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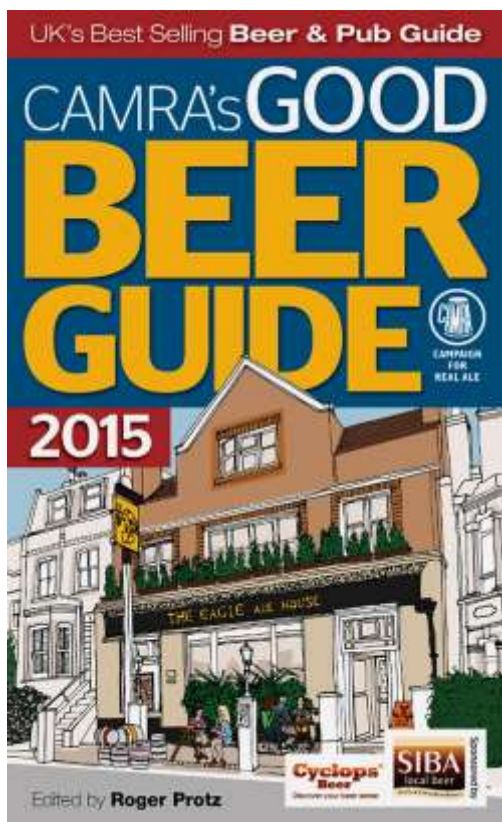
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Celebrating the Real Ale Scene in Sussex **Sussex Drinker**

Winter 2014
Free



126 SUSSEX PUBS



PUBLISHED
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FINANCED
BY THE
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First-Timers Feature - p.12-13

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Sussex Branches of CAMRA

Surrey & Sussex Regional Director:

Chris Stringer, 01403 270505 (Horsham)

pennyandchris@btinternet.com

Sussex Area Organiser:

Peter Page-Mitchell, 01424 422128

(St. Leonards-on-Sea)

ppagemitchell@hotmail.co.uk

Beer Festival: Brighton Corn Exchange, 19-21 March 2015

POTY: Wilkes Head, Eastergate

COTY: Albatross RAFA Club: Bexhill-On-Sea

Western Sussex

Max Malkin, 01243 828394

ifitransitisianastyday@mypostoffice.co.uk

www.westernsussexcamra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Yapton, 15-17 May 2015

POTY: Wilkes Head, Eastergate

Arun & Adur

Patricia Bond, 01903 753018

bondipat@yahoo.com

www.aaa-camra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Worthing, Oct 2015

POTY: Parsonage Bar & Restaurant, Tarring

North Sussex

Roy Bray, 07833 205901

r.bray755@btinternet.com

www.northsussexcamra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Ardingly Vintage Vehicle Show, July 2015

POTY: Jolly Tanners, Staplefield

Brighton & South Downs

John Kirkland, 01293 519844

john.kirkland@btinternet.com

www.brightoncamra.org.uk

Beer Festival: Lewes, June 2015

POTY: Gardener's Arms, Lewes

COTY: Constitutional Club, Lewes

South East Sussex

Phil Cozens, 01323 460822

contact.camra.sesusx@gmail.com

www.southeast-sussex-camra.com

Beer Festival: Eastbourne, Oct 2015

POTY: Dolphin Inn, Hastings

COTY: Albatross RAFA Club: Bexhill-On-Sea

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Editor:

The Quaffer

Email: sussexdrinker@yahoo.co.uk

Advertising:

Neil Richards MBE Email: N.Richards@btinternet.com

www.matelotmarketing.co.uk

Tel: 01536 358670 Mobile: 07710 281381

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Copy Submissions:

The Editor invites submissions that celebrate the real ale scene in Sussex. Please keep to a maximum of 700 words.

Please use plain text or Word files.

Please send good quality pictures separately, preferably in JPG format.

Standard Disclaimer:

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

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Tel: 01273 292523; Fax: 01273 292524

Email: trading_standards@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Website: www.brighton-hove.gov.uk

Campaign for Real Ale Ltd

230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW

Tel: 01727 867201 Fax: 01727 867670

Website: www.camra.org.uk



Sussex CAMRA Branches 25th Beer & Cider Festival

In what will be its Silver Jubilee year, the Sussex CAMRA Branches Beer & Cider Festival will be held from 19-21

March 2015 at its new venue, the Corn Exchange, Pavilion Buildings, Castle Square, Brighton, BN1 1EE. There will be over 150 real ales from across the UK, plus more than forty ciders and perries. An excellent selection of British and foreign bottled beers will also be available. To help soak up those pints, a variety of hot and cold food, including vegetarian and vegan options, will be on sale.

All bars will operate a token system. Token refunds will be given for whole £s only and before time is called at the bar. Surplus tokens may be deposited in the box provided and their value will be given to the Festival Charity.

Opening Times & Ticket Prices:

Thursday	11am-3pm	£5
	5pm-11pm	£8
Friday	11am-3pm	£5
	5pm-11pm	£8
Saturday	12noon-10pm*	£8
	After 5pm**	£4



(* Or whenever the beer runs out if before)

(** No Advance Tickets for Saturday after 5pm - Pay on the Door)

A minimum of 200 tickets for each session will be available for purchase on the door. Ticket price includes souvenir glass and programme. Card-carrying CAMRA members can also obtain beer tokens worth £2 at the CAMRA membership stand. Strictly no

under-18s and ID wristbands will be issued to all attendees.

Advance tickets are available from 19 January to 14 March at the following outlets: Evening Star, Brighton; Gardener's Arms, Lewes; Buckingham Arms, Shoreham-by-Sea; Selden Arms, Worthing; Beer Essentials, Horsham. For mail order, please state which session(s) you require and enclose a 9x4 SAE with your cheques or postal orders made payable to 'Sussex CAMRA Beer & Cider Festival', and sent to SBB&CF Ticket Sales, 16 Connell Drive, Woodingdean, Brighton, BN2 6RT. No refunds will be processed after 12 March 2015.

The 2014 Beer of the Festival was the Twickenham Fine Ales and Kissingate Brewery collaboration, Nooksack APA.



Photograph shows Paul Free and Peter Mitchell (left pair) presenting the Twickenham Brewery

certificate.

All 2015 festival enquiries to: camrahove@btinternet.com or 07450 656148. More info at www.sussexbeerfestival.co.uk. Should you be interested in helping out, please refer to the information on the web site. We very much look forward to seeing you all, old friends and new alike, in March.

Peter Mitchell and John Kirkland
Joint Festival Organisers

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HINTS OF TOFFEE,
CARAMEL AND A
SMOOTH FINISH



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A PALE ALE USING SIX
AMERICAN HOP
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CARAMEL &
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SUSSEX PUB SCRATCHINGS

News of new developments and updates on the Sussex pub scene will be gratefully received by the Editor for consideration in Scratchings. The standard disclaimer on p. 3 applies to all items.

■ ARDINGLY

In early September, the **Oak** was reported as closed with a To Let notice outside.

■ ARUNDEL



The **Kings Arms** holds a Meet the Brewer event on the last Wednesday of each month from 7.30pm. £5 gets you a talk from

the brewer, four half pint samples with tasting notes, a quiz with prizes and a buffet of landlord Charlie's famous sausages. Bill King from Firebird was the featured brewer for September, Franklins appeared in October and Dark Star is lined up for November.

■ BARNHAM

A planning application has been submitted to convert the **Barnham Bridge Inn**, closed for two years, into a Tesco Express store. The letting rooms above will become flats.

■ BATTLE

Ricky and Sandra from the Abbey Hotel have taken over **Ye Olde Kings Head**.

■ BOGNOR REGIS



Previously run by Marston's, the bar at the **Carlton Hotel** has become a Fuller's outlet and re-named the Aviator Bar and Grill

at the Carlton Hotel. Two hand pumps offer London Pride and the brewery's seasonal

beer.

■ BRACKLESHAM

Specialising as a sports bar with Sky Sports shown from a number of large screens, the **Pond Barn Bar & Restaurant** is open every day but it has no food on Mondays (or on Tuesdays over the winter). It is serving two beers from Irving - Frigate and Invincible.

■ BRIGHTON

The **Hop & Vine** is a new bistro at 300 Ditchling Road, Fiveways. Along with bottled and keg beers and ciders, they sell a changing draught real ale from Long Man.



The **Bevy** (Bevendean Cooperative Pub) aims to open in early-mid December. Chris Pobjoy is the licensee-manager. Harveys will supply two house ales and there will be guest beers. The pub

has its own bus stop on the Brighton & Hove 49 route.

■ BURGESS HILL

Not only does the **Quench Bar & Kitchen** accept CAMRA Wetherspoon vouchers, a 10% discount on real ale is also available to card-carrying CAMRA members.

■ BURWASH

The **Bell** was first reported closed over two years ago and is currently (early September) still so and looking in a sorry state.

■ CHICHESTER



Northwest of Northgate, the **Rainbow** has now been in safe hands of landlords Stephen and Jacqui for about a year.

The well-kept beers to be enjoyed from

11am each day (12noon Sunday), are Dark Star Hophead plus two guests. Good value homemade food is available lunchtimes and evenings 5-8pm (not Sunday). Music nights are held every Friday and the first Tuesday of the month, while quiz nights are on Wednesdays.

The **Dolphin & Anchor** (J D Wetherspoon) has moved up a gear recently with the very popular Langham beers, including Saison, plus others from around Sussex often being available. Regular Meet the Brewer events are held here.

Just adjacent is the **Belle Isle** with a fine selection of beers from afar. A 9% discount can be achieved by charging a key fob with cash.

The **Chichester Inn** always has an excellent beer choice with a price cap at £3.90 per pint for card-carrying CAMRA members. It is also worth seeking out for a meal.



The **Bull** continues to thrive with its selection of up to several guest beers plus the wonderful O'Hagan's sausage meals.

■ COCKING

September guest beers on **Greyhound** have been Weltons We Plough the Fields and King Brighton Blonde.

■ CROWBOROUGH

Subject to licensing approval, the **Crowborough Cross** will open as a Wetherspoon outlet on 27 January.

■ CUCKFIELD



The **Wheatsheaf** is a Marston's leased pub, and so something of a rarity in mid-Sussex. An early-October visit found it serving

Wychwood Hobgoblin, Marston's Pedigree, Brakspear Bitter, Banks's Mansfield Ale and Banks's Sunbeam (one further

hand pump was turned round). Popular with the locals, it has decent food offering, a garden and ample parking.

■ EASTBOURNE



In Meads Village, the **Pilot** is a nice, friendly pub with a relaxing ambiance. Recently refurbished, it has a

pleasant beer garden, a partitioned dining area and three B&B rooms. Three hand pumps on the large bar serve Harveys Best, Timothy Taylor Landlord and Sharp's Doom Bar.

