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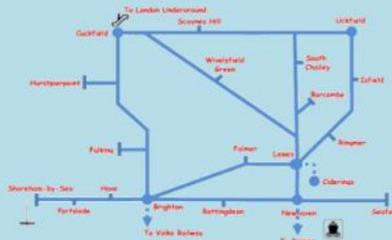
Celebrating the Real Ale Scene in Sussex Sussex Drinker

Summer 2013
Free



ALE TRAIL 20

BRIGHTON & SOUTH DOWNS
Campaign for Real Ale

UNDERGROUND AleWay
ALE TRAIL 20

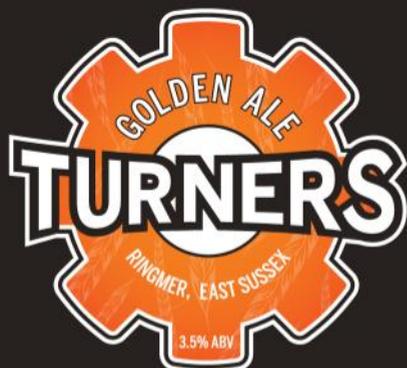


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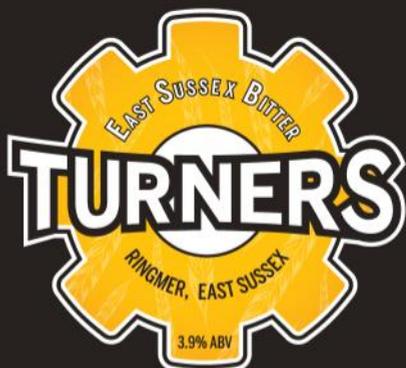
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Underground AleWay

TIME FOR A CHANGE



HOPPY, LIGHT, REFRESHING

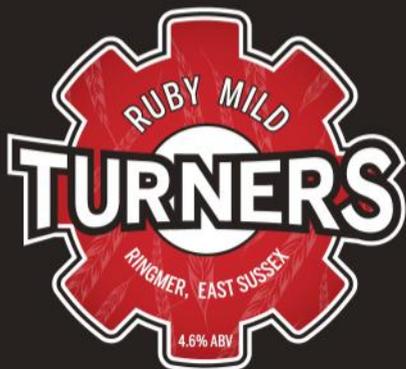


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POTY: TBC

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POTY: Wilkes Head, Eastergate

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POTY: Gardeners Arms, Sompting

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 Show, 12-14 July 2013
POTY: Jolly Tanners, Staplefield

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Beer Festival: Lewes, 21-22 June 2013
POTY: Brewers Arms, Lewes
COTY: Constitutional Club, Lewes

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Beer Festival: Eastbourne, 10-12 Oct 2013
POTY: Dolphin Inn, Hastings
COTY: Albatross R.A.F.A. Club, Bexhill-On-Sea

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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:

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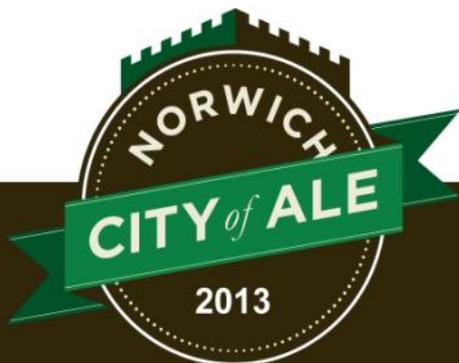
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CELEBRATING FINE ALE *in the* FINE CITY

23 May - 2 June 2013

"Well done Norwich.
City of Ale was brilliant"

Tim Hampson, Chairman
British Guild of Beerwriters

"Norwich boasts the most spectacular
resurgence in beer and pub life
witnessed by any part of the UK"

Jeff Evans, Inside Beer

A Festival of Real Ale with a Real Difference...

(it's held in lots of proper pubs all over the fine city)

"A brilliant event that has
taken the enjoyment of beer
on to a new plane"

Roger Protz, Editor,
Good Beer Guide

"This could be the template for
the beer festival of the future"

Darren Norbury,
Beer Today

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norwichcityofale2013.wordpress.com

www.cityofale.org.uk


NORWICH
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Brighton & South Downs CAMRA Ale Trail 20 is to be launched at the Lord Nelson, Brighton, on Sunday 26 May from 7.30pm and will run until Monday 30 September. Come along to collect your free passport, sponsored once again by Harvey & Son, Lewes. If you cannot make it then passports are available at all forty participating pubs. This year's theme is Underground AleWay, to mark the 150th anniversary of the world's first underground railway journey, from Paddington to Farringdon on 9 January 1863.

Prizes are a themed T-shirt and Sweatshirt or Souvenir Glass, depending on whether 20, 30 or 40 stamps are collected. There is also an anniversary bonus Polo Shirt to be won. Bus trips to the hard-to-reach outlying pubs are on Saturdays 29 June and 27 July. Check the Brighton & South Downs branch website for more details. The participating pubs are as follows: a (C) after the name indicates that it is also on the Cider Rider.

BARCOMBE: Royal Oak; **BRIGHTON:** Basketmakers Arms, Battle of Trafalgar, Craft Beer Co., Evening Star (C), Lord Nelson, Mitre Tavern (C), Prestonville Arms, Prince Albert (C), Pump House (C), Victory Inn (C); **CUCKFIELD:** Ship Inn; **FALMER:** Swan Inn; **FULKING:** Shepherd & Dog (C); **HOVE:** Neptune Inn, Westbourne (C); **HURSTPIER-POINT:** Poacher (C); **ISFIELD:** Laughing Fish; **LEWES:** Brewers Arms (C), Elephant & Castle (C), Gardener's Arms (C), John Harvey Tavern, Lewes Arms, Lewes Constitutional Club, Rights of Man, Snowdrop Inn (C); **NEWHAVEN:** Hope

Ale Trail 20

Inn (C); **PORTSLADE:** Stanley Arms (C); **RINGMER:** Anchor Inn (C), Cock Inn; **RODMELL:** Abergavenny Arms; **ROTTINGDEAN:** Queen Victoria; **SCAYNES HILL:** Sloop Inn (C); **SEA-FORD:** Wellington Hotel; **SHOREHAM-BY-SEA:** Buckingham Arms (C), Duke of Wellington (C), Red Lion (C); **SOUTH CHAILEY:** Horns Lodge (C); **UCK-FIELD:** Alma (C); **WIVELSFIELD GREEN:** Cock Inn (C).

Participants each year are asked to score the pubs out of ten. This helps the sub-committee decide on which pubs to retain or change for the following year. Their preference is to have at least five 'new' pubs each year. After the trail is over, the points are totalled and each pub's average score calculated. In 2012, the top five most popular pubs were: First - Evening Star, Brighton; Second - Horns Lodge, South Chailey; Third - Gardener's Arms, Lewes; Fourth - Stanley Arms, Portslade; Fifth - Brewers Arms, Lewes. The Most Popular Pub Certificate was presented by



Ale Trail Coordinator, Andy Rivett (pictured left) to Karen and Matt Wickham of the Evening Star, Brighton.

What will be the most popular pub on the 2013 trail? Visit all forty, give your scores and have a say in the outcome!

SUSSEX PUB SCRATCHINGS

While the Sussex Branches of CAMRA are pleased to acknowledge the following news items, the *Scratchings* section does not constitute an exclusive list of officially recommended pubs, nor does it consist of critical customer reviews. 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.

■ AMBERLEY

The lease of the **Sportsman** has been sold by Teresa Figg to Madame Geisha Ltd., owned by a local from Rackham. The pub will be managed by Paul Williams and Katie Carmichael, the former having been involved at the Fountain, Ashurst. Chris Shanahan still owns the freehold. Beers on in early April were Baldy Superior Mild, Langham Flor-Ale and Harveys Best.

■ ARUNDEL

Beers from Downlands have been on at the **King's Arms**. This was also the first local brewery to be featured in the King's Arms Real Ale Club, a new initiative held on the last Wednesday of each month where, for £5 per person, four half-pint tasters, an informal talk, plus sausages and nibbles are on offer.

■ BEXHILL-ON-SEA



The **Albacross Club** has put in another hand pump to make four beers now available.

■ BOLNEY

The **Bolney Stage** hosted a Pie & Ale Fort-night during the second half of February with two Meet the Brewer events featuring WJ King's Ian Burgess and the guys at Bedlam Brewery. A selection of locally brewed ales was available on six pumps at any one time.

■ BURGESS HILL

The *Evening Argus* has reported that **J D Wetherspoon** have obtained planning permission to open a branch in Church Walk, on the site of the former British Bookshops and Currys retail premises that closed down last year. No date was given for the opening.

■ BRIGHTON

What was previously the Pub With No



Name, and prior to that, the Royal Exchange, reopened at the end of March as the **Southover**.

Punch sold the freehold at the end of last year to new operator Indigo. Five Sussex-brewed beers plus a national micro are available at prices which even the Yorkshireman standing next to me at the newly-fitted island bar was pleased with (he told me himself to put that bit in!). This is also probably the first Brighton pub to serve BrewDog ales permanently on keg: namely, Punk IPA and Dead Pony Club.

The **Sussex Arms** is offering 10% discount on real ales for card-carrying CAMRA members. Sharp's Doom Bar and Fuller's London Pride have been available along-

side two guest ales, variously Young's Bitter, Black Sheep Bitter, Arundel Gold and a rugby-themed guest ale, Stonehenge Luck of the Irish. Beers from their Taylor Walker Cider & Cask Ale Festival appeared during April.



Fuller's have now purchased the **Grand Central**, opposite the railway station. ESB, London Pride and Gale's Seafarer are the present offerings. It will be some time before Fuller's renovate the building and add their brewery livery.

■ CHICHESTER



One of the more interesting ales from the Adnams range has been appearing at the **George & Dragon**: Old

Ale was on in January and February found the IPA, both in very good condition. A guest beer is also stocked in addition to a couple of the more usual suspects, such as Young's Bitter. The pub is a new outlet for the *Sussex Drinker*.

■ CHILGROVE

What was previously the Fish House has reopened after refurbishment under its original name of the **White Horse**. There are four hand pumps on which the first week's offerings were Langham Hip Hop, Upham Punter, Fuller's London Pride and the Hepworth-brewed Goodwood Ale.

■ COCKING

The **Bluebell** offers two changing guest ales served straight from water-cooled and jacketed stillage. Featured over the past month have been Ballard's Best and Trotton Bitter, Hogs Back TEA, Langham LSD

and Hip Hop, plus Sharp's Doom Bar. There is good food and traditional pub snacks while Friday nights see free Tapas on the bar.

■ COLEMANS HATCH

The **Hatch Inn** can be hard to find, especially at night, but this free house was recently presented with a commemorative mirror by the North Sussex branch for having been a *GBG* entry for more than ten consecutive years. Harveys and Larkins beers are regulars at the bar, although Long Man Best Bitter has been noted many times recently, in exceptionally good condition.

■ COOLHAM



The **Selsey Arms** has a new and very keen licensee, Graham Blackford, who is

happy to get involved with CAMRA. Graham is especially interested in beers from Lancashire and Yorkshire.

■ CRAWLEY

A 10% discount on pints and halves of real ale is now available for card-carrying CAMRA members at **Frogshole Farm**, in the Maidenbower area of town.

■ CROWBOROUGH

The **Coopers Arms** continues to offer an eclectic range of beers. Tucked away at the back of the town, this is a pub well worth seeking out, a visit to which could find something rare to the area. It is a regular outlet for Black Cat brews from nearby Groombridge, while also of note during recent visits have been ales from Cotswold Spring, Devilfish, FILO, Highland, Kent, Strathaven and Tonbridge, amongst others. Occasional beer festivals are also held.

■ CROWHURST

The **Plough**, a free house, has reopened after being closed for a number of weeks. Previous landlord John Saunders has returned to run the pub. Harveys Old Ale and Full Moon beers have been on in good condition. It is very important that this pub continues to serve the village and we wish John every success.

