

Celebrating the Real Ale Scene in Sussex

Sussex Drinker



Summer 2026

Free



**28th CAMRA South Downs
Beer & Cider Festival,
Corn Exchange, Lewes,
Friday 12th to Saturday 13th
June 2026**
(see pages 3 and 5)

**6th Bluebell Railway/
CAMRA Sussex Branches
Beer & Cider Festival,
Sheffield Park Station,
Friday 18th to Sunday 20th
September 2026**
(see pages 4 and 7)

HARVEY'S
BREWERY

SUSSEX INN SIGNS AND THEIR HISTORY

WITH DR JANET PENNINGTON

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE 2026

2PM-4PM | 5PM-7PM

HARVEY WAREHOUSE FRINGE THEATRE

Harvey's Depot | Davey's Lane | Lewes | BN7 2BQ

Join Dr Janet Pennington for an illustrated talk exploring the history, symbolism and stories behind Sussex pub and inn signs.

Harvey's will also showcase historic pub signs from across their estate, alongside original sketches by Lewes artist Julian Bell, whose work has featured on many Harvey's signs.

Sussex-born Dr Janet Pennington is an independent researcher specialising in the architectural and social history of early-modern Sussex inns and taverns.



Tickets £20 | 2 Sessions Available

Welcome drink included on arrival and Harvey's beers will be available in the theatre bar.

**FIND OUT
MORE AND
BOOK HERE**



www.harveys.org.uk/events



28th CAMRA South Downs Beer & Cider Festival

12-13 June, Corn Exchange, Lewes

Introduction

We are pleased to announce that the 28th CAMRA South Downs Beer & Cider Festival, will be held at the Corn Exchange, Lewes, East Sussex. BN7 2QS, on the 12th and 13th of June 2026.



We trust that you will enjoy your session with us, the team have sought out seventy beers together with a selection of real ciders, perries and specialty ciders (cider with additional fruit!). Also, we

are hoping to have a limited number of membrane keg (Keykeg) beers. If you are new to CAMRA, we are not just about promoting real ale and cider but campaigning for consumer rights; be this keeping pubs open as these are the best place to drink real ale and cider; but also on taxation, which affects the price of your drink.

Ticket Details

See advertisement for Sessions, Ticket Prices, and availability at outlets and On-line; QR Code on the advertisement (page 5) goes direct to the on-line purchasing site. CAMRA Membership Stand This is in the main hall. The staff will be happy to explain the many benefits of CAMRA membership; and will be even happier to sign you up! If you are already a member or join on the day, this is where you can pick up your tokens to the price of admission on production of a valid membership card.

Catering

Food including vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options will be available from the vendor. Hot and cold drinks, including tea and coffee will also be available. No tokens, please, only cash will be accepted here. A separate queue may be in operation for our volunteer staff. This enables them to get back to the bar to serve you. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

Tokens

Beer, Cider and Perry can only be purchased using tokens; Tokens sheets can be purchased at the Tokens area in the Main Hall; unused tokens can be refunded for cash up until "TIME" is called at the end of each Session; payments for purchase of Tokens sheets may be made by cash or using Debit/Credit Cards, Barclaycard or Mastercard Only, either contactless or by chip and PIN, up to a limit of £50 with a minimum of £5 Facilities.

Disabled toilets

The toilets adjacent to the entrance hall are accessible. Please note that no-one under the age of 18 is permitted; this includes babies and young children. Dogs will only be allowed if kept quiet and on a lead at all times.

Festival charity

We have invited Canine Partners to be our Festival Charity; across the UK, they support people with a variety of physical disabilities and their families, carefully matching them with a dog that suits their needs, personality, and lifestyle. The easiest way to give is to place any unused tokens in the collecting box near the exit; we will remit the value of these donations in full.

6th Bluebell Railway/CAMRA Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival

The Sussex CAMRA Branches, in association with the Bluebell Railway, will be running their Beer and Cider Festival from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th September 2026.

As you travel between all the stations along the Bluebell line, you can try over 100 different real ales, plus real cider and perry are also available throughout the festival.

As in previous years, the main bar will be in the engine shed at Sheffield Park station. It will serve over 80 ales from cask and keg along with a great range of cider and perry, with live music on Friday evening and throughout Saturday and Sunday.

The 2025 Cider and Perry of the Festival award was won by Beechwood Cider, with the presentation done at the Selden Arms in May.



In the photo (l-r) are Paul Sanders, CAMRA Regional Director, Dave and Deborah Marcus from Beechwood and Mike Head from the Festival Organising team.

The new bar at Kingscote station proved very popular in 2025, and will be back along with the bars at Horsted Keynes and East Grinstead stations, with live music at Kingscote and Horsted Keynes during the

day on Saturday and Sunday.

The Sheffield Park bar is open 11-10 Friday, 11-10 Saturday and 11-5 Sunday. The other station bars will be open daytime only.

Tickets can include travel on the steam trains between all stations, or for station event entry only, with tickets including a voucher for your first pint and a Festival Glass.

As this is an "In Association" event, not an event wholly run by CAMRA, free tickets are not available to CAMRA members. Instead, CAMRA members are eligible for Bluebell Railway member discounted tickets for the event, so should choose the BRPS Members tickets, and then present their CAMRA membership ID when they arrive at the event

For tickets and full event details, including the additional bus service between Haywards Heath and Sheffield park, please go to the Bluebell website bluebell-railway.com/beer-festival/

The festival is run by volunteers from CAMRA and the Bluebell Railway, who make this great festival what it is. We are always looking for more volunteers to join us to have fun serving at the bars or supporting the logistics and setup.

We'd love to hear from you if you can volunteer for all or part of any day of the Festival. Please email secretary@northsussex.camra.org.uk for more details.

Mike Head
Festival Organising Team

Brighton & South Downs Branch of
THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE proudly presents

THE
28th

SOUTH DOWNS BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

70+ CASK ALES & LOCAL KEGS AND
15+ CIDERS & PERRIES
HOT FOOD AVAILABLE TO BUY



Fri 12th & Sat 13th June 2026, Lewes Town Hall

Old Corn Exchange, Fisher Street Lewes

Friday AM Session 11:00 to 15:00 £9.00
Friday PM Session 17:00 to 22:30 £11.00
Saturday Session 11:00 to 19:00 £7.00

Ticket price includes a free festival glass, and CAMRA members will be given tokens to the value of the ticket upon production of a valid membership card.

Friday 11:00
MEET THE BREWER

Saturday Session
**PUB GAMES TO ENJOY &
HOMEBREW COMPETITION**

TICKETS ARE EXPECTED TO SELL OUT EARLY and are available in advance online or in the below venues. Tickets on the door subject to availability.

See the website for full details:

brighton.camra.org.uk



Or at Harvey's Shop, the Brewers Arms, the Gardener's Arms in Lewes and the Evening Star in Brighton.



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.

■ AMBERLEY

The **Black Horse** has now reopened after a change of owners and refurbishment. It now offers three cask ales. Harvey's Best and Adnams Ghost Ship are on permanently, and a guest ale, a beer from Burnt Mill brewery, Ipswich when recently visited.

The **Sportsman**, thesportsmansussex.co.uk, is now community owned after a two-year campaign, see article elsewhere in this issue. Firebird's Heritage Bitter, Only With Love's American IPA and Burning Sky's Nourishing Stout cask ales were available when recently visited.

■ ARUNDEL

At the **Swan Hotel**, Fuller's have had a change of heart after handing the keys back to the freeholder in December. They are presently refurbishing and it will reopen in June according to their website swanarundel.co.uk.

■ BATTLE

Battle Brewery Tap in the High Street continues to be popular with three cask ales usually available. Stormin Norman, the new Battle porter, has been very well received. CAMRA card carrying members now receive a discount.

