

Celebrating the Real Ale Scene in Sussex

# Sussex Drinker

Spring 2024

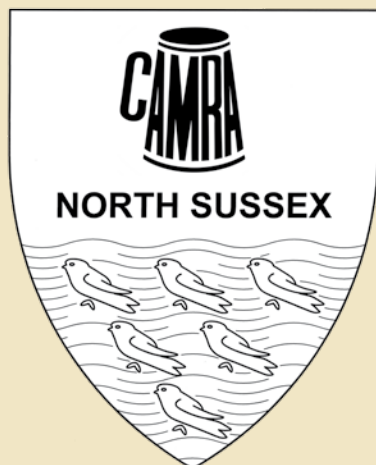
Free



Campaign  
for  
Real Ale



**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



**1974-2024**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Yapton Beerex**



**Yapton and Ford  
Village Hall, Main Road,  
Yapton**

**17-19 May 2024  
(See pages 6 and 7)**

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**Spring Equinox  
Beer & Cider Festival  
Horsham  
22-23 March 2024  
(see pages 4 and 5)**

# The Fourth Bognor Craft Beer Festival

Bognor  
Beerfest

FRI 15 - SUN 17 MAR 2024  
THE GORDON CENTRE, CANADA GROVE,  
BOGNOR REGIS PO21 1DW

20 Different cask ales, 6 keg lines  
and a wine & spirits bar on both  
evening sessions.

Live music on friday & saturday  
nights and sunday 3-5pm

For more information follow us on:  
f bognor regis beer festival  
bognor.beer.fest

For any questions please email:  
bognorbeerfest@outlook.com



BOOK HERE



# North Sussex CAMRA Branch 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary



The North Sussex CAMRA branch was formed at the Red Lion, Turners Hill, on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 1974. It was the first CAMRA branch in the county of Sussex, so that inaugural meeting was the birth place of CAMRA activity in Sussex.

We have two events planned as part of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

On Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>, we will return to the Red Lion in Turners Hill for a lunchtime event, from 12.30pm. We are excited to work with Harvey's Brewery who are brewing a celebration Ale for the Branch Anniversary. Please join us for a lunch buffet and to try the celebration ale, which will be available that day.

A number of branch brewers are also brewing special anniversary ales to mark the event. On Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>, the taprooms at Brolly and Horsham Brewing Company will be open and featuring these ales.

All the anniversary ales being brewed for us, along with an anniversary cider or two, will also be available at our branch beer festival at the Drill Hall, Horsham on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. See pages 4 and 5 for details of that event. We also hope that these anniversary ales will be available at a number of branch pubs from late March.

Any landlords wanting details of the anniversary beers should contact the festival team at [camra.equinox@gmail.com](mailto:camra.equinox@gmail.com).

We are producing an updated branch history document, which was last done to mark our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If you have any stories or pictures, we'd love to hear from you. You can contact us by emailing [socsec@northsussex.camra.org.uk](mailto:socsec@northsussex.camra.org.uk), or you via our branch website



[northsussex.camra.org.uk](http://northsussex.camra.org.uk) where you can find all the up to date information about the events.

Please also check our website and branch social media channels for more information, including details of any additional venues for the 30<sup>th</sup> and details of other potential events in April and May.

Facebook: @northsussexcamrabranch

Instagram: @nsxcamra

X (twitter): @CAMRAEquinox



**An ever changing range of five cask conditioned ales that always includes one mild, one session bitter, two best bitters and one strong bitter.**

**Plus Hacker Pschorr genuine Munich lager, and Weston Old Rosie cider on gravity.**

**Homemade traditional food, plus 5 en suite bedrooms.**

**All of this in a very traditional pub!**

**Five Bells**  
**Smock Alley**  
**West Chiltonton**  
**West Sussex**  
**RH20 2QX**  
**01798 812143**

**Arun & Adur**  
**CAMRA**  
**Country**  
**Pub of the Year**  
**2016-2018**  
**Branch Pub of the**  
**Year 2023**

**[www.thefivebellsinn.com](http://www.thefivebellsinn.com)**

# 10<sup>th</sup> CAMRA Spring Equinox Festival

## Horsham Drill Hall, March 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024



We are delighted to confirm that the 2024 CAMRA North Sussex Spring Equinox Beer & Cider

Festival is able to go ahead again.

The venue remains the Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham town centre, RH12 1JF, which is about 15 to 20 minutes' walk from the railway station and less from the bus station.

The beer list will have over 50 beers, with the usual balanced mix of Winter and Spring ales, about eight of which will be served from KeyKeg. All our excellent Branch brewers will again be featured, alongside other breweries from near and far. Sussex cider makers will feature on Stringer's Cider bar, with a mix of traditional and flavoured ciders and perries.

To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inaugural meeting of the branch, the event will feature a number of one-off beers brewed for us, and a cider or two.

House Coren vineyard from Billingshurst will be joining us with their range of still and sparkling wine, and hot and cold food and snacks will be available at all sessions.

Tickets for the Friday 6-10pm session are £8, Saturday 11:30-4.30pm session £10 and Saturday 6:30-10pm £6. Your entry fee includes a festival glass, which can be returned at the end of the event for a £2 refund if you wish. CAMRA members will receive £5 of beer tokens on presentation of their membership card. Please bear in mind that we again anticipate that the Saturday afternoon session will sell out several weeks in advance, and the Friday

evening session also almost sold out last year.

As well as being able to purchase tickets in Horsham from the Malt Shovel, Beer Mine and the Anchor Tap, Crawley's Brewery Shades and East Grinstead's Engine Room they are also available online at [northsussex.camra.org.uk/equinox](http://northsussex.camra.org.uk/equinox). Postal applications (cheques payable to CAMRA North Sussex and please include a stamped addressed envelope) can be made to The Treasurer, 16 Cobbles Crescent, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 8HA. For more info, including a beer list in due course, contact: [camra.equinox@gmail.com](mailto:camra.equinox@gmail.com), or [northsussex.camra.org.uk](http://northsussex.camra.org.uk), or via X @CAMRAEquinox or northsussexcamrabranch on Facebook

## Bus to the Pub (Btpp)

Bus to the Pub is organised on a weekly basis, all the trips are on Thursdays, generally meeting at noon, usually visiting three pubs.

Max is the coordinator: "We mainly travel by train whilst buses are used as well. We visit various locations across Sussex but our core area is between Worthing & Lewes because of the high volume of great pubs with an excellent choice of great beers."

If you would like to join us on our trips then please contact [whu@maxmalkin.plus.com](mailto:whu@maxmalkin.plus.com) to be added to the mailing list.



CAMRA NORTH SUSSEX BRANCH PRESENTS

# SPRING EQUINOX BEER FESTIVAL

[www.northsussex.camra.org.uk/equinox](http://www.northsussex.camra.org.uk/equinox)  
[camra.equinox@gmail.com](mailto:camra.equinox@gmail.com)

**22-23 March 2024**  
**Horsham Drill Hall**  
**Denne Road**  
**RH12 1JF**

Tickets on sale from  
Malt Shovel, Beer Mine  
and Anchor Tap in Horsham,  
Brewery Shades in Crawley and  
Engine Room in East Grinstead,  
or online via website  
or email above

Friday 22 March  
£8 open 6-10pm

Saturday 23 March  
£10 open 11.30am-4.30pm  
£6 open 6.30-10pm

CAMRA members get £5 beer token\*  
Ticket includes a festival glass



**CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE**



 **SCAN ME**



# YAPTON BEEREX IS BACK AGAIN FOR 2024!



The 32<sup>nd</sup> Yapton Beerex is returning to Yapton and Ford Village Hall, Main Road, Yapton on the 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

If you haven't been before this is a very unusual event in that the hall stands on Yapton Village Green which affords the opportunity for a fresco relaxation over a pint or two. The middle weekends in May have in recent years afforded some great weather, so fingers crossed.

