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All entries stand out as being of particular national heritage interest but there are inevitably notable variations in terms of intactness and quality, hence the ranking system we have adopted.

★★★ Three Star pubs have stayed wholly or largely intact for the last fifty years, or retain particular rooms or features that are truly rare or exceptional, or display a combination of the two.

★★ Two Star pubs have interiors where the intactness and quality levels will be somewhat lower than for Three Star

★ The interiors of One Star pubs will have either readily identifiable historic layouts or retain rooms or features of special interest but more significant changes are allowable.

These online guides provide you with up-to-date descriptions, on a region by region basis, of pubs listed on our National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors. Please note that the content will differ from that in the hard-copy guides where the pub information dates to when that guide was published. The hard-copy guides also contain more editorial material.

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Pubs to Cherish

This guide celebrates 111 pubs throughout South East England (excluding Greater London) which CAMRA has identified as having interiors of special historic interest, relatively little altered over the past half century or so, and thus the most traditional pubs we have left. This may seem a very small number but the sad fact is that there are very few which you can still genuinely experience as they were before huge changes swept in from the early 1960s. Barely two per cent of the pubs in the UK are now thought to have what we might think of as historic interiors.

CAMRA's realisation of this massive transformation led to a project to identify, record and campaign for the survivors, and we worked closely with English Heritage (now Historic England) to gain statutory protection through the listing process for the most important examples which we identified. Our work has greatly enhanced awareness and knowledge about such pubs and our inventories are now widely regarded and quoted as authoritative documents by heritage bodies and conservationists throughout the country. In addition our website www.heritagepubs.org.uk and guides such as this have introduced large numbers of the general public to these treasures.

This is the tenth in a series of regional guides to our best heritage pubs and draws on many years of work by CAMRA members to track down and record those that have escaped the attention of the modernisers and 'improvers'. We hope it will help you seek them out, enjoy them and find out why they are special.

What Shaped Pubs in the South East

The history and development of pubs in the South East broadly follow the trends throughout the rest of England and Wales (Scotland and Northern Ireland have very different traditions). There are no particular regional specialities apart from the remarkable displays of late Victorian and Edwardian tiling that embellish numerous pubs in the Portsmouth area.

In the beginning

Most early public houses were literally just that – ordinary houses whose owners opened up a room or two to sell drink to neighbours when they had it available. All you needed was somewhere to store the merchandise, somewhere to serve it and somewhere for customers to drink it. Pub-keeping was a family business and, especially in the countryside, usually part-time, and so often combined with, say, farming, carting, blacksmithing or some other trade. An example surviving into recent times was the Black Horse at Checkendon (O) (p. XX) where a dairy farm was attached right up until the 1980s.

Even today we can still get some rare glimpses of how rural pubs used to be when they were the places of rest and relaxtion for farm workers rather than those driving out for a nice meal in a gastro-pub. There are several examples within these pages. for example, the Queen's Arms, Cowden Pound (K) (p. XX), is a roadside of the 1840s and still with its very basic fittings. At the Blue Ship, The Haven (WS) (p. XX), the front bar with its quarry-tiled floor and hatch to the servery, has the kind of ambience that is little changed in a century or more. Then there is the Duke of Cumberland at Henley (WS) (p. XX) with its two wonderful old panelled bars. Other delights are the Harrow at Steep (H) (p. XX), and the North Star at Steventon (O)(p. XX) where a three-sided settle

arrangement focuses on the fireplace just as it did for Victorian drinkers. Berkshire has the glorious Bell at Aldworth (p. X) with another great traditional room on the left-hand side with simple panelling, bench seating and an inglenook fireplace. Bar counters are now pretty well universal in pubs but it was not always so. Service might be direct from a cellar or via a hatch and the North Star and the Crooked Billet, Stoke Row (O) (p. XX) are two of just half dozen old pubs (thus excluding modern micropubs – p. XX) throughout the entire UK which still haven't installed a new-fangled counter. The small hatches at the Harrow and the Blue Ship are only a tiny step up in sophistication. More so than in the Midlands and North, quite a few pubs in our area still dispense beer straight from the cask to the glass as was almost universal centuries ago.

Inns and taverns

The other types of drinking establishment up until the early nineteenth century were the tavern and the inn. The former existed only in larger towns, catering for the more prosperous customer by serving wine and food. However, none appears to survive in our region. It is a different story with inns which provided meals and accommodation for travellers along with stabling for their horses. Pubs in this guide which served as inns are the wonderful centuries-old country examples of the Bell at Waltham St Lawrence (Be) (p. XX), Crown, Chiddingfold (S) (p. XX), and the Castle at Chiddingstone (K) (p. xx), while the Olde Reine Deer in Banbury (O)(p. XX) is an urban instance. Another famous medieval inn is the King's Head, Aylesbury (Bu), built in the fifteenth century and later extended. This has timber-framed buildings round two sides of a courtyard and a twenty-light window in its old hall. It doesn't make it to this guide, sadly, since its internal arrangements are modernised.