The **Drive**, Victoria Drive, closed mid-2013 as news emerged of plans to build a Sainsbury's supermarket on the site. There were many objections with local meetings, petitions and the involvement of local MP Stephen Lloyd, but the latest rumours indicate that Sainsbury's have signed the lease and will go ahead with their plans.

■ EAST HOATHLY

The **Kings Head** has improved recently. It is once again being run by owner Robert Wallace, who is also a director of the adjacent 1648 Brewery.



Jools and Greg in the **Foresters Arms** (Harveys) were delighted to learn that they have been listed in the 2015 *GBG*; we

have never known anyone to be so happy!

■ EXCEAT BRIDGE

The former Golden Galleon is now called the **Cuckmere Inn**. According to the website, it is still part of the Vintage Inn group.

■ FOREST ROW

The **Foresters Arms** has been closed for some time, despite Enterprise Inns getting numerous people to throw money at it over the years. It has been sold and will reopen

not as a pub but a Co-op store.

■ GRAFFHAM

The **Foresters Arms** has been sold. The new owners have put a notice on the door saying it will reopen on 1 December.

The **White Horse** has reopened following refurbishment and change of management.

■ HAILSHAM

Since Mark and Anita took over the **King's Head** (Harveys) in May, the kitchen has been completely refurbished, so they now offer homemade traditional food from 12noon to 9pm Monday to Saturday and 12noon to 4.30pm Sunday. Due to popularity, reservations are strongly advised for the Sunday roasts. They have also received the Best Newcomer Award from Harveys Brewery. Congratulations! The beer is still excellent and it remains a friendly, community pub.

■ HASTINGS

The **Plough**, West Hill, is undergoing refurbishment with high expectations as it is under the same management as two local GBG-listed pubs, the Havelock and the North Star. This area has lost many pubs in recent years and needs a good real ale outlet, so good luck to it.

The **John Logie Baird** (JDW), Havelock Road, is adding consistency in quality to its good range and is well worth a visit.



In the Old Town, the **Hastings Arms** is now selling guest ales alongside its usual Shepherd Neame Range and the **Jenny Lind** plans to add soon another hand pump.

The **Crown** has reopened at last and has been LocAle accredited, having featured Hastings beers and a selection from Cronx Brewery of Croydon. A wander from here down All Saints Street can now bring you a pint of Shepherd Neame (or guest) in the **Stag**, a fine pint of Fuller's ESB in the **Cinque Ports**, and Courage Directors in fine fettle in the **Lord Nelson**. After that,

pop round the corner to the branch pub of the year, the **Dolphin**, for a choice from five hand pumps.

■ HAYWARDS HEATH

The **Heath** (Harveys) is a friendly, unpretentious locals' pub. Cask Marque accredited, it always has well kept Best Bitter and often one of the brewery's seasonal ales. A late-August visit also found on hand pump two ciders from Weston - Old Rosie (7.3%) and Rosie's Pig (4.8%).

■ HEATHFIELD

After being closed for a short period, the **Prince of Wales** has reopened with new management and is now open from 11.30am-11pm (10.30pm Sundays). Harveys Sussex Best and Sharp's Doom Bar feature on the hand pumps.

Reported closed in early-September, awaiting new management, is the nearby **Cross in Hand**, at the junction of the A267/B2102.

■ HEYSHOTT



The Arundel Sussex Gold was found to be on top form during a September visit to the **Unicorn**.

■ HOLTYE

The **White Horse** has had mixed fortunes over the past few years and having been sold several months ago, is to be converted to residential use. This will leave no pubs on the A264 between East Grinstead and Langton Green, on the outskirts of Tunbridge Wells.

■ HORSHAM

The **Anchor Hotel** was once a Temperance Hotel, later a bank. In recent years it was known as Bar Vin but has since reverted to its old name. Four ales are available, all well kept and mostly local. Card-carrying CAMRA members get a discount.

■ HOVE

The **Sussex** is a large and spacious Ember Inns pub that offers 20p a pint discount for card-carrying CAMRA members. There is Cask Marque accreditation and a guest beer, Purity UBU, was enjoyed in good condition. Brakspear Bitter, Arundel Sussex Gold and Harveys Best are the permanent ales with Westons Old Rosie Cloudy cider also on hand pump. All cask ales are £2.49 a pint every Monday. Plentiful food served here too.

The **Connaught** is a Brakspear pub with three ales from that brewery (Oxford Gold, Bitter and the 4.0% September seasonal Pride of the River) on hand pump alongside Ringwood Boondoggle. All of the Saturday afternoon clientele were diners, but the seasonal ale was sampled in decent condition and there is Cask Marque accreditation. A three third-pint paddle of real ales is available.

■ LANCING



The West Sussex micro pub revolution continues apace with the October opening at 5 Queensway of the **Stanley Alehouse**. Check their Facebook page for opening times.

■ LEWES

The **Rights of Man** now has six hand pumps in the front bar. The bar in the Martyr's Bar is rarely open, but customers are welcome to sit in it.

■ LINDFIELD

The **White Horse** (Enterprise Inns) was reported as closed in early August.

■ LITTLEHAMPTON

The Anchor Springs brewery tap, the **Crown Inn**, has been given an external redecoration including Victorian-style sign-writing adverts for the brewery's beers complete with tasting notes.

Work continues apace next door in the High Street at the Anchor Springs brew



shop and pub, the **Contented Pig**. The old signage for the Home and Colonial Stores was uncovered during the renovations.

The **Globe** has finally been sold. Whether it will reopen as a pub or for an alternative use is something to be monitored.

■ MIDHURST

New permanent tenants arrived in July at the **Swan** (Harveys). They are Adrian and Eleanor Vollenhoven, a lovely couple from South Wales and new to the pub trade. A technician from Harveys spent a whole day in the pub completely cleaning the cellar and all the beer lines as well as replacing some of the worn-out parts. The cellar is now in A1 condition as well as the beers. Opening hours have been restored to all day every day and all three hand pumps are now used on a permanent basis. The two core beers are Sussex Best Bitter and Armada. The third hand pump is for the seasonal beers. On a September visit it was Old Ale, which was lovely, but by time you read this it will probably be Bonfire Boy. Come December Adrian and Eleanor are planning to have a pin of the Christmas Ale on the bar. If you are in the area any time do drop in for a pint, you will not be disappointed and, you might just stop for a second one as well!

The **Crafty Pint** is an independent off licence that has been open for a few months in West Street. Owner Andrew Chiverton used to be at the Royal Oak, West Lavington. Up to three real ales are on gravity dispense. Also stocked is a selection of bottled beers, not only from Sussex micros but also from Europe and the USA.

■ NEWHAVEN

Prior to refurbishing and reopening the **Bridge Inn**, Harveys are planning to convert the upstairs letting rooms into flats.

■ NORMANS BAY

The **Star Inn** sits in a quiet location on Pevensey Marsh, but only 500m from the train station. It has two pleasant outside garden areas by the side of a river with ducks and swans, and a play area. Inside are several bar areas. Food makes up a good proportion of the business here with their popular and good value Carvery being served every day. Two hand pumps dispense Harveys Sussex Best Bitter and, usually, Greene King Morland Old Speckled Hen.

■ O Ving

At dawn on Saturday 19 July, a fire at the **Gribble Inn** spread to the thatched roof and severely damaged sections of the building, including the part containing the village shop. Weatherproofing is now in place but it will be well into the New Year before the Inn can be fully restored. The positive and forward-looking news is that the Gribble Brewery is operating normally and that work is under way converting the skittle alley into a cosy bar to allow the beers to be available again on draught.

■ PETT



Royal Oak

Rarely has the Sussex Bus to the Pub group encountered in a relatively small village two such excellent well

run and welcoming pubs as the **Royal Oak** and the **Two Sawyers** (both *GBG*). Both were buzzing with customers drinking and eating on a pleasant Wednesday lunchtime in September. What better advert to rebut the popular view that village pubs are failing. We shall return!

■ PETT LEVEL

The **New Beach Club** sells four beers including, on a recent visit, Harveys Best Bitter, Long Man Long Blonde and Ringwood Fortyniner. Card-carrying CAMRA members are welcome.

■ RINGMER

The **Old Ship** was reported in mid-September to be closed and up for sale.

■ ROGATE

New tenant at the **White Horse** (Harveys) is Adam Mordue, formerly of the White Horse, Graffham.

■ RUSTINGTON

During a September visit, the **Windmill** had on two well-kept local ales, Arundel IPA and Goldmark Liquid Gold.

■ RYE

With the **Queen's Head**, the **Globe Inn Marsh**, the **Ypres Castle Inn**, the **George Hotel** and the **Ship Inn** all offering a variety of local and national beers, this attractive and famous town is an excellent destination for lovers of real ales.

■ SEDLESCOMBE

The **Queen's Head** is now a must for lovers of real ale. Beers from Harveys, Long Man, Franklins and Old Dairy have been found during recent visits. The food was excellent.

■ SELHAM



The **Three Moles** is doing nicely. It now opens 4pm until late (trade depending) on weekdays, and from 12noon until late at weekends.

It is run by local couple Emma and James, who have been there for some time and sell Bowman Swift One, Skinners Betty Stogs and one guest beer.

■ SELMESTON



The **Barley Mow**, on the A27, has reopened with new, keen owners. It is an extensive Grade II-listed free house with two bar areas, a restaurant section, outside decking at the rear, a play area and plenty of park-

ing. The pub specialises in good beer and good, reasonably priced, pub food. Burning Sky Plateau, from the nearby Firle Estate, Long Man Copper Hop and Harveys Best are the regular ales. Two hand pumps are being installed for guest beers.

■ ST LEONARDS-ON-SEA

The **Horse and Groom** offers four excellent beers, often including a local ale. Prices remain very reasonable.

The **Tower** continues to attract even more real ale drinkers resulting in the strong possibility of a sixth hand pump being installed!

The **Welcome Stranger**, Silverhill, has new management and it is hoped that real ale will once again feature in this large pub.

■ STOPHAM

The **White Hart**, an attractive riverside pub close to the medieval stone bridge, was reported in early September to be closed and up for sale.

■ THAKEHAM



At the **White Lion Inn** alongside any two from three regulars, Fuller's London Pride, Ringwood Best or St Austell Tribute, are Har-

veys Best and usually one or two LocAle guests from the likes of Downlands, King and others.

■ TROTTON

The **Keepers Arms** is currently (late-September) closed and has been since March. Asking Price: £95,000 free-of-tie lease (also available freehold).

■ WEST DEAN



The house beer at the **Dean Ale & Cider House** will no longer be Hancocks (Molson Coors) but Dean

Ale, a special 3.9% beer produced with Downlands. The regular beer is no longer Sharp's Doom Bar but Adnams Southwold Bitter. There are also two guest beers, while a regular keg beer alternates between Dark Star Revelation and Dark Star APA.