■ BRIGHTON

The North Laine is set to get a micropub this summer, providing the transfer of the license goes through smoothly. The **Murmuration** is hoping to open in June just off Sydney Street, by the team behind the Signalbox.

■ BOLNEY

The **Eight Bells** re-opened last year after a period of closure. Now owned by the same team as the Windmill at Littleworth, the pub is going from strength to strength and offers Harvey's Sussex Best, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Long Man



Long Blonde, with sightings from Firebird, Unbarred and Harvey's seasonals. Local Silly Moo Cider is also on offer. Solid food offerings. The locals

are delighted to have their pub back - and on form!

■ BOSHAM

There are to be major changes to the **White Swan** before it reopens. Sadly, one of these is the removal of the bar; this former pub is to become a gourmet restaurant.

■ BURGESS HILL

The **Brickworks** Yard Party III will be taking place from 26-28 June. All four cask pumps will be in operation and there will be up to 12 guest beers. Live music, sound systems and food trucks will all be part of the weekend and Sunday will feature discounts on all festival beers

At the **Signalbox**, there are a whole range of festivals and takeovers to report. Cider Festival 3rd-14th June, Abyss Tap Takeover 24th-28th June, Summer Beer Festival 8th-19th July, Gun Tap Takeover 22nd-27th July, Aleworks Tap Takeover 26th-31st August. Plus the usual weekly quiz on Wednesdays, cheese altar on Sundays, and comedy on the 2nd Monday of each month.

■ BURWASH WEALD

The **Wheel Inn** has recently reopened and when visited in early May had three cask ales on offer. Apart from the regular Harvey's Sussex Best, the guest beers that day were Black Sheep Best Bitter and Harvey's Pells Pale. The pub is open seven days a week between midday and 11pm. Food is also available every day between midday and 3pm, although they are looking to extend both their range and food hours in future. The landlord has a long history of running pubs all over the country and has several of his family working behind the bar while he mostly cooks. There is a large car park to the rear of the pub.

BEER LOVERS

LOOKING FOR A BEER FESTIVAL
WITH A DIFFERENCE?

OVER
100 ALES,
CIDER &
PERRY TOO!



BLUEBELL RAILWAY BEER FESTIVAL

ADULT
TICKETS
FROM JUST
£19.50

18th - 20th
SEPTEMBER

VISIT BLUEBELL-RAILWAY.COM

FOR DETAILS OF TICKETS, BANDS,
THE BEER LIST, STEAM TRAINS,
BUS TIMETABLES AND MORE!



■ CHAILEY

The **Five Bells** offers three cask ales, normally Harvey's Best and two changing ales plus various keg and BIB options for craft ales or cider.

■ CRAWLEY

The branch had a very enjoyable session on May 4th at the **Brewery Shades** during their annual Star Wars themed beer festival.

The **Swan** sadly remains closed and is now boarded up.

■ CROWBOROUGH

So far this year the **Cooper's Arms** has held two beer festivals, including its now traditional Dark and Delicious Beer Festival over the last weekend of January, as well as a Spring Festival over the Easter period. Many of the beers are not usually available locally, and as always, all were in good condition. Even on non-festival days, the pub usually features up to three interesting cask ales as well as the regular Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter. Details can be found on the pub's excellent website at coopersarmscrow.com.

■ EASTBOURNE



With probably the sunniest terrace in the town, **Bibendum**, opposite the Town Hall, continues to impress with its cask ales. It always has one from

Long Man (recently the Oatmeal Stout which was excellent) alongside beers from the likes of Harvey's, Gun, or Only With Love.

■ EAST GRINSTEAD

The **Engine Room** is holding its Summer Beer Festival from Friday 19th to Sunday 21st June. Expect another wide range of beers along with BBQ food and live music. There will also be live music outside on Saturday 4th July, and on Saturday 15th August there will be live jazz as part of the EG Jazz Festival. Looking farther ahead, the usual Oktoberfest fun weekend returns from Friday 25th to Sunday 27th September, with the usual fare of continually varying beers and ciders along with local spirits and other tipples, with regular live music, quizzes, and other events.

■ EAST HOATHLY

The **King's Head** Community Benefit Society, the consortium of local villagers and others who were hoping to purchase the pub to safeguard its future, were successful in raising the money required and the sale was completed in late February. Although the pub opened over the Easter weekend, refurbishment was then still ongoing. However, by late April, the new website, thekingshead.pub showed the opening hours as: Mon-Tue closed; Wed-Sat 3pm-10pm; Sun 12pm-6pm, although food was not currently available. Prospective customers are advised to check the website for any updates. A new manager, Mark Norman, was appointed at the beginning of May. Mark has a wealth of experience in the hospitality industry, including running several pubs throughout the country, although he has strong connections with the local area.

■ ELSTED

The **Three Horseshoes**, with its superb views, unspoilt bars and real ales direct from the cask, has always been a firm favourite with locals and visitors alike. Long-time licensee, Sue, is now passing on the baton to a local resident experienced in the London pub trade. No changes are expected to the general ambience, but a planning application has been lodged for an outside bar and kitchen.

■ FOREST ROW

The **Flying Trunk Tap Room** celebrates its first birthday on 27-28 June. Keep an eye on social media for details. Their regular brews across the styles continue to feature, along with a tasty variety of home-made savouries and cake. Music events and quiz nights are held from time to time. Opening times vary seasonally so please check social media, where the what's on board is also featured.

■ FRAMFIELD

The **Hare & Hounds** has fully reopened following the fire at the end of January. Fortunately, no one was injured and damage was limited to the upstairs of the building. The pub itself and the kitchen were unaffected, with no water damage, and crucially the fire did not spread to the roof.

Recent visits since the fire have shown that the quality of the beers and food are still at their previous high standard.

■ HASTINGS



The Hastings Traditional Jack in the Green May Day Procession was even larger this year, seeming to take ages to pass. And local breweries produced special ales for the occasion, indeed I drank Brewing Brothers 'Ol' Jack Pale Ale at the Jenny Lind and Dolphin, Filo's 'Thirst of May' at the FILO, and Only With Love's 'Jack's Back' at the Crown, and they were all in excellent form. Looking forward to similar during next year's Jack in the Green!



Regular ales at the Dolphin now include Long Man's Best Bitter, another local ale to join the other two regular cask ales

Kent 'Quiet American' and Harvey's Sussex Best, plus always a guest dark ale and two pale changing cask ales.



To watch out for in the Summer is the Hastings Old Town Carnival 1-9th August, it will be busy and, as ever, a great varied choice of ales and ciders available around the old town.

■ HAYWARDS HEATH

The **Hop Sun Tap** is gearing up for the sun! Alongside our quizzes, comedy, music, and game events, we'll be hosting a few special beer events over the summer. We're also now open 6pm-9pm on Wednesdays, and if successful will expand the hours out further.

■ HENFIELD

The **Henfield Club** continues to thrive following recent refurbishment with a busy calendar of events [facebook.com/share/18PU9bNsvm/](https://www.facebook.com/share/18PU9bNsvm/). Snooker, darts and toad in the hole are all played. Always two ales from Downlands, card-carrying CAMRA members can be signed in.

■ HORSHAM

The ale scene in Horsham remains as strong as

ever, as evidenced by 11 venues featuring on this year's North Sussex ale trail.

The Tap & Vine Takeover is returning to Horsham! For a second year running, breweries and pubs of Horsham will be coming together to showcase some of the best local products on offer. From 4-6 September 2026 you can follow the trail which will take you into a variety of pubs and bars across the town where you can sample new and limited-edition products. Save the date and keep an eye on @YourHorsham socials for more info coming soon!