■ DANEHILL

The **Coach & Horses** is a gem of a pub, tucked away off the A275. The Harveys Best is always well-kept and a second, guest beer is also offered, whilst by now Black Pig Cider should be available on the third hand pump. Last summer, Black Pig Perry was also available, so it may appear again.

■ EARTHAM

A new landlord has been in place at the **George Inn** since last June and is now negotiating for the purchase of the freehold. He has a policy of buying only British products. A recent visit found a good range of beers from independent breweries, including a mild; all were well kept. A beer festival is planned. This is a contender for ‘Most Improved Pub of the Year.’

■ EAST WITTERING

A pub that just gets better and better is the **Shore Inn**. A February visit found three LocAles from Dark Star, namely Hophead, Porter and American Pale Ale, of superb quality. These are often complimented by beers from Palmers of Dorset, unusual if not unique for this area. There is good food, too, with “Locals Night” offers on Thursdays.

■ EWHURST GREEN

In this quiet hamlet near Bodiam, the **White Dog Inn** has three hand pumped beers. A recent visit found Harveys Best and offerings from nearby Kent micro

breweries, Old Dairy (Rolvenden) and Hop Fuzz (Hythe), all in very good form. It is a family-run free house with excellent food and B&B.

■ FAYGATE

Negotiations are under way for a private buyer to purchase the **Frog & Nightgown**. No details are yet confirmed in these early stages but it is likely that local ales will be represented and probably one Kissingate beer permanently available.

■ FITTLEWORTH



The lease of the famous **Swan**, a 14th-century former coaching inn, has been purchased

from Enterprise Inns by Charlie Wyman and his father Anthony, a former publican at the Red Lion, Pulborough and the Anchor, Storrington. Currently available are Harveys Best, Fuller’s London Pride and Sharp’s Doom Bar. Charlie is also planning to have a pin of a local ale stillaged on the bar counter.

■ FRIDAY STREET (RUSPER)



The **Royal Oak** continues to offer an interesting range of beers, from far and wide. Sara

and Clive regularly have ales from Surrey Hills and Dark Star. Other Sussex brewers to have featured over the past few months include 1648, Arundel, Bedlam, Downlands and Langham. From further afield have been ales from Andwell, Bays, Bowman, Cotleigh, Fat Cat, Green Jack,

Kent, Otter, Purple Moose, RCH, Reedley Hallows, and Worsthorne. Add to these the number of ciders and perries on offer, so any visit to this friendly pub will be an enjoyable experience. Check the website to see what activities are taking place.

■ HASTINGS



The **Dolfin** is delighted with the award of South East Sussex POTY for 2013. Mark, the landlord, said it reflected on all who work there and the many drinkers who visit.

The **Jenny Lind** continues to increase beer choice since it became a free house. It will be featuring a guest local beer besides the two from Hastings Brewery.

Good food is available all day at the **White Rock Hotel** and the ever-changing four beers available make this a must for fans of our ever-expanding list of Sussex breweries.

■ HORSHAM

Lyndsey at the **Tanners Arms** has taken over the expired lease and the pub is no longer Hall & Woodhouse but a genuine free house. We understand that Lyndsey intends to concentrate mostly on local ales.

Hall & Woodhouse have a long-term objective to demolish the **Queens Head** because they consider the premises to be too large. They aim to redevelop the site to include a smaller pub. No plans have yet been submitted.

■ HOVE

A recent visit to the **Westbourne** (formerly Aldrington), on Portland Road, found three Sussex-brewed ales on sale alongside one from Kent brewery, all at £2.99 a pint and well-kept. Also stocked in this free house



are ten real ciders and perries dispensed straight from the barrel/box. Good pub food available here as well - two burgers for the price of one on a Wednesday.

An April visit to the **George Payne**



(formerly the **Kendal Arms**), near Aldrington station, found four ales on in good condi-

tion: Harveys Best, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Hop Back Summer Lightning and Baseline Triple SSS. Also on hand pump is Westons Old Rosie Cloudy Cider. The pub is popular with the locals, family-friendly, and does good, affordable food.

■ KINGSTON (LEWES)

Wyevale Garden Centre is selling a range of bottle-conditioned beers.

■ MIDHURST

The Harveys house, the **Swan**, now has a third hand pump. We understand that one pump will permanently be for Best Bitter, another pump for either Old Ale or Olympia (depending on the time of the year) and the third pump will be for the monthly seasonal beer (Kiss, on our late-February visit).

■ PETWORTH

The **Stonemasons** is a fine, old timber-framed pub whose lease has been bought from Enterprise by Ian Fricker. Having been closed for much needed refurbishment and upgrading of the bars and letting rooms, it was due to reopen by the end of



March. Initially the two ales will be Harveys Best and Sharp's Doom Bar but Ian is

hopeful of being able to source local ales, such as Langham, through the SIBA Direct Delivery Scheme.

■ POLEGATE

The Harveys tied house, the **Dinkum**, has new tenants and the beer is now of a high standard. Best Bitter and Old Ale, plus the



March seasonal beer, 1859 Porter, were on when visited.

■ SALEHURST

The **Halt** continues to develop their menu with the Onglet steak very popular. The beer choice remains excellent and the quality is superb. Real Cider is also available.

■ STAPLEFIELD

The **Jolly Tanners** has been voted the CAMRA North Sussex POTY for 2013, much to the delight of landlord, Chris Bra-



zier. There is always a good selection of ales offered; Downlands and Turners breweries were noted recently. Ciders and perries are also available. Check out the website for details of events, such as beer festivals at this excellent pub.

■ STOPHAM BRIDGE



Changing hands recently has been the attractive old riverside pub, the **White Hart**, where

locals Chris Sinfield and his wife Sharon have recently purchased the Enterprise lease. Currently available are two beers



from the pubco list plus a Lo-cAle. A Lo-cAle and Music Festival is planned for Saturday 20

July.

■ STORRINGTON

Award-winning licensee, Angus Charlton, formerly of the Snooty Fox, Findon, can now be found at the **Anchor Inn**, dispensing Harveys Best Bitter, Sharp's Doom Bar and Fuller's London Pride, all in good condition.

■ STOUGHTON

Now on permanently at the **Hare & Hounds** is Flack Manor Double Drop. This replaces Ballard's Best, which is no longer stocked. Timothy Taylor Landlord is now only available during the summer.

■ ST LEONARDS-ON-SEA



The **North Star**, along with many other Enterprise Inns is finding the SIBA Direct Delivery Scheme very expensive so it was very

pleasing to see beers from Rother Valley recently available.

The **Tower** continues to attract real ale lovers with four ever-changing beers, which can be low or high gravity, dark or light and with several often from Dark Star. The excellent price and quality remains.

At the **Horse & Groom**, Red Spider Rye was available from a new local brewery, Pig and Porter, presently brewing on the Downlands plant.



■ TURNERS HILL

The **Red Lion** (Harveys) has five well-kept ales available, nearly always including a dark one, normally Mild. Occasional beer festivals are held in the outbuilding.

■ WEST DEAN

What was previous the Selsey Arms is to reopen in mid-late April as the **Dean Ale & Cider House**. The following was adapted from their website. Of the six hand pumps, five are devoted to an ever-changing array of ales of different styles, from balanced best bitters, through hoppy pale to dark beers such as stouts and porters. Craft ciders are also a fixture, both on hand pump and by the bottle. There is also a wide variety of bottled beers, from new wave North American craft beers to well-established Belgian Abbey style beers and everything in between.

■ WESTHAMPNETT

A planning application has been submitted by Icen Projects Ltd “for the development of a community extension incorporating a village pub at Westhampnett, near Chichester. The village does not currently have a trading pub and so the provision of a public house/restaurant forms part of a wider proposal that includes a village green, a village hall and around one hundred residential

properties.” The local branch has written to the planning authorities in support of this application.

■ WORTHING

Long Man beers are becoming increasingly available in the area. A pint of their Best Bitter was sampled in February at the **Charles Dickens**.

Bar Release, Chapel Road, is now serving Brains SA.

By the library, the **Wheatsheaf** has been refurbished and four well kept ales are available.



Refurbishment over the past couple of years has improved the **Egremont Hotel**, close to the famous bowling greens.

Beer quality has also improved with up to three ales on offer, the collection of pump clips showing that you could find an interesting one or two available. Live music is a regular event at this friendly pub.

At the **Old House at Home**, Broadwater, excellent Ballard’s Best and Nyewood Gold, plus Arundel Gold and other well-priced local ales have been sampled.

Encouraging reports of good quality Har-



veys Best and Wychwood Hobgoblin at the **Coach & Horses**, at Clapham on the A27 west

of Worthing. This former **GBG** pub is now run by former Worthing RFC player Nick Grantham-Hill and his wife Beryl who is the chef and features on her menus South African specialities.

Join the **Sussex Bus to the Pub** Group on our travels

For further information to join our mailing list Email stuartelms@ntlworld.com or 07817 058928

Having visited well in excess of 100 great pubs on our travels last year throughout Sussex, including many old favourites and a good few new delights - and enjoyed some excellent ales along the way - we hope that our programme for 2013 will continue to please. So, if you too would enjoy visiting different pubs with fine ales 🍺 in friendly convivial company without the constraints of the car, then 'Bus to the Pub' (BttP) 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.

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).

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, it is now very much 'use them or lose them time'.

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
Stagecoach www.stagecoachbus.com/south
Sussex Bus www.thesussexbus.com



May

Monday 13th to South Chailey & Barcombe; 10.55 B&H 29 from Churchill Sq. B'ton to Lewes Prison for 11.32 Compass 121 to Horns Lodge (GBG) then 🥾 foot-path walk (approx. 2.5m) to Royal Oak (GBG).

Wednesday 22nd will visit the Pub of the Year of one of our local branches; details from Stuart in due course.

Thursday 30th to Ditchling & Keymer; 10.35 B&H 28 from Churchill Sq. to Lewes Prison for 11.20 Compass 824 to Bull Inn & White Horse then bus or walk back to Greyhound.



June

Friday 7th walk around rural Dragons Green, Shipley & Coolham; 10.27 Metrobus 23 from W'tg Pier to Copsale turning for 🥾 onwards walk (approx. 4.5m) to George & Dragon, Countryman (GBG) & Selsey Arms. Return by bus.

Sunday 9th to Lewes Bus Rally; visiting some Brighton & South Downs Ale Trail (A/T) pubs by preserved bus. Meet Churchill Sq. for 10.35 B&H 28 to Lewes Bus Stn.

Monday 17th a Late Afternoon Ale Trail; meet Churchill Sq. for 16.25 B&H 28 to Anchor, Ringmer then Laughing Fish, Isfield; Cock, Ringmer & Alma, Uckfield (all GBG).

Thursday 27th to Danehill & Colemans

Hatch; 10.23 Metrobus 270 from Brighton Old Steine (stop D) to Coach & Horses then onto Hatch Inn via Forest Row (both *GBG*).



July

Monday 1st to the Royal Oak, Friday Street,

Rusper; either 10.00 Stagecoach 17 from Churchill Sq. or 10.27 Metrobus 23 from W'tg Pier, to meet Horsham Bus Stn. For 11.49 Metrobus 93 to Kingsfold and then footpath walk 🐾 with some stiles (approx. 2m) to this rural oasis! A poss. option is to return via Sussex Oak, Warnham (*GBG*).

Friday 5th Evening B'ton Ale Houses (A/T);

meet 5pm Evening Star or 6pm Craft Bar, then Neptune etc.

Saturday 13th Ale Trail & Bluebell Railway;

meet Churchill sq. for 10.35 Sussex Bus 40 to Hay Heath (adj. Stn.) for Sussex Bus 31 to Scaynes Hill then 🐾 easy walk to Sloop (Ale Trail) and onwards to the Bessemer Arms, Sheffield Park Stn. (approx. 3.5m), for a trip up to East Grinstead (via Hortsted Keynes). Either return to Horsted Keynes for 16.51 Metrobus 270 to B'ton or Sheffield Park for 16.40 Compass 121 to Lewes, or from EG to Crawley & B'ton. We strongly suggest that, to enable you to plan your own personal itinerary, you visit www.bluebell-railway.com, where details of (advance) ticket options can be found.