The Mermaid, Rye(K), is another great old building but having operated as a Temperance inn, the bar was only installed in about 1955 (so again not included in this guide). Inns were vital parts of the infrastructure in the days of coaching and you can still see carriage entrances at, for example, the Chequer Inn, Steyning (WS) (p. xx), Cricketers, Brighton (p. xxx), and the aforementioned Olde Reine Deer, Banbury. Nowadays the word 'inn' appended to a pub name has no more significance than the equally honorific term 'hotel'.

The Victorian pub and the golden age

In the nineteenth century pubs existed in much greater numbers than today. In 1871 there were nearly 113,000 on-licensed drinking establishments in England and Wales, that is one for every 201 of the population. Over a third were beer-houses rather than fully licensed premises. This is an institution that has disappeared in the past half century as modern licensing legislation now draws no distinction on the grounds of what alcohol is sold. Pubs were often very small, catering for a regular and very local clientele. In Portsmouth in 1869, where the dockyard and garrison furnished huge numbers of thirsty customers, people had a choice of no less than 897 licensed premises (over half of them beerhouses with which Portsmouth was particularly abundantly supplied). Despite attempts by the local magistrates to reduce numbers and get rid of the least desirable drinking places, there were still 777 in 1900. To illustrate the propinquity of Pompey's boozers, in 1909 there were thirteen licensed premises in just a 200-yard radius of the Royal Arms on The Hard.

Pubs as we know them today are a largely Victorian creation from a time when their physical arrangements underwent various changes.

An important development in the early decades of the nineteenth century had been the widespread adoption of counter service and the hand-pumped beer

engine, heralding the change from an essentially domestic environment into a form of shop which could handle a greater volume of trade. From early Victorian times, under the influence of social reformers and the powerful Temperance lobby (p. xx), there was a drive to improve licensed premises and reduce their numbers. This encouraged the multi-room principle with its ability to offer a choice of ‘better’ rooms and thus attract a respectable clientele.

Most multi-roomed interiors have since been opened-up over the past sixty years but you can still find surviving partition work at the Bear in Faversham (K) (p. XX) and the King’s Head, Oxford (p. XX), for example. The years around 1900 proved to be the high point of urban pub-building with grand, ornate ‘palace’ pubs arriving in bigger towns and cities, but also with lesser variants being built elsewhere. An example to rival the grand work in Birmingham or London is the King’s Arms, Eastbourne (p. xxx), of 1900, but it has lost its internal partitions and has generally seen better days. Less grand but still presenting a fine late Victorian face to the world are the Prince of Wales at Herne Bay (K) (p. xxx), Junction, Southampton (p. xxx), and the Railway at Faversham (p. xxx). Lavish late Victorian fittings can be seen at the Rose in June, Margate (K) (p. xxx), Neptune’s Hall, Broadstairs (K) (p. xxx), and the Quadrant, Brighton (p. xxx). A particular feature in an elite number of pubs was pictorial tiling. It is most prevalent in London, yet the largest-scale work in the entire country is to be found at the General Havelock in Hastings (p. xxx). For more on the glories of late Victorian and Edwardian pub tilework, see pp xxx + xxx.

Between the wars

As the First World War dragged on, pub-building came to a halt but resumed shortly after peace returned. In towns and cities permission for these tended to be granted only if licences in densely ‘pubbed’ areas were surrendered. Hence, in permitting the Jolly Taxpayer in Portsmouth (p. XXX) in 1927, the magistrates required the transfer of the licence from another pub in the city and the surrender of four others. The mission continued to reduce the overall number of pubs but improve standards in what remained. /p>

Pub-building followed mostly long-established, traditional lines but stripped of Victorian glitz and glitter to create rather more sedate establishments. Over-indulgence was discouraged, for example through plenty of seating to discourage boozy, stand-up drinking. So there came about the ‘improved’ public house, usually built for growing suburbs and busy highways where it might become a ‘destination’ in the burgeoning age of the car. The idea was for pubs to offer a ‘respectable’ environment which was not wholly dependent on alcohol sales. This involved a range of rooms and facilities that encouraged civilised behaviour and patronage by the middle classes. There might be gardens or even a kiddies’ playground, a function room, food offerings, and outdoor sports (notably bowls in parts of the country).

