Old Ale (29th. October) new beers have been added to the menu including a bottle conditioned organic APA The Right Stuff @ 5% and Spartan a gluten free, vegan friendly beer @ 0.5% which, will be offered free to designated drivers at upcoming taproom evenings.

**BLO Les Johnson**

**HIGH WEALD**

*East Grinstead*

**BLO Jonathan Samways**

**HURST**

*Hurstpierpoint*

The brewery has obviously reduced production during Covid, however they are still producing. They are hoping to venture into the can market shortly, but in the meantime have spent time working on a re-brand and

are about to launch that. They are also intending to test the market with a local delivery service of bottles and growler fills.

**BLO Steve Floor**

**KILN**

*Burgess Hill*

**BLO Paul Free**

**KISSINGGATE**

*Lower Beeding*

The brewery taproom is still open subject to the latest government regulations. Takeaway sales have reduced somewhat since lockdown but with more than eight rotating beers available fresh from the cask there's always something interesting to try. More people are looking out for the microbreweries that are in their area, as some new people have been coming to the brewery from a wider area. Chennai IPA 5.0%, Pernickety Pale 4.5% and Moon 4.5% were firm favourites during the summer months. Raison the Bar 12% imperial stout has made its appearance again. A green hazelnut praline amber beer Little Green Nutter 5.0, has been brewed using hops grown at the brewery after being picked by people from the local community.

**BLO Roy Bray**

**LAINE**

*The North Laine, Brighton*  
Brewery tours and guided tastings are now available.

**BLO TBC**

**LANGHAM***Lodsworth, Petworth*

The CV19 drive-through beer pick-up system is still working well with Friday and Saturday being very busy. Still available is Cry Wolf 2.8%, a single hop beer using styrian wolf golden hops. New for October is Chestnut Ale 4.4% brewed for the 'not the conkers' event. For the last 13 years the Bonker's For Conker's has donated loads of money for charity, but as there will be no event this year a donation will go to Chestnut Tree House, a charity which provides incredible support to children with life threatening illnesses. The beer has not got conkers or chestnuts in it. The flavour comes from a biscuit malt. Hoping the coffee and beer tasting micro bar will soon be granted a licence.

**BLO Peter Luff****LARRIKIN***Hove***BLO tbc****LISTER'S***Ford*

Plans for expansion and moving sites have gone full steam ahead for Lister's. After a successful crowdfunding campaign, they moved to their new, larger premises on the Angmering Estate in the heart of the South Downs National Park and the build for the new brewery is currently underway. They continue to deliver direct from the brewery to East

and West Sussex, Kent, Hampshire, Bath and Wiltshire as well as south London. From their depot in Southport they deliver to the north-west from north Cheshire to south Cumbria as well as to West and North Yorkshire. They are about to open hubs in Hertfordshire to serve the northern Home Counties, in Cambridgeshire to serve East Anglia and the East Midlands and in Newcastle-upon-Tyne to cover north-east England and the Scottish Borders. As if this isn't enough they have added another seasonal beer to their range - Lister's Wapping Pier, a rich, dark and smooth autumnal beer.

**BLO Glenn Johnson****LITTLE MONSTER***Tillington, Petworth***BLO tbc****LONG MAN***Litlington*

The brewery are pleased to be back in the swing of supplying pubs and restaurants with its beers and seeing the industry working together this difficult year. They are brewing their core range - Long Blonde, Long Man Best, American Pale Ale, Old Man, and now Copper Hop. Wild Man IPA will appear from late October and Inn Keeper from late November. The brewery shop is busy and home delivery up to 20 miles from the brewery continues. 5L mini-casks can be delivered nationally via courier.

**BLO Richard Scullion****LOST & FOUND***Brighton*

Brighton beers are brewed at the De Proef Brewery, Belgium.

**BLO tbc****LOUD SHIRT BEER***Brighton*

Their recent new keg beers are: Rapture New England IPA (5.0%), Seventy-Five Double IPA (7.5%) (sometimes called Loaded) They are raising money for good causes for these and some other beers through a new collaborative brewing project, check out [www.sussexbrewing.org](http://www.sussexbrewing.org). Their tap room is now open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 4pm to 9pm so please feel free to publicise that!

**BLO Keith Newell****MISSING LINK***West Hoathly***BLO tbc****OLD TREE***Brighton***BLO tbc****PIN UP***Southwick***BLO Adrian Towler****POLARITY***Worthing***BLO tbc****RECTORY***Streat***BLO Paul Free****RIVERSIDE***Upper Beeding*

They have managed to keep brewing throughout the current situation and have

created a Pale Ale "Beyond the Horizon" which has been well received. The brewery building is now licensed for direct sales to the public and they have created an online site with local deliveries. They are also developing a Coffee Stout which should be available soon. They have taken the opportunity to refresh their label designs and the acquisition of a better printer means they can now produce personalised gift packs, ideal presents for Christmas.

**BLO Ian Bolt**

### **ROTHER VALLEY**

*Northiam*

Blues 5% is now available in cask and Exit 5.7% will be available soon.

There will be a limited amount of Hollydaze 4.2% available for Christmas.