Wednesday 17th to Salehurst & St. Leo-

nards; meet B'ton Stn. for 10.32 train to St. Leonards Warrior Square then 11.46 Stagecoach 305 or train to Robertsbridge for 🐾 short walk to Halt (*GBG*) then return to Tower.

Wednesday 24th to East Hoathly & Uck-

field; 10.45 B&H 29 to Uckfield for Stagecoach 54 to Foresters & Kings Head (*GBG*) and back to Alma (*GBG* & A/T).

Monday 29th to Elsted;

09.33 train from Brighton (09.57 from W'tg) to Chichester for 10.50 Emsworth & Dist. 54 to South Harting then road & 🐾 footpath walk (approx. 2m) to Three Horseshoes (*GBG* with one of the best gardens & views); return as outward via Harting, either to Chi. or for bus to White Horse (*GBG*) Rogate or walk to Trotton for bus to Midhurst & Swan (*GBG*).



August

Friday 9th to Duncton, Graffham & poss.

Selham; 11.03 train from B'ton (11.25 from W'tg) to Chichester for 12.15 Compass 99 to Cricketers, Duncton then 🐾 easy footpath walk to Foresters (*GBG*), White Horse and poss. Three Moles.

Friday 16th Cuckmere Valley Walk;

meet Churchill Sq. for 11.10 B&H 12 to Seaford then 12.20 CV bus to Alfriston for 🐾 walk to Sussex Ox, Milton Street then back to Plough & Harrow, Litlington (both *GBG*) (approx. 5m).

Monday 19th to Compton & Stoughton;

12.03 train from B'ton (12.25 from W'tg) to Chi for 13.05 Ems & Dist 54 to Coach & Horses then back to Walderton for 🐾 easy country lane walk (approx. 1.5m each way) to Hare & Hounds (both *GBG*).

Thursday 22nd Evening B'ton Ale Houses

(A/T); meet North Street (Stop B) for 17.00 B&H 22 to Reservoir then Mitre (*GBG*), Prince Albert & Lord Nelson (*GBG*).

You may know what BttP stands for but if you do not, it is Bus to the Pub. What, however, is TTLP? This is the baby of Pete Brown of Barnham (not the famous beer writer but maybe the famous beer drinker). It is Train to London Pubs and it is mainly for Sussex residents who feel the need to visit the capital now and again and pay through the nose for expensive beer, just to get the experience. Do not mock – I quite enjoy it actually and went on the Friday 23 November trip.

On arriving at the **White Horse**, 1-3 Parsons Green, SW6, the question was: why go anywhere else?



This was their umpteenth Old Ales Festival with a superb range of dark beers, porters, and tasty keg

(sorry, craft) beers from the USA, as well as my first pint of Hastings Porter. Excellent but please note, minimum price £4 pint, with £4.20 the more common price up to my last beer at £4 for a half of blueberry USA beer. Strong BrewDog beers were going for even more. No amber or prissy gold beers here, it's all dark at the Old Ale event!



Back to Parsons Green station and to the **Botanist Brewery &**

Training In London

Kitchen, 3-5 Kew Green, TW9. I tasted their 2.8% Lifeboat Volunteer but then went for the 3.5% Humulus Lupulus (Latin for hops or something?). One of their gimmicks is “Breakfast with our Brewer – a full English breakfast awaits you after you have witnessed how we make our very own ale”. We then were given a quick look into the brewery, in the kitchen, a small wood-clad kit. Brighton could copy this ‘breakfast’ idea. [Ed. - Hand in Hand and the North Laine please note.]

Moving on we went to the bus stop and



rode to the **Lamb Brewery**, 9 Barley Mow Passage, Chiswick, W4, where the pub of this name

(previously called the Barley Mow) has given over part of the seating area to a genuine micro-brewery, named after a previous, long-closed Chiswick brewery. Ingredients and brewery trappings are everywhere, including rather gaudy pink and green plastic casks. An invitation to try five of their beers for £6 was not taken up by our 10-strong group. I asked for Lamb Dark Ale (no ABV given), and had a pleasant amber bitter. The atmosphere was good and the copper-clad mini-brewery in the corner was - maybe - the future of pub brewing. Whilst we were there (4.30pm Friday) the brewer was actually working, yes, around the pub doing things.



Then by bus and overground to **Camden Town Brewery**, Wilkin Street Mews, NW5, effectively

underneath Kentish Town West station, in the railway arches. Quite a decent-size brewery but all products are keg/craft. Tasty though. The bar area is small and only open at weekends – a real brewery tap. At £4 a pint there was wheat, hoppy pale, dark, the usual range and all very good. Line-measure glasses were used to cope with the head. And two food stalls were outside, one in a Citroen van selling American fish dogs! I've always thought Shoreham-by-Sea railway arches could house a brewery but a second-hand car dealer seems to have taken the lease and they remain derelict. Visit Camden Town and see what can be done!

Round the corner at **Tapping the Admiral** was a good choice of cask ales, including two from Dark Star, and frankly, this concludes my account. A pint of Adnams Ghost Ship, as recommended in a phone conversation with Mark Dorber* in Waltherswick earlier that day, finished me off! Goodbye and Good Luck.

Pete's next trips are TTLP11, Friday 24 May to Brixton, Herne Hill & S E London; TTLP12, Saturday 6 July, London Fields Brewery Taphouse, Hackney, otherwise TBA. Pete's contact details are on this issue's diary dates page.

Adrian Towler

Brighton & South Downs Branch

*Mark was the celebrated cellarman at the White Horse, Parsons Green and has left behind a great legacy. All photo credits Ewen Munro except for the Lamb Brewery by John Law.

The CAMRA in Sussex Bus to the Pub Group have for the past three years run a Pub of the Year competition in which people vote for the best pubs they have visited and enjoyed on 'BttP' trips during the preceding year. In the spring issue we published a list of the 2012 'top ten' pubs in order of voting popularity. Certificates have since been presented to both the winner and runner-up.



Congratulations to Bill and Vicky Parke of the Ship Inn, Whitemans Green, Cuckfield, who are pictured

Bus to the Pub, Pub of the Year Presentations

second and third from the left with some of their regulars and the winner's certificate.



Congratulations also to Trevor Brown of the Wilkes Head, Eastergate, pictured (left) with his runner-up certificate and in the company of 'BttP' co-organiser Mike Jacomb.

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

The Kings Head, East Hoathly, 01825 840830. www.1648brewing.co.uk Brewery sales were again up just over 20% the year ending in March. The Old Forge building opposite is up and running as a new cold-conditioning room. Sales of **Laughing Frog** have been overwhelming, while the award-winning **Royal Britannia** is back. A new offering for the summer is **Sacred Solstice** – cask at 4.3%, bottled version at 4.7% - so get dancing naked round the camp fire! But first check out the new web site for the brewery.

David Platt

ADUR

Steining, 01903 867614. www.adurbrewery.com Adur has completed its first full brewing year as a co-operative, achieving twenty brews and re-establishing the brand with several regular outlets, mainly in the Brighton and Shoreham area. The new website is up and running as above. Future plans include looking at



automating the bottling process and having more new brews, such as **Steining Special**, well received at 5.5%.

BLO TBC

ANCHOR SPRINGS

Littlehampton, 01903 719086.

Brewer Frank McCabe is moving on to become brewer at Goldmark Craft Beers but there are no plans to change the beer range. We welcome new brewer Darryn Hynard who is being trained by Frank to replicate the current recipes.

The Quaffer

ARUNDEL

Ford, nr Arundel, 01903 733111.

www.arundelbrewery.co.uk Following a retirement, the management team has changed, bringing in extra investment and skills, including marketing. The new team intends to maintain the current range of well-balanced beers, which it believes

could reach a much wider market. The website is to be revamped with online sales a long-term objective, while the company now has a presence on social media sites such as Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. On the beer side, **Tryline** was a one-off special brewed for the Six Nations rugby, while **Doctor's Orders**, commemorating Dr. Beeching's infamous railway closures, will appear in June to cheer up railway ramblers.

Jeff Vinter

BALDY

Parham House, Storrington, 07718 641195.

www.thebaldybrewery.co.uk The brewer is currently developing new brews using his own in-house smoked malt and barley. The first will be a limited edition brew of Smoking Barrel Whisky Porter - **Smoked Out** (5.0%). There will soon be available a selection of bottled ales in various outlets, both brewery and bottle-conditioned.

Ray Pilkington

BALLARD'S

Nyewood, 01730 821362.

www.ballardsbrewery.org.uk Brighton's Indigo Leisure has followed their normal policy of rotating breweries and will give someone else a try but, hopefully, they will have introduced Ballard's to some new drinkers. The brewery's beers should still be readily available in the Brighton area as another large chain has agreed to take them on. A very successful Meet the Brewer evening was held at the King's Arms, Arundel.

The seasonal **Trotton Bitter**

(3.6%) is available until late April, while a joint venture between Ballard's and Fuller's for the recently reopened and extended Links Tavern, Liphook, has produced **Links Tavern Ale**.

Barry Woodward

BASELINE

Small Dole, 01903 879111.
www.baselinebrewing.co.uk

Triple SSS Sussex Sub-woofer Stout (5.0%) has just been released. It features the "made with British hops" logo and uses the Admiral hop. So far very well received, this looks like becoming another regular. This stout plus **Dark Matter** (5.5%) and **Halcyon Hop Haze** (single hop American-style pale ale, 4.0%) are the three main beers. Cask & Craft Beer have now taken over distribution of Baseline beers in both Brighton and Worthing: telephone them on 07525 438486.

Peter Mitchell

BEACHY HEAD

East Dean, 01323 733603.
www.beachyhead.org.uk
Sales remain steady despite difficult trading conditions. Due to the increasing number of micro breweries and the uncertain economic climate, plans to increase capacity at the brewery have been put on hold. A new beer will be brewed at the end of February for release in April. Roger has decided to dip his toe into the light-coloured, low-alcohol golden ale market. This ale, as yet unnamed, will be available initially only at the Tiger Inn, East Dean.

Tony Harman

BEDLAM

Albourne, 07955 684041.
www.bedlambrewery.co.uk

Best Bitter and **Hoppy Golden Ale** are now available in new bottles from South Downs Cellars in both Hurstpierpoint and Lindfield outlets. A Meet the Brewery Team event was held at the first of these shops on 30 March.

Peter Mitchell

BLACK CAT

Groombridge, 07948
387718.

After attending the CAMRA Mass Lobby of Parliament, brewer Marcus Howes continued to exchange correspondence with his MP, Charles Hendry, about the Beer Duty Escalator. Marcus then invited Mr. Hendry to the brewery. The visit took place on 22 February with Mr. Hendry's secretary, the BLO, and a local newspaper reporter and photographer also present. A very convivial meeting was held over a drop of **Original** (4.2%) to warm against the freezing cold weather. Mr. Hendry and his secretary seemed sympathetic to the campaign to remove the beer duty escalator. The MP was able to see for himself how a small brewery operates and hear about the potentially devastating effect of pub closures on the industry. Mr. Hendry wrote to the Chancellor in support of Marcus's lobbying and received a response from the Treasury. The meeting resulted in a full page article with photos in the *Kent & Sussex Courier*.

David Moore

BRIGHTON BIER CO

The Hand in Hand, Brighton,
01273 699595.

Following their successful debut at the Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival, Brighton Bier is now distributing limited quantities of beer to trade in Brighton and beyond. **Maple Porter** and a new **Red Rye Ale** will initially be released, with the first in the pale ale series 50 Ways (...to Leave Your Lager) coming soon after. A one-off **Double Chocolate and Vanilla Porter** was showcased at the Bitter and Twisted event at Hotel du Vin, Brighton, on 29 March. For trade enquiries please contact WithSoul Ltd; for festivals and special events please contact the brewery directly.