In addition to 43 perfectly cooled real ales there will be a KeyKeg bar (this year serving all beers right from the start following feedback from last year), even more ciders and perries and new and exciting food catering. Cash and cards will be accepted for everything with tokens for sale to buy drinks.

The drinks will have been selected from both national and local sources by CAMRA volunteers who will be on hand to guide you through the various styles.

The new 500 Stagecoach bus service now operates regularly between Littlehampton and Chichester stopping right outside Yapton Village Hall and Barnham station on all 3 days of the festival. Compass route 66 also serves Bognor and local villages on Friday afternoon and Saturday daytime. This means that our vintage bus won't be needed this year and has been gracefully retired.

Again, after considering feedback our Friday session now starts earlier at 3pm. Session times are below with ticket prices which remain unchanged from last year with the exception of Sunday which reverts to being FREE. You don't need a ticket for

Sunday but please bring ID if you are lucky enough to look under 25. Children and well-behaved dogs are welcome and free at all sessions.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 3pm to 11pm - £8

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 11am to 9pm - £8 all day;  
- £4 from 5pm

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 12noon to 3pm - FREE.

Friday and all-day Saturday ticket holders will get a free half pint cask ale/cider voucher.

Card carrying CAMRA members additionally get a £2 voucher for the session they attend (NOT the free Sunday session). A souvenir programme is included. Glasses are again to borrow not to keep.

A link to the ticketing website can be found on QR code on our posters at various venues and in this publication. Any updates will be posted on [westernsussexcamra.org.uk](http://westernsussexcamra.org.uk) and this site will also link to an interactive beer list in the fullness of time.

You can also purchase tickets at the following venues: -

MAYPOLE Yapton. WILKES HEAD Eastergate, NEW INN Littlehampton, CHICHESTER INN Chichester, FOX AND FINCH West Worthing, DOG AND DUCK Bognor Regis.

Tickets MAY be available on the door but if they have all been presold then this won't happen so we would recommend purchasing in advance as numbers are limited.

If you want tickets by post or any further details or would like to volunteer to work serving and/or setting up and taking down please contact Paul on 07940 527045.

Cheers!

**Tony Ashcroft and Paul Dunn**  
*Festival Organisers*



- FOOD - CIDER - PERRY - KEYKEG BAR -

32<sup>ND</sup>

YAPTON BEEREX

17TH-19TH MAY | 2024

FRI

15.00-23.00  
(£8)

SAT

11.00-21.00  
(£8)  
(£4 AFTER 17.00)

SUN

12.00-15.00  
(FREE)

FREE £2  
BEER  
TOKEN FOR  
ALL CAMRA  
MEMBERS  
(NOT  
SUNDAY)

FREE  
CASK/CIDER  
HALF PINT  
FOR FRIDAY &  
ALL DAY  
SATURDAY  
TICKETS

YAPTON & FORD  
VILLAGE HALL  
MAIN ROAD, YAPTON  
WEST SUSSEX BN15 0ET  
[westernsussexcamra.org.uk](http://westernsussexcamra.org.uk)

43 REAL  
ALES

SCAN FOR  
TICKETS

OR PURCHASE TICKETS FROM:

MAYPOLE (YAPTON), FOX AND FINCH (WEST WORTHING),  
CHICHESTER INN (CHICHESTER), WILKES HEAD (EASTERGATE),  
DOG AND DUCK (BOGNOR REGIS), NEW INN (LITTLEHAMPTON)

CAMRA

CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

# 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 page 30 applies to all items.

Please use [WhatPub.com](https://www.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.

On our correspondent's visits, several licensees have said that while trade has been good, especially at weekends, they are only just breaking even on a good week because of energy costs etc. Please go to pubs & clubs often to ensure they survive.

## ■ ALFRISTON



On a recent visit to the **Smugglers** three ales were on offer; Long Man Long Blonde, Harvey's Sussex Best &

Harvey's Old. All were served in pristine condition and well worth their LocAle accreditation. It was pleasing to see a range of styles available too!

## ■ AMBERLEY

The **Sportsman** closed on New Years Eve. The pub is subject to an ACV and locals are hoping that a community buy-out may happen, but at present the future is uncertain.

## ■ BOGNOR REGIS

The **Dog & Duck** has moved from its old home in the High Street into what used to be the Star & Garter in The Steyne. Strictly speaking no longer a micropub, it retains the micropub ethos, with up to three real ales on tap.

## ■ BRIGHTON



The **Rook Taproom** (formerly the Brighton Beer Dispensary), opened in Dec 2023, with 22 taps for beer and cider. It serves beer from a variety of breweries, and all in pints, halves and two-thirds measures.

The **Craft Beer Co.** at the time of writing, is still on the market for sale.

The **Bevy** has published a note on their website that they are on the brink of closing unless they get more support.

See [thebevypub.co.uk/on-the-brink/](https://thebevypub.co.uk/on-the-brink/)

## ■ CHAILEY GREEN



At the **Five Bells**, cask ales were Long Man APA and Harvey's Best both were well looked after and there is the suggestion of an additional guest ale from a local brewery.

## ■ CHICHESTER



The **Little Monster Tap** has successfully applied for an extension to opening hours, approved despite

considerable local opposition, mainly on the grounds of increased noise. Alongside its own, mainly keg beers, it sells a changing range of cask ales from other breweries. All cask pints are £4 on Tuesday evenings.



# The Crown

Family friendly community pub in the heart of Eastbourne Old Town.

Large enclosed rear garden,  
Dog friendly, WiFi, Sports TV.

Open Mon-Thu noon-11pm,  
Fri & Sat noon-midnight,  
Sun 12 noon-11pm.

CAMRA award winning pub  
Runner Up Pub of the Year 2017,  
Community Pub of the Year 2016,  
LocAle Pub of the Year 2015,  
Community Pub of the Year 2020



**40th Beer Festival  
Easter Beer Festival  
Thu 28th March - Mon 1st April  
20+ Ales & Ciders**

**22 Crown Street, Old Town, Eastbourne,  
BN21 1PB, (01323) 724654**



We specialise in Local Sussex Ales and Ciders, served from our Open Stillage in the Bar. We have a wide selection of Fine Wines, and a very extensive range of spirits.

WiFi \* Dog Friendly

## PISTON BROKE



**Fun Pub Quiz every Tuesday**

**Open Mic night every Wednesday**

**Thirsty Thursday** - All day every Thursday. Cask, craft and Keg Ales under 5% abv, 125ml wines, Farm and Keg ciders under 6% abv, and house spirits are discounted

**Live Music** every Friday night, Saturday night & Sunday afternoon

**Live Sports** inc Sky Sports shown; Formula 1 & Motorsports, Rugby, Cricket, & Football on request

***A family run independant Traditional Free House Pub***

**88 High Street, Shoreham by Sea. BN43 5DB Tel: 01273440036.**

Instagram, Facebook & Google, search: piston broke shoreham.