■ IKKLESHAM

At the **Queens Head** there has been a smooth transition from the long standing duo Ian and Lee



to Graham and Dan, who took over the pub at the end of last year. Although there have been minor changes to the food menu, more importantly, the beer

selection remains as varied as before. On a recent visit all six handpumps were in use, with the range being from Long Man Blonde, Waterworks I Pee A lot, Harvey's Sisters Table Beer, Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter and Greene King Abbot Ale. Both the Sisters and Abbot were tried and were excellent. Good food offerings continue as before, as do musical events and quizzes.

■ LEWES

The **Brewers Arms**, one of two Brighton & South Downs Branch Highly Commended Pub of the Year 2026, always has a wide range of great cask ales, supporting both local brewers and those from further afield.

The **Lansdown Arms**, always a favourite with regulars and visitors, has four cask ales, including Thornbridge Jaipur as a regular.

■ LINDFIELD

At the **Stand Up Inn** the range of local cask ales is currently led by Gun and Firebird. The craft beer range includes Unbarred and Abyss. Toads, darts and board games are all available to play and there is open mic on the first Tuesday and a quiz on the last Tuesday of each month.

■ MAPLEHURST

Beer quality at the **White Horse** was as high as ever for the North Sussex branch's Equinox festival wash-up meeting.

■ NEWHAVEN

The **Newhaven Tap** opened at the beginning of May, and is a welcome addition to the beer scene in Newhaven. Run and managed by Paul (also



from the Lewes Arms, Lewes) with his business partner Moz, this new freehouse always offers three or more cask ales, and six keg lines. The emphasis is on local

suppliers, and they intend to always change their offering. Ciders available are both keg and BIB.

■ NEWICK

The **Royal Oak** continues to serve Harvey's Best, Long Man Blonde and a guest ale which currently is Sharps Sea Fury. The kitchen has also reopened Thursday to Sunday lunchtime.

■ ORE

Free house and popular community pub, the **Old King John** in Middle Road, is for sale for £415,000. Sadly, this is now the only pub left standing in Ore. It is a mid



19th Century hostelry, being originally recorded as a beer house. It has continued that tradition ever since. There's no fruit machine, juke box, or pool table. There is

however, a large rear garden in which to enjoy a pint. On a recent visit by a group of local CAMRA members, the beers on offer were well regarded.

■ PETT

The **Royal Oak**, in Elm Lane held its annual beer festival, PETTFEST, over the Spring Bank Holiday Weekend. Excellent cask ales and ciders were consumed and there was, of course music, dancing and general merriment. On a daily basis, four handpumps means there is always a selection of cask ales available to suit every taste, usually including at least one from a local brewery. Recently enjoyed were Rother Valley



Storm Surge and Three Acre Harvest Gold. Up to date information on the beers at this LocAle pub can be found on the Real Ale Finder App. On the

extensive food menu, the pub's own kitchen provides pub classics. Additionally on Monday evenings meals are provided by Bell'e Buono Pizza Napoli. The pub holds regular quizzes and other events to support local charities including the Pett Level Rescue Boat and Pett Church Restoration Fund. A new venture is to also to support the Army Benevolent Fund.

■ ROBERTSBRIDGE

Robertsbridge Club held a beer festival on 23-25 May.

■ ROGATE

The **White Horse** is under new ownership, and reopened on May 1st. Rita and Daniel, the keen and knowledgeable Mother and son team, will offer you a warm welcome and a very well-kept pint of Langham's Hip Hop or London Pride.

■ ST LEONARDS

To celebrate the **Tower** being awarded the local CAMRA Branch Champion Pub NBSS top rated beer scores for the second year running and a very successful beer festival in February, Louisa Gover, the owner has decided to hold another beer festival on 11-13 September 2026."

The **Heist** in Norman Road now has a happy hour from 3pm-5pm when beers are £5.00 a pint.

Just round the corner from the Heist is the **Prince of Wales**, recently renovated and re-opened by the Hastings Project Brewery. This is proving very popular, with their own beers on tap along with one from Harvey's.

The **White Rock Hotel** hosted the South East Sussex Branch AGM and a tasting session prior to the meeting in April. This was an excellent evening with superb buffet and four cask ales to choose from.

■ SEAFORD

Steamworks has swapped managers with the Steamworks at Glynde. Paddy is now running Seaford Steamworks, and will be re-evaluating the range of beers sold. There will be a strong focus on local breweries, with a changing range of cask and keg, but also keeping one or two regular favourites.

The **Cinque Ports** continues its range of cask local beers, and also manages to source draught Bass, served very well in Bass logo'd glasses.

■ SHOREHAM BY SEA

The **Duke of Wellington** will be holding their annual Rivers of Ale Beer & Music Festival running over the August Bank Holiday weekend, 27-31 August. They'll have around 26 beers, 10 ciders available, four days of great bands and a pop-up food stall...and a lovely beer garden to enjoy it all in! See thewelly.co.uk/whats-on/ for more details nearer the time.

■ SIDLESHAM

The **Crab & Lobster** is best known to locals as an up-market restaurant with bar. However, it retains some of its pub atmosphere, and drinkers are welcome. One of the two hand pumps will normally serve a beer from Crafty Brewing.

■ SOMPTING

At the **Gardeners Arms**, updating news since the winter issue, the initial Planning Application for conversion to residential use was not approved by Adur DC. The local residents initial Asset of Community Value (ACV) application was not accepted on technicalities by the same Council. The owners have submitted a new Planning Application for conversion to residential use, with a negative Viability Assessment to support their application. The residents have opposed this application with many comments added to the PA. Arun & Adur branch of CAMRA are assisting the villagers with advice. Adur DC could come to a decision in June. The residents have also resubmitted their application for an ACV, after attending to the technicalities, and await a decision.

■ TURNERS HILL

The **Crown** is to hold a beer festival on 18-19 July. Landlords Neil and Lindsay came from the

catering trade and, alongside good home-cooked food, they have regular guest beers together with Harvey's Sussex ale.

The **Red Lion** had Harvey's Old Ale on into May. Damien and Carly are planning to hold a small beer festival and barbecue over the August bank holiday weekend.

■ WARNHAM

Very good beer quality and food at the **Greets** on a recent visit to pick up an Ale Trail sticker.

■ WEST DEAN

The **Selsey Arms**, following a very short period of closure, is now part of the same group as the Partridge (Singleton). It combines dining with drinking in a welcoming atmosphere and comfortable surroundings. You will normally find two hand pumps, one serving a beer from Langham.

■ WINCHELSEA BEACH

The **Ship Inn** serves as a community hub, being a café bar, and is also popular with summer visitors to the nearby holiday parks and beaches. The building also houses a well known and respected butchery and deli. In the bar there are two handpumps, one serving Harvey's Best, the other a seasonal ale. Earl's Reserve Cider is also available on draught.

■ WITHYHAM

The 16th century **Dorset Arms** was damaged by a fire that broke out during the evening of Monday, 20th April. Fire and rescue services from several neighbouring towns and villages attended and the fire was extinguished by 1am the following morning. Fortunately, no casualties were reported. The extent of the damage is unknown, but at the time of writing the pub was still closed.

■ WORTHING

Hand brewery, after moving across town from West to East Worthing, has opened a tap room, **Yard by Hand Brew Co**, presently only open on Saturdays noon-11pm. The address is Unit 6 Dominion Trade Centre, Dominion Way West, Worthing. BN14 8NT. It's a short walk from East Worthing station.