■ WEST LAVINGTON

Guest beers on in September at the **Royal Oak** were Timothy Taylor Golden and Purity Mad Goose.

■ WORTHING

The **Castle Tavern** always has four or five well-kept keenly priced LocAles including Hophead and guests from Dark Star, with Goldmark and Langham also featuring.

If you are a devotee of Harveys Sussex Best Bitter then one of the most consistently excellent pints of this fine ale can be found at the cosy **Beechwood Hall Hotel**, not far from the library and always open to the public

A name from the past has returned to Warwick Street. A former coffee shop has been transformed into a café-bar and renamed the **Thieves' Kitchen**. A few bottled beers are on sale, including some from Dark Star. It is to be found opposite the pub that used to bear the name, now called the **Vintners**.

The **Jolly Brewers** is currently (October) closed and boarded up. An application has been made for private accommodation on the site.



Current closed, the **Egremont** is being sensitively refurbished and restored by its new owner. He intends to keep it as a real ale pub and with the Kemp Town Brewery windows and livery intact.

Flickr photo credits: Chris Amies, Three Moles at Selham; Chris Guy, Royal Oak at Pett; John Law, Foresters Arms at East Hoathly and Unicorn at Heyshott.

The CAMRA *Good Beer Guide* has been going since 1972, when it was just 18 pages long. The first fully outsourced published and printed edition was that of 1974, which cost 75p, was 96 pages long and listed just 42 pubs in Sussex. The 2015 edition, published this September, has 988 pages and lists 126 pubs across our county. Many of these are well-established Guide entries. Others are making a welcome return. Some are appearing for the very first time, so we say welcome to the following new entrants:

■ BATTLE



On the High Street is the **Bull Inn**. This 17th century, old coaching inn is LocAle accredited. It serves Har-

veys Best Bitter alongside a house beer and guest ales usually from local microbreweries.

■ BOLNEY

The name of the 16th century, half-timbered **Bolney Stage** reflects its location on the old, London coaching route. LocAle accredited, it serves four regularly changing beers, mainly from Sussex breweries.

■ BRIGHTON

The **Southover**, in the Hanover area, is LocAle accredited and new to the *GBG* in its present incarnation. The pub received a single Guide listing, back in 1989, when it was the Royal Exchange. Recently refurbished and renamed, it is now operated by Indigo. Mostly local ales are served on its



five pumps and there is a range of bottled beers.

Welcome to the *GBG*



The spacious, family-friendly **North Laine** has its own brewery behind the bar. Every day this brew-pub chooses a

different beer and reduces it in price by an amount totalling the duty and tax, as a protest to the taxman and a special offer to the customer.

■ EASTBOURNE

The **Crown** is a family-friendly community local in the Old Town, run by Andy and Jo. LocAle accredited, it holds at least three Beer and Cider Festivals annually. Up to six real ales are available dispensed by ei-



ther hand pump or gravity. Pictured are Alan and Karen Mitten presenting official notification of *GBG* status to Andy (right).

■ EAST GRINSTEAD

The **Ounce & Ivy Bush** is a town centre, family-friendly Wetherspoon. LocAle accredited, it showcases a local brewery each month.

■ FUNTINGTON

The **Fox & Hounds** is a free-of-tie country village pub with an emphasis on local, regional and microbrewery beers. Beer festivals are held twice a year.

■ HAILSHAM

LocAle accredited, the **George Hotel** is a town-centre Wetherspoon that keeps real ales and ciders in an optimum environment for a perfect pint. The team is passionate about beer and loves to support Sussex



breweries. Pictured is Ian Robertson (left) presenting official notification of GBG sta-

tus to Becky and Mitch.

■ HASTINGS



The town-centre **General Havelock** serves two weekly-changing guest beers alongside Dark Star Hophead, Harveys Best Bitter and Timothy Taylor Landlord. The interior, with late-Victorian tiled portraits of local scenes, is of national heritage importance.

■ NEWHAVEN

The **Hope Inn** was a 'try also' GBG entry in the 1990s but 2015 sees its first full listing. At the south end of the town, it overlooks the harbour entrance. It serves Harveys Best Bitter alongside guest beers.

■ NYETIMBER

The **Inglenook** is a 16th-century, Grade II-listed hotel, restaurant and free house on

the Pagham Road. It is well known for its excellent selection of real ales, including weekly-changing guest beers that tend to be on the strong side.

■ PETWORTH

To the north of this ancient town, the **Stonemasons Inn** is a recently refurbished 17th century pub-restaurant. LocAle accredited, it offers a choice of guest ales from mostly local breweries.

■ SHOREHAM-BY-SEA

The Lazy Toad last appeared in the GBG back in the early 2000s. New owners have recently refurbished and renamed it the **Piston Broke**. Facing the Ropetackle roundabout, it is a rare outlet in the town for gravity-dispensed beers.

■ ST LEONARDS-ON-SEA

Trade continues to build at the LocAle accredited **St Leonard**. Serving three ever-changing real ales, it is also noted for the excellent wines available.



Photograph shows CAMRA Area Organiser and local resident Peter Page-Mitchell congratulating landlord Tom on the pub's first appearance in the GBG.

■ WORTHING

Just one year old and straight into the GBG is the **Wandering Goose**. This pub on the





seafront just east of the Dome offers an interesting changing selection of cask, keg and bottled craft beers.

The **Sussex Bus to the Pub** Group

Join us on our travels!



The Sussex Bus to the Pub group attracts participants from many areas of our fine county and has been running for some five years, so if you too would enjoy visiting different pubs with fine ales  friendly, informal and convivial company without the constraints of the car, then 'Bus to the Pub' (BtP) may just appeal!

Often there is a short paved or metalled road walk from the nearest bus stop to the pub. If it is more than an half mile then we will show an approximate distance and if it is across footpaths which could be muddy or uneven, then you will also see a  walking boot symbol.

With so many good pubs struggling to survive in the current economic climate and County Council budget cuts threatening the subsidised bus services that serve many rural communities, join us in 'supporting them'.

Local Bus timetables can be found at:
Brighton & Hove www.buses.co.uk
Compass Bus www.compass-travel.co.uk
Emsworth www.emsworthanddistrict.co.uk
Metrobus www.metrobus.co.uk
Renown www.renowngroup.co.uk
Stagecoach www.stagecoachbus.com/south
Sussex Bus www.thesussexbus.com

Some of you reading this may also be interested in Pete Brown's bi-monthly Trains to London Pubs (TTLP) group (see the Diary Dates).

Transport which, if confirmed, would inevitably affect us and are likely to be introduced in Spring 2015. Any changes to this programme will be advised to those on our mailing list so do please join (see below).



November

Wednesday 5 to Staplefield & Crawley; 10.48 Metro 271 from B'ton C'Hill Sq. to Jolly Tanners then Brewery Shades (both GBG)

Wednesday 12 to Lewes & Alciston; meet John Harvey Tavern from 11.30 then 12.28 Compass 125 to Rose Cottage returning to Lewes

Wednesday 19 to Brighton Station area & Kemp Town; meet from noon at Evening Star then Prince Albert, Hand in Hand (all GBG) & Crown

Thursday 27 to Hope Carshalton Winter Beer Fest; Train to meet 11.00 at East Croydon then 157 bus from Bus Stn (adj. West Stn.) to West Street (stop opp. pond)



December

Wednesday 3 to Shoreham & Portslade; meet noon at Old Star micro pub adj. to new foot-bridge then Duke of Wellington and onto Stanley Arms (both GBG)

Wednesday 10 Around Lancing & Worthing; meet from 11am in Stanley Alehouse (5 Queensway north of station) then Selden, Wandering Goose (both GBG), Anchored and Brooksteed Alehouse at 5pm.

Thursday 18 Around Lewes; meet from 11.00 in Brewers Arms then onwards at noon in search of Harveys Xmas Ale

Important note: many of the rural routes we use are subsidised by local councils. With government funding to County Councils continuing to be reduced year on year, cuts can and do occur at short notice. East Sussex CC recently entered into a 'consultation' following news that they have to make significant cuts to their budget for Public

Monday 29 to Nyetimber & Chichester; meet Chichester Bus Stn. for 11.43 Stagecoach 60 to Inglenook Hotel then return to Bull (both GBG) and other Chi. pubs



January

Thursday 8 to Royal Oak Friday Street (GBG); either 11.00 Stagecoach 17 from Brighton, or 11.27 Metrobus 23 from Worthing, to Horsham Bus stn. for 12.35 Compass 52 to Rusper for footpath walk 🐾 (approx. 25 mins) to the pub

Wednesday 14 to Glynde & Barcombe; 10.52 train from B'ton to Trevor Arms then 13.24 Compass 125 to Royal Oak (GBG)

Wednesday 21 to Arundel, Barnham & Yapton; 11.00 Compass 85 from W'tg Pier to Swan & Kings Arms then onto Murrell & Maypole (GBG)

Wednesday 28 to Angmering, Rustington & East Preston; 11.30 Stagecoach 9 from W'tg to

Spotted Cow (GBG) then Windmill & Clock-house



February

Wednesday 4 PotY presentation; TBA

Wednesday 11 to Hove & Shoreham; meet from noon at Neptune (GBG) then Brunswick & Old Star

Thursday 19 to Turners Hill & West Hoathly; 10.15 Metrobus 270 from B'ton C'hill Sq. to Hay Heath Perrymount Road (adj. stn.) for 11.42 Metrobus 82 to Red Lion (GBG), then 13.58 M'bus 84 to Cat

Wednesday 25 to Eastbourne South Street; meet 10.30 at C'hill Sq. for 10.37 B&H 12a to E'bourne

For further info or to join our mailing list Email stuartelms@ntlworld.com or ring 07817



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Bru News

The Sussex Breweries Pages

Information here is mostly supplied by the Brewery Liaison Officers named at the end of each report. The Brewery Liaison Coordinator for London & South East Area is Peter Page-Mitchell.

1648

East Hoathly, 01825 840830.

www.1648brewing.co.uk

The brewery has had a busy few months has been had supplying and running the beer tent at local festivals Lammas, SteamPunk and Chiddingly, and appearing at the Nottingham Beer Festival. New brew **Jack Cade**, 4.5%, was specially brewed for the Half Moon (formerly Jack Cade), Heathfield. Following its success it will continue to be available over the next few months. It uses an interesting hop variety, as does **Black Velvet**, 5.5% extra oatmeal stout, available shortly. The brewery and the pub are both to have face-lifts, after which it is planned to start running brewery tours again next year.