5 minutes from Shoreham Station. Numerous Bus routes stop near the Pub.

Open 7 days each week. Please check Instagram, Facebook or Google updates for opening times, times of events, entertainments, Live performers, and Ales available including those on promotion.

■ CROWBOROUGH

The **Crowborough Cross**, a Wetherspoon's venue is the only pub actually in Crowborough town centre. As well as the usual Abbot, Ruddles and Doom Bar

there are usually another four beers available from smaller breweries. Often these have been from local breweries and recently Three Acre, Cellar Head and Only With Love beers have all been featured. All beers sampled have been in very good condition with the Three Acre Christmas Old Ale selling out within 48 hrs so obviously proving very popular with the regulars!

■ EAST GRINSTEAD

The **Engine Room** continues under its new ownership to purvey a constantly-changing range of cask and keg ales and real ciders. Rarely does a beer appear that has previously featured! Details of music nights and other events can be found on their website.

The branch had a very enjoyable meeting at the **Old Dunnings Mill** in November, with the Harvey's ales in very good condition.

The **Ship** has had a refurb and is trialling guest ales along with the ones from Youngs. Two from Dorking were enjoyed on a visit in December.

■ FAIRLIGHT



Although the **Cove** has temporarily lost both of its pub signs due to the recent storms, it

continues going from strength to strength, having now become the focus of the village, holding regular quizzes and hosting live entertainment, in addition to excellent meals. There are two handpumps, one regularly serving Harvey's Best, the other a locally sourced beer. Recently this was Love and Monsters APA from the Little Monster Brewing Company, Chichester.

■ FIVE ASH DOWN



Since taking over the **Pig & Butcher** in early October, Mark and Maria have made strenuous efforts to

increase the patronage of this Harvey's traditional village pub. There is a good range of beers, including seasonal ales, and when CAMRA members visited in December the cask beers were in good condition. The restaurant has been reopened (not Mondays or Tuesdays) with a new menu, including Sunday roasts. In addition, there are regular quiz nights, curry nights and occasional live music events. Full details of upcoming events can be found on their Facebook page using the link in WhatPub.

■ HASTINGS

This February sees the return of Hastings Fat Tuesday 2024 (Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday), with free live music at most of the pubs mentioned here during the evening of Tuesday 13th February, and acoustic sets during the afternoon of Saturday 10th, with many having live music Saturday evening too, plus at many other bars, thus a lively February with ale and free live music in Hastings old town! This includes at the **Albion Inn**, with its four local real ales, regular Harveys Sussex Best, and at the **Dolphin Inn**, with six real ales, most local, including three regulars with Harveys



**LONG MAN BREWERY**  
NATURALLY EXCELLENT BEER



Award winning cask ales, brewed  
with regeneratively farmed Sussex barley

Find out }  
more }





Sussex Best and Dark Star Hophead, and now a new local regular ale from 360 Degrees Brewing, their Bluebell Sussex Best.

For those who like ales from the oldest brewery in the country, Kent-based Shepherd Neame, the old town has five of their pubs, although the first pub they ever had in Hastings was in the town centre from 1928-1958, the **Freemasons Tavern** in



*The Albion Inn*

Wellington Place, is now Jempsons/ Rye Bakery. I drank their Bishops Finger during the festive season at the **Anchor Inn** and the **Hastings Arms**, and their Christmas Ale at

**Ye Olde Pumphouse**, interestingly the newest pub in the old town, having been built in 1955/56, although in a medieval style with older materials salvaged from All Saints Street. Plus they have the **Royal Standard** in East



*Ye Olde Pumphouse*

Beach Street and the **Stag Inn** in All Saints Street.



Also, over the winter and festive season the **First In Last Out**, with their own FILO microbrewery, and warmed up by their novel open fire, their Cardinal Sussex Porter has been available. Plus, the **Jolly Fisherman**, back down near the seafront,

has just had (in January) their annual Dark Beer Festival, with four dark cask ales, plus many dark keg beers, with not a few from Europe; indeed, they always have darker beers on, usually one cask, and at least one lighter cask ale; opening times are now 4pm during the week and 2pm at weekends.

## ■ HENFIELD



From Saturday 23rd March, the **Old Railway** will be holding regular hot rod, classic car and classic bike meets from 12

noon and going forward, on the last Saturday of every month. The pub will also be hosting bingo/quiz nights together with live music dates to be confirmed. All events will be advertised on their Facebook page – theoldrailwayhenfield.

## ■ HORSHAM



The **Bear** proved to be an excellent addition to the branch “Beertwixtmas” day out in Horsham on Dec 28th, with

four beers on including two from Firebird. The interior is much improved, with a warm welcome from the new team behind the bar. The *Good Beer Guide* **Kings Arms** had five Sussex beers on for a branch meeting in January.

## ■ HORSTED KEYNES



The **Crown** is now owned by Tim Earley. He has moved there from the Fox in West Hoathly, which is closed pending new management.

## ■ HUNSTON



The **Spotted Cow** has new tenants. From Jan 15th it is under the same management as the Bull's Head,

Fishbourne, and the Traveller's Joy, Southbourne. We wish Carolyn and Phil well for the future.

## ■ ICKLESHAM



The Robin Hood has plans to increase the number of handpumps from five to nine. This may already have happened by the time of this edition of *Sussex Drinker*. In January, to celebrate Wassail



(Twelfth Night), there was a weekend celebration of Winter Ales with a large selection of Darks, Stouts and Porters, not forgetting the traditional local ciders. The Pub continues its generous support of the Royal British Legion, particularly the Mais House Care Home in Bexhill. Last year's total donation was a record £4900. Part of this came from the proceeds of selling a barrel of Poppy Ale kindly donated by Wantsum Brewery. Well done to both! A recent CAMRA Social provided an opportunity for members to sample the ales on offer, and Tonbridge Traditional Kentish Ale and Romney Marsh Marsh Midnight Dark Ale were both in excellent form. CAMRA members continue to receive

a small discount on the price of a pint on production of their membership card.

## ■ MAPLEHURST



The **White Horse** was as busy as ever for Wassailing at the start of January, and serving its usual excellent,

varied range of ales and ciders, with Simon and Beth now into their 43rd year behind the bar.

## ■ NEWICK



The **Royal Oak** continues to offer Harvey's Best and Long Man Blonde as regular cask ales together

with an additional guest ale, currently Old Man but I'm told Long Man Innkeeper is coming next.

## ■ PETT



The landlord of the **Royal Oak**, Robin Lyons, is delighted with the pub's inclusion in the 2024 *Good Beer Guide*. It is the first time that the pub has been awarded this accolade, which is testimony to his excellent



cellarmanship. Since he took over two years ago he has presented over 200 beers from 40 plus breweries. Amongst recent



offerings were Lakedown Best, Rother Valley Ebulem and Pig and Porter Blackbird, all of which were

in fine form. The pub continues its enthusiastic and generous support of the Pett Level Rescue Boat Charity and their sea shanty singers, The Pett Slip Buoys. There are regular charity quizzes and Sunday afternoon musical events.

■ **PLAYDEN**

The **Rye Waterworks Microbrewery &**



**Taproom** has recently been much improved for cold weather visits by the fitting of double glazing and

additional insulation, so it is now a cosy venue, whatever the weather. The full range of brews are offered, from the original URYEnal Best Bitter to the latest Pissoir Porter. The Pissoir was recently sampled and was excellent. Additional drink options are local ciders, wines and gins. Toad in the Hole is the food speciality.