Architecturally the most radical movement between the wars was International Modernism which turned its back completely against the past. In deeply conservative Britain its roots were shallow yet did succour the occasional pub, notably the Prospect Inn, Minster-in- Thanet (K) of 1936–8 (sadly its setting is now much compromised with incorporation into a Holiday Inn). A much gentler face of modernising thinking in aesthetics was Art Deco with its focus on streamlining and smooth, elegant surfaces. There are good flourishes in the fittings at the Ladies Mile in Patcham, Brighton (pp. xxx, xxx), built in 1935 for a major new private housing estate.

The Neo-Georgian style was used very widely for pubs. It did not have the ‘edginess’ of Modernism and Art Deco and also had the advantage of being both economical and its self-effacing nature was highly appropriate to the contemporary ethos of what a pub should be. A very good example is Romans Hotel at Southwick (p. xx). Internally extensive wall-panelling was a characteristic feature of such pubs

The Tudor Revival provided a major strand of pub-building between the wars, at once conservative and nostalgic stylistic strand. As with Neo-Georgian pubs there was often extensive wall-panelling but externally the hallmark was imitation half-timbering. One of the greatest Tudor Revival pubs anywhere is the grandiloquent early 1930s King & Queen in central Brighton (p. xx).

Wartime and post-war decline

The Second World War was far more disastrous economically than the previous great conflict and pub-building and refurbishment were an immediate casualty. Not only that but bombing took its toll in various parts of Britain. Portsmouth dockyard and garrison were a particular target and by February 1942 106 licensed premises in the city had been put out of action, 90 of them totally destroyed.

Hardly any pubs were built until the relaxation of building restrictions in 1954. However, there is an important exception within this guide. In 1949 and following a fire, the Fox at Felpham (p. xxx) became very first permanent pub to go up after the war. The Jenny Lind, in Hastings (p. xxx) was bombed in 1943 and a rebuilt version opened in 1951. Plough Inn, Plumpton Green (p. xxx), was rebuilt in 1956. The Mile Oak Inn, Portslade (p. xxx) was designed in 1951 and opened in 1954. The Mayflower, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, of 1953 was, up to 2007, the most intact postwar pub in the region but a refurbishment left it with only minimal original fittings (closed 2012 and now a Morrisons Local supermarket). As new pubs re-emerged, they were typified by utilitarian design and low-quality materials. Layouts, though, still provided a traditional choice of rooms with such customary features as off-sales and function rooms. Inevitably, once the economy picked up, these cut-price reminders of post-war austerity became highly unfashionable and few intact interiors from the period remain.

Here are, however, a few postwar refurbishments to which it is worth drawing attention: Stag, Hastings (p. xxx), 1952; Bull, Faversham (p. xxx), about 1960, Ship Inn, Southwick (p. xxx), 1963; Carpenters Arms, Coldred (p. xxx), 1965; and the Dewdrop Inn, Peacehaven (p. xxx), 1968.

‘Never had it so good’, our upbeat PM, Harold Macmillan, told us in 1957 but, sadly, increased prosperity also heralded a time of rapid and far-reaching changes in our pubs. The social divisions mirrored by the multi-roomed pub were diminishing while magistrates and police favoured direct supervision of all public parts from the serving area, hence the widespread removal of internal walls to the great detriment of the atmosphere and attractiveness of most traditional pubs.

Many pubs were heavily influenced by their pub-owning brewery in the 1960s and 1970s. Some pub tenants could freely transform their pubs whilst others had to follow the company policy on presenting pub interiors. At the same time, a series of brewery mergers brought the majority of pubs into the ownership of one or other of the ‘Big Six’ national brewing conglomerates who inflicted huge damage on the pub heritage they inherited. Smaller brewers and many private owners, keen not to be left behind, shared the rush to modernise.

There was no respite. The rise of off-licences, shops and supermar- kets made pub off-sales redundant. Environmental health officers demanded changes to

accommodate inside toilets and better food preparation facilities. Old servery fittings were hacked about to make space for more numerous and varied products like wine, spirits and refrigerated drinks. Fire officers insisted on adaptations to provide safer escape routes. So, many and varied pressures resulted in a much-depleted pub heritage.

