

Celebrating the Real Ale Scene in Sussex

Sussex Drinker

Winter 2021

Free



Campaign
for
Real Ale



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HARVEY'S BREWERY

On the BRIGHT side...

We were delighted to receive a
CAMRA GOLDEN AWARD

celebrating businesses that
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delivering excellence or innovation'
during the last 50 years of campaigning.



On the DARK side...

We were delighted to be named:

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IMPERIAL EXTRA DOUBLE STOUT

UK's Best Porter

1859 PORTER

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**WORLD BEER AWARDS
2021**



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A warm welcome awaits you on the East Sussex coast!

CAMRA's Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference will be hosted by our Sussex branches at the **Winter Garden in Eastbourne 8-10 April 2022.**

After two years without a physical event, hundreds of members have already registered to attend – to see what Sussex has to offer by way of great beer, cider and perry. The weekend is a chance to meet friends, make new ones, go on organised brewery trips and take part in activities.

It's free to attend and open to all CAMRA members.

The weekend is staffed by volunteers – with a range of opportunities to help on offer.

All the information is on the event page – where you can register to attend / sign up to help - go to

www.camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference

Or email membersweekend@camra.org.uk

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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 p30 applies to all items.

NOTICE: As venues recover following the coronavirus lockdown period they need your support more than ever. Special restrictions may apply, opening hours may be different to those displayed here, and some pubs may be yet to re-open at all. Please use WhatPub.com for details of all Sussex pubs, and we've made every effort to ensure details on WhatPub are accurate, however we strongly advise checking ahead before visiting, by phone, website or Facebook page.

■ ALFRISTON

Probably everyone in East Sussex knows about the **Star's** complex makeover from Channel Five's series. New owners, Olga and Alex Polizzi, mother and daughter, television hosts, hoteliers and heirs to the Rocco Forte estate, spent a year and a half transforming the old Star Inn into a modern laid-back-but-lovely country hotel, using local craftsmen and materials where possible, including wallpaper from Hastings! The new courtyard, with tables and seating, now backs onto the extensively beamed old bar, which stocks Harvey's Best Bitter.

■ ARLINGTON

(north west of Polegate)

New people took over the rural **Old Oak Inn**, adjacent to Abbot's Wood, Caneheath late in 2020. There's a good atmosphere with pub meals and real ales from Harvey's and Long Man, plenty of outside tables in the gardens, plus a play area.

In Arlington village the **Yew Tree Inn**, also in new hands, has a similar format: fresh local food, Harvey's Best Bitter and a garden.

■ BATTLE

In the Spring, Battle Brewery's shop, 52 High Street, expanded when the adjoining empty shop premises was added on. Now a micropub, taproom and bottle shop, it's open 11 am to 9 pm, seven days a week, with cask and craft-keg Battle Brewery and guest ales. Located alongside a host of local retailers, it's a welcome addition to the town.

■ BELLS YEW GREEN

Over the weekend of 10th September the **Brecknock Arms** held a beer festival featuring around a dozen brews from Sussex and Kent breweries. The bar was set up in the large shelter, built during the pandemic in the garden. Their usual Harvey's beers (Sussex Best and IPA) were also served in good condition. Judging by the numbers attending on the Friday afternoon, the event promised to be a resounding success and it's hoped will become a regular fixture in the small festival calendar.

■ BEXHILL

Spacious former cinema, the **Picture Playhouse** (JDW), now includes local beers whose quality has recently been excellent.

The **Sportsman** has three real ales on offer including Long Man Long Blonde.

Traffers Bar sold take-outs during lockdowns and now offers three real ales, mainly from local breweries.



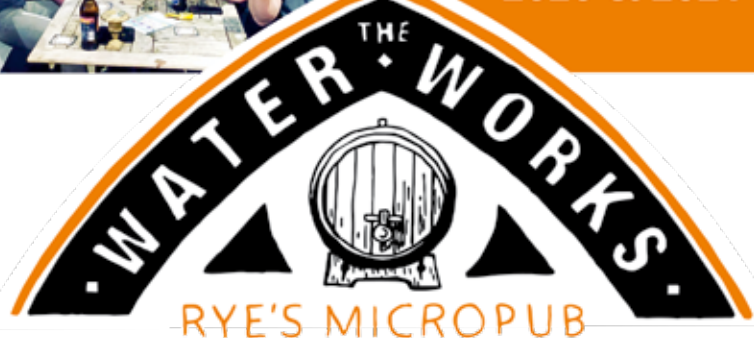
At the **Albatross Club** things have settled down following the departure of Karen as the Club Steward.

Beer range and quality having been excellent on recent visits. Five real ales and

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2020 & 2021**



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two real ciders are now served. The main room, including the toilets, have been fully refurbished. Well done to everyone for ensuring this excellent Club remains so superb.

The **Brickmakers Alehouse** is back to serving five real ales and four real ciders.



A highlight for the local branch was when a CAMRA Design Award for Conversion to Pub Use was presented to this micropub, which opened in November 2019. This was a online event with members

gathering in the pub around a screen and camera, giving the pub enthusiastic support via Zoom. Branch members definitely claim they gave the best support out of the seven pubs winning awards online. Bexhill should definitely be a stopping off point for Members' Weekend visitors in April 2022, with two national award-winning locations close to the station.

■ BILLINGSHURST

A new micro pub, the **Billi Tap**, opened on Billingshurst High Street at the end of July. It features cask and keg ales from Little Monster and Brolly brewing, and is a great addition to the local beer scene.

■ CROWBOROUGH

The **White Hart on the Green** is one of the comfortable pubs owned by Stonegate. Although it hasn't featured on CAMRA's radar for some time it now has a new manager in charge of the bar who's passionate about real ale. He's from a London pub that had lots of interaction with CAMRA members, and he's keen for



White Hart on the Green

this to continue at the White Hart. Regular beers are Harvey's Sussex Best along with the inevitable Sharpe's Doom Bar, with the intention of featuring a changing guest ale from one of our many good local breweries. The pub accepts CAMRA discount tokens and runs occasional offers. A restaurant area and a large car park feature.

■ EASTBOURNE

All Good Beer Guide and major real ale pubs in the area survived pandemic restrictions and difficulties. Summer turned out busy with staycation holidaymakers but few of the usual international visitors and language students. Currently pubs are facing more difficulties with deliveries, staff shortages and they often offer a smaller range of ales. The CAMRA-assisted 'Beer and Cider by the Sea' festival was a success, held on the seafront lawns in mid-August.