**BLO Dawn Lincoln**

### **SOUTHBREW**

*Steyning*

**BLO tbc**

### **SUSSEX SMALL BATCH**

*Poling*

New stout in development to be canned early Nov. Sales down slightly since pubs opened again. I know SSB has had good sales in local pubs and further afield through EEBRIA over last few months.

**BLO Colin Penniford**

### **THREE ACRE**

*Blackboys*

The brewery has adapted during the current circumstances by providing

2-pint cartons available for delivery or collection at the brewery. Additional news is that new equipment due to be installed will allow increased production in the future. The West Coast Pale is also now available in cans, this is refreshing citrus and fruit flavoured ale (3.9%) brewed from a combination of UK & US hops.

**BLO Barry Blewitt**

### **THREE LEGS**

*Brede*

The taproom & shop are open for drinking in & taking away (*but not from Nov 5-2 Dec Ed*). Drink in Fridays and Saturdays 12-8pm; last orders 7.30pm. There are a small number of tables that can be pre-booked in 1/2 hour slots. Up to two hours may be booked with up to six guests per booking.

There are three standing spots accommodating up to three people at each. If you are unable to book ahead and don't mind standing, please forgive them if they are full. Reservation by phone only - 07939997622 Tuesday to Saturday. The taproom is operated with COVID-19 safe practices. Click and collect can be collected Tuesday to Saturday. 12-5pm. You will be sent a text when its ready to collect. Home delivery (non contact). Local home deliveries on a Friday are free within 20 miles of the brewery (minimum spend £25). Select free delivery at checkout. All other

deliveries - £9 (or free over £50, sent next working day, by courier) select courier at checkout.

**BLO tbc**

### **TOP NOTCH**

*Haywards Heath*

Looking forward to brewing into the Autumn after a quiet first six months of the year. Restarted brewing in July with a batch of Flare-Path AAA and just about to release a new 4.7% APA called Viral Backlash. Spent the summer trialling a few new ideas and recipes; a new 4.3% Best Bitter, a 6.0% Juicy Neipa and a punchy 7.2% Tomahawk-hopped DIPA. Also, in the pipeline (when they release the film - TopGun2) is a Jester-hopped 5.5% Hard Deck APA. Plenty to look forward to ... when the pubs open?

**BLO Keith Newell**

### **UNBARRED**

*Hove*

**BLO tbc**

### **VINE**

*Tarring*

**BLO tbc**

### **WATCHMAKER'S ARMS**

*Hove*

Brewing has taken place every week since the end of May, so there has been more of their own beer available since the pub reopened. Pocket Watch Pale, Bezel Bitter and a range of porters are available on rotation, although they often sell out very quickly! Old Timer, a take on a traditional Old Ale, will be on sale from the

beginning of October. Feedback has been very good and some exciting new brews are in the pipeline - watch this space!

**BLO Peter Mitchell**

## WELTONS

*Horsham*

Weltons is celebrating its 25th anniversary (and also head brewer Ray's 70th birthday) and beating the blues by extending the range of bottled beer available for take out and also now to purchase by mail order. Just contact the brewery on 01403 251873 and they will send a case or two of beers of your choice at brewery rates (£3 to £5 per bottle depending on strength). Bottles include the amazing new Coconut Porter at 6.0% and the new Ray's Whisky Wood Porter (4.7%) and Conquer Chestnut IPA (4.2%), as well as Dr French's Old Remedy, Whisky Rye, Broadwood Wassail, Kentucky Rooster, Horsham Old Special Reserve, Export Stout, American Graffiti, Equinox, Churchillian Stout, Hophurst, Old Cocky and Pride & Joy. Christmas brews will include Xmas Maximus, Wencelegless and Feast of Stephen. More favourites are currently maturing in Ardmore, Laphroaig and Tomlintoul whisky casks and check out the website for details of a special open evening and birthday celebration at the brewery before Christmas, if

conditions permit.

**BLO Nigel Bullen**

**WINGTIP**

*Ashurst*

**BLO tbc**

# Spotlight on

# BREWERIES

## Greyhound Brewery

The creative duo behind Greyhound brewery, Nick and Sarah Allen (pictured below), have found a few new challenges since the lockdown was announced, with the brewery's own popular mini beer festivals and events put on hold, except for a couple of socially distanced 'happenings' attended by local recipients of their newsletters, along with the Worthing Beer Festival and many other events.



The focus has been on brewing for bottling and canning, producing their first lager, ASTRO Helles, during early summer, and creating a new e-commerce website which launched mid August, as well as supplying locals with home deliveries - this activity underpins the deliveries to pubs and bars which are at a diminished level.

So it has been a busy but different time.

Greyhound applied for and was awarded a grant from Sky to run an advert throughout September, featuring their Cosmos APA. If

you missed it then you can see it on YouTube or [www.greyhoundbrewery.co.uk](http://www.greyhoundbrewery.co.uk).

All their bottled and draft beers are now gluten free and vegan with some beers also available in 5L cask conditioned mini kegs.