The aftermath

Recent years have seen a major decline in pub numbers – down from around 70,000 in 1980 to perhaps 47,000 today. Wet trade-led pubs in inner urban areas and those on housing estates are particularly much at risk while country pubs that do not provide a food offering may struggle. To some extent, all this has been offset by an increase in bars, nearly all in town and city centres, but, with a few honourable exceptions, few have much merit in design terms. Equally, the rise of niche-market micropubs (p. XXX) is to be greatly welcomed but these are devoid of visual quality and heritage interest. A few new pubs continue to be built but conversions from other uses like banks and shops are much more common. The fact that, in most years, no winner can be found for the New Build category in CAMRA's annual Pub Design Awards speaks for itself. Despite all this public interest in our built heritage has never been higher and the existence of this very book and the popularity of others like it published by CAMRA shows that this interest extends to our pubs as well.

Pubs in Peril

The current plight of the British pub is only too well-known. At the time of going to press, figures showed around fourteen closing each week and, in the decade ending 2018, pub numbers fell by some 11,000, representing 23% of the nation's pub stock. Many reasons can be identified for this gloomy state of affairs, including changing social habits, the effect of recent recessions, the widening differential between the prices of drinks bought at a pub and in a supermarket, the rapacious behaviour of many pub-owning companies and the smoking ban. A particular threat is the attractiveness of many pub buildings to developers. Conversion of rural pubs to houses has been all too common for many years but it's now our urban pubs which are really suffering. Many suburban pubs, for instance, occupy large plots of land, ideal for small supermarkets or similar developments, and in recent years hundreds have been lost in that way.

Such losses had been exacerbated by feeble planning laws which allowed the demolition of pubs and many changes of use without the need for planning permission. Strong campaigning by CAMRA and others led to these 'permitted development' rights being withdrawn in England in 2017 and the closure rate has slowed down since.

We are now campaigning for similar provisions in the rest of the UK. This combination of negative factors has posed major problems for heritage pubs, especially urban ones. Many of the latter are to be found in unfashionable, off-centre locations where they have ticked along for many years, serving the local community. As a result, their owners saw little point investing in the kinds of major change inflicted, in the pursuit of fashion, on many town or city centre pubs, so heritage was preserved, more or less by accident. Sadly, though, when the recent recessions began to bite, these pubs tended to drop the wrong side of the profit line.

Several pubs which meet the criteria for inclusion in this guide are currently closed and facing an uncertain future. They include the National Inventory-listed Red Lion at Ampney St Peter, Gloucestershire, a beautifully unspoilt one room, no-bar alehouse. After fervent campaigning from CAMRA and others, planning

permission for change of use to residential was refused; the property has now been sold and we wait to learn the intentions of the new owners. The Kings Arms, Stockland, Devon and Three Crowns, Bristol have also been shut for some time while the Palace, Bristol and the Victoria, Oldfield Park, Bath were closed, temporarily we hope, at the time of going to press. See the feature on Closed Pubs (p.109) for more information.

Three pubs once being considered for the National Inventory have been wrecked or lost in recent times. The Wheatsheaf, Cheltenham was a 1933 build, originally with three rooms; although two were combined in the 1970s, it remained largely intact until 2007 when it was fully opened out and old fittings were removed. It was a similar story at the Richmond Springs (now White Rabbit), Clifton, Bristol where a series of alterations has ruined the panelled inter-war interior. The Waverley Arms, Weymouth was yet another multi-roomed Thirties pub but in this case it closed altogether and is now a 'community hub'. The Long Acre Tavern, Bath was included on the National Inventory as an example of an intact 1960s interior. However, English Heritage declined to list it in 2009 and it is now a Domino's Pizza outlet.

However, historic pubs in peril can be, and have been, saved and CAMRA's Pub Heritage Group will fight for every one. One tactic is to draw a threatened pub to the attention of an enlightened small pub company and several pubs elsewhere in the country have been saved in just this way. We also get pubs statutorily listed (see p.17). Where we can, we use the planning system to resist unwanted changes to heritage pubs and encourage local folk to do likewise. Most of all, we aim to generate interest in these precious survivors. Pubs are businesses and the more that people use them, the less likely are they to wither and die.

You can do your bit by putting this guide to active use *

Statutory Listing

All parts of the United Kingdom have systems for protecting buildings of special architectural or historic interest. 68 of the 104 pubs in this guide are statutorily listed. The process is devised not to prevent change but to manage it effectively, working with the grain of the building, not against it.

In England, listings are made by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, on the advice of Historic England. There are three grades:

Grade I. This highest of gradings covers just 2.5% of all listed buildings, these being those that have 'exceptional', even international, interest.

Grade II* (spoken of as 'Two Star'). Covers a further 5.5% of listed buildings which have 'outstanding interest'. Pubs in the guide which enjoy this status are the Haunch of Venison, Salisbury; the Luttrell Arms, Dunster, Somerset; the Berkeley Arms, Tewkesbury; the Drewe Arms, Drewsteignton; and the Oxenham Arms, South Zeal (the last two in Devon).