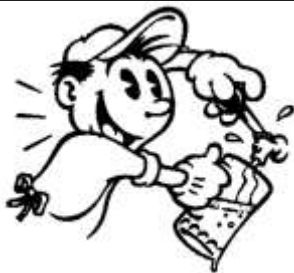
David Platt

360 DEGREE

Sheffield Park, 01825 722375.

www.360degreebrewing.com

There is a new on-site brewery shop. It will be open on Saturdays and also during the week in the run up to Christmas. The brewery reports strong sales and widening distribution for their beers. Three new beers available this autumn, initially as sea-



sonal offerings, may become regular brews: **Oatmeal Stout #45** (4.5%), smooth and well balanced; **Pacific Red #45** (4.5%), deep ruby red ale with American and Australian hops; **Single Hop Pale #41**, pale ale with one hop variety that will change seasonally. **Jason Phillips**

ADUR

Steyning, 01903 867614.

www.adurbrewery.com

The co-operative continues with four potential new members learning the secrets of brewing, while production has been increasing gradually to meet demand. **Robbie's Red** appeared at Ale at Amberley and there is an order from Cologne to fulfill, so the beers are now spreading internationally, as well as in Brighton and the local area. Positive feedback was received after the Steyning Food & Drink Festival. Beers can be found at local farmers' markets and a country fair.

Nigel Bullen

ANCHOR SPRINGS

Littlehampton, 01903 719086.

www.anchorspringsbrewery.com

Brewer Will is experimenting with an as-yet-unnamed wild hop beer, brown-coloured at 4.2%. It will be a limited-edition run, much of which may be bottled.

The Quaffer

ARUNDEL

Ford, nr Arundel, 01903

733111.

www.arundelbrewery.co.uk
Fermented with champagne yeast from the Tinwood Estate, the August special is called **Festival** (4.2%), since the brewery is again the main sponsor of the annual Arundel Festival and 10% of all profits from sales of the beer will be given to the festival's designated charity. This continues the practice established with the July special, **Tiger** (4.7%), where 10% of profits went to local Sussex regiment, The Tigers. The 4.7% seasonal **Summer Daze** is replaced by **Autumn Breeze**; this 4.6% dark old ale appeared nationally in the Wetherspoon autumn real ale festival. The Viennese-style pilsner, **Sussex Bier**, has been selling very well in bottle.

Jeff Vinter

BALLARD'S

Nyewood, 01730 821362.

www.ballards-brewery.co.uk

Currently available are the two seasonals **Duadekademmon** (5.5%) and **On The Hop** (4.5%), which is brewed using hops from the Weald & Downland Museum, Singleton. Bottled **Hot Hot Hot Fran's Chilli Beer** (4.2%) quickly sold out at the Lewes Chilli Fiesta. Plans for this year's Ballard's Walk barley wine are now being made.

Barry Woodward

BASELINE

Small Dole, 01903 879111.

www.baselinebrewing.co.uk
Mash Up, 4.0% fusion of Czech Pilsen and English Pale Ale styles, is selling well. This new pale, zesty beer perfectly combines British First Gold and Czech hops, delicate Bohemian malt and biscuity British Maris Otter to give citrus, spice, orange and some herbal notes. **Dark Matter** (5.5%) will be ready for the autumn.

Peter Mitchell

BEACHY HEAD

East Dean, 01323 423313.
 www.beachyhead.org.uk
The Famous Christmas Ale was available at Eastbourne Beer Festival. The ales (particularly **Legless Rambler**) continue to be on sale at more pubs in the Eastbourne area. Mainly because of increased cask sales, bottling has now ceased so that all efforts can be concentrated on cask ale.

Tony Harman

BEDLAM

Albourne, 07955 684041.
 www.bedlambrewery.co.uk
 The Bull inn, Ditchling, will have Bedlam beers on permanently after its owner, Dominic Worrall, took over the brewery in May. **Best** (4.0%), **Golden** (4.2%) and **Porter** (5.0%) are joined by a new **Indian Pale Ale** (5.8%), with Fuggles, Target and Goldings hops, while a seasonal ale has just been brewed using hops planted on the estate. Solar panels have been installed on the brewery roof and generate all the electricity used on site. Tours of the farm estate and brewery will soon be offered at a nominal cost: call 01273 978015 / email info@bedlambrewery.co.uk.

Peter Mitchell

BLACK CAT

Groombridge, 07948 387718.
 www.blackcat-brewery.com
 The brewery has been sold to new owners Paul and Kate Wratten. At the time of reporting it is still with Marcus to enable beer supply continuity until Paul is ready to install it in new premises at Unit Twelve, Knights Business Centre, Squires Farm Industrial Estate, Palehouse Common, Framfield, Uckfield, TN22 5RB. Paul and Kate are keen to keep the same website, retain the core beers and to keep supplying the same pubs. They are also looking to get back into pubs previously supplied, and more, including expanding the bottle side.

David Moore

BRIGHTON BIER

Bell Tower Industrial Estate, Brighton, BN2 5RU, 07515 956976 / 07967 681203
 www.brightonbier.com
 Brighton Bier now have a brewery of their own! The team would like to thank all those involved for their help in making this dream a reality. The bespoke 15-barrel installation is within sight of the sea and continues the brewery's close association with the Kemp Town area. It will enable the team to expand the range and availability of their cask ales, and begin to offer some in bottle and keg. After a well received first brew, **Dealer's Choice** will continue to explore the myriad possibilities of the Black IPA style. The winter will also see a welcome return of **The Grand** (Porter) and **No Name** (Stout) alongside newcomer **Fat Boy** (Maple and Oatmeal Stout).

BLO TBC

BURNING SKY

Firle, 01273 858080.
 www.burningskybeer.com

Saison L'Autome was

brewed using rosehips. Two new bottled ales have been released: a barrel fermented Saison, **Anniversale**, brewed this March and aged in char-donnay barrels; plus **Monolith** (black, 8.0%), the last brew of 2013, made using wild yeast, and aged in a red wine vat. This will also be available as key keg. The brewery is to receive local hops from Burwash, which will be used to produce porter style beers. These will be aged for three months and should be ready in January. Mark is considering producing some cask 'occasional brews', including more dark ales, for the local market. This Christmas will see the first, early release of **Flanders Red**, brewed early 2013. These will be available in champagne bottles at the usual outlets.

Ruth Anderson

DARK STAR

Partridge Green, 01403 713085.
 www.darkstarbrewing.co.uk
 It was back in the day, 20 years ago, in the cellar of the Evening Star, that a mixture of beer-loving enthusiasm and over-active imagination gave birth to the first ever brew, Skinner's Pale Ale, named after Pete Skinner, the one that returned from a busman's holiday in the USA with a precious handful of Cascade hops and started the whole gold rush for American hoppy beers. Rob Jones, the one with perhaps the most over-active imagination, has now been ordered back to the brewery, armed with the priceless first ever brew sheet to recreate **Skinner's PA** on the full-scale brew house. This 20th anniversary beer will be available in November along with a free CD of Blur. (I made up the last bit!) If Dark

Star don't plagiarise age-old traditions then they invent their own. So this year for the third year running there was the tradition of the tapping of the **Green Hopped IPA**.

Watches were synchronised and the first pint of 2014's Green Hop was poured at 20.00 BST, Friday 26 September at the bars of the Evening Star, Brighton; the Duke of Wellington, Shoreham; the Old Drum, Petersfield; the Partridge, Partridge Green; and the Coopers Arms, Crowborough.

Clive Watson

DOWNLANDS

Small Dole, 01273 495596. www.downlandsbrewery.com As well as the regular beers the brewery will be producing their winter seasonal, **Migration Song** (4.6%) and their two Christmas ales, **Pyecombe All Ye Faithful** (7.4%) and **Christmas Pud** (5.0%). Everyone at the brewery wishes you a Merry Christmas, and hope that you continue to enjoy their beers in the coming year.

Roger Coton

FILO

Hastings, 01424 420212. www.filobrewing.co.uk **Churches, Crofters, Gold** and **Old Town Tom**, together with seasonal and special brews, remain as popular as ever in many local pubs and further afield in Sussex and Kent.

Bill Turner

FIREBIRD

Rudgwick, 01403 823180. www.firebirdbrewing.co.uk New developments include a brewery tours area with hay bales and lawn, while a self-service bar is to follow. A new cooler has arrived to allow much lower temperature control of fermenters. Can we

look forward to some real lagers? Four larger fermenters are to be installed to replace the current, smaller vessels. Meet the brewer evenings in various pubs (see Facebook and Twitter) are proving popular. The use of single hop varieties for eponymous beers will be a continuing theme: **Pacific Gem** (4.2%, NZ hop) has been very well received as has the recently introduced **Marynka Ale** (4.1%, Polish hop), while November will see **Aramis** (4.2%, French hop). Also available during the run up to the festive period will be **Old Ale** (4.5%). **Heritage XX** (4.0%) remains the biggest seller.

Andrew Wilson

FRANKLINS

Bexhill, 01424 731066. www.franklinbrewery.co.uk Steve is busy thinking up new recipes for exciting new beers. Expect soon to see the brewery popping up on a lot more pumps in the Hastings and Bexhill area. Franklins recently won their second award in their short existence when **Grumpy Guvnor** was voted Welling Beer of the Festival. Their previous award came at last year's Worthing Beer Festival where **English Garden** will be back again this year to defend its crown in the "Best of the Best" category featuring the other previous winners. The beers were well received at The Big Green Cardigan Festival, September.

Mac McCutcheon

GOLDMARK

Poling, nr Arundel, 07900 555415 / 01903 297838. www.goldmarks.co.uk Orders have increased after success at the Great British Beer Festival (GBBF). Mark has been busy developing

two new beers to premier at the Worthing Beer Festival: **Vertigo**, 4.8% North German style Pilsner, naturally carbonated, conditioned for twelve weeks and available in keg and bottle formats; **Black Lion Porter**, 5.3% English porter, available in cask and bottle.

Jim Waterston

GOLDSTONE

Ditchling Common, 01444 257053 / 07748 153735. Brighton & South Downs branch members visited the brewery on 6 September. They were welcomed by owner Mark Francis who explained that much the brewing equipment was originally from dairy use and assembled by experienced brewer Richard Venour. **East Slope Ale** has been produced especially for one of the brewery's major outlets, the East Slope Bar at Sussex University Students' Union. At 4.4% the beer shares many characteristics of **Amarillo** but with a smoother, less hoppy flavour to attract lager drinkers. The summer beer **Havana** (3.8%) may appear again in a modified form. Tentative steps are being made towards bottling, with some trials being undertaken.

Paul Free

GRIBBLE

The Gribble Inn, Oving, nr Chichester, 01243 786893. www.gribbleinn.co.uk After the fire at the pub in July the good news is that the brewery is operating normally and has since delivered beers to the following festivals: Derby; GBBF; Stanley Arms, Portslade; and the Empress, Littlehampton. Beer is available for collection from the brewery every day. As a temporary measure the skittle alley is well under way in

being converted into a bar. Notwithstanding regulatory issues it should be open by the time you read this. Gribble beers will then be available again on draught with a special brew to celebrate. A further brew is planned using local wild hops.