Ninkaci is a new craft ale bar, predominantly key-keg, proving popular with an ever-changing line-up. Located on the ground floor of the Enterprise Centre, adjacent to Eastbourne Station, it's open from 11 am to 8 pm Tuesday to Saturday, and 6 pm on Sundays.

After closure and a string of small fires, assumed to be arson, the **Alexandra Arms**, in Seaside, reopened with new management this summer.

The **Crown**, in the heart of the Old Town, held a superb August Bank Holiday beer festival with local bands playing on a stage in the garden. The landlord is to be commended for all the work that went into it, including personally driving around collecting casks from breweries when deliveries were unreliable.

■ FAIRLIGHT

(on the cliffs east of Hastings)

When the **Cove** closed its doors in 2016 it left the village without a pub for five years. Excellent news: it will shortly reopen, having been purchased by the owner of the Crown in Hastings Old Town and extensively refurbished. Planning permission has been granted for the addition of an annexe providing six en-suite bedrooms.

■ FAYGATE

The **Frog and Nightgown** has been extended and now has a small Italian restaurant as an annex to the pub.

■ FERRING

The **Rassasy Farm Shop Snug Bar** farm produce and deli business recently opened The Snug at the rear of the shop. This small bar serves drinks from local brewers, including keg beers, ciders and bottled beers. A selection of cheese and deli board snacks available.

■ FRAMFIELD

In early September service at the **Hare & Hounds** was still restricted to the marquee and garden. However, this did not deter customers, and this rural local was reasonably busy for a Thursday afternoon visit. Unfortunately Three Acre's Hazy Pale had just finished but Harvey's Sussex Best was an excellent alternative in very good condition.

■ HORSHAM

Delighted that the **Anchor Tap** is due to reopen in the Autumn under the management of Sam and his team from the **Malt Shovel**. Great news indeed.

■ NETHERFIELD



The **White Hart Inn** has become a well-appointed gastropub, now owned by local farmers. Located on high ground with spectacular views it's open Wednesday to Sunday. At weekends Asado (South American) Barbecue is a speciality. Harvey's Best is the regular with the intention of more real ales to follow. www.white-hart-netherfield.co.uk.

■ PETT

The grade II listed **Royal Oak** was reopened in April by two local brothers, Robin and Joseph Lyons. They serve Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter and up to three changing local and regional brews along with a full menu of pub dishes and tapas.

Nearby at Pett Level, the **Smuggler** closed in 2017 and was the subject of a failed enterprise to convert to a doctor's surgery. The large garden at the rear, entered from the promenade, is now open for food and non-alcoholic drinks. The building itself should reopen in 2022 as a restaurant with holiday accommodation.

■ RUSTINGTON

The **Georgi Fin** opened in August 2020 after lockdown but is now thriving and well worth a visit. It is in a former electrical shop which was fully refitted with a similar interior theme to the micropub with the same name in Goring.

■ RYE

The **Waterworks** provided take-outs during lockdowns, which was greatly appreciated by locals. This micropub now serves nine real ales plus real ciders from their chilled cabinet.

■ ST LEONARDS ON SEA

A lot of changes are happening in St Leonards.

In the Silverhill neighbourhood the **Duke** was refurbished during the first lockdown and now offers two Gun beers.

The **Welcome** is very busy with diners and now offers three Long Man beers.

The **North Star** has been refurbished inside and out and should be open by the time you read this.

At the **Tower** – with six real ales and as many ciders - locals are really enjoying this excellent pub once more, thanks to Louisa and her superb staff.

Tucked one road back from London Road, the **Nag's Head** has been completely refurbished. Now run by Dee and Don, who've gone out of their way to create an inviting atmosphere, it's gaining a reputation for excellent quality. Up to five real ales are offered with changing options: recently three were from Battle Brewery. Quiz nights and music nights are regular features.

Nearby the **Piper** is finally open, and serves two real ales: it was closed throughout most of 2020.



Also in Norman Road, the **Three Legs @ Heist. Market** is Three Legs Brewery's new taproom featuring not just all their own, but also craft ales from other respected producers.



A host of other fashionable 'foodie' and drink venues share the market style interior in the former Midland Bank, including Japanese, Natural Wine,

Seafood and Coffee businesses.

www.thethreelegs.co.uk/heist

The **Marina Fountain**, closed Monday and Tuesday, offers two real ales, often from local breweries.



'Nothing beats a pub lunch' according to the Weekend FT, which went on to recommend the **Royal**, St John's Road, right outside Warrior Square's westbound platform. Now a gastropub, it picked up a Michelin Bib Gourmand award for 'exceptional food at a moderate price'. Local members tell us that their real ale is indeed affordable and worth sampling, with beers, just one at a time so far, often from St Austell and Oakham. Drinkers are welcomed, even when just changing trains. It's run by a team of friends who've all worked at top London restaurants; it's been open, outside of lockdowns, since late 2019. (www.theroyalstleonards.co.uk).

■ SALEHURST

The **Salehurst Halt** remains a very busy country pub with excellent food and superb real ales.

■ SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

The **Red Lion** has reopened after its long refit, with new management, and two interesting cask beers were on, from Long Man and Bedlam. It is still a free house, a little less 'olde-worldly' than before but perhaps more comfortable and the bar has moved to the top room.

■ SOUTHWICK

The **Schooner** is still closed and rumours that it may be a restaurant have not been denied – no response to a recent e-mail so, who knows?

■ WORTHING

The **Brewhouse & Kitchen** brewpub opened in May 2021 after significant refurbishment and extension of the former Beechwood Hall Hotel. There are many tables inside and in the large garden. A range of beers are brewed on the premises by an enthusiastic brewer plus beers from other suppliers. Usual B&K food offerings available, booking recommended at busy times. This is the first B&K brewpub which also has a number of hotel rooms so is described by them as a BrewTel.

Brooksteed Alehouse is keeping table service for a while since it has removed queues at the bar whilst also keeping a sensible level of covid precautions. They operate a web-based ordering system using phone/tablet, but the bar staff will place an order for you if are unable to do so. Card payments only.

The **Selden Arms** deserves a special mention as it ran an ale delivery service throughout the lockdowns (and still is at the time of writing) managing to keep 6 cask ales available almost all that time. As a result of the support from regulars, this pub has not taken any government money in furlough or other support during the

pandemic. The pub is open with table service only at present, maintaining a sensible level of Covid precautions.

The **Fox & Finch Alehouse** was awarded branch POTY literally a week before the first lockdown but is open again and well worth a visit. Fallen Acorn's Pompey Royal is regularly on cask.