■ **PLUMMERS PLAIN**

The **Wheatsheaf** has re-opened.

■ **PLUMPTON**



The **Half Moon** recently had three cask ales – Gun Brewery Scaramanga plus Harvery's Best and Old. All were

sampled and found to be in good condition.

■ **ROGATE**



After four years closed the **White Horse** reopened on September 22nd last year, now privately

owned and run. The two regular beers are Harvey's Best and Doom Bar, with a guest on a third hand pump. Please note that only card payments are accepted.

■ **ROTHERFIELD**



The **King's Arms**, the North East Sussex sub-Branch Pub of the Year 2023, is a free house which usually

supports local smaller breweries. On a recent visit there were three beers available; Harvey's Best, Long Man Rising Giant and Dark Star Hophead. Other local breweries to have their beers on offer recently include Cellar Head, Gun, Lakedown, and Only With Love. Although only three real ales were available on this occasion it is intended to increase to four as soon as it was viable.

■ **RYE**



The **Waterworks** has now added to its list of punned named ales brewed by its namesake brewery with

Pissoir, a dark, rich and creamy Porter (abv 5.3%). This joins on the blackboard listing the other three similarly brewed ales,





ranging from pale ales to bitters. In addition there are four from other local breweries. All eight are

gravity dispensed. Finally, there are up to 18 ciders and a couple of keg beers. A new venture is to offer the Waterworks brewery ales offsale in containers ranging from 10 pints upwards. Food offerings remain with the renowned scotch eggs and pork pies. On Sundays there's the BYO Cheese Club, and there are regular sea shanty singalongs.

### ■ ST LEONARDS



The popular **Tower** holds its 7th annual Real Ale and Cider Festival from Friday 23rd February to Sunday 25th.

There's an early bird for locals on Thursday 22nd. Open 11am-11pm each day, and there will be food and live music.

### ■ SELSEY



The **Hopp Inn** has been granted an extension to its licensing hours. It is open until 10 pm Fridays and

Saturdays. It continues to serve excellent ales sourced from small breweries over the country; offerings from Vibrant Forest are particularly popular. A 10% discount for CAMRA members provides an additional incentive to visit the tip of the Manhood Peninsula.

### ■ WORTHING



The **Grizzly Bear** independent bar in South Street Tarring was taken over by Fauna Brewing (of Arundel) in

late 2023. They have two handpumps and at the time of writing had one cask ale available plus a number of keg beers. Payment is still card/mobile device only.

**CAMRA**  
CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

# WHAT?UB

**whatpub.com**  
Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs

- Over 96% of Britain's real ale pubs featured
- Information updated by thousands of CAMRA volunteers
- Created by CAMRA who produce the UK's best beer & pub guide

Thousands of pubs at your fingertips!

# Bru News

## The Sussex Breweries Pages

Information here is generally supplied by the Brewery Liaison Officers (BLOs) named at the end of each report. BruNews is compiled by Roy Bray. A complete list of the breweries operating in Sussex, and their contact details, can be found on the [breweries](https://sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries) page on the Sussex branches website <https://sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries>

### 360 Degree

Making a welcome return to the cask availability is the strong bitter Volks Extra Special Bitter 5.5%. It is striking and impressive, beautiful, and unique, just like its name's sake. Volks has a wonderful caramel-copper colour with an intense, powerful aroma of toffee, liquorice, plum, damson, honey and biscuit. Hops: Olicana T45, Godiva, Admiral & Pilgrim. Enjoy it while you can.

### BLO Jason Phillips

### BATTLE

Battle Brewery is currently undergoing a positive restructure which will bring many new developments and further growth in the future. The Tap Room remains open and trading as usual plus their online



shop is still open and they deliver every Thursday. To stay updated on their future be sure to check all their social media posts.

### BLO Mac McCutcheon

### BEAK

Beak taproom have their monthly running club which takes place the last Friday of the month - all abilities welcome and each run finishes at the brewery with a free beer! The monthly pub quiz is back on 16th February - take part and be in with a chance to win a £50 bar tab. There will be live music from jazz trio Django Chutney on 23rd Feb. The taproom has a rotation of different food vendors of the highest quality ranging from sourdough pizzas and smash burgers to Middle Eastern inspired street food. You can keep up to date with what's on by

heading to the taproom section of our website. We have lots of exciting beer releases in the coming months including a decadent impy stout, DONUT, brewed in collaboration with our friends at Cloudwater Brew and a series of three single hop beers made in collaboration with our hop supplier Yakima Chief. Along with new releases we always have our core range of HUM 4.8% Pale, DÉST 5% Pils and PARADE 6% IPA available. We will be running our beer festival These Hills (15-16 June) again this year, tickets are now for sale, and this year we will be building a pop-up country pub replete with toad's tables and cask beer.

### BLO Graham Eaton

### BREWERY 288

Brewery 288 is currently operating part time mainly supplying outlets locally in the Petworth area. Beers are bottled only at present, primarily Amber@ 4.3 and Porter@4.2..

### BLO Chris Payne

### BREWING BROTHERS

Brewing Brothers Keg beers are now available in the recently opened Barnaby's Lounge in Robertson Street, Hastings. No news of any new beers being produced at this time.

### BLO Peter Page-Mitchell

## BROLLY

The Brolly Brewery Bar & Taproom has been open at its new site in Horsham for nearly nine months. It's been so successful that currently Brolly beer is only available for patrons to drink on-site, they're currently training the GM and Supervisor to brew so they can supply trade as soon as possible. They always have 4 cask lines available, the majority being Brolly beers always featuring some of the following. Burble 3.7% ABV English Pale Ale, Madre 4% ABV New England Pale, Lifeline 4% ABV Dark Mild, Lowfold Wissy 3.8% ABV Best Bitter, Sunday is a set-down day with all cask beers at £3.50 until they have gone. There are also 12 keg lines, BIB cider, wine and spirits available. Springs highlight will be the Lifeline Dark Mild, featuring Rauchmalt and Sabro hops.

## BLO Tim Ayre

## BURNING SKY

Now in their eleventh year, these artisan brewers and blenders remain very busy. Aurora and Plateau are their core draft beers with others making occasional appearances in local pubs. Arise remains extremely popular as a best seller on draft keg. Their on-line shop is also busy with cans, bottles, clothing, glassware and bottle openers, gift vouchers, and artwork all

available. A 'three party' collaboration with Harvey's and Brasserie de la Senne' is planned for 2024.

## BLO Ian Hodge

## BREWHOUSE & KITCHEN HORSHAM

The Winter seasonal offering was a pleasant 4.5% Whisky Stout on Cask. There was also a 5.5% Black IPA on Keg, along with a 5% Vienna Lager. The Spring seasonals launching from March 7th will be a 4.5% XPA on Cask. The keg seasonals will be a 5.5% West Coast IPA and a 5% Kolsch Lager.

## BLO Terry Shouler

## CLOAK + DAGGER

Cloak and Dagger- After a busy brewing period leading up to Christmas the boys have a cask stout available called We All Float a decadent 4.8% Oatmeal Stout with layers of deep dark malt flavours, think cappuccino coffee, bourbon chocolate biscuits and dark chocolate. And brewed the beginning of January, Distorted Aura a 4.8% cask West Coast pale with plenty of Amarillo, Cascade and El Dorado will be available at The Selden Arms beer festival 1-2nd Feb and other select outlets.