Jim Hawkins

DARK STAR

Partridge Green, 01403
713085.

www.darkstarbrewing.co.uk
The team needs reminding every day that their business is a hobby that span out of control. After many years of avoiding job titles, thinking them far too business-like, Paul, officially the MD, has accepted the nickname "Headmaster" (after it was surreptitiously emblazoned on his office window). It could, of course, be pure sarcasm but Paul prefers to think that the epithet is an insight into what is involved in trying to steer the flow of creative youngsters who want to join the brewing team. Brewers from Dark Star have gone on to hold senior positions with other small brewers, no doubt

taking their beer-making obsession with them. The latest brewing team headed up by Andy and Finlay, not long out of their Herriot Watt brewing degree, were tempted away from BrewDog to be indoctrinated into the Dark Star way. Watch out for this year's **Hylder Blonde**, brewed ready for July. The 2011 crop of elderflowers was poor due to the drought whereas the 2012 was back to its fruity best, so what will 2013 quality be like? It is as good a reason as any to take climate change seriously.

Stuart Elms

DOWNLANDS

Small Dole, 01273 495596. www.downlandsbrewery.com The strong growth at the brewery continues with sales up 600% on the year and brewery rep Phil Ayling setting new personal sales records on a regular basis. To accommodate this growth the brewery has undergone the first phase of an expansion plan and capacity is now 35bbl a week. The spring seasonal ale, **Whapple Way** (4.4%), is now out in the pubs and selling very well. The summer seasonal ale is due out in June and is provisionally named **DFL**; it will be a light, hoppy ale of 4.2% for which the hops have already been sourced. Residents in Fulking village are meanwhile eagerly searching their gardens for bines to produce the hops for this year's Green Hop beer.

Roger Coton

FIL0

Hastings, 01424 425079. www.filobrewing.co.uk FILO beers are now finding their way into more local pubs and have recently been served as far afield as Lewes, Brighton and even Surrey. The beers have proved as popular as ever in a number of recent festivals including the first Bexhill Ale & Arty in March. Following their success last year, and with the warmer weather approaching, we hope to see a few special brews to mark various local events over the coming months.

Bill Turner

FRANKLIN'S

Bexhill, 01424 731066. www.franklinsbrewery.co.uk Steve and George played an active part in putting on the Ale & Arty Beer Festival in March at the De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill. The festival was a huge success, all the Franklins beers sold out and the brewery is happy to report record sales going into April. Two new fermenting vessels have been installed, allowing an extra 30% brewing capacity. The beers can now be found in parts of Essex, courtesy of the Grays pubs chain. A new mild is to be introduced to the range, aiming to hit the pubs in early May. It is intended to have the full range of beers bottled within the following months.

Mac McCutcheon

FULL MOON

Catsfield, 07832 220745. www.fullmoonbrewery.co.uk The brewery is going from strength to strength with

particularly strong sales of **Red Pacific** (4.8%) and **Celestial Blonde** (4.2%). A third fermentation vessel is now in place, which provides the capacity to comfortably brew six times over three weeks. By the time you read this the new conditioning tank and bottling line should also be operational. After a recent rebranding, the new logos and pump clips can be found on the above website address.

Peter Harrison

GOLDMARK

Goldmark Craft Beers, Unit 23, The Vinery, Poling, Nr. Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 9PY, 07900 555415.

Mark Lehmann's brewery made a quantum leap at the end of March, from his garage to a new unit at the above address close to Hammerpot Brewery's premises. An 11bbl plant acquired from Conwy Brewery has been installed and upgraded. Frank McCabe, who has previously brewed for both Arundel and Anchor Springs, has joined Goldmark. Unfortunately, Frank broke a leg in a motorbike accident at Easter so it may be some time before he is seen hopping round the Mash Tun.

Liquid Gold, a tasty 4.0% summer ale has already been favourably received at local festivals and should hit the pubs in May, together with the 4.0% **Best Bitter**. More beers are to follow later in the year and Mark plans to start bottling in the summer.

Jerry Marchant

GRIBBLE

The Gribble Inn, Oving, nr Chichester, 01243 786893. www.gribbleinn.co.uk

CHI.P.A. (3.6%) is being brewed again for the summer. **Wobbler** (7.2%) may now remain throughout the year as it has become an innovative ingredient in the pub shop's artisan bread.

Chris Wright

HAMMERPOT

Poling, nr Arundel, 01903 883338.

www.hammerpot-brewery.co.uk
Hammerpot was pleased to be one of the breweries supporting the Worthing Jamboree charitable event on Good Friday. **Brighton Belle** was one of the beers available and this pale amber seasonal special will now be available throughout the summer. Lee is working on a new summer ale constructed around Australian hop varieties. The brewery has acquired two new fermenters that should help to improve the consistency of the product.

Tim Walker

HARVEYS

Lewes, 01273 480209.

www.harveys.org.uk
The brewery shop in Midhurst closed permanently on Easter Saturday. Enquiries regarding deliveries in the area should, for the time being, be made to Lewes. The two 4.5% beers, **Bull's Head Bitter** and **Surrey Hop Garland Ale**, brewed for the Bull's Head, Boreham Street and the Garland, Redhill, respectively, have both been well received and second batches of each

have been brewed. Currently being developed is a blond beer which it is hoped will be ready for the summer. **Hadlow IPA** has been rebranded simply as **IPA** with a new pump clip design. Harveys have a new bar trailer for outside events, which has replaced the old Leyland Atlantean bus. It may make an appearance at the Great British Beer Festival but this is still subject to negotiation.

Jack Wilkinson

HASTINGS

St Leonards-on-Sea, 01424 205437.

www.hastingsbrewery.co.uk
A fourth fermenter has increasing brewing capacity to 20bbl per week (equivalent to 80 firkins or 5700 pints). National sales have been achieved through wholesaler Flying Firkin, with the beers appearing on bars as far afield as Edinburgh, Durham, Manchester and Sheffield. An investment in new bottling equipment and materials means that online bottle and minicask sales should begin by the time you read this.

Peter Page-Mitchell

HEPWORTH

Horsham, 01403 269696.

www.thebeerstation.co.uk
Andy Hepworth expressed himself pleased that the Beer Duty Escalator has been abolished. Andy felt that CAMRA had made a real difference on behalf of consumers. Dark Star is providing cask ale to the Brighton Dome and Hepworth is providing lager, stout and bottled beers. Hepworth will be engaging in the

following events during the spring and summer: 4-5 May, Foodies Event, Hove Lawns; 11 May, Horsham Day of Dance; 12 May, Cow Pie Farm Show, Betchworth, Surrey; 6-8 June, South of England Show, Ardingly; 30 June and 13-14 July, Horsham Garden Festival and Music Evenings.

John Keller

HIGH WEALD

Unit 8, Bulrushes Farm Business Park, Coombe Hill Road, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 4LZ, 07836 291430.

andy@highwealdbrewery.co.uk
Andy Somerville, a homebrewer of many years, has decided to take the plunge commercially with an initial range of four cask and bottle-condition ales: **High Weald Best** (3.8%), **Greenstede Gold** (4.0%), **Wealden Pale Ale** (4.1%) and **Charcoal Burner Oatmeal Stout** (4.3%). These are beginning to appear in local free houses and off-licences, while the latter three showcased at the Egham United Services Club festival over the Easter weekend. Andy is in the process of moving and expanding but, by the time you read this, his beers should be becoming more widely available as brewing capacity grows.

Jonathan Samways

HURST

Hurstpierpoint, 07866 438953.

www.hurstbrewery.co.uk
Founders Best Bitter made its debut (on the Sussex Bar) at this year's Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Fes-

tival. It will be joined in the spring season at the White Horse, Hurstpierpoint, and at other local pubs (and hopefully at summer beer festivals), by **Hurst 700 Summer Ale**, a light-coloured 3.9% hoppy bitter.

Steve Floor

ISFIELD

Framfield, 01825 750633 / 07803 716758.

enquiries@isfieldbrewing.co.uk.

Flapjack Oatmeal Stout

has been selling well as a winter seasonal. **Straw**

Blond continues to be the best seller, although **Isfield Bitter** (3.7%) is proving popular. Plans are afoot for a spring seasonal.

Peter Adams

KEMPTOWN

The Hand in Hand, Brighton, 01273 699595.

www.kemptownbrewery.com

Gold, **Red** and **Black** are available exclusively, on rotation, at the Hand in Hand brewpub alongside ever changing guest ales including Brighton Bier Co. New craft bottles from USA, Belgium and beyond are also on sale.

Jim Hawkins

KING

Horsham, 01403 272102.

www.kingbeer.co.uk

The Market Porter Ale Trail in Brighton during March has proved successful, and general trading remains good. No new beers to report this time around, just the return of some familiar friends, such as **Sussex Downs Ale** from May to July, **Cascade** and **Wheat Mash** in May, then **Gold** and **Summer Ale** from June onwards.

Mike Head

KISSINGATE

Lower Beeding, 07909 975664.

www.kissingate.co.uk

Toffee Cog is new to the core list after positive feedback received from the Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival. Special beer **Stout Extreme 'Jamaica'** was brewed in collaboration with Rowan Barrett from London's 2012 POTY, the Hope, Carshalton. Rowan and his team spent the day at the brewery and helped create a beer which has since been a big success. Also new is **Buffalo Black IPA**, which is now available in the Indigo group of pubs in Brighton and Hove. More about this beer and its launch on p. 33. The brewery is hosting its annual SpringFest event on Saturday 25 May. Fourteen beers will be on stillage and there will be some top quality cider, too. There is no charge for entry, all are welcome!

Roy Bray

KITCHEN GARDEN

Sheffield Park, 01825 790775.

www.kitchengardenbrewery.co.uk

The brewery is continuing with the regular and seasonal range of beers and attending local farmers markets, of which Hastings features from the end of March onwards. A new outlet is 21 Wines, Prince Albert Street, Brighton. Also visit the brewery shop at Sheffield Park for the full range. The brewery is clearly signposted at the entrance to the park.

Jason Phillips

LAINE

The North Laine, Brighton, 01273 683666.

www.drinkinbrighton.co.uk/north-laine

The as-yet-unnamed 4.0% amber ale that concluded the report in the previous issue has since been available as the Six Nations rugby-themed **Hooker**. Also new on the pumps during this period is **Black Rock**, a 4.5% oatmeal stout. This and the 5.0% **IPA** are permanent beers. The first beer to be brewed, a 4.6% porter, has been revived at a higher gravity as the 5.3% **Slaughter**. A 5.0% red ale is to be launched during the Brighton Fringe Festival, followed by a 3.5% pale and hoppy summer ale. The 4.0% Laine's Best is not brewed at the pub but at WJ King. It is a rebadged Brighton Best and available at all Drink In Brighton pubs.

Ruth Anderson

LANGHAM

Lodsworth, Petworth, 01798 860861.

www.langhambrewery.co.uk
Busy times up at Lodsworth following the first beer designed on the new test brew plant on 21 March. The new beer, **Black Swallow**, a Black IPA at 6.0 %, has been brewed twice now on a full brew size of 10bbl. Plans are now afoot for the next beer design. Award-winning spring ale, **Flor-Ale**, blond and hoppy at 3.8% with a citrus zesty flavour, will be brewed till May. Following the success of the first Pop-Up Gig in February, the brewery are planning another gig for Saturday 18

May, with a line up of top local bands, a beat poet and comedian or more, plus excellent cheap bar and BBQ!
Peter Luff

LONG MAN

Litlington, 07976 777992.
www.longmanbrewery.com
Old Man has proved so popular that production continued well into spring. **Best Bitter** (4.0%), **American Pale Ale** (4.8%) and **Long Blonde** (4.1%) are all available in bottles. All the beers are now available regularly in London and the surrounding counties. A fifth (and for now, final) fermenting vessel has now been installed in the brewery to keep up with demand.