Chris Wright

HAMMERPOT

Poling, nr Arundel, 01903 883338.

www.hammerpot-brewery.co.uk

RIPA, new black IPA, dark and smooth with an intense fresh citrusy hop flavor, will be in pubs from mid-October. **Shepherds Warmer** is available again in cask and bottle until Christmas.

Tim Walker

HARVEYS

Lewes, 01273 480209.

www.harveys.org.uk

New beer, **R**, ruby coloured at 2.8%, will be available permanently all-year round. A beer that Second Brewer Peter Yarett brewed on the micro plant for his wedding has subsequently been released to the trade as **Primus** (5.0%). **St. Richard's Ale** (5.0%) has been bottled and is available in the shop. This year's

Christmas Ale has been blessed by Father Toby Sims, a Russian Orthodox priest from Hastings! The presence of the Hop Bar at GBBF was once again a success and will appear again next year. **Mild** was Beer of the Festival at Huddersfield and a certificate has been presented. At the World Beer Awards, **Imperial Extra Double Stout** won "World's Best Imperial Stout", while **Tom Paine** won "Europe's Best Bitter over 5.0%".

Jack Wilkinson

HASTINGS

St Leonards-on-Sea, 01424 850961 / 07708 259342.

www.hastingsbrewery.co.uk

A fourth real ale joins the core range: **Stout**, 6.0% robust, available in cask and 500ml bottles. The recipe for **Best** has been rebalanced to emphasize malt rather than hop flavours. The team is experimenting with Ecokeg one-way kegs. They hope to further increase sales by sending keg-conditioned Handmade beers across the UK and into Europe.

Peter Page-Mitchell

HEPWORTH

Horsham, 01403 269696.

www.hepworthbrewery.co.uk

Old Ale will be available from October through to March. **Christmas Cracker** will appear at the beginning of December. **Hiver** (5.0%) is added to the list of bottled beers. In addition to more traditional ingredients, it contains a careful selection of different honeys added before fermentation.

Andrew Wilson

HIGH WEALD

East Grinstead, 07836 291430.

Andy@highwealdbrewery.co.uk

The brewery is about to move into a larger unit at the same address. This will allow greater variety and volume of production, improved bottling facilities and some much needed storage space. Andy is planning to sell direct from the brewery. He hopes that this will enable tours and special events to be arranged in the not too distant future. The regular ales continue to be brewed for sale in local and not so local free houses, along with festival specials **Ardingly Gold** (4.7%) for the

CAMRA beer tent at Ardingly, and **Ashstock Best** (4.2%) for the inaugural and very successful Ashstock Festival, Ashurst Wood, where it was one of the first beers to sell out. Bottle conditioned versions of the regular beers are sold at the Market Square shop, East Grinstead.

Jonathan Samways

HOP YARD

The Yard, Lewes Road, Forest Row, RH18 5AE, 07769 313410.

www.hopyardbrewing.co.uk
raphy@hopyardbrewing.co.uk
Hop Yard Brewing Co. held a successful launch event over the Forest Row Festival weekend of 19-21 September. Based in an old store building in the middle of the village, the family-run concern aims to brew for special Pop-Up events for which their premises are ideally suited. They will also be making bottle conditioned beers available.

BLO TBC

HURST

Hurstpierpoint, 07866 438953.

www.hurstbrewery.co.uk

Hurst appeared at the GBBF for the first time, with **Founder's Best Bitter** carrying the flag for the brewery. This beer also appeared at The Hope Beer Festival, Newhaven. There are plans to introduce a **Sussex IPA** to the range this autumn. The brewery continues to expand; there has been a large delivery of new casks and a new member of staff taken on.

Steve Floor

ISFIELD

Framfield, 01825 750633 / 07803 716758.

enquir-

ies@isfieldbrewing.co.uk

The brewery reports generally healthy sales. New, seasonal

beer, **Autumn Red**, available from mid-September to December, is a 4.4% red-amber hued bitter with a smooth finish; it has been selling very well.

Peter Adams

KEMPTOWN

The Hand in Hand, Brighton, 07967 681203.

The smallest operating commercial tower brewery in the world reached its quarter of a century in 2014. The brewpub is back in the 2015 **GBG**.

BLO TBC

KILN

4 Alexander Road, Burgess Hill, RH15 0EW, 07800 556729.

www.thekilnbrewery.co.uk
thekilnbrewery@gmail.com

This new nano brewery has so far produced two beers: **Boardwalk** (4.5%, Transatlantic Pale Ale) and **Brewlin Rouge** (5.1%, Red Beer). Coming soon are **Switch Back** (Golden Ale) and **Mean Streak** (Extra Special Bitter).

BLO TBC

KING BEER

Horsham, 01403 272102.

www.kingbeer.co.uk

Over 200 people attended the Open Day this year, with friends old and new. It was too close to call for favourite, with Heritage **Poachers Moon** and **Old Ale** versus Evolution **Northern Lights** and **Black Symphony**. Ready for November will be **Red River** (4.7%). For Christmas the team will again be brewing a special spiced version of **Festive** as well as the moreish **Wonderland**, at 4.1% a move away from traditional dark beers for a lighter Xmas pint.

Mike Head

KISSINGATE

Lower Beeding, 01403

891335.

www.kissingate.co.uk

Although **Chennai IPA** has proven to be the best overall seller throughout the summer, sales of dark beers such as **Black Cherry Mild**, **Smelter's Stout** and **Stout Extreme Jamaica** have been consistently high despite the hot weather. New beer **Sussex** (4.0%) has been well received and joins the core list on a permanent basis. The annual Christmas Open Day will be held at the brewery on Saturday 13 December.

Roy Bray

LAINÉ

The North Laine, Brighton, 01273 683666.

www.drinkinbrighton.co.uk/north-laine

The brewery is now two years and twenty-one beers old! It is currently producing two versions of **IPA**, one using only UK hops, the other only USA hops. Both are 5.0% so try them side-by-side. **Brighton Bräu**, using imported German ingredients, was brewed once again for Oktoberfest. A recent one-off addition to the range was **Big Four-0 Celebration Ale** (5.5%), made by Brewer Nigel Dallas to celebrate his birthday. Autumn will see a green hop beer (5.2%), using wild hop from a garden in the Queens Park area of Brighton.

Ruth Anderson

LANGHAM

Lodsworth, Petworth, 01798 860861.

www.langhambrewery.co.uk

Busy times up at Lodsworth where the seasonal offering **Autumn-ale** is 4.4% dark-golden with added honey. **Saison**, 3.9% cloudy, zesty, pale, golden, farmhouse-style, continues to be popular.

Black Swallow, 6.0% Black IPA, will be back for the winter. Launched in October was **Egfr**, 7.5% jet-black Baltic Porter, named after the Norse God of the sea, hospitality and ale!

Peter Luff

LISTER'S

Ford, 07775 853412.

The new 5-barrel fully-automated plant has been installed in the new premises on Ford Lane, Ford. The first brew is underway and the beer should have been available at the Worthing Beer Festival, October. Current plans are to brew once a week and **Best Bitter** will be the single beer for the time being. It is hoped that a golden bitter will be introduced next year.

Glenn Johnson

LONG MAN

Litlington, 01323 871850 / 07976 777992.

www.longmanbrewery.com

The charitable cask ale **Craft Pier**, 3.8%, produced in collaboration with The Curious Beer Club, has been a resounding success, with landlords and drinkers getting fully behind the beer. The team expresses their thanks to all involved, with whose support they have (to date) raised over £2000 for the Eastbourne Benevolent Fund. Autumn sees the welcome return of two classics, **Old Man**, 4.3%, dark ale from September to February, while **Scary Man**, 4.3%, is back for its usual Halloween run. **Golden Tipple** (5.0%) appeared nationally in the Wetherspoon autumn real ale festival. The inaugural kegged beer **Crafty Blonde**, 4.1%, is continuing to show good sales, with its own branded glass now available. **Old Man** will be available in bottle for Christmas, with **Copper Hop** following

shortly in the New Year. New-est new team member Gareth Davies joins as Drayman.

Scott O'Rourke

NAKED

Lancing, 01903 791230.
www.nakedbeerco.co.uk
New staff member Dan will be on hand to help with marketing and occasional brewing. The 5.0% Hefeweizen beer mentioned as forthcoming in the previous issue was re-released as **Depeach Mode**. Two new ventures with local businesses will see the introduction of some unusual beers from mid-November. Stoneham Spring Farm, near Lewes, will provide head brewer Rob with the opportunity to forage for fruit and flowers for two new stouts, a **Sloe Berry** and a **Dandelion and Burdock**. Tom Foolery coffee shop, Shoreham, will provide the beans for **Casara Porter**. To finish off the year, a roasted chestnut version of **Indecent Exposure** will be available early December. **Roy Bond**

PIN UP

Southwick, 01273 411127.
www.pinupbrewingco.com
The brewery is trading well and very busy running their bars at music events in London, firework displays and that sort of thing! It is planned to take on an assistant brewer and a delivery person. **Autumn Ale**, 4.7% amber-coloured with smoked malt, is being brewed. There is talk of a **Winter Ale**. One fermenting tank has been extended and another waiting to be done, with a new wet area planned for next year as part of an expansion.

Adrian Towler

RECTORY

Streath, 01273 890570.

Beers available during the late summer period included **Light Relief** and **Pilgrimage Mild** (both 4.5%). The eagerly anticipated **Bonfire Toffee Ale** (5.0%) will be making its usual November appearance. It is ably supported by reliable regular **Rector's Revenge**, the latest brew of which can justifiably claim to be doubly blessed as assisting Godfrey in the brewing process on Harveys' micro plant was Father Toby Sims who ordained as a priest in the Russian Orthodox Church. Father Sims is studying for a Diploma in Brewing and hopes to follow in the Trappist brewing tradition. It is thought that this may be the first time that two ordained priests from different denominations have brewed together.

Paul Free

ROTHER VALLEY

Northiam, 01797 252922 / 07798 877551.
One resurrected brew and one new beer will be available this autumn. **Lighterman**, pale-brown 3.8% session-ale, is brewed with an equally resurrected hop, Cobb-Goldings, giving this beer a classic English taste. New for bonfire season is **Ignite**, 4.6% red-brown ale brewed with organic Challenger hops.

Dawn Lincoln

TOP NOTCH

Haywards Heath, 07963 829368
www.topnotchbrewing.co.uk
This 0.5-barrel brewery has so far produced **Hop Festival** (3.9%), **Royal Fanfare** (4.6%) and **Flare-Path** (5.5%).