PALEFEST

2026

OUTLAW JUICY ALES

*"Are you gonna
pull those pints
or whistle Dixie?"*



THE GARDENERS ARMS - 46 CLIFFE HIGH STREET - LEWES - 01273 474808

22ND TO 26TH JULY 2026



LONG MAN BREWERY
NATURALLY EXCELLENT BEER



**AWARD WINNING BEER, BREWED WITH OUR OWN
REGENERATIVELY FARMED BARLEY**



LONG MAN
BEST BITTER

4.0%
TRADITIONAL BEST



LONG MAN
LONG BLONDE

3.8%
LIGHT GOLDEN HOPPY



LONG MAN
RISING GIANT

4.8%
AMERICAN PALE ALE



LONG MAN
OLD MAN

4.3%
ORIGINAL OLD ALE

longmanbrewery.com

01323 871850

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](#) page on the Sussex branches website sussex.camra.org.uk/breweries

ABYSS

Abbyss has just opened their yearly seasonal pop up in Newhaven (at the Sidings), so there will be plenty going on there. Watch out for some events which Nathan at the Lewes taproom has lined up too.

BLO Graham Eaton

ALEWORKS

Aleworks are currently ramping up production to meet the spring demands. They are releasing an **Organic Helles** lager to add to the series of beers they brew for the Knepp estate, all of which can be brought directly from the Knepp Wilding Shop and restaurant, the range also includes an IPA, a Pale Ale and a Best Bitter. They have also just released their popular keg beer **Tough Love** on cask, using their new brewhouse and whole cone hops it is now tasting better than ever. Over the summer there are several seasonal brews planned, keep an eye on their social media accounts for new

on release dates.

BLO Ian McIntyre

ARUNDEL

Arundel & Friends Beer festival on 4-5 July with bars from Unbarred and Staggeringly Good alongside the full Arundel Brewery line up including a special collab with Staggeringly Good. It will run from midday to 10pm with food from Three Cuts burgers. No tickets required.

BLO Jon Purdom

BATTLE

Battle Brewery has been busy preparing for the summer months and has a brand-new keg beer joining the range.

Pollen Count is a hazy and juicy NEIPA bursting with sun ripened peach and watermelon notes, finishing velvety-smooth with fresh hops that leave you craving for more. This will be available from May until September.

BLO Mac McCutcheon

BREWING BROTHERS

Brewing Brothers created a **Mad Jack Lager** 5.3% for the recent Jack in the Green celebrations. This was on in the Imperial and available at the final Slaying of the Jack on Bank Holiday Monday.

BLO Peter Page Mitchell

BURNING SKY

Since expanding their capacity last October, the brewery has remained busy with the new

tanks constantly full. Response to the increased core range of **Plateau**, **Aurora**, and **NZPA**, both locally and nationally, has been very positive. Alongside the three core casks permanently available, they are producing a monthly special, supplemented by four

permanent keg/can beers and monthly specials. Cans of **Arise** and **Quench** are available at Waitrose stores, for those who do not have a good independent off licence close to them. Their continued collaborations with Westwell Wines recently saw the release of **Parcelle Blanc** and **Parcelle Rouge** in bottles.

These were expressions of the same barrel aged beer aged separately on Ortega and Pinot Mernier grapes. A limited amount of their collaboration from the world-renowned Brasserie de la Senne made it across the water - hopefully some readers were lucky enough to try it.

BLO Ian Hodge

FLYING TRUNK

Flying Trunk has concentrated on brewing their core beer range of 7-8 regular beers, mostly to feature on draught (cask or live membrane keg) at their increasingly busy Tap Room, where 5-6 across the styles can usually be found. Local festivals and pubs are also supplied. New beers are produced from time to time; the latest being the well-hopped **Weir Wood Pale** 3.8%. Continuing the theme of using place names from Forest Row and its environs, the next new brew will be called **Inkpen Porter** and is expected to appear at the South Downs (Lewes) festival in June.

BLO Jonathan Samways

GUN

2026 is shaping up to be the year of the cask special here at Gun Brewery. We have no fewer than eight different specials programmed this year, all running alongside our five permanent cask offerings. The first two specials - **Hustle Buggy** a 3.4% Spring blonde and **Tap City** a 5% pacific pale ale - have come and gone. Tap City proved especially popular, selling out extremely quickly. Made exclusively with Kiwi hops, it delivered plenty of passion fruit and resinous hoppy deliciousness. If you didn't see it in your local, bad luck, but do have a word with the landlord. May will see the appearance of **Snapper Rig**, a 5.5% Summer dry hopped IPA. Keep your eyes peeled. The end of April saw big changes at our Saffrons Taproom in Eastbourne. The terrace, with its glorious views across the cricket square and the rooftops of Meads beyond, was extended so it can now accommodate over 100 people. On a sunny day in Eastbourne there's no finer spot to grab a beer. We have also installed a 180 square metre stretch tent which can be hired for private parties. If you haven't paid a visit there or to our brewery taproom on Gun Hill, surely the time has come! Why not come along to catch a World Cup game and try one of the three beers - all lagers - that we'll be releasing to celebrate the tournament? One second thought, don't answer that. I'd forgotten for a moment that this is a CAMRA magazine. You could always have a cask beer instead though ...

BLO Keith Brown

HAND

Hand has entered the final phase of building its new brewery and taproom in East Worthing. They expect to begin brewing onsite by the end of May, returning to full production capacity before the end of the summer. As well as bringing their full range back, they'll kick off a new exciting monthly special calendar and may even be able to squeeze in their elderflower foraging fiesta for their annual Dayglow Saison. While construction continues, the taproom is open every Saturday. Once the building is complete, opening hours will expand from Thursday to Sunday, offering more opportunities to experience the space and its beers, including the reintroduction of their excellent tour and tasting events. The taproom - Yard by Hand - is planning a varied programme of events. Keep your eye on their socials for updates on live music, DJs, film screenings, talks, craft workshops, markets, food trucks and more.

BLO Henry Kirk

HARVEY'S

The Brewery remains very busy. **Pells Pale** has been pouring on cask. **Olympia** is expected to make a welcome return from mid-May. A collaboration with Beak at their brewery will be a **Jesty** spring ale and will be launched in London and at a local pub in Lewes. They are planning a special beer to celebrate Sussex Day on the 16th of June which will be celebrated in the brewery yard. This will be brewed using Sussex barley and with hops

from all the remaining local growers. A 7% beer is also planned to fill the void left when production of **Elizabeth Ale** ceased. It will be available in both cask and bottle. They are experimenting with additional styles of low alcohol beers. They have collaborated with Lecoq brewery in Estonia to brew **Imperial Stout**. The brewery has been pleased to announce plans to create a collection of eight premium boutique, en-suite, rooms above the brewery shop on Cliffe High Street in Lewes. Work is currently underway with the office staff having recently relocated to their Depot site in Davey's Lane. They are also undertaking restoration of their flood defences.

BLO Ian Hodge

HBC

HBC had a very successful Mini Beer Festival at beginning of May including eight milds. Also, on offer was **Heavy Metal**, the first collaboration between HBC and the Horsham Home Brew Club, this is an 80-shilling beer and has been very popular. The Horsham Beer Festival will be held during September, as time of writing date is still TBC. As with last year will be at its new venue of the Brewery. More details will follow closer to the time. As well as these the brewery continues to hold regular live music, quizzes, vinyl nights and one-off events such as Eurovision Party - please follow them on social media for further details. The brewery is also available for hire for private functions, contact the brewery for further information.

BLO James Thornton

HEATHEN

Two fresh new beers are on the taps at the Hop Sun, one brand new and the return of a favorite.

Elves en Regalia is a brand-new IPA showing off some lovely Zappa and Lorien hops, alongside the return of the delicious **Kolsch** from last year's No, Money Down.

BLO Jeremy Brinkworth

KISSINGATE

With the onset of summer, it is with no surprise that Kissingate continues to brew porters and stouts despite the trend for pale beers. **Six Crows Stout** 6.6% has made a welcome return after a three-year pause in production.