Scott O'Rourke

PIN UP

Stone Cross, Crowborough, 01892 611411.
www.pinupbeers.com
Having brewed in Crowborough for a little over a year, Pin Up is now looking to expand to larger kit. Great success has been achieved in Brighton and London pubs and by sending to wholesalers nationwide throughout the year. Five ales are on the market: **Natural Blonde**, **Honey Brown**, **Red Head**, **Milk Stout** and **Pale Ale**. The latter two beers will be available in bottles constantly for the spring.

BLO TBC

RECTORY

Streat, 01273 890570.
After some delivery difficulties both the **Old Ale** and **All Saints Tipple** proved popular at the Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival.

Amongst the brews featured in the early part of the year was **Spring Ale** - a light-coloured bitter similar to **Light Relief** but with an ABV of 5.0%. Following this was a 4.5% **Golden Ale** for Easter. The brewery's entry in the **GBG** has been amended to reflect that the majority of production is now taking place on the Harveys micro brewery.

Paul Free

ROTHER VALLEY

Northiam, 01797 252922.
Steve and Colin would like to announce a new member of the team: Will Jordan, who has worked for many years at Tring brewery, has joined as assistant brewer and transport manager. Sales remain steady and **Well Sprung** is the next seasonal beer in the pipeline which will be available April/May.

Dawn Lincoln

TURNERS

Ringmer, 08456 892689.
www.turnersbrewery.com
davidelford@turnersbrewery.com
Welcome to Nina Boucher and Hannah Simpson-Banks, new to the sales department. Nina is working in the West Sussex area and can be contacted on 07710 581042; Hannah is in the Central Sussex and Brighton and Hove areas on 07803 792077. New pump clips have been launched and a permanent option is available to regular customers; please ask for them with your next order. Bottled products are now available and the unique labeling style ensures they will stand out in any bar or shop. Turners

attend some the big festivals and fairs in Sussex, supplying full bar services and providing exclusive beers to certain events. If you require help with your own festival, or are in need of a bar, do not hesitate to contact the brewery direct.

Jason Phillips

WELTON'S

Horsham, 01403 242901.
www.weltonsbeer.co.uk
CAMRA may have successfully defeated the Beer Duty Escalator but Welton's are now brewing a beer that needs no duty at all! This will be a light beer with citrus notes at just 1.2% ABV. Look out also for **Blackcurrant Mild** (5.0%), **Broadwood** (4.0%), **Topper Mild** (4.0%), **Magog** (4.1%), **Sun Oak Clogg** (4.6%), **Buckland Shagg** (4.7%) and **Chanctonbury Ring** (5.2%). **Persian Princess**, the 6.0% coffee stout is now available in bottles, as is **Golden Chili**. **US Congress** will be brewed for the Fourth of July as a 5.0% light-golden ale with three hops, while **Waltzing Matilda** will be out in time for both the Ashes and the Lions tour of Australia. Check out the Tanners Arms and the Anchor, Horsham, the George & Dragon, Dragons Green, the White Horse, Maplehurst, the Ship Inn, Whitemans Green and the Kings Arms, Billingshurst for Welton's beers.

Nigel Bullen



CIDER HOUSE NOTES

Well, we've had a very successful Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival, with the Cider Bar just lasting out to Time on the Saturday night.



There were thirty-three different ciders available, thirteen different perries and the usual Little Red Rooster Cider Perry, all on a

Cider Bar in a totally new format (pictured) - projecting into the room instead of a standard row of stillage - with a total of 2600 pints consumed! Broadoak perry sold out first, on the Friday afternoon, closely followed by the Little Red Rooster, but there was still plenty of cider and perry left for the Saturday drinkers.

We managed to catch up with Mike and Vanessa Fishlock of Black Pig Orchards to present them (pictured) with their certificate for Perry of the Festival of the 2012 South Downs Festival, Lewes, but they didn't achieve either Cider or Perry of the Festival at this Festival; those awards went, respectively, to Oakwood Organic Cider and Barbourne Blakeney Red Perry.

An important event took place for the first time at this Festival at the Hove Centre on Saturday 2 March - the Surrey and Sussex Regional Cider Competition, with eleven entries, all from Sussex on this occasion as the Surrey producers didn't have enough cider to enter. We invited along two celebrity judges, Andrew Kay from the Latest and Nick Mosley, Director of the Brighton and Hove Food and Drink Festival, and everyone had an entertaining time tasting and judging the ciders.

The results were as follows: first, Oakwood Organic cider (Robertsbridge, East Sussex);



second, Portslade Wild Thing (made from scrumps from the South Downs); third, Yellow-coate, (Ringden, East Sussex).

These three ciders

will now go forward to be judged at the South of England Super Regional Cider Competition at Reading in May. Winners from that will then go through to the final round of the National Cider Competition, also at Reading.

What this competition threw up was the amazing fact that we have about fifteen different cidemakers in Surrey and Sussex at the moment, whereas when I first came down to Sussex ten years ago there were only about six in Sussex - and there seem to be ever more starting up. This seems to echo the trend of burgeoning microbreweries in Sussex, too; I suspect it's partly due to the recession putting a lot of people out of work who then go on to realise their dream of starting up a brewery or cidemaking business with their redundancy money. Whatever the reason, there is a lot of local cider (and perry!) out there alongside the ales.

This put me to thinking that maybe I should start doing a series of articles on the new local cidemakers, so look out for an article in the next issue on Black Pig Orchards. And in the meantime, don't forget the South Downs Beer & Cider Festival, Lewes, on 21-22 June.

See you there!

Jackie Johnson
*Surrey and Sussex
Regional Cider Coordinator*





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Shoreham Dogs Trust Open Day, Adur Recreation Ground, Shoreham BN43 5LT
Sunday 26th May * 11.30am – 4pm

Floral Fringe Fair, Knepp Castle, West Grinstead RH13 8LJ
Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd June * 10am – 5pm

Arun Yacht Club Mini Beer Festival, Riverside West, Littlehampton BN17 5DL
Saturday 8th June * 12noon – 11pm

Mid Summer's Beer Festival, The Parsonage Restaurant, High Street, Tarring BN14 7NN
Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd June * 12 noon – 11.30pm
Sunday 23rd June * 12 noon – 10pm

The Northchapel Working Steam Show, School House Farm, London Road, West Sussex GU28 9EG
Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th August * 10am – 5pm

Harvesting The Old Fashioned Way, Oldwick Farm, West Stoke, Nr. Chichester PO18 9AA
Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th September

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www.whitehartstophambridge.co.uk

The Lickfold Inn

The residents of Lickfold and Lodsworth, West Sussex, are concerned that their ancient, Grade II-listed pub, the Lickfold Inn, has been closed for more than two years. They are now taking action to try to reopen it and a website has been set up to publicise their efforts at www.Savethelickfold.com. Twitter is @SaveLickfold. The Lickfold Inn, owned by a consortium headed by millionaire radio-presenter Chris Evans, has been closed and for sale since August 2010 and is rapidly becoming a semi-derelict eyesore. It is said that all offers to purchase or lease the pub, even at the asking price of £825,000, have been refused and the locals fear that it may soon be sold for housing.

At a February meeting more than 150 concerned locals packed a room at the nearby Noah's Ark pub to agree on a scheme to revive the Lickfold,

and a small team was delegated to approach the owners to try to find a way of saving it. Lodsworth Parish Council was represented at the meeting and is supporting the moves to reopen the pub. Lickfold is a very small community and many have said that when the pub closed it was the last of their local facilities to disappear.

We in CAMRA have pledged our support and will be keeping an eye on proceedings. It is to be hoped that common sense will prevail and that the present sad, damp shell of a building will once again be the lively place that it used to be. Our photo shows the Lickfold Inn in happier times.



Pete Brown

Western Sussex Branch

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Citra IPA 5.5%

This IPA is for serious beer lovers. As the name suggests this Ale is bursting with citrus flavours and aroma. The tropical notes of mango, lime, pineapple and orange bring home all the memories of a lush summer holiday.

Doug Wooding



Many will by now know of Doug's untimely passing on Saturday 2 March. He died peacefully and without pain as a result of a heart attack suffered the previous Monday.

Doug was born in the north-east London area and moved to Hurstpierpoint in his early teens where he attended school. Later he was to move to Haywards Heath and then to Brighton and Hove after the death of his father. In the thirty or so years that I was privileged to know him and call him my friend I cannot recall him to say a bad word of anyone.

Doug was a true gentleman who loved his beer and the pubs in which he drank it. He was a tireless worker for CAMRA and his gentle sense of humour will be very much missed on the products stall at both the Hove Beer Festival and that at Lewes. The timing of his parting just before this year's Hove festival very much increased the sorrow of all who worked with him.

Pete Coppard

Phil Crabbe

Phil Crabbe passed away in December, his health having been plagued for some time a result of an umbilical hernia. He was probably best known amongst local

CAMRA circles as one of the people who handed out the little red glass-bags (with sometimes humorous comments) to the customers leaving beer festivals.

As a young man he served in both the Royal and Merchant Navies, reaching the rank of Radio Officer before transferring his skills to, firstly, off-shore oil platforms, then working for British Gas and, finally, Lloyds Banking Group.

A prodigious smoker, Phil eventually fell out with CAMRA over what he saw as its failings over smoking legislation in pubs. A kindly and friendly man, he even stayed good friends with his ex-wife and her new husband. I will remember him with a smile on face even if it was generated by beers such as Marston's Owd Roger or Hoskins Old Navigation!

Paul Free

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BEER FESTIVALS AND OTHER DELIGHTS

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.

May 11-12 Crawley Beer & Cider Festival, Three Bridges Football Club, Jubilee Walk, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10, www.kissingate.co.uk/CrawleyBeerFestival.html

May 17-19 24th YAPTON BEEREX, Yapton and Ford Village Hall, BN18, www.westernsussexcamra.org.uk

May 18 Langham Brewery Pop-Up Gig, The Granary, Langham Lane, Lodsworth, GU28, 01798 860861, www.langhambrewery.co.uk

May 18-19 Beer Tent Event, The Bill Targett Memorial Steam Rally, Highbridge Farm, Highbridge Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

May 19 Beer Tent Event, Brinsbury Show & Country Fayre, Brinsbury Campus, Chichester College, North Heath, Pulborough, RH20, 11am-4pm, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

May 24 Train to London Pubs, TTLP11, Brixton, Herne Hill & SE London, contact Pete Brown, 01243 552908, peteb@custardtowers.plus.com

May 24-25 10th Annual Southwick Beer Festival, Southwick Community Centre, 24 Southwick Street, Southwick, BN42, 01273 592819, www.southwickbeerfestival.co.uk/tickets.html

May 24-26 Beer & Cider by the Sea, Western Lawns, Eastbourne Seafront, BN21, Tickets: 01323 412000, www.visiteastbourne.com

May 24-27 Duke of Wellington Beer Festival, 368 Brighton Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43, 01273 389818

May 24-27 Jolly Tanners Whitsun Beer Festival, Handcross Road, Staplefield, RH17,

01444 400335, www.jollytanners.com

May 25 Burgess Hill Town FC 4th Annual Beer Festival, Leylands Park, Maple Drive, Burgess Hill, RH15; 1pm-12am; entrance £5, includes a free pint; tickets from the Football Club (07969 525397) or Mooch Café Bar (01444 244888). Enquiries to 07794 799850, thedavebradbury@gmail.com

May 25 Spin Up in a Brewery, 1-8pm, Dark Star Brewery, 22 Star Road, Partridge Green, RH13, 01403 713085, www.spinupinabrewery.com

May 25 Kissingate Spring Fest, 12noon-7pm, Pole Barn, Church Lane Farm Estate, Church Lane, Lower Beeding, Horsham, RH13, 01293 882198, www.kissingate.co.uk

May 25-27 Wheatsheaf Beer and Music Festival, Mount Pleasant, Jarvis Brook, Crowborough, TN6, 01892 663756, www.wheatsheafcrowborough.co.uk

May 26 Beer Tent Event, Shoreham Dogs Trust Open Day, Adur Recreation Ground, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43, 11.30am-4pm, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