The Hand in Hand pub in Brighton started brewing many years ago but having outgrown the premises, they opened the **Hand Brew Co Tap** brewery and tap room in West Worthing in 2021, although small batch and specials are still brewed in Brighton. Housed in an industrial unit it also has canning and bottling facilities shared with Cloak and Dagger Brewing. The tap room is open limited hours with outside seating and food from the Curry Leaf Café's street trailer is usually available.

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www.whatpub.com



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 [breweries](#) on the Sussex branches website.

1648

East Hoathly

Bottle sales are strong given that more people are still choosing to drink at home. The brewery is keeping four (double dropped) beers available; **Triple Champion** 4.0%, **Lammas** 4.2%, **Signature** 4.4%, **Bee Head** 4.6%. They will be brewing **Laughing Frog** 5.2% and **Hop Pocket** 3.7% again in the near future.

A range of brewery beers are available in the Kings Head bar which has recently been redecorated with this year's just cut Sussex Hops from Burwash.

BLO Barry Blewitt

360 DEGREES BREWING *Sheffield Park*

The brewery site has been expanded increasing space by a factor of 1.8. This has



allowed for new vessels and an increased brewing schedule. There is a new cold store which will double as a cellar for the new tap room being constructed. My estimate is that it will accommodate 70 plus visitors including the outdoor space available. Demand has prevented developing a seasonal cask offering so currently four core cask offerings: **Bluebell Best, Fastback APA, Session Pale Ale** and **Double Act** all of which were available at the inaugural Bluebell Beer Festival sited next to the Brewery.

BLO Jason Phillips

ABYSS

Framfield

The brewery has now relocated to the Davey's Lane area of Lewes. The last few months have been spent installing the

brewhouse in the old Maltings building, previously part of the South Downs Brewery, and building the new taproom. This should be completed in the next few weeks. In the meantime, several new beers have been introduced. All the beers are produced in rotation according to demand and full details of availability and home delivery are on the website. No cask beers are produced yet.

BLO John Quick

ARUNDEL

Ford, Nr Arundel

Arundel Brewery have been brewing at full capacity at their Ford site over the Summer months but will shortly be adding more capacity via their new 7bbl brewkit at their Brewhouse Project taproom site, where they will be focussed on brewing fruited sour ales & pastry stouts.

BLO Tony Ashcroft

BALCOMBE (New)

*Balcombe, 01444 811 582
mail@halfmoonbalcombe.com*

Balcombe brewery commenced brewing during the last lockdown (2020-21) their objective is to supply beer to the Half Moon Inn in Balcombe, The brewing team are a volunteer group drawn from the community. The description 'small' suits the brewery as there is enough room for the brewer to work surrounded by the brewery. Currently they brew three beers all

packaged as keg, **American Pale** (APA, 4.5%), **Session IPA** (IPA 4.5%) and **Hoppy Lager** (Lager 4.5%). The intention was to brew to cask however sales of the keg version have outstripped their supply! The locals in the Half Moon Inn (community owned) have taken these beers with gusto and their own fonts have replaced those of well-known mass-produced fizz. **BLO Paul Sanders**

BATTLE

Battle

Tostig their extra pale ale has returned! This special beer has been an interesting challenge as they had to make some changes to the hops to get it right! They have created a light, refreshing, extra pale ale, hopped with some big hitting American varieties to bring a fruity aroma and a floral citrus flavour. The feedback has been amazing and the next batch will be moving to Battle too.

Speaking of which all their bottle range is bigger than ever: **1066 Lager, Abbey Pale, Conquest, Alan the Red, One Hop Wonder, Fyrd's Gold, Black Arrow** and their new **Senlac Imperial Stout**. The brewery tap room is only open on Saturday. This limited opening has run in conjunction with the High Street bottle shop and tap room. Two local outlets are extremely popular.

BLO Mac McCutcheon

BEER ME

Eastbourne

Beer.me have increased their range to 15 beers, with ten being on Tap at Belgian Cafe. Their three new craft beers are beers with a fruit twist according to the Belgian tradition: **RnB** is a blonde base beer featuring raspberries; **Summer Breeze** is packed with red fruits; and **The Dark Side of The Fruit** being a darker beer with strawberry hints. The brewery launched an online service, where from the 10th of September they'll be able to send their beer all over the UK direct to doorstep.

BLO Scott O'Rourke

BENCHMARK

Eridge Green

Benchmark Brewery is continuing to work hard to keep up with the demand for their range of bottle conditioned beers. Some cask conditioned versions have been produced recently with these being snapped up by private parties, wedding receptions, etc. locally. They are due to provide some cask beer to the upcoming Spa Valley Beer Festival at the beginning of October and will be looking to get their beer into selected local pubs in the near future.

BLO Richard Saunders

BREWHOUSE & KITCHEN

Horsham

The **Rock** standard bitter is now 4% (was 3.6%) for the 2021 Great British Beer Festival. Robin will have a 5.4% special festival ale (a "cream ale") The **Heritage** 4.5% mild ale will be back on the bar in September, as the seasonal ale.

BLO Terry Shouler

BREWHOUSE & KITCHEN

Worthing

Opened in May 2021.

BLO tbc

BREWING BROTHERS

Hastings

Now have a bar in the Hastings Source Park.

BLO tbc

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. BRZN have been running a lovely micro pub serving their wonderful beers. It had been run on a temporary licence, but now an application for a permanent one has been approved.

BLO Miriam Harper

BURNING SKY

Firle

Burning Sky's Brewer, Mark Tranter, reports that they have been overwhelmed by

support from the on-trade as pubs gradually reopened. Cask was hit and miss for a while, in terms of ordering, so they concentrated on Plateau to make sure it was as they would want it in peak condition every time. As things normalised, they have brewed **Aurora** again; a joy for them and their customers. They will continue with those, and maybe some specials and definitely seasonal beers in cask.

All their beers, including cask, are now vegan. They have found a way to ensure their beers are 'pin bright' without the use of traditional finings.

750ml releases recently have been **Cuvée Reserve 2020/21** (a possible swansong as they have not been able to bring lambic over from Belgium due to Covid-19 in the short term and Brexit in the long term), and **Full Circle**, in collaboration with Thornbridge. An aged saison with sour cherries is next up, with their annual coolship release following. Keg and canned beers remain very strong both locally and nationally, with **Arise** having been flying out.

BLO Ian Hodge

CHAPEAU BREWING

Horsham

Chapeau have continued to brew throughout the second lockdown, supplying beer through their tap room

and local delivery. They have continued to brew their full range of beers and some one off specials. The tap room has now reopened and they hope to add further hours during September 2021. Other outlets include the Kings Arms (Horsham).