Chocolate Cherry Dipper 4.5% is now a core beer along with **Black Cherry Mild** 4.2%. By contrast Kissingate's extra pale **Nooksack APA** 5.0% began life as a collaboration with Twickenham Brewery. This meeting of minds enjoyed early success winning both the Sussex and Twickenham Beer Festivals and has been re-brewed at Kissingate using the original recipe. The brewery team continue to conduct tours which attract visitors from near and far. As always there are plenty of social events planned for the summer months. Details of all events can be found on the brewery website Events Page.

BLO Roy Bray

LANGHAM

With Spring in full swing, we can look ahead to what is on the horizon for the summer. Whilst our focus is on British hops, we could not deny bringing back the New Zealand XPA Warou (NZ XPA 3.3%) a second year following huge popularity last

summer. Stride (APA 4.9%) is the American Pale ale (formerly know as Arapaho) is in can and keg along with the new IPA, Contour (5.6%). For updates and events please visit us online. Or visit our Shop & Taproom on-site, open Thursday to Saturday. Draught beer can be preordered online for takeaway. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Luff for being our fantastic Brewery Liaison Officer over the years as he is now finally passing the baton. We will be announcing our new BLO in due course.

LONG MAN

The Brewery is in the process of commissioning a new canning line which will significantly increase production capacity for cans and will look to expand the range of beers available over the course of 2026. The next canned small batch to be released is **Simco**, a 4.8% single hop pale ale. The next few months will see the return of **Rye Red Ale** and **Golden Tipple** in cask with the addition of a new **Citra Pale Ale** in July. Brewery Tour & Tasting Experiences are available to book on the website, and the Shop & Tap Room in Litlington is a popular place for a pint and is open seven days per week.

BLO Richard Scullion

NORTH GARDEN

In terms of new beer, North Garden will be brewing a new **Amber Ale** on cask, and an **Export India Porter** (cask, cans, and kegs) for September.

BLO Jeremy Brinkworth

ONLY WITH LOVE

Only With Love have relocated to Gatehouse Hub - a brand-new

park on the outskirts of Burgess Hill. It's a cracking place - a brand-new mixed-use concept with Padel courts next door, gym, cafe, and lots of other artisan producers on site including coffee roasters, street wear, vintage Japan memorabilia and gelato. They'll be opening their brand-new tap room on the first weekend in June, which promises to be one of the biggest and coolest in Sussex. With room for 150 inside and out and 10 lines of their freshest beer, it should be an excellent addition to the amazing Sussex scene. Meantime OWL also just released a brand new 2026 edition of their post-lockdown original **Let's Go!** IPA on cask. Available now at lots of venues across the county, it's an upgrade on one of their first classics. Deep and citrus with a classic big pine and bitter finish and weighing in at a tasty 5.2%. Follow them on Instagram for all the news on the opening and more (Only With-Love).

BLO Jeremy Brinkworth

THREE ACRE

The brewery recently passed a milestone with the production of its 500th batch. To celebrate, senior brewer James Brock produced a one-off limited recipe, **Batch #500 Pale**, a cold fermented and long conditioned cask pale ale, brewed using Mandarina Bavaria and Lemon Drop hops. The recipe and brewing process was included on the pump clip. In late March there was a collaboration with Castle Rock Brewery in Nottingham to produce an exciting and zesty **New Zealand Pale Ale**, delivering grapefruit,

passion fruit and white wine aromas and flavours. An enjoyable two days were spent at Castle Rock's Nottingham brewery where the two brew teams exchanged knowledge, techniques and several pints. Several seasonal specials are being released in the coming months, including **Fogwalker Hazy Pale Ale**, **Summer Session Pale** and further expansion of award-winning **Amarillo Pale Ale** and **Skylark Stout** in both cask and keg. Expansion into the neighbouring unit is now largely complete and they have been calibrating brewing operations in the new space. A new 5000L bathtub fermenter has been added to the vessel line-up and is in regular use for batches of **Sussex Best Bitter** and **Skylark Stout**. The

bathtub vessel increases the contact time with the yeast, speeding up production and delivering a more balanced, deeper malty flavour to the real ales that pass through it. Regular customers have noticed the results, with really positive feedback all round. Regarding the Uckfield signal box, the local town council have yet to complete the repairs to the building, which is more than a century old. Three Acre are keen to get on with their own fitting-out works so that the new taproom can be opened as soon as possible. In the meantime, attendance at several local events with the mobile bar is planned, including Heathfield's Le Marche, Uckfield's Weald on the Field, Beckenham Place Park Beer Festival and Battle

Abbey Car Show, amongst others.

BLO John Quick

UNBARRED

Unbarred has recently opened a new production brewery in Worthing to increase their capacity and get more beers to customers. This has also meant that they have been able to expand their taproom, which now has more seating and space to enjoy our beers and open longer hours during the week. The taproom will host Joy for an event alongside the Great Escape this May, watch out for a new 6.2% IPA released in the same month too.

BLO Graham Eaton





Indian Summer

BEER FESTIVAL

**12 CASK ALES OF VARYING STYLES
BRITISH CRAFT CIDERS & LAGERS**

28TH 29TH 30TH & 31ST OF AUGUST 2026

**FRIDAY 12-10PM SATURDAY 12-10PM
SUNDAY 12-10PM MONDAY 12-8PM**

The Cooper's Arms

Coopers Lane Crowborough East Sussex

COOPERSARMSCROW.COM

Spotlight on

BREWERIES

A signal box celebrates

Brolly Brewery will have a one-off traditional English IPA available from mid-July, specially brewed to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the commissioning of the signal box at Billingshurst station in 1876 by the London, Brighton & South Coast Railway.



After many years' service the box was finally taken out of use in 2014 at which time it was the only remaining building of its type, and was probably the oldest working signal box on the national system. As a listed building, it needed a new home.



It is now located at Amberley Museum where it is opened by volunteers for demonstration purposes. It contains the original lever frame and a variety of more

modern safety equipment, which visitors can operate under supervision.

Brolly Brewery has a local connection with Billingshurst in the form of the Billi Tap pub and, in a further twist, it turns out that the Grandfather of Brook, the brewer, worked the signal box some years ago.

The intention is to make an IPA that reflects the style and strength brewed in the 1870s. Watch websites and social media for availability at pubs and possibly a festival or two.

Jon Samways

Amberley Museum signal box group volunteer

Pressing News



Hello cider and perry fans. I hope you are enjoying the flavours of new season cider. I had a good day out with some CAMRA members in Worthing where we visited the Seldon Arms to present Beechwood

Cider their Joint first place as cider & perry of the Bluebell Railway festival for their Worthing Red Cide and Hoop & Mallet Perry.

Whilst on the theme of awards here are the Sussex branches cider pub of the year;

Waterworks in Rye, Hopp Inn in Selsey, The Signalbox in Burgess Hill, Coppers Arms in Crowborough, Engine Room in East Grinstead, and Green Man Ale & Cider House in Worthing. The count and regional round are currently in progress.