May 26 Ale Trail Launch, 7.30pm, Lord Nelson Inn, 36 Trafalgar Street, Brighton, BN1, 01273 695872, www.thelordnelsoninn.co.uk

May 31-June 2 Glastonwick Beer & Music Festival, Church Farm, Coombs, BN15, www.cask-ale.co.uk/beerfestival.html; www.facebook.com/events/447311812009459/

June 1-2 Beer Tent Event, Floral Fringe Fair, Knepp Castle, Shipley, Nr. West Grinstead, RH13, 10am-5pm, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

June 7-9 Stanley Arms Beer Festival, 47

Wolseley Road, Portslade, BN41, 01273 430234, www.thestanley.com

June 8 Drinking Songs of the South Downs; participatory free workshop with Emily and the Hares, 10.30am - 4.30pm, Lewes Arms, 1 Mount Place, Lewes, BN7, 01273 473152, www.southdownssociety.org.uk

June 8 Beer Tent Event, Arun Yacht Club Mini Beer Festival, Riverside West, Littlehampton, BN17, 12noon-11pm, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

June 14-15 5th KENT & EAST SUSSEX RAIL BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL, Kent & East Sussex Railway, Tenterden Town Station, Station Road, Tenterden, Kent, TN30, 01580 240104, www.camra-afrm.org.uk

June 15-16 Beer Tent Event, Petersfield Festival of Food & Drink, Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31, Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 10am-4pm, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

June 21-22 17th SOUTH DOWNS BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL, Lewes Town Hall, BN7, see p. 43 feature and www.brightoncamra.org.uk

June 21-23 Beer Tent Event, Mid Summer Beer Festival, The Parsonage Bar & Restaurant, High Street, Tarring, BN14, Fri & Sat 12noon-11.30pm, Sun 12noon-10pm, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

July 6 Worthing Rugby Club Sussex Beer Festival and 7s Tournament, Roundstone Lane, Angmering BN16, 01903 784706, www.worthingrfc.com/

July 6 Train to London Pubs, TTLP12, London Fields Brewery Taphouse, Hackney, then TBA, contact Pete Brown, 01243 552908, peteb@custardtowers.plus.com

July 12-14 25th ARDINGLY BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL, Vintage and Classic Vehicle Show, South of England Show-

ground, Ardingly, RH17, www.ardinglycvsshow.org.uk. NEW THIS YEAR is free access to CAMRA North Sussex beer tent Friday and Saturday from 7pm with CAMRA membership card. See p. 37 feature for discount voucher for show tickets Saturday and Sunday

July 12-14 Horns Lodge Beer and Cider Festival, South Chailey, BN8, 01273 400422, www.hornslodge.com

July 14 Walking Tour of Old Lewes Breweries with Miles Jenner; 11am-1pm; start at Swan, Southover, finish at Dorset, Malling Street, BN7; please book with Ale & Hearty and state if a CAMRA member, aleandheartylewes@gmail

July 20 White Hart Summer Beer and Music Festival; Hog Roast & BBQ all day; live music from afternoon to end of evening; local breweries only represented; Stopham, Pulborough, RH20, 01798 873321, www.whitehartstophambridge.co.uk

July 20 Sussex Branches of CAMRA Liaison Meeting, Pump House, Market Street, Brighton, BN1, 01273 827421

July 21 Dark Star 24/7, Sponsored Walk/Cycle Ride, arrive 10am for 11am start, Dark Star Brewery, 22 Star Road, Partridge Green, RH13, 01403 713085, www.darkstarbrewing.co.uk/24/7

July 26-28 Henty Arms 12th Annual Beer Festival, Ferring, BN12, 01903 241254, www.hentyarms.co.uk

Aug 10-11 Beer Tent Event, Northchapel Working Steam Show, School House Farm, London Road, Northchapel, GU28, 07778 551352, info@ale-inatent.co.uk

Aug 13-17 GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL, Olympia, London, W14, Tickets: 0844 412 4640, www.gbbf.org.uk

Aug 16-18 King's Head Beer Festival, South Road, Hailsham, BN27, 01323 440447

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SPOTLIGHT ON

BREWERIES

Dark Star launches its own Foundation



Dark Star has launched The Dark Star Foundation - created to “Support & Inspire” by

working alongside, and helping, good causes. Dark Star will be raising funds through the sale of certain lines in the brewery shop including a bespoke Foundation T-Shirt; and through donations made by people attending brewery tours, offered free of charge in order to encourage giving. Additionally, the team will be running a series of fundraising events, such as the two that follow in this section, plus a three-day beer and music event to be held in September and others to be announced in the coming months.

James Cuthbertson of Dark Star explained that “The Foundation is intended to work in three key areas: first, providing funds to pubs to assist in their fundraising efforts - pubs raise over £106M for charity each year, and we want to help them achieve even more; second, providing seed funding for the entrepreneurs of tomorrow, who will be asked to ‘pay it forward’ when they have their business off the ground, thus assisting another enterprise; third, issuing funds to good causes and charities based on

their submissions and subsequent recommendation of the Foundation’s panel - a board of people providing the moral compass to improve the fabric of our communities: a passion aligned with the role played by pubs up and down the country”.

The Foundation was officially launched in March this year and submissions for funding will be considered from October. Please visit www.darkstarbrewing.co.uk/darkstarfoundation or contact james@darkstarbrewing.co.uk.

Like Cycling? Like Beer? Of course you do!



Once a year the brewers clear off and the

cyclists invade Dark Star brewery for roller racing, beer and BBQ. The brainchild of Morvélo Bicycle Apparel and Kinesis UK, Spin Up in a Brewery will hit the rollers again on Saturday 25 May. Loosely described by Dom of Kinesis as “a kind of carnage where racing, beer, fierce competition and fun come together”, Spin Up is set to be bigger and better in this, its second year. The event will be raising money for SANDS ‘Stillbirth And Neonatal Death Society’, www.uk-sands.org/home.html.

After last year's sell out, the organisers have increased the capacity to put on a not-to-be-missed event that includes Roller Racing with prizes worth over £2,000; BBQ by three-times UK BBQ Champion and World BBQ Finalist, Andy Annat; Coffee by Dinkyccino; Street Art by 'SNUB'; Bike Drums ... yes, Bike Drums, by Puncture Kit, www.puncturekit.co.uk; Music by the amazing Grizzly and the Grasshoppers, www.grizzlyandthegrasshoppers.com/; Roller Racing for Kids; and a cycling-related marketplace. Spin Up starts at 1pm and finishes at 8pm; tickets can be purchased at www.spinupinabrewery.com; £5 normal ticket; £8 with return coach trip back to Brighton.

Dark Star 24/7: Two legs or two wheels? The choice is yours!



Walkers and cyclists are invited to join staff and customers of Dark Star for the 24/7 sponsored walk and/or ride around Sussex to

raise cash for the Dark Star Foundation. Anybody and everyone is invited to join the sponsored journey on Sunday 21 July, starting 11am at the Dark Star Brewery following a round-trip before returning to the Partridge pub for a BBQ and well-earned rest. Cyclists will take on the 24-mile return journey to Shoreham while walkers will tackle a 7-mile ramble to Wineham, stopping for refreshments at the Duke of Wellington, Shoreham and the Royal Oak, Wineham before embarking on the journey home.

James Cuthbertson of Dark Star said that "we're asking people to pay £15 entry

(under 16s free), for which all adults will get a Foundation T-shirt, coffee from 10am on arrival at the brewery and beer upon arrival at the Partridge. Participants are asked to get sponsored alongside their entry fee to raise as much as possible, with all funds raised going to the Foundation". For more information and to download a registration and sponsor form, please visit: www.darkstarbrewing.co.uk/24/7 or contact James on 01403 713085. Event address: Dark Star Brewery, 22 Star Road, Partridge Green, West Sussex, RH13 8RA.

Gary and Bunny in Hi-Spirits



The new beer from Kissinggate brewery, Buffalo Black IPA, was inspired and brewed in collaboration with the Hi-Spirits drinks company known for their 'high-end' spirits brands, which are available nationally ([www.hi-](http://www.hi-spirits.com)

[spirits.com](http://www.hi-spirits.com)). The new IPA is flavoured with Buffalo Trace Bourbon barrel char specially imported from Kentucky, USA. Its official launch was held in the upstairs prohibition-inspired pop-up bar at the Wick Inn, Hove, on Thursday 21 March (pictured). The evening went extremely well and was attended by specially invited guests, publicists and beer writers such as Melissa Cole.



Our group photo shows Kissinggate husband and wife team Gary and Bunny Lucas with Jeremy Hill, CEO of Hi-Spirits, and his daughter Harri

Hill, Publicity Director.

Buffalo Black IPA is now available in the Indigo group of pubs in Brighton and Hove.

Home Bird



Langham's little test brew kit has finally given birth to a new beer after three months of intensive trial and experimentation. Black Swallow is a Black IPA of 6.0% with generous hopping of three

high alpha American varieties, and is fermented an additional two weeks for extra smoothness and palatability.

Black Swallow masterfully combines bitter chocolate flavours with toffee undertones.

It was launched at a Meet the Brewer event at the Sir Timothy Shelley, Worthing, where the first barrel sold out in just one and a half sessions.

Langham chose the name by holding a competition on their Facebook page. The winning entry was actually Dark Swallow, but the brewery chose to go even darker because the black swallow is of significant tradition.

Sailors often have black swallow tattoos (there are quite a few Black Swallow Tattoo Parlours) because swallows do not fly far from land. So a black swallow tattoo is symbolic that you are safe and nearing home. And then there is, of course, the Langham swallow logo.

Available from March, Black Swallow is now to be brewed as a regular beer.



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Ever been to the Vintage & Classic Vehicle Show, held annually at the South of England Showground in Ardingly, near Haywards Heath? If not, then

how about this year, from 12 to 14 July? It is the 25th anniversary of this great show with a display of Heavy Horses this year joining all the vehicles, old time fun fair, craft stalls and much more. Sunday afternoon includes a Spitfire flying display. More information and ticket details can be found at www.ardinglyvcvshow.org.uk.

In a big tent in the centre of the showground you will find North Sussex CAMRA running the refreshments for the 25th year, with a full bar featuring over sixty beers plus about fifteen ciders and perries, mainly from local suppliers. If you just fancy a drink, this year you can get FREE access to the Showground on Friday and Saturday evenings from 7pm on presentation of your CAMRA membership card at the gate. There is live music both evenings.

If you fancy going to the show, open from 10am to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday, the

25th Ardingly North Sussex CAMRA Beer & Cider Festival

voucher below will get you £2 off 1 (one) adult admission at the gate, on presentation of your CAMRA membership card.

Note that the voucher will need to be given up. If you do not wish to tear your copy of the *Sussex Drinker*, a photocopy may suffice but also take the whole magazine to be on the safe side.

Daytime bus services run between Crawley and Haywards Heath stopping at the Showground, and there is ample car parking on site. Extras pairs of hands to help set up on Thursday and Friday, and to work behind the bar Friday to Sunday always welcome. For more information, please email ard-fest@btinternet.com.

Mike Head

North Sussex Branch



PRESENT THIS VOUCHER FOR £2 DISCOUNT FOR 1 ADULT ADMISSION TO THE 2013 SHOW, ON PRESENTATION OF CAMRA MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE GATE.

Saturday 13 July and Sunday 14 July, 2013,
10am to 5pm





As a way of introduction, I am Chris Booth, the new Chair of the North Sussex Branch. I must take this opportunity to thank all of the outgoing previ-

ous members of the committee - Allen, Rex, John, Tony, Bob and Paul - for all their hard work over the period of their office. A new start is here for us all, so welcome to Vanessa Mason-Hill as Vice-Chair and Social Secretary, Bob Gordon as Secretary, Andrew Wilson as Membership Secretary, Nigel Bullen as Press Officer and Webmaster, and Mike Head who retains the role as Treasurer. I thank you all for your support and help moving forwards.