BLO Paul Sanders

DOWNLANDS

Small Dole

Well they made it into double figures. The 15th August was the brewery's 10th birthday and was spent very much as they did in 2011, by brewing a beer.

A big thank you goes out to everyone who have supported them over the last decade.

BLO Peter Mitchell

FIREBIRD

Horsham

Paleface and **Amarillo** are back (replacing **Citra**).

Mandarina, **Two Horses**, **Parody** and **Work Ethic** are all now available can conditioned.

The bar has been revamped during the last lockdown with increased capacity and is more open and less draughty. It is open until 9pm on Fridays and Saturdays, with street food available on Fridays. From 25th September there will also be live music and food on Saturdays.

Pubs in which Firebird beers are sometimes available include the Black Jug, Piries Bar and the King's Arms in Horsham and the

Blacksmiths Arms in Adversane.

BLO Dave Sharp

FRANKLINS

Ringmer

Things are still a bit patchy at the brewery regarding brewing in the pandemic. Andy Whole, the marketing and sales person, left before holidays and hasn't been replaced yet. Franklins is not brewing at full capacity which is a shame as they have added capacity during lock down and they bought some rather smart lab equipment.

BLO Kris Crymer

GREYHOUND

West Chiltington

Brewery doing well, ALL beers are now gluten free and vegan friendly and all bottled beers are bottle conditioned. Good brewery website shop with free delivery in local areas. Regular events at the brewery from home baked bread to beer festival.

BLO Colin Pennifold

GUN

Gun Hill, Heathfield

Ground was broken on the new 6,000 sq ft brewery build back in September 2020. One year on and the finishing touches are being added.

The plan allows for a coldstore, production space and a shop / taproom. The taproom will have large windows looking into the production space, meaning that you should be able to visit the brewery and enjoy a

pint whilst watching the brewers at work.

A new 30hl three vessel brew kit is being installed, along with two new 9000l fermenters. This kit, along with the efficiency gains from working in a custom designed space, will allow production capacity to triple.

The brewery is hoping to open its doors to the public this side of Christmas 2021. To keep up to date on progress, you can go to their website, or better still sign up for their newsletter.

In other brewery news, **Chummy Bluster** was awarded a coveted Gold Award in this year's Free From Awards, which also saw **Spin Drift IPA** take a bronze.

BLO Barry Blewitt

HAIRY DOG

Wivelsfield

The Tap Room continues to be open on Fridays and Saturdays 4pm - 11pm. Hairy Dog supplied **Hounded Best Bitter** (4.1% ABV) to the Bluebell Railway Beer Festival.

BLO Paul Free

HARVEY'S

Lewes

Harvey's head brewer, Miles Jenner, reports being pleasantly surprised at the Brewery's recovery from Covid-19. New products are planned that will see them brewing some very different styles in the coming months. A collaboration with Burning Sky will see their

brewer, Mark Tranter, visit Harvey's to brew something distinct using Harvey's unique yeast strain.

The brewery did not enter any beer competitions in 2020 due to Covid-19. So they are even more delighted to have been awarded Country Winner for their **1859 Porter**,

Imperial Extra Double Stout, and **Prince of Denmark**

in the World Beer Awards 2021. Silver was awarded for **Christmas Ale** and **Elizabethan Ale** and Bronze for **Best Bitter** and **Sweet Sussex**. In the next two rounds all Country Winners will complete to become the World's Best in their style and category with results expected on 9 September. In the British Beer Bottlers' Institute Competition Harvey's were awarded Gold for both **Elizabethan Ale** and **Lewes Castle Brown Ale** with Diplomas being awarded for another five of their beers.

After a year of uncertainty and set backs, some business rationalisation has been necessary to equip them for the future. One opportunity has been to integrate a smaller technical services department within the production team.

Overall, there has been a small reduction in staff numbers across the Brewery and Estate. They plan to use a new marquee with it being erected for a variety of events in the Brewery yard over the coming year. Sadly,

they are unable to host the traditional "Dancing-in-of-the Old" on the first Saturday of October but hope to do so next year. The need to prioritise staff and customer safety means that Brewery tours remain on hold for now.

Harvey's are delighted to have received a CAMRA Golden Award celebrating businesses that have gone above and beyond in delivering excellence or innovation during the last 50 years of campaigning.

BLO Ian Hodge

HEATHEN

Haywards Heath

Heathen Brewers have opened a new brewery and Tap Room called the Hop Sun in Triangle Road, Haywards Heath. The new brewery is based in a converted Victorian barn and incorporates mainly original architectural features. Beers on tap during the official opening included a **New England India Pale Ale** at 5% ABV along with a more traditional **India Pale Ale**, a West Coast style Pale Ale and a stout. The beers in the Tap Room are served from tanks using air pressure dispense with no CO² involved.

BLO Paul Free

KISSINGATE

Lower Beeding

Much has changed over the last two years with a greater focus on developing the brewery as a venue.

Kissingate's quirky taproom has become a big attraction for the locals and those from further afield.

A scaled-back brewing schedule has allowed for more creativity with brews such as **Little Green Nutter** 5.0%, which is only available from the taproom. At least ten cask beers are always available including stouts, porters or milds. A new Beer called **Horsham Ditty Pale** 4.0% is a new creation celebrating the life and times of the Horsham songwriter, bellringer, and cobber Harry Burstow. Kissingate first summer festival for two years was a huge success and a welcome back. Plans for an October festival are already underway with the date set for Saturday 9th October. See the website for more details.

BLO Roy Bray

LANGHAM

Lodsworth, Petworth

See article in Spotlight on Breweries section page 18.

BLO Peter Luff

LISTER'S

Ford

Have moved to a new site in Worthing.

BLO Glenn Johnson

LONG MAN

Litlington

Brewing is focussing on the core range of **Best Bitter** (4%), **Long Blonde** (4.1%), **Old Man** (4.3%) and their strong pale ale now rebranded **Giant Rising** (4.8%).

Look out for small batch beers : **Wild Man** - a 5.2% IPA - from late September, and **Innkeeper** - a fruity winter warmer - from November.

2021 has seen the Brewery win Sussex Drink Producer of the Year, and Sussex Green Business of the Year. The Brewery Shop and tasting room are open every day, and Brewery Tours can be booked on line.

BLO Richard Scullion

LOUD SHIRT BEER

Brighton

It is now three months since the new owners took over; however, the brewery is being run on very similar lines to before. Their keg beers are available both locally and at a few outlets around the country. Current cask beers are (i) **Hypnosis Pale** (4.5%) with light malts and heaps of dry hopping, and (ii) **Psychedelic IPA** (5.1%) highly hopped fruity IPA with late addition of citra hops. In addition they have three core and two seasonal KeyKeg beers. The highly successful brewery tours are currently being run twice every Saturday. The brewery has close links with Whitehawk Football Club, their local team who play in the Isthmian League.