## BLO TBC

## FAUNA

Fauna Brewing are now settling in to their new brewery which opened in July 2023. There are

currently two Real Ales available which are Meadow Maker @4.6, a golden ale, and Bushy Tail@ 3.8, a best bitter. They have been found in various pubs and other outlets locally.

## BLO Chris Payne

## HARVEY'S

At Harvey's pre-Christmas staff get-together on 22 Dec, Miles Jenner was presented with CAMRA Award Certificates for a number of beers selected by the London and Southeast Regional Champion Beer of Britain 2023 panel. They were, Silver for Dark Mild and Imperial Extra Double Stout and Bronze for Christmas Ale and Old Ale, all in their respective categories. 2023 saw the brewery honour all outstanding requests for tours and they are responding to new enquiries. The appetite for these continues and a new programme will run between April and November 2024. Welcoming customers to their original Grade 2 listed building provides insight to what they believe makes Harvey's so special and enables them to highlight their brewing process and the quality of their beers. Priding themselves on producing 'authentically brewed' local beers, they have produced an A\* 'Seal of Authenticity' with six elements: 1. That they brew



in a heritage `tower' brewery. 2. Use fresh spring water from their artesian well. 3. Retain the use of copper fabricated vessels. 4. Use local whole leaf hops and a traditional hop back. 5. Have open fermenting vessels with gravity skimming. 6. That their unique yeast has been re-pitched for over sixty years. Always keen to remain relevant, they will shortly be launching a new keg beer `Pells Pale' that will utilise exciting new hop varieties. They will also be hosting a `three party' collaborative brew with both `Burning Sky' and `Brasserie de la Senne'.

**BLO Ian Hodge**

**HEPWORTH**

Hepworth Brewery had a busy Christmas period. with the Brewery Shop and Taproom doing very well. The shop is a showcase for the full range of their fine ales. This covers all styles of beer and as if this wasn't enough, they will be brewing the Famous Thomas Hardy Ale which should be available from February 2024. We await tasting it with keen anticipation! In addition to the brewery's own beers they also have an interesting selection of beers from the Sierra Nevada brewery. These beers are probably the benchmark for US style hoppy pale ales. So, with all this and many forthcoming events in the adjoining taproom 2024 looks like being a great year for

Hepworth's.  
**BLO Chris Payne**

**HORSHAM**

2024 sees exciting times at Horsham Brewery, with regular favourites such as Trafalgar IPA (4.0%), the very drinkable 2.8% Littlehaven, Sedgwick Stout (6.2%) and Normandy Weiss (a 4.5% wheat beer), brewed by Rohan and sold by either himself or Tim at the brewery tap. Old Ale (4.5%) proved so popular that it will be brewed again and look out for some special collaboration brews with Horsham legend Ray Welton! 30% of the beers are on cask and 70% on keg and the tap room always has a good selection every Thursday, Friday evening and daytime on Saturdays.

**BLO Nigel Bullen**

**KISSINGATE**

Another CAMRA Champion Beer of Britain silver award for Kissingate's Black Cherry Mild was a fitting end to 2023. Members of the North Sussex branch presented Gary & Bunny with their certificate during a social visit to the brewery. Having previously been awarded silver twice and most notably a gold back in 2014 has undoubtedly cemented Black Cherry Mild as Kissingate's most successful dark beer creation yet. Sales of cask beers have remained high throughout the winter months and unsurprisingly dark beers have been the most popular. The two

strong dark mild's Blackeyed Susan 6.8% and Black Cherry En Plus 7.0% as well as imperial stout Raisin the Bar 14.0% have seen way above average sales over the festive period. A new release of the bottled version of Ruby Plum Porter 4.8% complimented increasing cask sales of this very popular beer. North Sussex CAMRA has commissioned a special beer to celebrate 50 years since it's formation. The Kissingate version will showcase alongside specials from other local breweries at the Equinox Beer Festival scheduled for 22nd-23rd March. The taproom continues to be a fun and quirky place in which to enjoy great beer, locally produced cider, wines, and spirits and all the delights from the Kissingate kitchen. The addition of two new excellent staff members has helped with organized events and regular late-night Fridays. Kissingate's annual Spring Festival will be held at the brewery on Saturday 11th May 11.00am-8.00pm.

**BLO Roy Bray**

**LAKEDOWN**

Lakedown has just taken delivery of a new Microcan CL5v3 5 headed canning line and rotary in-feed table with laser date stamper. All this is to speed up our canning process and push

harder on our small pack option in 2024. They have two new 32HL uni tanks to add to their lineup and a new 10HL unitank to can the cask beers from. In terms of beers, in the next month Lakedown will be releasing Goldhawk London stout in cans as well as releasing Firefall American Red in keg and can.

### **BLO Kris Cymer**

#### **LANGHAM**

Two new brews in the pipeline. Our first dunkel weissbier, plus an exciting transatlantic collaboration. Video stream coming soon! Our canning machine is starting to earn its keep. Both limited edition brews will be split 2/3 ways, cask, keg and can. Something for everyone. Hot off the press. Fingers crossed, grant for new hot liquor tank applied for. More efficient and environmental - water and energy saving. Tho' sad to see our legacy brewkit from Wickwar Brewery disappearing, which has served us well.

#### **LONG MAN**

The brewery's new Small Batch calendar is now finalised for 2024. Number Eight (4.4%) is back in cask for February and the 6 Nations. From March, drinkers can look forward to: Sussex Pride (4.5%), then Copper Hop (4.2%), Session IPA (3.8%), and Golden Tipple (4.7%). The

summer edition of Sussex Drinker will announce what comes next! All are available in cask, with some selected beers in can too. Vintage Old Man was launched at a party in November. The inaugural barrel-aged 2022 vintage sold out in just 5 days, and the 2023 vintage will be available late this year. 2023 was one of Long Man's most successful award years with 4 awards at the World Beer Awards, including a World's Best for Long Man Best Bitter. SIBA Southeast Gold medals followed for Best Bitter, Long Blonde and Rising Giant, with beers going forward to the SIBA national final in March! Cask and keg beer is served at the brewery tap room in Lillington, and tours continue to run most Saturdays throughout the year. Several events are planned at the brewery throughout 2024 with details to follow soon.

### **BLO Richard Scullion**

#### **ROUTE 21**

October's Eastbourne Beer Festival provided highlights for Route 21. Previously real ale had only been produced in Key Keg, but for the festival a red ale was offered in cask. Named 'What Time are the Red Arrows on?' it virtually sold out halfway through the festival. Meanwhile a KeyKeg hazy pale ale, 'Stroll', was voted Beer of

the Festival. Another beer popular at Eastbourne, Dark Skies, was then produced in cask for a local CAMRA branch meeting, proving popular with members.

### **BLO Peter Adams**

#### **SUNKEN KNAVE**

A new brewery currently based at Hand Brew Co in Worthing run by former Dark Star Head Brewer Henry Kirk with the aim of producing traditional British styles in cask keg and bottle. Henry has collaborated with Elusive Brew on a 6% Old Ale released in December 2023. The first brew at Hand was made at the beginning of December a 6.5% Burton style dark ale which will be launched at The Evening Star Brighton on Thursday 22nd February.