These are exciting times for North Sussex as we have lots of new members and the committee meetings over the past few months have been very well attended. I hope to continue this upwards trend to move the branch forward, but more importantly supporting the aims and goals of CAMRA whilst enjoying a decent pint or two! Keep an eye out over the next few months whilst we get things together, check the branch website and *What's*

All Change In North Sussex

Brewing for updates, and I hope to see you at a meeting, a joint social, or beer festival over the next twelve months.

Once again I thank you all for your continuing support.

Chris Booth

North Sussex Branch Chair



2013

The following LocAle accreditations for 2013 are additions to the 2012 list published in previous issues.

Brighton: Constant Service, Hampton Arms, North Laine, Prince Albert, Prince George, Reservoir; **Crawley (Lowfield Heath):** Flight Tavern; **Eastbourne:** Lamb; **East Grinstead:** Ounce and Ivy Bush; **Ewhurst Green:** White Dog Inn; **Hastings:** Pissarros; **Hove:** Bell, Pockets Corner, Westbourne; **Lancing:** New Sussex Hotel; **Stone Cross (Pevensey):** Red Lion.

LocAle - the local branch initiative that became a national campaign - has its own symbol in the *GBG* 2013. Ask your local publican to source any of the superb range of beers available within 30 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.

PRESENT THIS VOUCHER FOR £2 DISCOUNT FOR 1 ADULT ADMISSION TO THE 2013 SHOW, ON PRESENTATION OF CAMRA MEMBERSHIP CARD AT THE GATE.

Saturday 13 July and Sunday 14 July, 2013,
10am to 5pm



I am pleased to be able to let you all know that Worthing and Sussex's first Micropub, Anchored in Worthing, will be opening very soon. My premises licence was granted last Friday; I have given my solicitor the go-ahead to complete the tenancy agreement and have left the money with him to pay the rent and deposits. The landlord has agreed to get the necessary soundproofing done as soon as possible and once that is sorted I will be in a position to open the doors; allow me a week or so to give the place a lick of paint, let my ales settle and get my ciders in.

To get the planning permission I have had to agree to some very limited opening hours, basically 12noon to 2.30pm and 5pm to 8pm most days and just the lunch hours

Anchored in Worthing

on a Sunday. I will be keeping you all updated as and when I get more information. Until then, updates are posted on my website, www.middleagedbloke.com, though I will have a dedicated site for Anchored in Worthing in the very near future.

Thanks for your time, and I look forward to seeing you soon at Anchored in Worthing, 27 West Buildings, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3BS, quite close to the pier and sea front.

Nigel Watson

Arun & Adur Branch

Arun & Adur CAMRA

My good self and a few Arun & Adur branch stalwarts took great pleasure in organising the 2nd Mini Sussex-Beer Festival on the Good Friday at St. Paul's, Worthing as part of the Worthing Jamboree fun day, a charitable event to raise money for Cancer Research



Worthing Jamboree Mini Sussex-Beer Festival

UK. Ten beers, plus two ciders were on offer as well as local arts and crafts, bands and numerous food stalls. A big thank you goes to Dark Star, Anchor Springs, Goldmark, Baldy, Langham and Hammerpot breweries for supplying us with either free or discounted beer. Our bar was drunk dry by 7.15pm and in the process we raised over £1000 for the charity! It was a very enjoyable and rewarding day for us all.

Roy Bond

Arun & Adur Branch

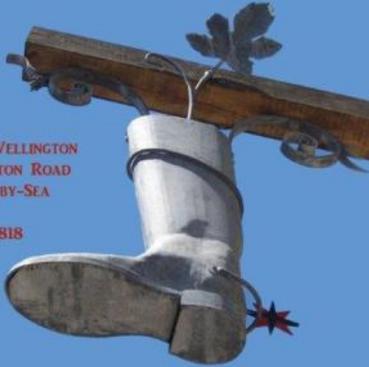
Stars Behind The Bar

Our summer stars behind the bar at the Evening Star, Brighton, are Alex Monroe and Alice Sharp (below). When they are not behind the bar, Alex is most likely reading Scandinavian noir detective fiction. She has a degree in Scandinavian Studies from University College London. Alice is a poet, compère and event-manager under the pseudonym 'Doctor Bongo'. She does the bar and site management for the Glastonwick festival. Not many people know that Alex is a massive fan of the singer Chris de Burgh and that Alice has been an avid knitter since the age of seven!

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SUN 26TH	TWO TIN DOGS
MON 27TH	SHADY GROVE

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Chancellor George Osborne not only scrapped the beer duty escalator in his March budget but took a penny of the price of a pint in the first beer duty cut in decades!

Mike Benner, CAMRA Chief Executive commented that “the Chancellor’s decision is a huge triumph for CAMRA’s pub campaigners who have been building overwhelming public support for a fair deal for beer and pubs.

Over 108,000 consumers signed an e-petition and more than 8,000 consumers have written to their MP calling for a fair deal for beer and pubs. A Mass Lobby Day organised by CAMRA saw over 200 MPs meet with their constituents who highlighted the severe damage caused by the escalator”.



Yet MP Henry Smith (pictured above), Conservative member for Crawley maintained “that the Government could go further still”. In an email to his constituent, North Sussex CAMRA member Nigel Bullen, Mr Smith wrote, “I eagerly await a response from the Chancellor to the letter I sent him expressing my concerns about the 42 per cent increase in beer duty since 2008, and my concerns about the effective-

BY GEORGE, HE’S DONE IT!

ness of this policy in tackling the Budget deficit, its impact on valued community pubs and the continued affordability of the beer and pub sector. With HM Treasury

Beer Duty Escalator Scrapped

forecasts demonstrating that there will be no additional revenue generated from beer duty, I will continue to urge the Chancellor to conduct a thorough review of the economic and social impact of the beer duty escalator. Please be assured that I will remain active on this issue, liaising closely with CAMRA, and will keep you updated on further developments”.

And the *Sussex Drinker* will keep you updated when we hear anything further.



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Men's and women's teams

Beers from across Sussex served in the Castle Bar

Free admission

Camping available £10 per night



The 17th South Downs Beer & Cider Festival will take place at the usual venue, Lewes Town Hall, on Friday 21 and Saturday 22 June 2013. There will be around 70 cask beers to sample, plus a range of bottled beers, country wines and, of course, cider and perry. Non alcoholic drinks will also be available, along with a range of hot food and snacks, including vegetarian options. The festival will as usual be music-free.

This year all sessions will be admission by ticket only, except after 17.00 Saturday. As before, tickets will be on sale from 1 May at the Gardener's Arms and Harveys Brewery Shop, Lewes, and the Evening Star, Brighton. Alternatively, please apply by post to: South Downs Beer Festival Tickets, 139 Elm Grove, Brighton, BN2 3ES, stating session required and enclosing a SAE and cheque, payable to "South Downs Beer & Cider Festival".

The ticket prices are:

Friday 21 June	11.00 - 15.00	£4.00
Friday 21 June	17.00 - 22.30	£6.00
Saturday 22 June	11.00 - 17.00	£4.00
Saturday 22 June	17.00 - 20.00*	Free!

* Or as long as the beer lasts!

South Downs Beer & Cider Festival

Customers will receive a free festival glass (not Saturday evening) very kindly sponsored by Harveys Brewery, and a programme with tasting notes. CAMRA members will in addition receive £2.00 in beer tokens per session (not Saturday evening) on production of their valid membership card at the membership table. The venue is easy to find. From the railway station turn right, climb the hill to the traffic lights, cross over and it is on the right. The town boasts a number of excellent pubs that are well worth seeking out if you have the time, or indeed the capacity to do so.

Royal Jubilee Ale (a.k.a. Britannia Ale) from our local 1648 brewery won the Beer of the Festival award at last year's South Downs Beer & Cider Festival.



Pete Coppard, President of the Brighton & South Downs branch is pictured (right) at the King's Head, East Hoathly, presenting the certificate to brewer Yannick Vuillemeys and owner Robert Wallace.

Ruth Anderson

Festival Organiser



The Crabtree Inn has recently re-opened its saloon bar after a tasteful refurbishment. The pub was built in 1931 for the Kemp Town Brewery and retains many striking features.

The refurbished saloon bar on the right has an original counter, elegant cupola ceiling, a fine brick and stone Tudor-style fireplace, half-height panelling and fixed seating. The pub's middle snug was long ago combined with the left-side public bar at the point

The Crabtree Inn, Lancing

where the off-sales was probably situated.

The counter, field panelling and fixed seating here are all original. Admire the craftsmanship in the decorative plasterwork mouldings on the frieze, cornice and capitals in both rooms. The new décor creates an ambient and warm space where customers can relax and enjoy a traditional pub experience.

The Crabtree is *Good Beer Guide*-listed and always offers Fuller's London Pride plus a fine selection of three ever-changing guest ales that you know will be served in top condition by the manager, Brian Lamb.





During the week that this article was written, you could have sampled, to mention but a few, Butcombe Gold, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Castle Rock Harvest Pale Ale, Hook Norton Lion, Wadworth Bishops Tipple, Thwaites Big Ben, Caledonian Dry

Dock and Goddards Fuggle-Dee-Dum. It is important to remember that two weeks are never the same, so frequent visits are required.



The Crabtree offers its trademark Sunday Carvery. As befits a family business the chef slow-roasts joints of beef, turkey, lamb and pork overnight, resulting in the most succulent and fresh Carvery probably anywhere in the south! The pub has also created a great menu designed to fill the demand for good home-cooked pub food at an affordable price.

Food is served daily Monday to Saturday from 12noon to 3.00pm and evenings Tuesday to Friday 5.30 to 7.30pm. The Crabtree Inn, 140 Crabtree Lane, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 9NQ; tel: 01903 755514.

 www.facebook.com/crabtree.lancing

Shaun Smith

Arun and Adur Branch

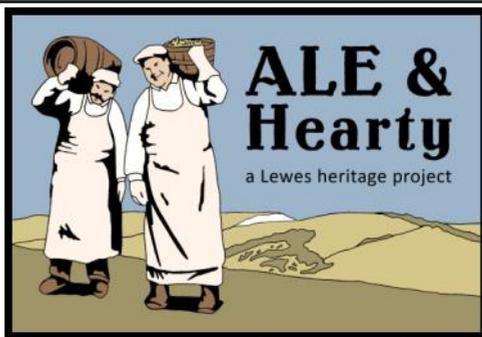
The Ale & Hearty project, from arts and heritage organisation Strike a Light, aims to encourage participants and visitors to share memories of ale, local brewing, and agricultural and brewery working life in Lewes. It involves collecting oral histories and holding reminiscence workshops, arranging heritage open days with walking tours, creating an exhibition and producing a booklet. A project launch for ninety people was held at the Linklater Pavilion, Lewes on Friday 8 March to promote a year of exciting free events and activities celebrating the heritage of the brewing and related agricultural industries in Lewes.

The busy evening played host to talks from Miles Jenner, of Harveys Brewery, and Councillor Ruth O’Keeffe, Mayor Elect of Lewes. There were Sussex and ale-themed folk songs from the group Emily and the Hares; an exhibition and slide show; ale to drink gifted from Harveys with local

cheeses from the High Weald Dairy; the unveiling of a new logo; and a raffle which raised £185 towards a companion education pack to go out free to Lewes primary schools. Photos show Steering Group Members, your Editor and Miles Jenner (above), and (left) Project Coordinator Nicola Benge with Cllr Nicholson and his wife



members, your Editor and Miles Jenner (above), and (left) Project Coordinator Nicola Benge with Cllr Nicholson and his wife



(middle pair) and the Mayor Elect.

The event celebrated memories and stories from a time when Lewes laid claim to nine local breweries, unearthing the hidden history of one of the main industries of the town over the last 300 years. Nicola Benge, Ale & Hearty Project Coordinator, said “We really enjoyed meeting new project participants, visitors, volunteers, all interested in Ale & Hearty activities. We had a great deal of enthusiasm for the event, and with the help of generous local Lewes businesses, raised money towards supporting local educational projects too!”