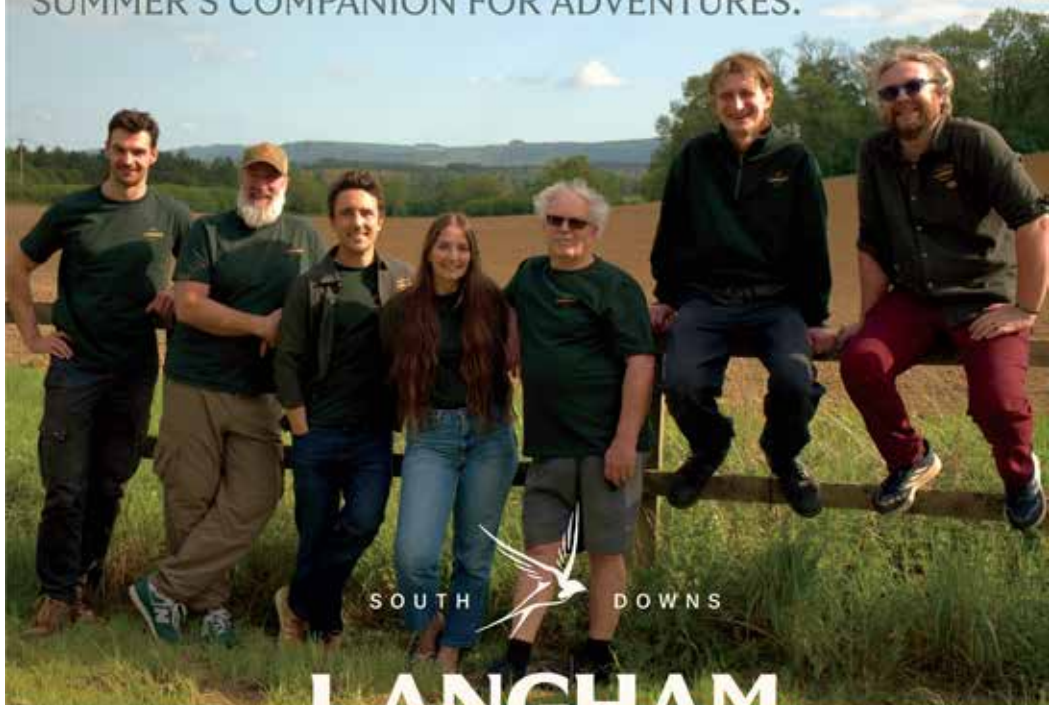
However, there are things you can do to help for next years competition, help your local branches by letting them know where you find good real cider, maybe offer to judge some pubs, an excellent excuse to visit some pubs and sample.

Until the next time, Wassail!

Paul Sanders

Regional Cider Coordinator

SUMMER'S COMPANION FOR ADVENTURES.



SOUTH  DOWNS

LANGHAM

BREWERY



Use our discount code in store
and online shop:

SUMMERSUSSEX10



Scan here for our events



Arun & Adur



Arun & Adur CAMRA branch chose the Sportsman Amberley as the Pub of the Year after some stiff competition. A number of branch members

visited the pub on Saturday 28th February when the chairman Malcolm presented the award certificate to staff at the pub.



This is a particular achievement as the pub only re-opened as a community owned venture two years ago and is now doing well with three regularly changing local ales on offer.



The Green Man Ale & Cider House in Tarring (West Worthing) was chosen by Arun & Adur branch members as their Cider Pub of the Year. This popular micropub sells 6 ciders plus a perry and has been Cider POTY for several years, including regional Cider POTY last year. A number of

branch members attended the presentation on 1st March when the branch chairman Malcolm presented the certificate to Les.

Brighton & South Downs

Brighton & South Downs branch are delighted to announce the following pubs have been awarded in the **Pub of the Year and Cider Pub of the Year 2026** competition. Very well done to all those listed below.

The **Signalbox**, Burgess Hill, was voted overall Winner as **both** Pub of the Year and Cider Pub of the Year.

Owner/director Greg Ackerley said *"It's a tremendous honour to be presented with both of these awards after such a short time of being open. A lot of time is spent on choosing the products we stock, with a great deal of care and effort spent looking after them to ensure that our patrons receive a delicious pint of expertly kept ale or cider each and every time. We'd like to thank our customers both new and old for your support since day 1, to the CAMRA committee members who nominated us, and to the CAMRA members who took the time to come out of the way to Burgess Hill and vote for us. We would like to congratulate our fellow finalists and peers on their well-deserved recognition"*:



(centre, holding certificate), branch Pubs Officer, Paul Free (left) and Pub Buddy, Jeremy Brinkworth (right)

The presentations took place in late April and were attended by a number of CAMRA members. The photo below shows Greg



For the Cider Pub of the Year below, Greg (1st from right) receives his certificate from Branch Cider Rep, Steve Leyfield (left)

Pub of the Year Results:

The Signalbox, Burgess Hill – Winner
 The Watchmakers Arms, Hove – Runner Up
 The Haus on the Hill, Brighton – Highly Commended
 The Brewers Arms, Lewes – Highly Commended

Cider Pub of the Year Results:

The Signalbox, Burgess Hill – Winner
 The Foghorn, Hove – Runner Up
 The Watchmakers Arms, Hove – Highly Commended



Following a member's meeting, the presentation for being awarded Highly Commended in the branch Pub of the Year

competition took place at the Brewers Arms, Lewes. The Brewers Arms is a family-owned favourite pub run and managed by brother and sister Liam and Kathy. Liam is seen receiving the certificate from Graham Eaton, Branch Chair.

Last, but by no means least, the **Trevor Arms**, Glynde has been voted our **Pub of the Season (Winter 2025/Spring 2026)**. Huge congratulations to the team.

Graham Eaton

Brighton & South Downs branch

31st Brighton & South Downs Ale and Cider Trail

By the time you read this, the 31st Brighton and South Downs Ale Trail will have been launched and will be in full swing.

With 40 excellent pubs/clubs at which you can get your free passport stamped it is a great way to discover new favourites and revisit some old ones as you collect stamps to win prizes. As previously you only need 20 stamps to get a prize. There are several new venues on the Trail this year – let us know which are your favourites using the Top 3 / Bottom 3 voting system in the passport.

The Ale Trail runs until 30 September, so pick up your passport and start collecting your stamps. More details of the participating pubs and club (from where you can obtain your free passport), and also information about a bus trip to get to some of the pubs which are more challenging to reach by public transport will be posted on the branch website at brighton.camra.org.uk/aletrail.

How I became a founder member of the Brighton & South Downs Branch

In 1971 I was enjoying a pint of King & Barnes mild in The Bridge pub at Upper Beeding, now, sadly no longer open. The reason for my visit was, strangely, due to brewer Bass Charrington. Let me explain. Earlier that year Bass had decided to stop brewing the splendid Double Dolphin Brown ale, one of the last of the beers brewed by the Old Kemp Town brewery in Brighton. To replace it they were now taking Harvey's Exhibition Brown. Inspired by this, along with a like-minded friend, alarmed at the tide of fizzy and keg beers from the so called big six brewers which were dominating the market, Lewes was visited and the abundant flavours of Harvey's beers set us off on a beer hunt to K & B. It was in the Bridge that we discovered CAMRA membership forms which were completed and submitted the next day.

The availability of real ale in Brighton & Hove was, at that time limited to only six pubs with only three brews available, Bass, Courage Best and Whitbread's mild. The only independent beers on sale were Gales and Harvey's, both of which were served on top pressure. Clearly something had to be done.

Fortunately, a group of fellow BT workers were also becoming concerned and a meeting, was called at the Royal Pavilion Tavern to assess support. Well over a hundred persons attended certainly proving that action was justified, and approval was soon received from CAMRA HQ, so, on Friday 13th September 1974 the Brighton Branch, as it was then called, was set up under the chairmanship of the late Ray Walder.

This pub was to become a much used meeting place for the new branch, and it was such a meeting one evening that was interrupted by a breathless member bursting into the room and

announcing that the Walmer Castle was selling Harvey's Best on handpump. Needless to say, any other business was called and a host of members set off at great speed in search of buses and taxis.

Since then, there have been many chairmen, (including myself) other names coming to mind are, Roger Coton, Paul Free, the late Pete Mitchell, Keith Newell whose run of consecutive years beat mine by one, Steve Pardoe, Chris Parsons and Michael Robinson.

Many things have changed, some not for the better and now as Hon. Branch President I can take something of a back seat, but it is very clear that there are many more battles to be fought to ensure that real cask conditioned ale is to be available for years to come.