### **BLO Henry Kirk**

#### **THREE ACRE**

Last year was a big year of expansion, reaching record fermentation capacity, primarily due to increases in demand for the core cask beer range and in the number of contract customers regularly supplied. A recent coup for the brewery was that Session Pale (3.7%) was available in the Strangers' Bar in the Houses of Parliament for a limited period. This was under an initiative where different breweries are nominated by their local MPs, in this case

Ms Nus Ghani, MP for Wealden. At the time of writing, the Crowdfunding campaign for the new Uckfield taproom was three-quarters of the way to its target and the aim is to open the venue by the summer of this year. Arriving about mid-February is a new cask Golden Ale (4.5%), with a gentle honey sweetness and floral notes from English hops.

**BLO Graham Eaton**

## UNBARRED

This is UnBarred's 10th Anniversary year, so through the year we'll be releasing some old favourites, classic and special beers to celebrate. Our Granola will return in Feb to kick things off! Cask beer will continue to feature in 2024 with rotating Pales and a few seasonal styles thrown in too. As well as returning specials and new beers for 2024 we'll jumping into some low/no beers starting with our 0.5% Mango Sour which is available from Feb, we'll be swapping the fruit in our low/no sours

throughout the year. The taproom continues to be open Tuesday to Sunday each week with beer launches, food pop-ups and event throughout the year.

**BLO Graham Eaton**

## WATERWORKS

Mainstream brewing continues of URYENAL Best Bitter, I Pee Alot IPA and Golden Flush Pale. These have now been joined by Pissor Porter (5.3% abv). This has proved very popular and is now being supplied to a number of local pubs. All 4 are currently available in the Waterworks Micro Pub in Rye. The seasonal Green Hopped Ale, Jolly Green Holly was a great success last Autumn. The next project is understood to be a Strong Bitter. There is an on-site tap room.

**BLO Mike Pinkney**



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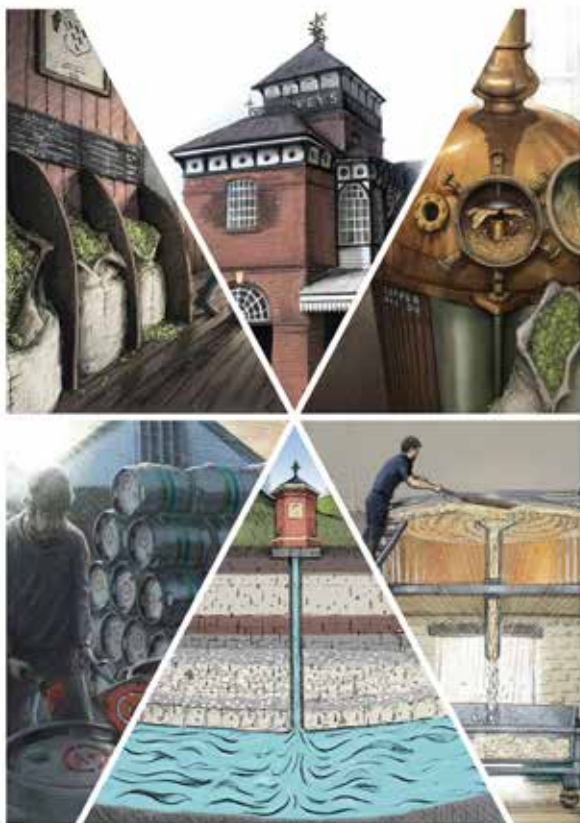
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# Spotlight on

# BREWERIES

## SUSSEX BREWERY QUENCHES THIRST OF PEERS AND MPs



There's celebration at a Sussex brewery whose beer is now being enjoyed by the country's leaders.

Session Ale, a craft brew from Three Acre Brewery, has gone on tap in the Strangers Bar at the Palace of Westminster, to be consumed by Peers, MPs and visitors to Parliament.

The award-winning brewery was started four years ago by a trio of school friends who grew-up together in the East Sussex village of Blackboys. Their local MP, Nusrat Ghani, nominated the brewery for cask beer supply to the Strangers' Bar and was there to welcome the three directors to celebrate the first serving of the Wealden-made ale there.

The MP said: "I was delighted to support Chester, Jamie and Peter in getting their Session Pale served in Westminster and expose their craft to new customers. I look forward to seeing them continue to thrive and seeing their exciting plans for a new Brew Café come to life next year."

## SUSSEX BREWERY'S BID TO HIT THE HIGH STREET WITH COMMUNITY BAR

An East Sussex brewery is yielding to customer pressure and has announced plans to open a tap room in the Uckfield area next year.

Three Acre Brewery, based at Blackboys near Heathfield, has just celebrated its fourth anniversary. The culmination of hard work by three school friends who joined together to begin the business which was born from a home-brewing hobby in one of the lad's garden sheds.

Over the last four years, hundreds of thousands of pints of Three Acre have been served, and it has become one of the region's most popular producers of cask ale.

Now the trio are determined to answer the most oft-asked question and open a bar to server their wide range of hand-crafted beers. They've increased initial capacity by 1,400 per cent and created nearly two-dozen ales.

"Since we started the brewery, the question we've been asked the most is: "have you got a taproom?", explains award-winning Head Brewer, Jamie Newton. "Countless times, we've responded with: "Unfortunately not yet, but it's coming soon... Now, we hope, that can become a reality."

To kick-start the project, Three Acre has launched a Crowdfunding appeal towards their first Brew Café. Funds and a great deal of hard work are needed to create the right atmosphere in the right space.

“Our new Café Bar will be a warm, welcoming and multi-purpose space for the community, with great people, a great atmosphere, and even better beer”, says director Chester Broad. “We will also promote local produce and have first-rate tea and coffee available along with delicious refreshments.”

Among the initial tasks are renovating the premises, building a bar, making it warm and inviting, installing cosy furniture, warm lighting, plants, and artwork. Then there's the need for a high-quality audio system, not to mention branding and signage, as well as finding the best local staff to make the venture a success.

It all begins online at [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/checkout/three-acre-brewery-brew-cafe/start](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/checkout/three-acre-brewery-brew-cafe/start) where those willing to help will be amply rewarded once the Brew Café is open.

## The Brewery Shades

**We are recruiting.**

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# PRESSING NEWS

Wassail, yes really!

I know my fellow volunteers in North Sussex branch had a marvellous evening serenading and beating the trees at the JB Orchard in Maplehurst before retiring to the White Horse to enjoy their hospitality. Thank you also to Broadwood Morris for the music and dancing!

So, what is happening now in the cider world apart from this years cider fermenting. Well first hopefully the new batch will be ready to enjoy around May which has been CAMRA's cider month. Next your local branch will be selecting their branch Cider Pub of the year (CPoTY) it is fine to help them out by

telling them where good real cider is sold! It is after all a team game. The branch pub will then go forward to a regional competition and later rounds and who knows, could become National Cider Pub of the year like the Tom Copley Tavern in Spreyton, Devon did last year.

The 2024 festival season will open soon with Equinox in Horsham that will have a number of Sussex ciders available.

If you have news or updates, please contact me through  
[cider@northsussex.camra.org.uk](mailto:cider@northsussex.camra.org.uk).

**Paul Sanders**

*Regional Cider Coordinator*

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# John Roberts

It was with great sadness that North Sussex CAMRA Branch heard of the death at 84 of its founder chairman John Alan Alfred Roberts, known to his many friends as “J.R.” To try and describe this many faceted man’s life would fill the whole of Sussex Drinker. I therefore am going to restrict this account to John’s involvement in the early days of CAMRA, through North Sussex Branch.