## Battle Brewery Shop

Battle Brewery recently opened a shop on Saturday 17th October. The picture below shows town council member David Furness and Mac McCutcheon (BLO for Battle Brewery) cutting the ribbon.



The shop located at 52a High Street, Battle will focus on Battle Brewery beers and selected local Wines and Ciders, and it is hoped that the new Bottle Shop will become the preferred location to source great local beers. The shop also has a selection of cask beer available for tastings and refills, as well as the ingenious "Cask Beer in a Box" products in 5l and 10l boxes.



## Lovingly crafted, small batch ales brewed by ... a Pearly Queen?

Nestled in a sleepy valley of the High Weald isn't the first place you would expect to find a Cockney icon but it may surprise you to find out this Pearly Queen has been part of our Sussex brewing tradition for nearly 60 years!

Beer and community have always been Diane's greatest passions. Raised on the street markets of London the social life revolved around Battle Cruisers (boozers), when you lived three families to a house you had to have somewhere to escape to! Someone would always be banging out a tune on the joanna (piano) and the whole community would get together for a sing-song and a good ol' knees up.

Every year for their holidays they'd load everything; furniture, pots and pans, kids and grannies all into a charabanc (open cart) and go down to the hopping fields of Kent & Sussex to make a few bob and so the kids would get some fresh air. Diane remembers fondly the camaraderie, the community sat around the fire; one of the old aunties would have a pot of stew bubbling and at weekends the men would come down, get a big jug of beer from the nearest pub and to Diane it was incredible. "Wow, our hops went in to make that beer."



Hops are no longer hand-picked in the UK, a 400 year tradition Diane is proud to have been a part of but she has brought those

same values of community, lovingly crafted, locally sourced, sustainable beer to her own brewery, making small-batch, hand crafted beer with local hops, no finings or sulphites just delicious tasting beer!



And now 60 years later, life turns full circle with Diane as head brewer of her own brewery, assisted by her fabulous team including her right hand man, Richard.

"To me brewing beer is more than making a lovely ale, it's about bringing

communities together & telling stories, that is our passion here at Furnace Brook Brewery is to make beer that connects and supports local communities and tells stories. Each brew we make is only 55 litres, proper craft ale, the attention to detail is so important to us because it's made with love."

Whatever your taste there's a Furnace Brook ale for you:

- Pearly Pale Ale - A pale, fruity bitter with a dry hoppy finish. A light, refreshing ale.
- Furnace Ale - A full bodied porter, ruby black with a brown tint to the head. Enticing aromas of liquorice with a subtle hint of dandelion and burdock. A hoppy initial taste with a mellowing of all the elements in the finish.
- Alfie's Amber Ale - Refreshing, well-balanced pale amber bitter. Well balanced flavour with malt slightly to the fore merging into a satisfying bitter sweet finish.

As well as seasonal ale which changes every three months, allowing us to create even more delicious ales for you, our community.

Diane is keeping things really local to start with so that she can deliver direct using her preferred mode of transport - Alfie the pony and cart.



So to pick up a bottle today you can visit Rushlake Green Village store (Rushlake Green, East Sussex, TN21 9QD) or pop into the Merry Harriers pub (Cowbeech, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 4JQ). To find our latest stockist or to buy online please visit [furnacebrook.co.uk/beer](http://furnacebrook.co.uk/beer)

To find out more about the history of hopping Pearly Kings and Queens pick up "The Pearly Prince of St Pancras" by Alf Dole (Diane's father) & Jeff Hudson.

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\*PotY: none, \*CPotY: none

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Beer Festival: Worthing, 2021, TBC

PotY: Fox & Finch Alehouse, Worthing

CPotY: none; COTY: none

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Beer Festival: South Downs, Lewes, 2021, TBC

PotY: Duke of Wellington, Shoreham-by-Sea

CPotY: Old Star Ale & Cider House, Shoreham-by-Sea; CotY: none

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Beer Festival: Equinox, 2021, TBC

PotY: Anchor Tap, Horsham;

CPotY: Brewery Shades, Crawley; CotY: none

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[john\\_packer@me.com](mailto:john_packer@me.com)

[www.northeastsussex.camra.org.uk](http://www.northeastsussex.camra.org.uk)

PotY: Hare & Hounds, Framfield;

CPotY: King's Head, East Hoathly; CotY: none

### South East Sussex

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[www.southeastsussex.camra.org.uk](http://www.southeastsussex.camra.org.uk)

Beer Festival: Eastbourne, 2021, TBC

PotY: Waterworks, Rye; CPotY: Jolly Fisherman,  
Hastings; CotY: Albatross Club (RAFA), Bexhill on Sea

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[www.westernsussex.camra.org.uk](http://www.westernsussex.camra.org.uk)

Beer Festival: Yapton, 2021, TBC

PotY: Inglenook, Pagham; CPotY: none CotY: none

\*PotY: Pub of the Year; CPotY: Cider Pub of the Year;

CotY: Club of the Year



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The Editor invites submissions that celebrate the real ale scene in Sussex. Please keep to a maximum of 700 words. Please use plain text or Word files. Please send good quality pictures separately, preferably in JPG format.

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Visit the Citizens Advice Website

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