BLO Adrian Heft

PIN UP

No longer brewing in Sussex.

BLO Adrian Towler

POLARITY

Worthing

Not brewing at the moment.

BLO tbc

RECTORY

Streat

It is assumed that brewing is suspended.

BLO Paul Free

RIVERSIDE

Upper Beeding

Riverside Brewery has adapted positively to the current situation and continued to thrive and have expanded their floor storage space by adding a scaffold platform measuring eight metres by four metres inside the brewery. This invaluable additional space is being fully utilised. They generously allow Hebrew Brewers to use their brewing facilities when required. Their canning line, which has been operating for some three years now is kept well occupied. The great winter ale **Leaping Lord** is conditioning well before being put out for sale. At 6.6% it is a respectable strength for a traditional winter ale and is an absolute treat for all lovers of proper dark winter warmers. They also brew as many as five gluten free beers. Collaboration brews always have the potential to produce an interesting and exciting beer and it is possible that Riverside may produce something together with Rob Jones, previously with Dark Star. It's early days yet, but watch

this space! Grateful thanks for this and for organising a recent blind tasting at the brewery go to Adrian Towler of Brighton & Hove branch. Thanks to Adrian's efforts and organisational skills the beer tasting evening was a great success and is a type of event to be encouraged.

BLO Chris Payne

ROTHER VALLEY

Northiam

Cask and bottle sales are very good. From October all bottled beers will be vegan. The brewery are hopeful that all seasonal beers will be available.

BLO Dawn Lincoln

SUSSEX SMALL BATCH

Poling

Sussex Small Batch is still brewing interesting and popular stouts at Goldmark Brewery. Most production is canned, but cask stouts are sometimes available at local beer festivals and in a few pubs in Worthing. New

Sticky Toffee Dark Stout available soon.

BLO Colin Pennifold

THREE ACRE

Blackboys,

ThreeAcreBrewery@gmail.com

The brewery is intending to install three new 13hl tanks shortly, thus increasing the total capacity to 66hl, while towards the end of the year the brewlength is to be doubled to 10bbl (approx. 16hl.) New beers include seasonal **Bonfire Beer** (6.66% (sic)), a new IPA (5%), followed later by an

English Pale Ale and a lager.

Beers will soon also be available in cans and from October in keg. The availability of the brewery's products is to be extended to the Arundel and Portsmouth areas.

Two successful beer tastings have been held in recent months, one online using Zoom and featuring all six of the brewery's bottled beers, and the second in the Crowborough Cross Wetherspoons featuring cask ales provided from mini-kegs. Though different in format, both events were thoroughly informative and entertaining.

BLO John Quick

THREE LEGS

Brede

They are open Friday and Saturday 12-8 and Sunday 12-6. Please call 07939 997622, Email Info@thethreelegs.co.uk or message them directly on Instagram @thethreelegs. Last orders half hour before closing. There are a small number of tables that can be pre-booked in 1/2 hour slots. Up to 2 hours may be booked with up to 6 guests per booking. Reservation by phone only - 07939997622 Tuesday to Saturday. The brewery taproom is operated with covid_19 safe practices. A new taproom has opened in Norman Road, St. Leonards on sea. Come on down for pints from 4pm. 11 beer lines on. [@heistmarket.](https://www.thethreelegs.co.uk/heist)

[@heistmarket.](https://www.thethreelegs.co.uk/heist)

HEIST. Market Food Market Collective Street Food | Coffee | Craft Beer | Natural Wine | Restaurant | Cocktails M-T 9am-11pm F-S 9am-midnight S 9am-6pm. Click and collect can be collected Tue to Sat 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 Howard Millichap

TOP NOTCH

Haywards Heath

Top-Notch recommenced brewing following a break during the pandemic. No regular beers brewed, beer style changes with each brew. Most recently brewed **Panzific**, a 4.8% APA, which was available at The Lockhart (Haywards Heath), The Engine Room (East Grinstead), The Watchmakers (Hove), and the Talbot (Cuckfield), was available at the Bluebell railway Beer Festival in September.

Refer to Facebook and Twitter /Untapped for information on current brewing and availability.

BLO Simon Winnard

VINE

Tarring

Not brewing at the moment.

BLO tbc

WATCHMAKER'S ARMS

Hove

Now that the Watchmaker's has fully reopened, brewing has started again. **Bezel Best** was making an appearance at the first Bluebell Railway Beer Festival in September and seasonal favourite **Old Timer** will be pouring at the Watchmaker's from early October.

BLO Peter Mitchell

WELTONS

Horsham

Ray Welton has retired and the brewery has been sold.

BLO Nigel Bullen



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Spotlight on

BREWERIES

Langham Brewery



Langham Brewery is one of the oldest independent breweries in Sussex. Established in 2005 it offers a delicious range of fresh keg beer, secondary cask conditioned real ale,

bottles and coming soon... cans – all lovingly created and brewed at their award-winning microbrewery, near Petworth in West Sussex, in the stunning South Downs National Park.

The Changing Times Of Covid

Langham Brewery acted quickly to the Covid-19 restrictions... and the results have surpassed all expectations.

When lock-down was first declared back in March 2020, the brewery had to rapidly adapt to survive, and local customers came to their rescue. The brewery is situated in



the most beautiful countryside, with plenty of space for a safe Drive-Through. A new Home

Delivery service was also organised to reach Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire, alongside a new online shop and courier service for orders elsewhere in the UK.

Lesley, co-owner of the brewery, explains, "Pre-Covid, over 80% of trade was through our regional publicans, so we had to act quickly to alter our offerings. When we opened our safe brewery Drive Through

and local home Delivery Service, we were blown away by the love, support and enthusiasm shown to us. We loved getting to know the customers personally, and they enjoyed meeting our small, dedicated brewery team, and understanding more about the passion and craft which goes into each pint of Langham beer."

What3Words Affiliation

Last year, the brewery featured in the Sun Newspaper as a brewery 'brew thru'. They were spotted by What3Words, a geolocation company, and chosen to represent What3Words in a national awareness Campaign. W3W have divided the entire globe into 3m squares, each with its own unique 3 words. By using these words and their friendly app, you can find anyone/anything anywhere; very handy for hard-to-locate local delivery customers! The brewery's 3 words are ///Hence.Mute. Lizards and on National Beer Day last year Langham's launched the first official UK What3Words beer: the ///Hence.Mute. Lizards Langham range was born. Next W3W brew launching end September for Cask Ale week! Watch this space....