In the early 1970s, and through his Fleet Street connections (John was a Daily Express staffer who went on to edit the William Hickey column) JR met Mike Hardman, one of the founders of CAMRA. Persistent nagging from Mr Hardman eventually lead to JR setting up the first Sussex CAMRA branch in spring 1973 along with Jack Locker-Lampson and Andrew Judge. However, never one to bother about officialdom JR did not register the branch with CAMRA HQ. More nagging from Mr Hardman resulted in the official founding of North Sussex branch on Friday 29th March 1974 at the Red Lion, Turners Hill. Naturally JR was chairman. When asked why he never registered the branch earlier his reply was typical, “We were too busy having fun, campaigning, and drinking the bloody stuff, dear boy.”

John Roberts, larger-than-life, outgoing personality was well suited to the gritty, assertive in-your-face campaigning style used by CAMRA in its early years.

There are many anecdotes from this raw period of CAMRA time. I shall quote just one, which is still recalled by members of a certain age. July 1974, The Grapes, Pease Pottage. Branch meeting number 4. In those early days pubs were not informed of CAMRA meetings. It so happened that a league darts match was taking place that night. The small pub was crowded. JR saw his opportunity, a tall man, he stood on a chair, and towering over everyone, he proceeded to explain what CAMRA was about. This was done in JR’s loud, assertive

voice. No one left the grapes that night without knowing that a CAMRA meeting had taken place.

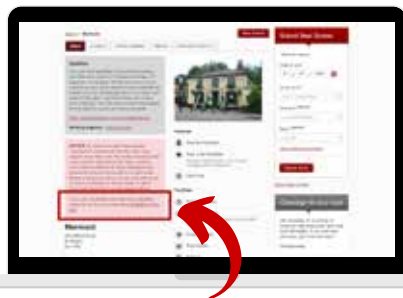
The passage of time, the very success of CAMRA, and the coming of new technology have softened the campaigning style. However, the single-minded determination and assertiveness of CAMRA in those early days, personified by JR, will I hope live on as we rise to the many challenges that will face the great British pub in the future. The spirit of JR will be with us as we commiserate every loss and celebrate every victory.

I should, perhaps mention here the memorial service at St Leonards church, Turners Hill planned by JR himself and presided over by JRs friend Canon David Ticker. The church was packed. JR had made ample provision for the wake that followed at the Crown, Turners Hill. Two casks of Harvey’s Sussex Best and an Old Ale were provided free of charge. Like the service, the pub was packed!

Rest in peace John Alan Alfred Roberts

Words by John Keller

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# Brighton & South Downs Branch Awards

As a change from awarding our pubs and clubs (which we were busy doing through 2023), at the recent Brighton & South Downs branch AGM, held in December 2023, we were delighted to present our Treasurer, John Kirkland, an award for a fantastic 17 years' service to the branch. It is certainly well deserved; as well as being our keeper of the purse strings, as a key committee member, John works tirelessly on many of the key branch activities. Well done to John!

**Graham Eaton**



*Photo: John Kirkland, Treasurer, Brighton & South Downs receiving his long service award*

# South East Sussex Branch Awards

Two South East Sussex Branch pubs were new entries in the 2024 *Good Beer Guide*. Under the guidance of landlady Heidi the Welcome in St. Leonards is in the *Good Beer Guide* for the first time ever; branch member Peter Page-Mitchell presented trainee manager Alex with the notification of the pub's inclusion.



*Peter Page-Mitchell (left) and Heidi*

Since landlord Robin has been at the Royal Oak in Pett, the quality and range of the ales has impressed. Branch Chair Matt Billing presented Robin with his 2024 *Good Beer Guide* notification.



*Robin (right) and Matt Billing*

## Worthing's third tap takeover

The weekend of 5th-7th April will see Worthing's third tap takeover, where independent venues will each champion an independent brewery from across Sussex and the UK.

This is the third year the event is taking place. And the team organising are again asking the participating venues to choose a different brewery to those who have been involved the last two years. The reason for this is to be able to keep on championing the less well-known alongside world-renowned breweries – all which must be independent. It challenges people to keep trying and supporting other breweries.

As of December we have 10 venues signed up and expect there to be around a similar number of participants as the previous years (17 in 2023 and 15 in 2022). We're hoping there will be some new venues as well as those which have taken part previously.

Gemma Clegg, co-owner of Worthing's award-winning craft Beer No Evil said: "Worthing is an important destination for the craft beer scene. It's been amazing to see it grow and we're excited to share it with more and more people. The last two year's tap takeovers have been a huge success. Worthing's independent community has a great collaborative spirit – and the tap takeover is one of the best examples of it."

The nature of the tap takeover means each venue can showcase their own, unique style – or try something completely new.

Beer lovers will find new takes on old favourites, and those embracing the weird and wonderful will have plenty to try too – from rich barrel-aged stouts, to Belgian-inspired ales and mouth-watering sours.

For more about this fantastic weekend, visit [worthingtaptakeover.co.uk](http://worthingtaptakeover.co.uk) or follow @worthingtatto on Instagram or Worthing Tap Takeover on Facebook.



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## Brighton Real Ale Society



We would like to introduce readers to the University of Brighton's newly found society, Brighton Real Ale Society (BRAS)

**James:** I'm co-founder and chairman of this society and throughout this column you will read about what we do; hear from committee members, our recent activities and a synopsis looking forward to this new year.

As we all know; Brighton has countless pubs to offer - many of these pubs serving great real ale. From fine beers I'm familiar with which I can recommend to others with confidence, to completely new beers that I'm unfamiliar with. With this abundance of great ale and fine pubs it only seems right to share this with others and that's where this society began. A group of real ale lovers who can enjoy a good pint with other like-minded individuals, while introducing others to new beers they wouldn't have found otherwise and ultimately maturing their pallet.

Each social we meet at a new pub; we order the same first pint which is decided by the committee prior to the evening. During this first pint everyone ranks it from 1 - 10, obtaining an average for that week's beer. At the end of each term, we will have a ranked list of ales in Brighton. During the rest of the evening members are encouraged to try the other ales that the pub has to offer, without taking a ranking.

As my role of chairman, I oversee all activity in the society. I ensure the society runs smoothly both online and at socials. I'm the main point of contact for anything regarding our society and take positive action looking into the future ensuring everything will run like clockwork. While researching pubs and events we can attend making sure all members get the most out of our society, in turn making sure great pubs and ale are discovered around Brighton. I work with 2 others and together we make a great team, working together as a collective. Below you can read about their roles:

**Luke:** I work as the social media manager for BRAS. I really enjoy my role, which mostly means producing social media posts for the Instagram account (@brightonrealalesocbras)

so everyone knows where and when to meet. I've also been involved in organising some of the events and plans for the future of the society. Our main

aim is to ensure our members have a fun and safe environment to go and explore Brighton's real ales. Something which I know our team is well equipped to do. During our meetings we always talk from the point of view of a BRAS member; what their experience will be like, exciting places for them to go, or ideas we can bring to them.

I also communicate with different local pubs and organisations. Building on the community which we have already created, we would really love to foster good relationships with other fixtures of Brighton's ale scene. Which is a two-way street, helping businesses garner an enthusiastic audience while we get to introduce our members to some interesting places and events.