Keith Newell

TURNERS

Ringmer, 07710 581042 / 08456 892689
www.turnersbrewery.com
sales@turnersbrewery.com

The Christmas ale, **White Christmas**, is a 4.5% flavoured wheat beer. An exclusive **Ruby Red** cask bitter has been brewed for Stanmer Park, Falmer. Brewery tours are available at 10% discount for *Sussex Drinker* readers: simply quote this magazine when contacting the brewery direct. Turners run frequent special offers on their beer and competitions on their Facebook page; take a look to win prizes and to see which two lucky winners get to have a beer custom-brewed to their specification.

Jason Phillips

WELTONS

Horsham, 01403 242901.
www.weltonsbeer.co.uk
Horsham Pale has sold an amazing 40,000 pints since its launch. Dark beers available in November include **Dark Side IPA** (black, 3.6%), **Horsham Old** (4.5%), **Hot Chestnuts** (5.5%), **Persian Princess** (6.0%), **Ghost Buster** (4.6%), **Hammerpond Dark** (6.3%) and **Headless Horseman** (6.0%). The twelve beers of Christmas this year (available from end of November) will all be based on Good King Wenceslas, so pick a line from the famous carol and you have a Weltons beer! Belgian yeast has been sourced for an impressive 9.0% **Imperial Festive Stout**. Bottles of 2013 **Xmas Maximus** can be found at Beer Essentials, Horsham. Ray bought 328 new casks earlier this year to keep up with demand and beer can now be found in the Porterhouse and Draft House pubs in London and Brighton. The Kings Arms, Billingshurst remains the place to find Weltons beers.

Nigel Bullen



CIDER HOUSE NOTES

FROM TRAD TO THAT EXTRA SPARKLE...

Having focussed previously, simply on new craft cidemakers in Sussex, I am this time going to investigate two extremes: at one end the marvellous sparkling cyder (not allowed to call it champagne!) produced for quite some time in Gospel Green by James and Cathy Lane; and at the other end the more traditional still style, being Wobbligate Cider in Bolney, where they have produced award-winning apple juice since 2009, then decided to branch out into cidemaking in Spring 2012.

WOBBLEGATE

Wobbligate Juice & Cider, Juicy HQ, Old Mill Fruit Farm, Cowfold Road, Bolney, West Sussex, RH17 5SE, 01444 881356, www.wobbligate.co.uk, info@wobbligate.co.uk

Wobbligate is actually the name of an old orchard on the farm, and seemed a nice quirky name for the cider. Father and son, Glyn and Tom, run the business, and it was Tom's idea in 2009, fresh out of university, to start producing cider and juice using an old press on the Old Mill Fruit Farm.

The original, main business of the farm was



growing fruit. They as a family have been growing fruit for over thirty years. So when they first started producing cider it was from Sussex grown apples. No cider apples varieties were used, just cookers and eaters, and their first production was only available in bottles direct off the farm. They don't use added sugar or preservatives, before or after fermentation. And they don't use sulphites either. Only real fruit is used – so the famous Wobbligate Pink Cider has real blackcurrants in it, leaving interesting sediment at the bottom of the bottle or glass! It doesn't do you any harm, just contributes to some of your five-a-day.

In the short time they have been selling their cider, their production has gone from 7,000 litres a year to over 75,000 litres by the end of this season, as they try to keep up with demand. They now deliver their ciders direct weekly, all over the South East and London, in bottles to shops, and on draught in pubs. Their juices are making a great and healthy alternative to J20s in pubs as well!

The other ciders produced are Sussex Scrumpy (Dry), Festival (Medium/Dry), Brighton Rocks (Medium), and Summer Breeze - with Elderflower (Medium), Their Sussex Scrumpy is very dry, in a tart but refreshing way. When I first tasted their cider, I wasn't very impressed, found it a bit too sharp and acidic, but now I think they've cracked it! Though they still haven't entered and won any awards for their ciders, they've received fifteen awards for their fruit juices in five years! So keep on trying boys, you'll get there yet!

Gospel Green Sussex Cyder, Gospel Green Cottage, Gospel Green, Near Lurgashall, West Sussex, GU27 3BH, 01428 654120

It is commonly believed that an Englishman, Christopher Merret, invented Cham-



pagne. Indeed, Merret gave a paper to the Royal Society in 1672 outlining how to make wine fizzy. But he wasn't the first to induce bubbles in a bottle. In the West Country, it had been done for years — only it

was cider, not wine, that was used.

And in Sussex, James and Cathy Lane produce what can only be called cyder champagne — except, of course, the French won't let us call it that. It is produced in exactly the same way as the traditional French champagne, and has similar characteristics of the traditional stuff — biscuity overtones, small long lasting bubbles, and through it all that magnificent taste of fermented apples.

Their champagne method cyder uses only selected local apples, and they ferment the must using wild cider yeasts in stainless steel tanks. This is followed by ten to twelve months bottle fermentation using champagne yeast, and the usual *methode traditionnelle* processes of remuage and dosage. Mainly dessert apples are used, rather than cider apples, giving a much softer, vinous flavour — but it's stronger than most cider, at 8.0%, so don't be tempted to knock it back! (It's not cheap, being a prestige product, so you probably wouldn't anyway — you'd savour it for as long as possible.)

Only about 7500 litres are produced each year, in a small well-equipped barn next to their home, and if you want to visit them please telephone first.

Jackie Johnson

Surrey and Sussex

Regional Cider Coordinator

CIDER PRODUCERS OF SURREY AND SUSSEX – CAMRA NEEDS YOU!

QUESTION: WHAT'S THE BEST CIDER IN OUR AREA?

ANSWER: WE DON'T KNOW YET, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT, SO PLEASE ENTER YOUR CIDER INTO THE SURREY & SUSSEX REGIONAL CIDER COMPETITION

TO BE JUDGED AT THE SUSSEX CAMRA BRANCHES BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL, BRIGHTON CORN EXCHANGE, SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2015

For this competition, any traditional (i.e. made from freshly pressed apples and not micro-filtered, pasteurised or artificially carbonated) cider produced in Surrey or Sussex is eligible. Only one cider per producer will be judged, so makers are asked to nominate which of their ciders is entered. Producers need to be able to provide at least a 10-litre box on the day, as although we only need a small amount for judging, the public will want to drink the winning cider and other entries after the final judging!

To enter your own, or nominate a cider, please contact direct the Regional Cider Coordinator: Jackie Johnson, Email: johnsonjackiem@aol.com; Tel. 01273 202730.

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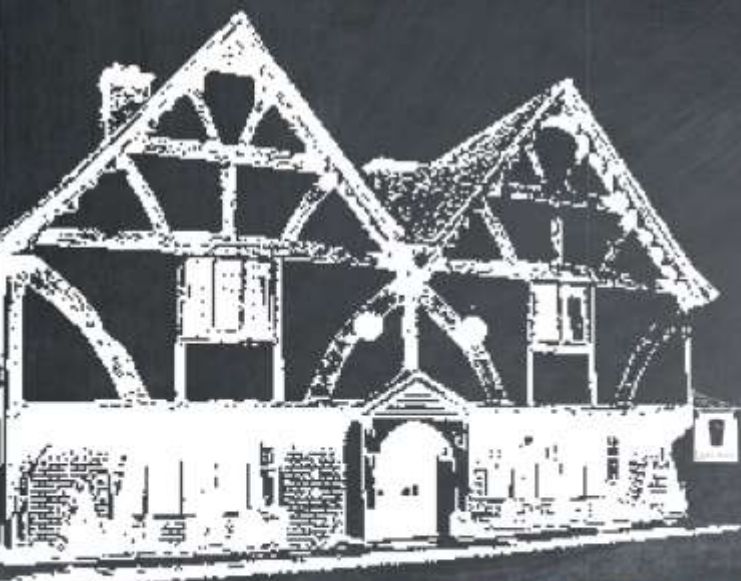
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CAMRA Guide to Nominating Pubs as Assets of Community Value



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**LIST
YOUR
LOCAL**

www.camra.org.uk/listyourlocal

Through the Localism Act, the Government has introduced new powers for communities in England to nominate valued facilities such as pubs as "assets of community value". Where pubs are listed this enables communities to "stop the clock" for up to six months if they're put up for sale to consider options for saving the pub.

With 18 pubs closing every week we need CAMRA members and branches to get involved in listing pubs before more of them are lost.

Why list my local?

Listing a pub can be hugely beneficial and acts as a marker that the pub is important to the local community. The fact that the community have rallied together to nominate a pub; and the local authority have agreed to list it adds a further level of protection as the listed status of a pub can be used by a local authority as a material consideration in a relevant planning application, such as if a pub is threatened with conversion to residential use. Getting a pub listed could therefore help put off property developers who want to avoid a contentious planning application.

More importantly, if the owner decides to sell the pub off, if it is listed this will trigger a moratorium on the sale for up to six months, giving the community valuable time to get together a suitable bid for the pub.

Since the scheme began in 2012, these new powers have already been used to stop the clock on sales of pubs and March 2013 saw the first community takeover of a pub using the scheme.

How do I list a pub?

To list your local as an asset of community value, all you need to do is follow these simple steps:

- Go to your local authority website and look up the section on Assets of Community Value or Right to Bid
- Download a nomination form (or if there isn't one available you can download CAMRA's template form from our website)
- Fill in the form with as much detail as you can on why the pub should be classified as a community asset
- Demonstrate that at least 21 people from the local community support the listing of the pub
- Check your local council website to see where the nomination needs to be submitted. Many councils have produced guidance explaining how they are accepting nominations.

For advice and support, see www.camra.org.uk/listyourlocal

Getting 21 people together – that sounds difficult!

Getting 21 people together to support the listing of a pub as an asset of community value is easier than you might think! See CAMRA's website for a template form that you can use to collect supporters' details.

Here are a few ideas on getting to that magic number of 21:

- Visit the pub you hope to list and ask the regulars to add their name
- Visit a branch beer festival
- Ask CAMRA members at your local branch meeting to add their name
- Ask your family and friends



What happens if a listed pub is put up for sale?

Listing stops the sale of pubs behind the back of communities. If the owner of a listed pub wishes to sell it, they must let the Council know. At this point a six-week interim moratorium period kicks in and the Council will tell you.

If during the six-week interim period your local community group decides it would like to consider bidding to take the pub on, you can trigger a full moratorium period of six months – time to raise finance, develop a business plan and to make a bid to buy the asset on the open market.

To be eligible to bid for the pub, your organisation will need to be a community interest group: i.e. a legally constituted organisation such as a charity, community interest company, non-profit limited company, an industrial or provident society or a parish council.