Langham Gulp Rewards

To 'give something back', the brewery's next move was to create a club for their regular customers, with 10% discount on their 'Beer Of The Month'... plus a myriad of other rewards. They named it 'The Gulp' club – the collective term for swallows (which were found nesting in the barn when Langham first arrived to brew, back in 2005). There are now over 700 'Gulpers' – a group of like-minded craft beer drinkers who appreciate the range of Langham's 17+ cellar-fresh, flavoursome ales, as well as the friendly service they receive.

Do visit the brewery website (GULP REWARDS on menu bar) for details of how to join.

The Langham Brewery Taproom: The Perfect Pit Stop



The brewery's brand new Taproom opened on 12th April 2021 and alongside the brewery shop, is now open 6 days a week.

Both Lesley and co-owner James agree that it's been a very strange 18 months; in so many ways. "It has been hard work, but with the sincere loyalty of the brewery customer base, a positive new direction has been achieved for the brewery. The tight knit Langham team were thrilled to welcome back the wonderful hostellers in our area, and would like to extend a huge thanks to everyone who has supported us throughout the pandemic."

The brewery is the perfect destination experience, and part of the enjoyment of the South Downs National Park. Walkers, cyclists, hikers and day-trippers (and their

dogs) are all warmly welcomed, as are their wonderfully supportive local customers, of course.

As well as an extensive range of beers, the Taproom also offers tea, coffee and delicious cakes, as well as wines, ciders and local, authentically Italian, Faretti pizzas. Enjoy the 'Pizza & Pint Deal' by visiting the Taproom on Thursdays to receive 50p off the price of a pizza and your favourite pint, glass of wine or bottle of cider.



You can also try 4 Langham brews in a single purchase via their new 'flights' - lovingly handmade from Sussex oak by Chris Fairclough, local artisan and designer of bespoke woodwork. Their excellent flight attendant (formerly BA. Yes, seriously!) will be happy to guide you through your tasting experience.

What's Next For Langham Brewery?

Look out for the new canning line (in operation during the autumn of 2021 all being well); a new innovation as part of the brewery's partnership with the South Downs National park; 'beer pairing' evenings; the re-introduction of brewery tours and live events, including free live music sessions on selected Saturday afternoons.

New recruits: The brewery team of Saulo, Martyn, Lesley and James were joined last year by the lovely Bex, who you will find mainly in the Tap, dispensing beer and brewing wisdom. The brewery was over the

moon when their friend, the most excellent Fran Weston (formerly Head Brewer of Ballards), joined the team in June.



The brewery are currently reaching out to all serious sports men, women, families and children to be part of their annual daredevil contest of skill and danger: Bonkers For Conkers. Join in with the event at their beautiful 'brewery in a barn' on the Cowdray Estate, on Sunday 10th October, from 1pm – 6.30pm.

The brewery is also conjuring up some new brews, ready for the autumn - do keep an eye on their social media and website for up-to-date news.

Now things are back to normal(ish) please support your local! To find out your nearest Langham's pub or bottle shop please do get in touch with the brewery.

Langham Brewery continue to sell beers direct from the brewery 'brew thru', are open 6 days a week for both Taproom and Shop, offer a Home Delivery service - available across Sussex, Surrey and Hampshire - and use a courier service to cover orders across all parts of the UK.

Find out more and keep in touch:
 langhambrewery.co.uk
 @langhambrewery
 01798 860861
 Langham Brewery, near Petworth, West Sussex

Dark Star commits to cask with new launch



Dark Star Brewing is launching new **Orbiter Best Bitter** (4% ABV) this summer as part of

its core cask range. Available at selected pubs on cask and via the brewer's online shop, the brew will be also be on sale at London Craft Beer Festival (13-14 August) and Edinburgh Craft Beer Festival (20-21 August) ahead of nationwide rollout later this year. Dark Star Brewing head brewer, Henry Kirk said: *"It's exciting times here at Dark Star. We're really happy to be brewing and sending out cask beer for pub-goers again, and to be launching a new brew in a classic style through Orbiter Best Bitter is fantastic. We know Dark Star is a brewery that many beer enthusiasts are very fond of, and we've taken important steps in 2021 for us to continue to establish ourselves as a spearhead for modern craft and cask beer in the UK."* Dark Star is now owned by Asahi and the company said it was committed to making sure cask ale prospers. Asahi marketing director Sam Rhodes added: *"Dark Star has a hugely important role to play in our portfolio and we're concentrated on empowering it to reach the heights we believe it can. Cask ale in particular has been uniquely hit by the pandemic, we're committed to ensuring this cornerstone of British beer will flourish once again and Dark Star will be at the forefront of this."* Dark Star fans can look forward to more launches, later this year, with a series of rotational and special releases landing across the year - including **Skylab** session IPA, **Sunquake California IPA** and **Solar Eclipse Black IPA**. Dark Star commits to cask ale.



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PRESSING NEWS

A guide to cider in Worthing's micropubs - Part 2

(This is part 2 of an article, part 1 of which appeared in SD101 - Spring 2020)

So, progressing round Worthing's micropubs, we set out on my very first BTTP (Bus To The Pub) trip on Saturday 28th December to try 3 more.

First up was the Georgi Fin, which was already stuffed with stalwarts of the BTTP team. Very welcoming, very clear and informative boards about what was on offer, and a good range of ales and ciders. I stuck with a favourite, South Downs Dry cider (4.5%), and Roger sampled Loudshirt Ecstasy Stout 6.6% (just a half), and Ampersand Cocow 4.8% when that came on. I loved both his ales too! I also liked the reclaimed boards for benches and tables, though difficult for me to get my leg over.... (no sniggers, please).

A short walk from there to the Green Man Ale and Cider House, run by Les Johnson (no relation), and always a good selection of ales and ciders. Roger had Hurst Old Acquaintance 6.5%, and Hopback Pickled Santa 6% (both halves at that strength!), and I had Purbeck Dandy Dab and Burrow Hill Dry, both beautiful, and tempting to try more, but we still had another micro to try....

On to the Brooksteed Alehouse, close to Worthing station, where I had a choice of 2 Ascension ciders, plumping for the weaker (4%) and more interesting of them, Shimmy, which tasted more of the added fruit (pineapple) than the apple cider, but pleasant and refreshing. Roger had Sambrook's Powerhouse Porter, 4.9%, a lovely drink on which to finish. Thank you Aaron and John for a very pleasant finish to the day.