Strike a Light is a non profit arts and heritage organisation which celebrates and profiles the importance of local community and history, utilising people’s life stories



and memories to transform public and private spaces. It aims to manage projects which improve cultural heritage, and promote local arts and social development.

Ale & Hearty is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), using money raised through the National Lottery. Partners for the project include East Sussex Libraries and Information Service, Harveys Brewery,

Lewes History Group, Friends of Lewes, Action in Rural Sussex, and Lewes District Seniors Forum.

For more information on the project, please visit the website: www.strikealight.org/projects/ale-and-hearty/ or contact Nicola Bengé, tel. 07727 006538; email: aleandheartylewes@gmail.com



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With the Ale & Hearty project in progress, let us now look at one of Lewes's old breweries.

Southdown and East Grinstead Breweries Ltd. (henceforth SEG) was formed in 1895 by the merger of Dashwood & Co, Hope Brewery, East Grinstead with A. G. S and T. S. Manning, Southdown Brewery, Lewes.

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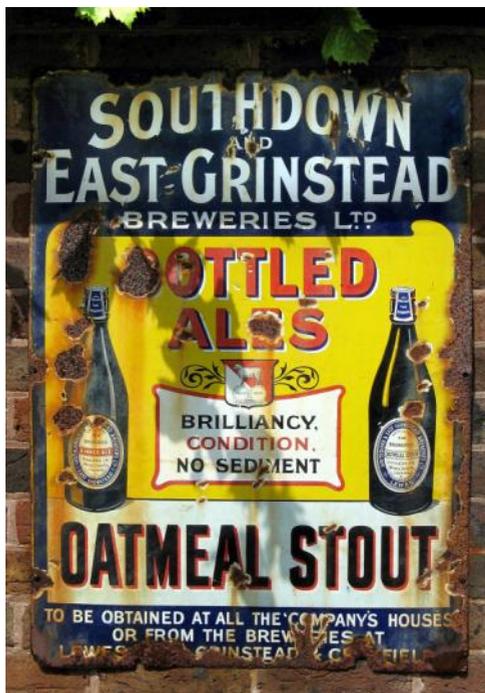
COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED
'THE MANAGER,'
Dolphin Brewery, Cuckfield.

The Hope Brewery, London Road, East Grinstead, was so named after a possible rebuilding during the period (c. 1839-1844) of the partnership of Burt & Hooker, although brewing on the site may have dated back to 1762. Subsequent owners were Edward Kenward, followed by Charles Absalom then, from 1877, John Dashwood. The Southdown Brewery, Thomas Street, in the Cliffe area of Lewes, was built in

Southdown and East Grinstead Breweries

1838 and acquired from the Hillman family in 1895 by Augustus and Thomas Manning. In July of that year they acquired Dashwood's East Grinstead enterprise and registered the new, joint name, conveying the fact that brewing continued on both sites.

In 1898 SEG gained a listing on the Stock Exchange and acquired Joseph Langton's Dolphin Brewery, Cuckfield, with eight houses, and nearby rival Edward Monk's Bear Brewery, Bear Yard, Lewes, with fifty-three houses. In 1907 SEG acquired the Station and New Road breweries in Crawley of George Ockenden & Son. But the early 20th century had seen SEG in



commercial contraction and in 1920 it leased its Lewes and East Grinstead breweries with all ninety-three houses to Tamplin & Sons, Brighton, who purchased them outright four years later for £274,000.



From the old label images and the tin advert we know that SEG bottled bright a Dinner Ale and an Oatmeal/Oatmalt Stout called Eclipse. In June 2011 Harvey & Son

of Lewes released an authentic recreation of a SEG recipe from 1913. Brewed on their micro plant, the 5.3% beer called Coopers Cask was a blend of stout and porter, a style that declined in popularity from the 1920s.

The Quaffer

Sources:

Barber, Norman (edited by Mike Brown and Ken Smith) (2005), *A Century of British Brewers*, Longfield: Brewery History Society.

Holter, Graham (2001), *Sussex Breweries*, Seaford: S B Publications.

Holtham, Peter (2004), 'Brewers of West Sussex', *Sussex Industrial History*, 34, pp. 2-11.

Holtham, Peter (2006), 'Brewers of East Sussex', *Sussex Industrial History*, 36, pp. 24-30.



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Prior permission for use of photos from the group will always be obtained and credit

will always be given unless otherwise requested.



The *Sussex Drinker* editor and designer reserve the right to edit, crop and

Share Your Sussex Pub Photos on Flickr!

resize for use any reproduced photos. The Sussex Pubs group description is: photographs of pubs within the county of Sussex (both East and West).

These can include pubs currently trading or closed, or of those involving change of use or now demolished.

Close ups of exterior or interior details are fine but the pub has to be the main subject of the photos.



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Dear Editor

Ian Mihell's interesting letter in the spring issue of the *Sussex Drinker* prompted me to look more closely at the origins of CAMRA branches in Sussex. I therefore recently visited CAMRA HQ in St Albans and rummaged through old copies of *What's Brewing* dating from 1973 and 1974.

I don't mind admitting that what I found surprised me. In the spring of 1973 there were only six CAMRA branches in Britain. In May of that year D.A.H. Carmichael, apparently living at The Old Bakery, Lods-worth, Petworth, was appointed West Sussex Area Organiser. David Carmichael soon organised the inaugural meeting of Midhurst & District Branch, held at the Shamrock Inn, Bepton, Midhurst, at 12noon, 22 July 1973. This was the first CAMRA Branch meeting in Sussex. Midhurst is now part of Western Sussex Branch. I wonder if the Shamrock still exists. If so, time for a 40th celebration!

The next branch to be formed was North

Sussex, on 29 March 1974 at the Red Lion, Turners Hill. This was followed by the South Downs Branch, Brighton whose inaugural meeting was at 8pm on Friday 16 August 1974 at the Royal Pavilion Hotel.

I could have continued with the research, but a pub lunch beckoned. I was in St. Albans, so where else but the Farriers Arms, Lower Dagnall Street, where a blue plaque on the wall informed me that this was the venue of the first CAMRA branch meeting, held on 20 November 1972. My pub lunch, incidentally, was two pints of the legendary McMullen AK together with grilled salmon, chips and peas.

My thanks go to Ian Mihell for providing me with reason to check the historic record.

Cheers!

John Keller

North Sussex Branch

Ed's note: the Shamrock does still exist, but as the Country Inn.

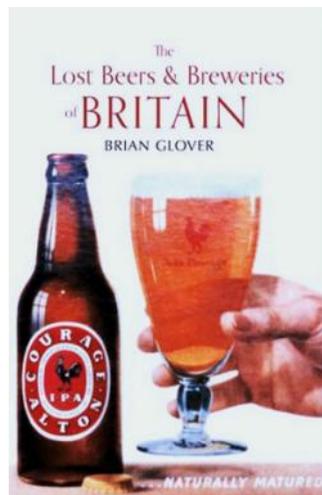
Dear Editor

It's amazing how far some local CAMRA magazines travel. I found your spring edition of *Sussex Drinker* in a pub in Penarth, to the west of Cardiff.

I was pleased to read that WJ King is making the former King & Barnes Festive a regular ale again, as I featured the beer in my latest book, *The Lost Beers & Breweries of Britain*. Good to know that another liquid legend had risen from the dead.

I wish you all the best with your great publication. It's inspiring to see how many new breweries there are in your region.

Brian Glover





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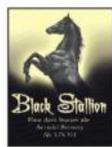
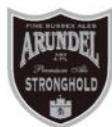
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23rd SUSSEX CAMRA BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

Thank you for attending the 23rd Sussex Branches Beer & Cider festival. We saw yet again 4200 lovely people (most of you come every year; I know, because I recognise your faces). Visitors, volunteers and organisers enjoyed a thoroughly pleasant festival. A nice change from last year, when the festival seemed to be governed by Murphy's Law...

We had some novelties this year. We removed the seating in the Sussex Bar, so that access to the bar was a lot easier. This led to more beer being drunk in the Sussex Bar, leaving a greater choice in the main bar until the end. Paul Allison, our webmaster, provided up to date online information on the availability of the beers, so that those of you who use this technology knew what to expect, or not any more, as the case may have been.

Another highlight were this year's caterers, the Real Meat Sausage Company, who served excellent food at reasonable prices, and best of all, one didn't have to wait for it. We hope they'll come again. We also had lots of fun with the band on Saturday evening, The Last of the Wild. Fortunately, they were free to stand in for the Sex Pirates, who cancelled their performance due to the illness of one of their musicians. We wish her a full recovery and hope to see them next year instead.

On the downside, there were fewer volun-

All good things come with 23

teers running this year's festival than ever. We desperately need more helpers. Please consider volunteering next year, especially for the evening sessions. Apart from free beer samples, you get a hot meal, a T-Shirt, transport home and you make new friends.

As every year, we counted your votes on the feedback forms for several awards. The award of Beer of the Festival goes to Tiny Rebel Brewery for their Urban IPA; Cider and Perry of the Festival are Oakwood Organic Cider and Barbourne Blakeney Red, respectively. The Bev Robbins Trophy goes to Harveys Brewery for their Prince of Denmark.



Thanks to your generosity, this year's festival charity Dolphin House benefited by £1478. Photograph (above) shows Peter Mitchell, (left, Festival Publicity Officer) and my good self (in Festival T-shirt) presenting them with their cheque at the Duke of Wellington, Shoreham-by-Sea. A further £287.20 was collected in cash. Kissingate Brewery, based at Lower Beeding, kindly donated a cask of their Mary's Ruby Mild,

which raised a further £180. Ace Faces donated a further £20.



Altogether, we enjoyed about 18,000 pints with more than 300(!) different flavours. This is a fine example of how CAMRA has done wonders for the beer culture. In Cologne, where I live now, most people still drink loyally their local beer and nothing

else. Trying something different, however, appeals to an increasing number of people. Real Ale is classed a Craft Beer here in Germany with IPAs and stouts gaining particular popularity. On 25-26 May there is a festival of beer culture ... And as I am busy promoting Real Ale elsewhere, Peter Mitchell and John Kirkland have agreed to organise next year's festival for you. Congratulations, Peter and John, it's all a lot of fun! Planning has already commenced for next year's festival which is due to be held on the 6, 7 & 8 March 2014.

See you there then. I wouldn't miss it for the world.

Ingrid Sharp

2013 Festival Organiser

Six Crows Wins at Hove



A London & South East Regional round of judging for the Champion Beer of Britain (CBOB) is usually held

early on the Saturday morning of the Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival at Hove. This year's panel had the task of judging the style category of Barley Wines and Strong Old Ales. It's a difficult job to sample high gravity beers at 10am but someone's got to do it! The several beers were assessed in a blind tasting on the aspects of appearance, aroma, taste and aftertaste; and the clear winner was

Six Crows (6.6%) from Kissingate brewery of Lower Beeding. Congratulations Gary and Bunny! Particular thanks, as always, to Steve Pardoe of the hosting Brighton & South Downs branch for or-



ganising this event and transporting the samples.

Photograph shows the judging panel relaxing after their hard labours.

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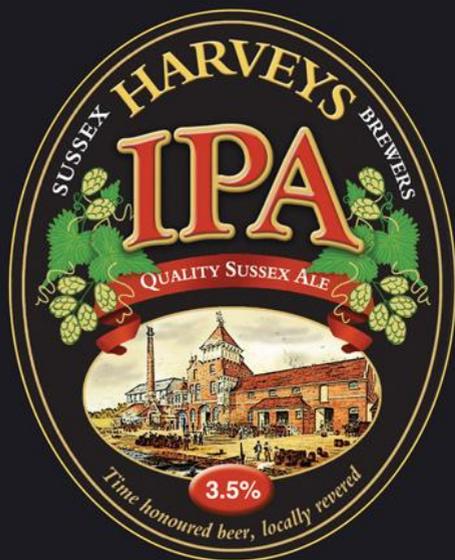


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