Pete Coppard

North East Sussex

North East Sussex Branch Pub of the Year 2026 was the New Inn at Hadlow Down.



Branch Chairman Keith Brown presented the award certificate to Paul, one of the regular bar staff, watched on by pub regulars and several branch members.

After the presentation, all those present settled down to enjoy the convivial atmosphere and the selection of excellent Harvey's beers that the pub is renowned for.

Following last year's precedent, it was decided to make an award for PotY runner-up again in 2026. The award winner for this was the Crowborough Cross, which has consistently offered cask beers in excellent condition over the last few years. These often include beers from our local independent breweries, as well as nationally sourced products.



The award certificate was awarded by Keith to manager Craig, again in the

presence of several branch members and pub customers.

For the first time, the Branch Cider PotY was awarded to the Cooper's Arms in Crowborough. This pub always has at least one real cider available, always in good condition and often from relatively local makers.



Pub owner and licensee Dave was pleased to receive his award certificate from Keith in the company of several regular customers,

many of whom are CAMRA members.

North Sussex

CAMRA North Sussex has awarded its Pub of the Year shield for the third consecutive year to the Engine Room in East Grinstead.

As last year, it was a double celebration for the Engine Room, as it also scooped the award for Branch Cider Pub of the Year.

The Branch managed to coincide the presentation with the pub's annual Strong and Dark beer festival at the end of March.



In the photo are delighted members of the Engine Room team being presented with the POTY shield

and certificates by branch chair James.

Pub of the year runner up this year was the Anchor Tap in Horsham, with the Brewery Shades in third. Cider Pub of the year runner up was the Black Jug in Horsham. Congratulations also to all the other shortlisted finalists, the Old Dunnings Mill in East Grinstead, Kings Arms in Horsham and White Horse Moon in Maplehurst.

Equinox beer festival continues to thrive

North Sussex Branch held another highly successful Spring Equinox festival at the Drill Hall in Horsham this March.

The Friday afternoon session proved very popular with CAMRA members, enjoying the offer of free admission introduced by CAMRA this year to all their festivals, with a similar very good attendance across the other two sessions. The new hall layout was also well received and enabled us to increase the number of seats for festival goers. Our promise to have an excellent range of the 53 beers and 11 ciders/perries on sale right to the end of the event was very much met, while only having satisfactorily low amount left. The expanded range of low alcohol cans and bottles also proved popular, as expected. The dark beer bar featured 4 previous Beer of the Festival winners, and one of them duly won again, with a return trip planned for July to New Bristol for their glorious Cinder Toffee 4% stout. For the Light Beer presentation, we are off to Eastleigh in June to visit Steamtown's brewery tap to present the certificate for Ralph Dutton ESB, an excellent traditional 5.8% ale. Runner up in the light beer category was Nightjar Dua NEIPA, with Brolly C.O.W in third. Local brewers Flying Trunk and Kissingate were the dark bar runners up with their Lights Out stout and Black Eyed Susan mild respectively. Middle Farm near Lewes are now producing their own cider in addition to selling a large range of ciders and perries through their shop off the A27. Their Mainomenos 7% cider won the Cider/Perry award, with Ascension Wrath at 3.4% a close second and the ever popular Black Pig Perry third. Horsham and Crawley branch of the Samaritans were our festival charity, with the donations of money and beer tokens raising just over £1500, for which they are hugely grateful. Please put March 19th & 20th 2027 in your

diaries for our 13th festival. Finally, a plea. We have a great team of volunteers, many of whom work at multiple festivals throughout the year, and I thank them all. Seeing attendance numbers increasing this year was also wonderful.

However, without new volunteers coming forward, our event and the ones run by other local branches will struggle to continue. Volunteering at CAMRA festivals is great fun, so why not give it a go. Contact details for each branch are shown on Page 30.

South East Sussex

Congratulations to Louisa and her staff who at The Tower in St. Leonards have achieved the highest average score in the National Beer



Scoring System for 2024 and for 2025. The picture shows Branch Vice Chair Roger presenting the 2025 award to Louisa.

The award for the top scoring bar selling KeyKeg ales went to Collected Fictions, also in St. Leonards. The picture shows Roger congratulating Eliot as he presents him with the Bar's first ever CAMRA award.



Western Sussex Pub of the Year



Our photo shows the presentation in April to Charlie Cockaday (right in photo), Landlord of The Fox at Felpham, winner of

Western Sussex 2026 Pub of the Year, which will now go forward into competition for CAMRA Sussex pub of the year. The trophy was presented by Richard Earl (centre), Western Sussex CAMRA Branch Chair with Alison Griffiths (left), MP for Bognor Regis and Littlehampton who subsequently led a discussion on how we can all help out our local pubs. This led to a wide-ranging discussion covering, amongst other things, reform of business rates, VAT changes and providing better employment opportunities. The Fox is a worthy winner of the POTY award this year. There has been a stellar improvement since Charlie took over the pub which serves an excellent range of well-kept cask ales plus a real cider. Congratulations to Charlie and all staff at the Fox.

Cider Pub of the Year

Earlier in April, Western Sussex CAMRA presented their annual Cider Pub of the Year award (CPOTY) to the Hopp Inn, Selsey before settling down to enjoy the range of ciders on offer as well as the excellent cask beers. Congratulations to the whole team at the Hopp Inn who have now secured a hat-trick of wins in this prestigious competition.



Our photo shows Heather Lawn (centre), Branch Cider Rep,

about to present the certificate and apple trophy alongside Western Sussex CAMRA members and regulars.

Western Sussex Ale & Cider Trail 2026

The Western Sussex Branch of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) ran a very successful introductory Ale Trail in 2025 last summer from May to September. The primary purpose of the Ale Trail was to help our local pubs during a difficult period for them and to introduce potential new members to what benefits CAMRA can offer. Other CAMRA branches in UK have already implemented very successful Ale Trails, so

Western Sussex CAMRA Branch wanted to have something significant to celebrate their 50th Anniversary last year and, of course, to grow their own membership numbers. Most feedback received from participating pubs and from the participants (Ale Trailers) was good so a second Ale Trail will be run in Western Sussex in 2026.

What is an Ale Trail?

Some 350 Passports are being issued free to all Ale Trailers by Western Sussex CAMRA Branch. Participating pubs will stamp each passport whenever an Ale Trailer purchases a pint or half a pint of Cask Ale, Real Cider or Real Perry in their pub. Entry cost for pubs is £25 each, and some 30 pubs in W. Sussex which were selected have already signed up. Fully stamped passports get returned to Western Sussex CAMRA Branch, who will then reward successful individuals with a free pin badge and also an attractive, subsidised commemorative Ale Trail T-shirt which will be free to the first 15 completers of the trail.

The Western Sussex Ale Trail has the backing and support of CAMRA and sponsorship from some local businesses and brewers like Langhams.

The 2026 Real Ale & Cider Trail will be launched at the annual Yapton Beerex (15 - 17 May), and the Trail will run for three months giving drinkers the optimum time to visit the participating pubs throughout the summer to get their passports stamped.

The Ale Trail can also bring existing, new, and regular real ale and real cider drinkers together, encouraging them to create their own Ale Trail itineraries, and giving the participating pubs the opportunity to welcome them into becoming valuable returning customers.

Feedback from Ale Trailers visiting the pubs involved also helps the W. Sussex Branch to select pubs to be recommended for CAMRA's annual *Good Beer Guide*.

The 2026 Western Sussex Ale Trail will run from the Yapton Beerex on 15th May to the Holly Tree Beer Festival on 23rd August and further information can be found at westernsussex.camra.org.uk/aletrail



THE RED LION



A traditional English pub in Arundel, West Sussex.