There still remained 2 more micropubs in Worthing, so yet another trip out was required on Saturday 18th January, this time



in the evening, arriving at the Fox and Finch about 8pm. The place was stuffed full when we arrived and well-



steamed up - could hardly see the bar! But it was well worth pushing through to it to see a phenomenal range of cask and keg ales, and ciders, and mead and gins on offer. Roger tried the Weltons Hot Chestnuts Porter, 5.5%, which I sampled too - exceedingly

nice - and I had Sandford Orchards Devon Scrumpy, 6%, also very good. Encountered Nigel and Debs from the Anchored in here. Conversation ensued with them and the landlady, which turned to the last micropub we had to visit, the Grizzly Bear: apparently no real ale or cider, so we chickened out of visiting this one and went for yet another drink in the Green Man again. Apologies for not visiting this last micro, but it was very noisy and very full as we went by!

Georgi Fin, 54 Goring Rd, BN12 4AD. 01903 240933. Closed Mon. thegeorgifin.co.uk

Green Man Ale and Cider House, 17 South St, Tarring, BN14 7LG. 07984 793877.

Brooksteed Alehouse, 38 South Farm Rd, BN14 7AE. 07484 840103. Closed Mon. brooksteedalehouse.co.uk

The Fox and Finch, 8 Littlehampton Rd, BN13 1QE. thefoxandfinch.co.uk

Grizzly Bear, 33 South St, Tarring, BN14 7LG. 01903 000000(?). Card payments only.

Jackie Johnson

Brighton & South Downs Branch

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A BLUEBELL RAILWAY FIRST

What do beer and steam railways have in common? Well... both use a lot of water. They both appeal to men of a certain age. OK - women too. And the Bluebell Railway Beer Festival - the first - had them in abundance.



Bar in Bluebell Engine Shed

This, in early September, was a joint venture between CAMRA and the railway trustees, ostensibly to raise funds but of course to promote real ale, give people a good time and draw people onto the heritage site who might not otherwise go. So in most respects it was a great success.



Bar in the marquee



Beer amongst the engines

the line at Horsted Keynes. So a massive

choice amongst the locomotives, the station regalia, the tracks and cinders. Carriages were parked for people to sit in and regular train arrivals brought in waves of customers. The sun also shone!

Nice to say that beer festivals are returning and getting back to sort-of normal again. Most of the ales and ciders at The Bluebell were from Sussex and Surrey with a smattering from further afield: a gesture of support for our local breweries who must have had a hard time during the pandemic.

But will there be a 2022 Bluebell Railway Beer Festival? If you want a festival with lots to see and explore around you, instead of a plain church hall, pub garden or town hall, then Bluebell's the place. And yes, next year's is planned for September 23rd to 25th 2022, subject to confirmation. See you there!

Adrian Towler

Brighton & South Downs Branch

BRIGHTON & SOUTH DOWNS BRANCH SOCIALS

These are on Thursday nights from 7.30pm at the following real ale pubs. Feel free to come along and have a beer with us.

September 23rd Gardener's Arms, Lewes
September 30th Jolly Brewers, Brighton
October 7th Red Lion, Shoreham-by-Sea
October 14th Hole in the Wall, Brighton
October 21st Watermill, Burgess Hill
(World's End)

October 28th Stanley Arms, Portslade
November 4th Anchor, Ringmer
November 11th Duke of Wellington,
Shoreham-by-Sea

November 18th Bier Haus, Brighton
November 25th Brewers Arms, Lewes
December 2nd Watchmakers Arms, Hove
December 9th Bevy, Brighton
December 16th John Harvey Tavern, Lewes
December 23rd Haus on the Hill, Brighton
December 30th Evening Star, Brighton
January 6th Independent, Brighton



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BEER FESTIVALS AND OTHER DELICENTS

CAMRA EVENTS IN BOLD. For FREE inclusion in this column and on the Sussex Branches website, contact the Editor; for PAID advertisements contact Neil Richards. Copy-by date and contact details on the contacts page 30. For up to date information on beer festivals and other beer and cider related events in Sussex, and often more details than appear here in print, please visit the Beer Festivals page on the Sussex Branches website, sussex.camra.org.uk/festivals.

17-19 Sep Brickmakers Alehouse, Bexhill - First Beer Festival.
brickmakersalehouse.co.uk

8-10 Oct The whole town turns into a beer festival for the Hastings Tap Takeover with 17 Venues, 17 Tap takeovers, with each pub hosting beers from a different independent brewery.
www.hastingstaptakeover.com

Look out for the Hastings Old Town Pub Crawl, running a few weeks after the Tap Takeover, details to be confirmed.

9 Oct Kissingate Brewery October Festival 11am - 8pm, with at least 12 beers, plus cider, full bar and BBQ

10 Oct Langham Brewery Bonkers for Conkers, 1pm-6pm, featuring Wavy Davy Band, The Victory Morris Dance, and Sea Shanties.

22 - 24 Oct The Albatross Club is going to hold a Beer Festival on 22 - 24th October. The Club has been doing really well following the refurbishment and lockdown and staff would like to run a beer festival in October. With Karen having stepped down there have been quite a few changes in personnel, however their enthusiasm is great and so plans to hold 'their' first Beer Festival is now planned.

28-31 Oct Jenny Lind, Hastings, Dark Ale Festival

29-31 Oct Crown, Eastbourne, Autumn Beer Festival, Real Ales, Live Music.