Your group of 21 people who made the original nomination therefore now has two options:

- Work with an existing constituted organisation which meets one of the above criteria
- Set up a Not for Profit Company Limited by Guarantee. Completing the forms on-line takes just a couple of hours

During the moratorium, other local businesses and community groups can also put a bid in to buy the pub but it cannot be sold until after the moratorium is completed.

It's important to stress that if you put your name to listing a pub, **you will be under absolutely no obligation** to bid to buy the pub in the future.

Where can I go for more advice and support?

Government Funded
"My Community Rights"
service provided by Locality
[www.mycommunityrights.org.uk/
community-right-to-bid/](http://www.mycommunityrights.org.uk/community-right-to-bid/)
Helpline: 0845 345 4564

Pub is the Hub:
www.pubisthehub.org.uk/

The Plunkett Foundation:
[www.plunkett.co.uk/whatwedo/
Co-operativePubs.cfm](http://www.plunkett.co.uk/whatwedo/Co-operativePubs.cfm)
Advice Line: 01993 810730

CAMRA:
www.camra.org.uk/listyourlocal

Information on grants available
to support you:
[http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/
community-right-to-bid/grants/](http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/community-right-to-bid/grants/)

For other queries contact CAMRA's
Campaigns Team –
campaigns@camra.org.uk /
01727 867 201





The Friends of the Vine Public House, a group led by Bruce Webster - a long time, faithful regular at the pub in

Tarring High Street – has been successful in their appeal against an earlier decision of Worthing Borough Council not to add this pub to the register of Assets of Community Value (ACV). This is the very first entry on the Council's register and it took a great deal of painstaking research by local resident, Jerry Marchant - who also highlighted the more positive stance taken by both Arun and Rother District Councils - to finally convince the panel that their earlier decision was not made in the spirit of the Localism Act.



Arun District Council has applied to have the Ship Inn, Aldwick, Bognor Regis,

listed by English Heritage, and are awaiting a visit from an inspector to assess the building. The Council has also asked their conservation office to consider any other planning measures to restrict the ability of Morrisons to go ahead with its proposals to convert the closed pub to an M Local convenience store. Aldwick Parish Council has raised the issue of residents' fears over the 6am-midnight licensing hours proposed for the store. At a meeting with the Friends of the Ship Inn group, Bognor Regis and Littlehampton MP Nick Gibb expressed his concern at the loss of the neighbourhood pub and agreed that its absence would harm the community. Mr Gibb pledged to see what steps could be taken to help the group.

Save Your Pub



When Bill Parke sold his pub, the Ship Inn, Whitemans Green, Cuckfield, it was on his understand-

ing that the new owner would continue it as a pub/restaurant. But following purchase, the building was boarded up and the Co-op subsequently confirmed it has submitted proposals to convert the popular pub into a convenience store with a license to sell alcohol. Two main issues are, first, that the north end of the village (with fifty new houses being built and others in the pipeline) will lose an opportunity to support and enhance a local community pub and, second, the Ship is next door to the Wealden Stores, which serves the area extremely well and whose business will be severely affected. Unsurprisingly, the developer's decision has been criticised by local residents and Cuckfield Parish Council. An action group of local customers has been in touch with the Brighton & South Downs CAMRA. The focal point of the local protest is Jo Roche, email: jo@pjroche.com.



Closed for four years, the Lickfold Inn, Lickfold, was listed in February as an Asset of Community Value.

The inn has since been taken over by restaurant chef Tom Sellers, who intends to reopen it in November. Upstairs will be a thirty-six seating dining room, while the ground floor will respect the legacy of a proper pub, serving craft and local beer, a range of modern and traditional cocktails, and snacks.

BEER FESTIVALS AND OTHER DELICHTS

CAMRA EVENTS IN BOLD. For FREE inclusion in this column, contact the *Editor*; for PAID advertisements contact *Neil Richards*. Copy-by date and contact details on p. 3.

Nov 14-16 Prestonville Arms 15th Anniversary Beer Festival, 12noon - midnight every day with 15 ales plus cider, 64 Hamilton Road, Brighton, BN1 5DN, 01273 701007, www.theprestonvillearms.co.uk

Nov 21 Train to London Pubs, TTLP20, to the Hackney, Leyton & Walthamstow areas. Details to be announced nearer the date. To be included on mailout list contact Pete Brown, 01243 552908, peteb@custardtowers.plus.com

Nov 24 Meet the Brewer, Goldmark, from 7.30pm, Dolphin & Anchor, West Street, Chichester, PO19 1QD, 01243 790280.

Nov 28-30 Lewes Con Club 5th Annual Beer Festival Open Week-End, from noon. Meet the Brewer session on Saturday afternoon from 3pm. Live bands from 9pm on Friday and Saturday evenings (£12/£10) All other times free entry. (Free parking at ESCC car park at weekends.) 139 High Street, Lewes, BN7 1XS, 01273 473076, www.lewesconclub.com

Nov 29 Weltons Brewery; the legend of Good King Wenceslas will be sung by Morris Dancers with folk music and much beer, 1 Mulberry Trading Estate, Foundry Lane, Horsham, RH13 5PX, 01403 242901, www.weltonsbeer.co.uk

Dec 4-7 Meet the Brewer, four consecutive events, including Langham and Goddards; Hatter's Inn, Queensway, Bognor Regis, PO21 1QT, 01243 840206.

Dec 7 Ballard's Walk, the Old Sawmill, Nyewood, GU31 5HA. Western Sussex

CAMRA bus ticket £11 for the return trip. Pick-ups Worthing station: 08.10; Littlehampton station: 08.45; Yapton, Maypole Lane: 09.00; Barnham station: 09.05; Chichester station (South side): 09.25. Bus tickets, to be purchased in advance to reserve seat, from Pete Brown in person or by post (with SAE) to: 2, Elm Grove South, Barnham, PO22 0EL. More info, 01243 552908, peteb@custardtowers.plus.com

Dec 12-14 Victoria Inn Winter Beer Festival, West Marden, PO18 9EN, 02392 631330, www.victoriainnwestmarden.co.uk

Dec 13 Kissingate Brewery Annual Christmas Festival, 12 beers on offer as well as cider, perry and a range of interesting soft drinks. From 11am, Pole Barn, Church Lane Farm Estate, Lower Beeding, RH13 6LU, 01403 891335, www.kissingate.co.uk

Dec 18 Meet the Brewer and Tap Takeover, Langham, from 7.30pm, Dolphin & Anchor, West Street, Chichester, PO19 1QD, 01243 790280.

Jan 17 Train to London Pubs, TTLP21, will be attempting the 'Bermondsey Beer Mile': six breweries operating in five brewery taps plus a bottle shop/bar. Details to be announced nearer the date. To be included on mailout list contact Pete Brown, 01243 552908, peteb@custardtowers.plus.com

Jan 24 Sussex CAMRA Branches Liaison Meeting, Crabtree Inn, 140 Crabtree Lane, Lancing, BN15 9NQ, 01903 755514.

Jan 30-Feb 1 Coopers Arms Dark & Delicious Festival, Coopers Lane, Crow-

borough, TN6 1SN, 01892 654796.

Jan 30-Feb 1 Selden Arms 14th Winter-fest, 41 Lyndhurst Road, Worthing, BN11 2DB.

Feb 6-7 Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Football Club Beer Festival, 24 real ales plus cider, The Slade, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1HR, 01732 358548, www.tjrfc.co.uk

Feb 6-7 Ropetackle Arts Centre Beer Festival, Little High Street, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 5EG, 01273 464440, www.ropetacklecentre.co.uk

Feb 11-14 NATIONAL WINTER ALES FESTIVAL, The Roundhouse, Pride Park, Derby, DE24 8JE, 01727 867201, www.nwaf.org.uk

Feb 20-23 Rose in June Winter Beer Festival, 102 Milton Road, Portsmouth, PO3

6AR, 023 9282 4191,
www.theroseinjune.co.uk

Mar 19-21 SUSSEX CAMRA BRANCHES 25th BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL, Brighton Corn Exchange, Pavilion Buildings, Castle Square, Brighton, BN1 1EE, 07450 656148, camrahove@btinternet.com, www.sussexbeerfestival.co.uk

Mar 28-29 NORTH SUSSEX CAMRA 2nd EQUINOX BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL, Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, RH12 1JF, www.northsussexcamra.org.uk, camra.equinox@gmail.com

Apr 17-19 CAMRA MEMBERS' WEEKEND AND AGM, Albert Hall Conference Centre, North Circus Street, Nottingham, NG1 5AA, www.camraagm.org.uk



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SPOTLIGHT ON BREWERIES

Revival Ale



Harveys have teamed up with Britain's biggest traditional folk act Bellowhead to create Revival Ale. This new 3.7% golden ale, brewed

using Sussex hops, celebrates the band's ten year anniversary and new album, also called 'Revival'. Photograph is by kind permission of John Vaughan and shows members of the band visiting the brewery on Tuesday 14 October to participate in the first brew. The beer, which should be ready for delivery by the time you read this, will be the first ever draught Harveys beer on extended distribution via selected wholesalers. It will also be available in bottles via the brewery webshop.

Craft Pier Beer



The Curious Beer Club at the Dolphin, South Street, Eastbourne, organised a very enjoyable trip, on Saturday 20 September,

to Long Man Brewery, Litlington, where participants enjoyed a Hog Roast, live music, and copious glasses of Craft Pier, specially brewed to assist the Eastbourne Pier Benevolent Fund. Transport to the event

was provided from the Dolphin using a preserved London Routemaster double-decker bus! Craft Pier has been sold in dozens of local outlets and has raised many thousands for the fund, formed after the Eastbourne Pier blaze in July.

Quay Location



Since Saturday 5 July, Arundel Brewery has been running its shop at 1 Quay House, River Road, Arundel, where Neil and his staff are

waiting to greet you. The premises are extremely smart but very welcoming. The brewery's range of bottled beers is stocked while their cask beers are sold on gravity and can be purchased in one litre bottles, four pint pouches or eight pint bag in a box and upwards. The shop also has an interesting range of world beers and local wines.

Prestigious Invitation



Burning Sky were one of only four British breweries at the Borefts Beer Festival, in Bodegraven, Netherlands, invited by

Browerij de Moulén. The photograph of Tom and Mark is reproduced by kind permission of Glyn Baker.



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It's been an exciting few months at Brighton Bier; after a couple of years brewing at the wonderful Hand in Hand pub in Kemp Town, and gypsy brewing at other people's breweries, the team moved in October into new premises in Kemp Town with a brand new 15-barrel kit taking centre stage. This expansion will see a range of new cask beers, including the new Dealer's Choice IPA series, and the return of the 50 Ways (to leave your lager) Pale Ales, as well as Brighton Bier being available in bottles and on keg. Due to its popularity, Thirty Three (3.3%, Pale Ale, originally brewed in tribute to the Hand in Hand) has been added to the already available core range of beers, all of which will continue to be brewed along with the new ales.