This being my last year of University, I hope I can leave my mark by helping the BRAS to continue its celebration of real ales.

**Sidney:** In my role as head of finance, I oversee the society's bank account. Currently we haven't had any major financial commitments, however this will change in this year as bigger events are planned. I can't disclose too much about how we deal with money, however all payments and reimbursements are approved by our chairman providing some security.

Along with finance, I also work alongside the others in planning and looking into new events, bringing enthusiasm to our societies. I am also co-founder of this society and I have really enjoyed the process so far. I'm hopeful to see where we can take this and look forward to more exciting events in the future, ensuring members get the most out of our society.

**To conclude:** In this new year we are looking at attending local beer festivals, prospective ones being Brewhaven in April and Hanover Beer Festival celebrating its 35th year. All whilst supporting local pubs, promoting local breweries, and drinking real ale!



## BEER FESTIVALS AND OTHER DELIGHTS

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](https://sussex.camra.org.uk).

**13 Feb** Hastings Fat Tuesday, see [hastingsfattuesday.co.uk](https://hastingsfattuesday.co.uk)  
**21-24 Feb** Gardeners Arms, Lewes, DarkFest – annual beer festival of strong dark beers  
**23-25 Feb** Tower, St Leonards, 7th annual Real Ale & Cider Festival  
**15-17 Mar** Brickmaker's Alehouse (Bexhill on Sea) Beer Festival  
**22-23 Mar** **Spring Equinox Festival, Horsham, Drill Hall** (see pages 4 & 5)  
**28 Mar-1 Apr** **Crown Eastbourne, Easter Beer Festival** (see page 9)

**30 Mar** Langham Brewery Comedy night, Langham Brewery Tap, Lodsworth  
**5 Apr** Langham Brewery and Rural Strides Family fun walk  
**5-7 Apr** Engine Room, East Grinstead Dark Beer Festival  
**13 Apr** Langham Brewery and Rural Strides “#FollowtheSwallow”  
**11 May** Kissingate Spring Festival 11am to 8pm  
**17-19 May** **Yapton Beerex, Yapton and Ford Village Hall, Main Road, Yapton** (see pages 6 & 7)

## Branch Diaries

The following are the details of planned meetings and socials of the six Sussex CAMRA branches for Aug-Oct.

### Arun & Adur

See [aaa.camra.org.uk](https://aaa.camra.org.uk).

### Brighton & South Downs

See [brighton.camra.org.uk/diary](https://brighton.camra.org.uk/diary).

### North Sussex

**13 Feb** Social, East Grinstead  
**20 Feb** Branch GBG Final Selection Meeting, Frog & Nightgown, Faygate  
**12 Mar** Branch Meeting, Brewery Shades, Crawley  
**16 Mar** 50th Anniversary Lunch, Red Lion, Turners Hill  
**30 Mar** 50th Anniversary events at Brolly and Horsham taprooms  
**9 Apr** Social TBC  
**20-21 Apr** Hastings Trip  
**14 May** Branch AGM, Apple Tree, Crawley  
See [northsussex.camra.org.uk/diary](https://northsussex.camra.org.uk/diary).  
**North East Sussex & South East Sussex**  
**13 Feb** Social Robertsbridge Club;

George Inn, Robertsbridge; Salehurst Halt, Salehurst

**17 Feb** Cider PotY Tour  
**20 Feb** Social Crown & Anchor, Eastbourne  
**27 Feb** Social Waterworks, Rye  
**5 Mar** Branch Meeting, Hastings  
**12 Mar** Social Brickmaker's Alehouse  
**19 Mar** Social Tiger, East Dean; Plough & Harrow, Litlington; Long Man Inn, Wilmington  
**26 Mar** Social Dew Drop Inn, Eastbourne  
**2 Apr** Social White Horse Inn, Bodle Street; Ash Tree, Ashburnham; Bull's Head, Boreham Street  
**9 Apr** Social Hastings  
**16 Apr** Social Albatross Club - Bexhill  
**23 Apr** Branch AGM: Eastbourne  
See [southeastsussex.camra.org.uk/diary](https://southeastsussex.camra.org.uk/diary).  
**Western Sussex**  
**24 Feb** Tutored tasting session with Christine Cryne, Fox Inn Felpham  
**4 May** Bermondsey Beer Mile  
See [westernsussexcamra.org.uk/events](https://westernsussexcamra.org.uk/events).







## RYE'S MICROPUB

Along with ales and ciders, we have a selection of wines, gins and soft drinks and award winning Scotch eggs and pork pies.



## Serving 10 local ales and 18 local ciders



### OPENING TIMES:

Monday - Friday from 2pm  
Saturday & Sunday from 12pm

Tower Street, Rye, East Sussex  
TN31 7AT Tel: 01797 224110

## Now brewing 4 ales



## BREWERY & TAPROOM

Serving our URYEnal Best Bitter, I Pee A lot IPA, Golden Flush Pale & Pissior Porter along with a local lager, ciders, wines, gins & soft drinks.

### OPENING TIMES:

Friday 3-7pm, Saturday 2-7pm  
Sunday 12-5pm

The Old Dairy, Rye Road, Playden,  
East Sussex TN31 7UL  
(opposite the old Peace & Plenty)



Southwick

# BEER ENGINE

2 Southwick Sq. BN42 4FJ  
Bus 46 stops outside 5 min from  
Southwick station and 700 bus.

01273 945694

**Mondays**  
1pm - 7pm  
**Tue - Thurs**  
12pm - 10pm  
**Fri/Sat**  
12pm - 11pm  
**Sun**  
12pm - 7.30pm

**LIVE MUSIC**  
**Every Sunday**  
**@ 15.00**

**EASTER &  
OCTOBER  
BEER FESTS  
2024  
EVER  
CHANGING  
CASK &  
CRAFT**

**Extra dates  
for  
Live music**

See Website,  
Google, Facebook  
for latest info.  
We are always  
looking for new  
musicians.



**6 CASK ALES  
6 REAL CIDERS  
DRAUGHT GUINNESS  
KROMBACHER  
PILS & KELLERBIER  
7 CRAFT KEG LINES  
QUALITY WINES  
BELGIUM & CRAFT  
BOTTLE BEERS  
OVER 30 GINS  
GIFT SETS**

Check out our website, Google or Facebook for  
full details of all upcoming events including  
Bands, Real Ale, Cider and Gin events  
[Southwickbeerengine.co.uk](http://Southwickbeerengine.co.uk)

BRING YOUR  
OWN VINYL 7" 12" OR  
ALBUMS  
PUT YOUR NAME ON  
THE BOARD AND  
TAKE YOUR TURN  
TO DJ  
(TIMESLOTS  
VARIABLE  
DEPENDENT ON  
DEMAND)



**VINYL NIGHTS @  
THE BEER ENGINE**

**DIFFERENT STYLE EACH THURSDAY**  
1st Thurs Vinyl frontier 50s/60s  
2nd Thurs 70s/80s  
3rd Thurs 90s/00s  
4th Thurs Techno, Trance, Electro  
House & Progressive Dance.

Scan code



Google maps

W3W

[///types.order.cloth](http://///types.order.cloth)

**Baby Beer Engine Events bar**



**Weddings, Birthdays, Anniversaries**

Always available  
for club/groups  
for meetings. If  
it's music or  
transport related  
even better.