18-20 Nov Eastbourne Beer Festival. It's great to be returning to the home of the Eastbourne Beer Festival at the newly renovated Winter Garden Floral Hall. Over 100 Real Ales and 20 Ciders and Perries. Tickets from Visit Eastbourne's website and the Bandstand box office, 01323 410611.
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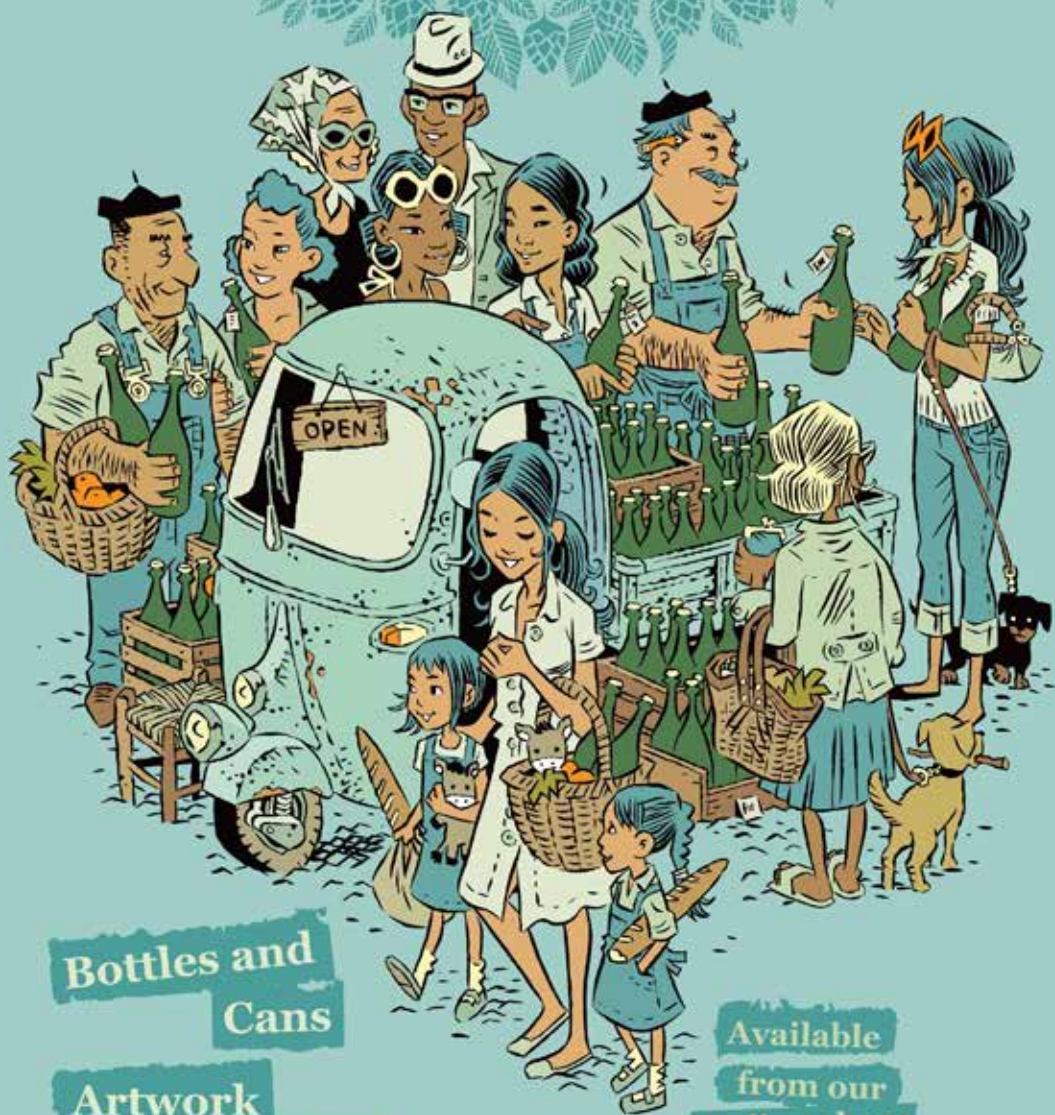


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Surrey & Sussex Regional Director:

Paul Sanders, 07778 035971

RD.SurreySussex@camra.org.uk

Sussex Area Organiser:

Peter Page-Mitchell, 01424 547049,
(St. Leonards-on-Sea),

area.organiser@sussex.camra.org.uk

Website: sussex.camra.org.uk

*PotY: none, *CPotY: Albatross Club (RAFA), Bexhill on Sea

Arun & Adur

Pete Barlow, 07902 166071,

branch.contact@aaa.camra.org.uk,

www.aaa.camra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Worthing, 2022, TBC

PotY: Fox & Finch Alehouse, Worthing

CPotY: none; COTY: none

Brighton & South Downs

Jamie Hooper, 07956 502152

contact@brighton.camra.org.uk

www.brighton.camra.org.uk

Beer Festival: South Downs, Lewes, 2022, TBC

PotY: Duke of Wellington, Shoreham-by-Sea

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

North Sussex

Paul Sanders, 07778 035971

paul.sanders@btinternet.com

www.northsussex.camra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Equinox, 2022, TBC

PotY: Anchor Tap, Horsham;

CPotY: Brewery Shades, Crawley; CotY: none

North East Sussex

Richard Saunders, 07773013063,

richard@rnsaunders.plus.com

www.northeastsussex.camra.org.uk

PotY: Hare & Hounds, Framfield;

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

South East Sussex

Phil Cozens, 01323 460822

contact@southeastsussex.camra.org.uk

www.southeastsussex.camra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Eastbourne, 18-20 Nov 2021

PotY: Waterworks, Rye; CPotY: Jolly Fisherman,

Hastings; CotY: Albatross Club (RAFA), Bexhill on Sea

Western Sussex

Max Malkin, 01243 828394

max.malkin@mypostoffice.co.uk

www.westernsussexcamra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Yapton, 13-15 May 2022

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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Copy Submissions:

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.

Standard Disclaimer:

Views expressed in this magazine are those of the individual authors and not necessarily supported by the editor or CAMRA.

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Sunday 12:00-16:00

***The Empress Littlehampton
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Littlehampton, BN17 5AD
01903 723837***



Southwick **BEER ENGINE**.co.uk

GIN TASTINGS ARE BACK!

NOV 6th 8.30pm
SBE FLAVOURS
our own Gins
under the
spotlight.
PLUS the launch
of our limited
edition Gin gift
sets.

DEC 4th 8.30pm
BEST OF BRITISH
Our top 8 selling
British Gins

Both events are
ticket in
advance only.
Max 8 people
per table.
Contact the bar
for details

Hosting an
event at home
or anywhere
and you want
the best line
up on any
event bar?
Booking now
for 2021/22

Tue - Thu 12pm - 10pm
Fri/Sat 12pm - 11pm Sun 12pm - 8pm
2 Southwick Sq. BN42 4FJ
Bus 46 stops outside 5 min from
Southwick station and 700 bus.

**6 CASK ALE'S
STILL CIDER
DRAFT GUINNESS
KROMBACHER PILS
& KELLERBIER
6 CRAFT KEG LINES
QUALITY WINES
BELGIUM & CRAFT
BOTTLE BEERS
OVER 50 GINS**



**A Thornbridge cask
always on tap.**

**LIVE MUSIC
Every Sunday
@ 15.00**

**Krombacher
Oktoberfest
OCT 15th-31st**

**PILS
KELLERBIER
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All on tap
Fresh & direct from
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Nov 25th - 28th
Cask Ale Festival
Light 2 Dark
Golden ales to
Porters available.
PLUS 6 Sussex
Ciders
Live Music
Fri-Sat evening &
Sunday Afternoon.