**GREAT
PUB**



**LOVELY
GARDEN**



**DELICIOUS
FOOD**



**EXCELLENT
BEER**



Locally Sourced Produce • Real Ales – Cask Marque Accreditation
Real Handpulled Cider • Excellent Range of Wines
Largest Selection of Single Malts in the Area • Premium Spirits
Boutique Gins • Pimms in the Garden • Live Music & Open Mic

www.redlionarundel.com • 01903 882214



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
SmockAlley
West Chiltington
West Sussex
RH20 2QX
01798 812143

**Arun & Adur
CAMRA
Country
Pub of the Year
2024
Branch Pub of the
Year 2024**

www.thefivebellsinn.com

Bus to the Pub (Btpp)

Bus to the Pub (Btpp) is organised on a weekly basis. All trips are on Thursdays meeting at noon and usually visiting three pubs.

We mostly travel by train but also use buses as well. The majority of the locations visited are urban ones as town pubs usually have a better choice of beers.

If YOU would like to “join us on our weekly trips” then please contact me at max204.bgnr@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

THE SELDEN ARMS BEER FESTIVAL

THURSDAY 3RD
- SUNDAY 6TH

september



DJs Friday
& Live Music
Saturday

THURSDAY 5-11PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
11AM-MIDNIGHT
SUNDAY 12-10PM

RAISING
MONEY
FOR

WORTHING



FOOD
FOUNDATION

pop up
food
friday

pies all weekend from
MAGPIES MAGNIFICENT PIES

+ The Selden Arms, 41 Lyndhurst Rd, Worthing BN11 2DB +



PISTON BROKE

Specialising in Sussex Real Ales and Sussex and Kent Real Ciders - all gravity served. Wide selection of Wines. Very extensive range of Spirits. WiFi - Dog Friendly. Pub Games, Cards & Board Games available.

Live Music Every Week Friday & Saturday nights, Sunday afternoons, Bank Holiday Monday afternoon and occasional other sessions.

Jam Session occasional Mondays from 8pm

Fun Pub Quiz every Tuesday from 8pm

Open Mic night every Wednesday from 8.30pm

Live Sports - All Formula 1 races, Rugby, Cricket & Football on request.

For details of Performers, Event Timings, and Offers, please contact the Pub, or Social Media - Instagram, Google or Facebook - Piston Broke Shoreham. Also see live streaming of some performances on Facebook.

A Family run independent Traditional Freehouse Pub

88 High Street, Shoreham by Sea. BN43 5DB
Tel: 01273 440036. 5 minutes from Shoreham Station. Numerous Bus routes stop near The Pub.
Open 7 days each week.



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.



August Bank Holiday Beer Festival, Friday 28nd – Monday 31st August

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



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

BEER FESTIVALS AND OTHER DELICHTS

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.

3-14 Jun Signalbox Burgess Hill Cider Festival
12-13 Jun 28th CAMRA South Downs Beer & Cider Festival, Lewes Town Hall (see pages 3 & 5)
12-14 Jun Bognor Beer Festival
18-22 Jun Old Boot Inn, Seaford, Old Boot Festival
19-21 Jun Engine Room East Grinstead Summer Beer Festival
19-21 Jun West's Wood Fair in East Dean, Nr Chichester
24-28 Jun Signalbox Burgess Hill Abyss Tap Takeover
26-28 Jun Brickworks Burgess Hill Yard Party III
3-4 Jul Arundel Taphouse BrewFest
8-19 Jul Signalbox Burgess Hill Summer Beer Festival
18-19 Jul Crown Turners Hill Beer Festival
22-26 Jul Gardeners Arms, Lewes, Pale Ale Festival (see page 12)
22-27 Jul Signalbox Burgess Hill Gun Tap Takeover

1-9 Aug Hastings Old Town Carnival
22 Aug Tap Fest 2026, Norfolk Tap, Arundel
26-31 Aug Signalbox Burgess Hill Aleworks Tap Takeover
27-31 Aug Duke of Wellington, Shoreham by Sea Rivers of Ale Beer & Music Festival
28-31 Aug Crown Eastbourne Beer Festival (see page 27)
28-31 Aug Indian Summer Beer Festival, Cooper's Arms, Crowborough (see page 17)
3-6 Sep Selden Arms Beer Festival, Worthing, (see page 26)
4-6 Sep Tap & Vine Takeover Horsham
11- 12 Sep Horsham Beer Festival
11-13 Sep Tower St Leonards Beer Festival
18-20 Sep 6th Bluebell Railway/CAMRA Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival, Sheffield Park Station (see pages 4 & 7)
19 Sep Tibbs Farm - Hop Fest
25-27 Sep Engine Room East Grinstead Oktoberfest
25-27 Sep Brickmaker's Alehouse, Bexhill Autumn Beer & Cider Festival

Branch Diaries

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

Arun & Adur

See aaa.camra.org.uk/events.html.

Brighton & South Downs

See brighton.camra.org.uk/diary.

North Sussex

Branch events are on the second Tuesday of the month, starting 7.30pm

27 Jun Steamtown Taproom visit

11 Jul New Bristol Brewing Visit

See northsussex.camra.org.uk/diary.

North East Sussex

See northeastsussex.camra.org.uk/diary.

South East Sussex

10 Jun Country PotY presentation

See southeastsussex.camra.org.uk/diary.

Western Sussex

20 Jun Saturday Social to the Star & Garter East Dean by Book-a-bus

See westernsussex.camra.org.uk/diary.

Campaigning for pubs, pints and people since 1971

Ever seen a Ginger Panther?

No, but we've tried one!

CAMRA, celebrating the
UK's best beers and pubs.

Join CAMRA and go on an
amazing exploration of great
beers and pubs in the UK.

Discover benefits, discounts and tools
that make it quick and enjoyable to find
the beers you love and the great pubs that
serve them. You also save on entry to over
160 CAMRA festivals.

Your membership supports the campaign to
preserve quality beer, cider and perry, along with
cherished pubs and clubs that bring us together.

Join CAMRA today
camra.org.uk/join



FIND OUT MORE

CAMRA

Award winning beers from The Waterworks Brewery



Our **Pissoir Porter** has recently won three awards including a

CAMRA Silver Medal for London & South East England (Stouts & Porters)

We serve our full range of beers in the taproom along with a local lager, ciders, wines, gins and soft drinks. There is also live music every Sunday 3-5pm

TAPROOM OPENING TIMES

Fri 3-7pm, Sat 2-7pm
Sun 1-5pm



BREWERY & TAPROOM

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

Serving 10 local ales & 18 local ciders



Along with our own beers, we serve a good range of ales and ciders, We also have a selection of wines, gins and soft drinks and award winning Scotch eggs and pork pies.



RYE'S MICROPUB

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

PUB OPENING TIMES

Mon - Fri from 2pm
Sat & Sun from 12pm



www.ryewaterworks.co.uk

SOUTHWICK BEER ENGINE

Find us
Scan code



W3W
///types.order.cloth

Independently family owned run business in the heart
of Southwick

6 real ciders



Ever changing cask & craft lines

Large selection of wines, spirits & cocktails

Belgium & German bottled beers

Quiz every Tuesday @ 7.30pm

Live Music every Sunday 3-6pm

A short walk from Southwick station/700 bus stop
and on the 46 Brighton & Hove bus route

Inside and outside seating areas

Well behaved dogs and children welcome

A friendly atmosphere that welcomes everyone

"Visit as a stranger & leave as a friend"

Live beer & cider updates on the

Real Ale Finder app

For details of our events see our Website, Google and FB

2 Southwick Square, Southwick BN42 4FJ

01273 945694

www.southwickbeerengine.co.uk



Mondays 12- 7pm
Tues - Thurs 12pm - 10pm
Fri/Sat 12pm - 11pm
Sun 12pm - 8pm