Following their merger with specialist cask wholesaler WithSoul, in addition to their own beers Brighton Bier also have an extensive list of cask ales available each week to order from some of the best breweries in the country, including Marble, Tiny Rebel, Bristol Beer Factory and Arbor Ales, to name but a few. While having the ability to now brew on a far larger scale, the brewery will still be producing one-off single-cask special edition beers that will be exclusively available in the Brighton Beer Dispensary, 38 Dean Street, off Western Road.

The doors to the Brighton Beer Dispensary were flung open in April. The pub is jointly

New Brewery, New Pub, New World Record



owned by Brighton Bier and Late Knights Brewery, who also run three great pubs in South London (Beer Rebellion in both Gypsy Hill and Peckham, plus the London Beer Dispensary, Brockley). Along with a range of beers on cask, including Brighton Bier and Late Knights which are always available, the pub offers a great selection of bottled beer, whisky and some of the best burgers in Brighton. The pub was voted in the top three by *Shortlist* magazine for 'Best New Pub of the Year 2014'.



If opening a pub and setting up a new brewery wasn't enough, one of the Directors (Stephen) has also set a new official Guinness World Record of 1 hour 37 minutes for running the fastest half-marathon dressed as a bottle! You guessed it - the bottle for the world record bid was

a bottle of Brighton Bier.

For more information on Brighton Bier please visit www.brightonbier.com, or follow them on Twitter @BrightonBierCo.



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evenings

Following the highly successful first event last March, we would love to see you at the second CAMRA North Sussex Spring Equinox Beer & Cider Festival. This year's date has been moved back a week, due to hall availability and to avoid a clash with the Sussex CAMRA Branches Beer & Cider Festival, Brighton. The venue is the Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham, RH12 1JF, in the town centre about a twenty minute walk from the station. There will be over fifty beers available, with a healthy mix of winter and spring ales. All six of our excellent branch-area brewers will be featured, plus other local favourites and some gems from further afield. There will also be a great selection of local cider and perry.

Sessions are Saturday 12noon-4pm and 6-10pm; Sunday 12noon-4pm. Tickets are £6 Saturday, £5 Sunday, and include a souvenir glass, plus a free pint for card-carrying CAMRA members. A £1 donation will be made by the branch to a local charity for any returned souvenir glasses, along with the value of any donated surplus tokens. Hot and cold baguettes and snacks will be available at all sessions. The acoustic music scene in Horsham is particularly strong, and was a real feature of the first event. We will again be providing an excellent line up for the Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon sessions.

Tickets go on sale at the start of January, available from Beer Essentials, the Malt Shovel, and Kings Brewhouse, all in Horsham. Postal applications (cheques paya-

2nd CAMRA Spring Equinox Festival Horsham Drill Hall, 28-29 March

ble to CAMRA North Sussex) to The Treasurer, 19 Felbridge Avenue, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 7BD. More info, including a beer list in due course, at camra.equinox@gmail.com; twitter [@camraequinox](https://twitter.com/camraequinox); www.northsussexcamra.org.uk.

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On Wednesday 24 September, over sixty members past and present, including five who were at the inaugural meeting, gathered at the Swan Inn, Falmer to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the foundation of the Brighton & South Downs branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. Following a few words of introduction from Branch President Pete Coppard (himself a founder member of the branch), the assembled company were entertained by a speech from the branch's second chairman, Nick Hall.



Nick explained that the majority of those who were active in starting the branch at the Pavilion Tavern, Brighton, on 13 September 1974, were employed by Post Office Telephones (later to become British Telecom) at their Churchill Square office. In those days lunchtime drinking was a regular feature of most working people and Nick helped to draw up an itinerary of which pub the branch members would be drinking in on a particular day. He concluded his speech by proposing a toast to CAM-RA in general and the Brighton & South Downs Branch in particular.

Harveys brewery kindly supplied a firkin of St Richards Ale for the event, and a buffet was provided to soak up the beer! The branch would like to thank Harveys for their generosity and the Swan Inn for their

40th Anniversary Celebrations

hospitality. Pictured are those founder members who attended the event.

Paul Free and Peter Mitchell
Brighton & South Downs Branch



LocAle

The following LocAle accreditations are additions to the lists published in previous issues.

Ferring: Henty Arms; **Hastings Old Town:** Crown; **Pevensey:** Royal Oak and Castle; **Steyning:** Norfolk Arms; **Worthing:** Anchored in Worthing, Charles Dickens.

LocAle - the local branch initiative that became a national campaign – has its own symbol in the *GBG*. Ask your local publican to source any of the superb range of beers available within thirty miles of their pub from the Sussex breweries listed in Bru News. Pubs closer to the Sussex border will naturally be able to source beers from any of the qualifying breweries in east Hants, south Surrey or west Kent as appropriate to gain LocAle accreditation.



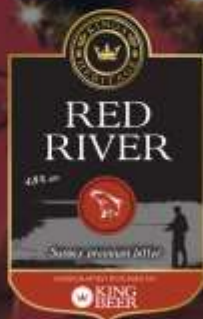
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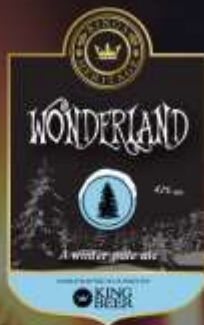
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South Downs Society

Protecting the Beauty of the Downs

The South Downs Society was founded in 1923, as a response to a threat of a housing development that would have stretched across the cliff tops of the famous Seven Sisters.

We help our members, along with their families, to enjoy the Downs by offering over 200 organised walks, numerous events and talks, a growing local discount scheme and regular updates on our work.

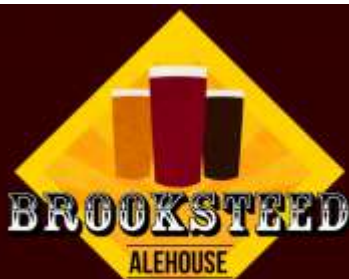
Our walks and strolls range from two miles to twenty miles and many take in pubs that are in the South Downs National Park, either for lunch or refreshment along the way. Non-members are able to attend our 'taster walks and strolls', which are shown on our website. From November to January these take in pubs such as the Nutley Arms,

South Downs Society Pub Strolls

Nutley; White Horse, Sutton; Cuckmere Inn, Exceat Bridge; Foresters, Fairwarp; Half Moon, Plumpton and the George, Eartham.

With individual membership for only £23.00 per year, joining yourself or buying as a gift for someone will help to ensure that the work of the Society continues. Not only so that the Downs are protected to be peacefully enjoyed by all, but for the vast walks and strolls programme to continue and therefore support local public houses in the South Downs area. Please visit us at www.southdownssociety.org.uk or call us on 01798 875073 to become a member. We want you to join our growing membership and share in our passion for the South Downs National Park.






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On Friday 15 August, a group of approaching twenty travellers from the Sussex Bus to the Pub group were privileged to be the first paying cus-

tomers to enter the brand-new micro pub: the Old Star Ale & Cider House, Shoreham-by-Sea. Having gathered earlier in the Piston Broke just down the road, the group received the message that the Old Star would be open in fifteen minutes time. No further incentive was needed. As pints were finished we made our way down the High Street to Church Street and into the new venue. We found a comfortable and welcoming pub with three cask beers on sale.



A couple of hours later the contents of those casks were somewhat reduced! The interior of the new pub features old railway-themed signs that will be familiar to the older generation, plus a large picture of the

original, long-since vanished pub from which it gets its name, while the large windows inherited from its previous use as a shop give it a bright and pleasant feel.



The Old Star is run by friends Marc and Hugh (pictured behind the bar). We

look forward to many more visits there in the future.

More Micropubs



Just twelve days later we made it a double when we were invited to a preview of the Brooksteed Alehouse, South Farm Road, Worthing. Although this even more

brand-new micro pub was not yet officially open at the time, we reckon that we were, in fact, once again the first paying customers!



It appears that the opening of the micro pub has breathed new life into the area and that both the Thai restaurant next door and the bakery the other side have enjoyed increased trade.



Brooksteed owners and Western Sussex branch members, Nick and Paula (pictured outside), have been kept very busy since opening, and we wish them the very best for the future with their venture. The pub is just a short walk north of Worthing station.

Pete Brown

Western Sussex Branch



Known locally as Wipers this 17th century pub offers five real ales and locally produced food.

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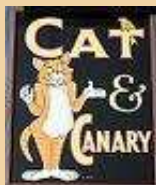
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For the third year running, the Wilkes Head, Eastergate, was voted Sussex Branches Pub of the Year. The Grade II-listed redbrick pub dates from 1803 and is named after the 18th-century radical, John Wilkes. Five well-chosen guest beers come from Punch's Finest Cask Range or SIBA Local Direct Delivery. Regular beer festivals are held. Photograph above shows CAMRA Area Organiser, Peter Page-Mitchell (in doorway), in the company of other members, making the presentation to landlord Trevor Brown.



Chris and Sigrun Brazier of the Jolly Tanners, Staplefield are pictured above holding the Peter King Memorial Shield after being presented, for the third time in four years, with their well-earned North Sussex Branch Pub of the Year award. This quintessential village pub is a free house that serves an extensive range of guest beers, including a mild, and holds four beers festivals a year.

Sussex CAMRA Pub and Club Awards



The Bull's Head, Boreham Street, was awarded South East Sussex Branch Country Pub of the Year. In 2009 the pub closed and its future looked grim until experienced landlord Michael Corfield took over and restored the fortunes of this Harveys house. Michael has a list of his landlord predecessors dating back to 1750! It is a real community pub with regular events that raise money for the pub's charities, Help for Heroes and St Wilfred's Hospice. Bull's Head Bitter (4.5%) is specially brewed for the pub on the Harveys micro plant. Photograph above shows, left to right, Steven Pirie (Chef), Michael Corfield, Peter Adams (Branch Chair) and Phil Cozens (Vice Chair).

The Albatross Club, Bexhill branch of the Royal Air Force Association, hasn't looked back since introducing real ale to their bar around five years ago. They have been winning CAMRA awards ever since, and have just been voted South East Sussex Branch Club of the Year for the fourth time.



Head Steward, Geoff Wentworth, is pictured (left) receiving the certificate from Branch Chair Peter Adams. The club serves four or five rotating guests from local and national micros and holds a beer festival every April and September. CAMRA members can be admitted to this friendly club by showing their membership cards.



Brighton & South Downs Branch President Peter Coppard is pictured (left) making a special presentation award to Matt and Karen Wickham on the occasion of their last night (Friday 22 August) as licensees of the Evening Star, Brighton. Matt started at the Evening Star in May 1998 and Karen joined him there in February 2003. The couple were wished every success in their new pub, Colston Yard, Colston Street, Bristol.



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