Grade II. 92% of listed buildings fall into this category; they have what is described as 'special' architectural or historic interest.

Berkshire

Aldworth

Bell Lane, Aldworth, RG8 9SE
Directions: 250yds off B4009
Tel: (01635) 578272
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Bell Inn ★★★

This wonderful village pub has been in the hands of the Hunt/McQuhae family since the eighteenth century. It has two rooms of markedly different character. Left of the central corridor is the venerable tap room with its vast inglenook fireplace, panelling, wall seating round three sides, scrubbed tables and benches, quarry-tiled floor and one-handed clock. The screen at the rear was installed about 1880 and was glazed at the top so the licensee could keep an eye on proceedings when descending the stairs. The Victorian furnishings were made at the village blacksmith's/carpentry shop (run by the same family as the pub). At the heart of the Bell is a glazed-in servery with sliding windows, one of only a handful of such in the country. It is said to date from the 1930s. The ebony hand-pumps bear the date 1902. The second room wraps round the servery in an L-shape and took this form in 1974 with the removal of a partition between its two parts: evidence for their former separate nature is the brass figure 3 on a beam (numbers 1, 2 and 4 can be seen elsewhere). As for the gents' loo, this is outside and known for obvious reasons after a few beers on a dark evening as the 'Planetarium'! It was added in 1933 when mains water was installed. The Bell has won many CAMRA awards including, most recently, Pub of the Year 2019.

Tap Room Inglenook

Reading

8 St John's Street, Reading, RG1 4EH
Tel: (0118) 957 2130
Website: http://www.theretreat.pub/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Reading) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Retreat ★

Small Victorian terraced pub with two rooms. The public barat the front is an amalgamation of the former off-sales and bar, hence the second, but disused front door on the right. This small room retains its original counter, mirrored back fitting and dado panelling with a bench beneath the front window and a baffle by the entrance. An opening leads to the lounge at the rear which would once have been two small rooms. Its fittings are all modern. The former outside gents' has been incorporated within the main pub to the rear of the lounge. All the woodwork received a coat of light green pastel paint about 2015.

Front Room

Waltham St Lawrence

The Street, Waltham St Lawrence, RG10 0JJ
Tel: (0118) 934 1788
Email: scott@thebellinn.biz
Website: http://thebellwalthamstlawrence.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II*

Bell ★★

Left Hand Bar

This fine timber-framed building originated as a house around 1400. Along with lands it passed into the hands of the villagein 1608 for the benefit of the poor and needy in accordancewith the wishes of Ralph Newbery (1535–1608), a local boywho made (very) good as a Fleet Street printer and publisher. Itis said to have become a pub in 1723 and revenues from it still benefit the village. It has a pair of wonderful pub rooms at the front. The very atmospheric lounge on the right is especially fine with some Jacobean panelling on the rear wall, exposed arch-braced beams, a fielded panel bar front (possibly 1930s),a Jacobean mantelpiece and some fixed bench seating. The horizontal dado panelling is of considerable, though indeterminate vintage. Left of all this is an opening to the main bar where the counter is also possibly of the 1930s. Left again is the entrance corridor with a small snug (more old panelling) through a latch door immediately by the entrance. A little further in is a door with steps (and inclined slopes either side) down to the cellar. The corridor leads to a plain room at therear which seems a relatively new addition to the public areas(note the glass-topped well).

Windsor

34 Park Street, Windsor, SL4 1LB
Tel: (01753) 855426
Website: http://twobrewerswindsor.co.uk

Two Brewers ★★

Despite claims to be the oldest pub in Windsor etc., this looks more like a rebuild from the interwar period. However, a plan dated 1902 could indicate it was built earlier and then refittedin the interwar period. The 1902 plan shows the position of the exterior windows as now but has a totally different interior layout. The pub is situated near the Cambridge Gate toWindsor Great Park.

Step from the front door into a tiny lobby with a red tiled floor and intact off sales hatch with two rising windows, which is in use for those using the tables on the pavement outside.

Door on the right leads to ‘That Bar’, s small room with a bare wood floor; an interwar fielded bar counter; some bar back shelves that look old; a brick, stone and wood surround fireplace that looks 1930s work with a modern fire added; a decent mirror in wood surround above and old dado panelling.

Door on the left leads to ‘This Bar’ which has a bare wood floor, a canted bar counter of a style seen in the 1950s but might be interwar?; an old mirrored bar back which could well be 1930s work; a largish notable interwar brick fireplace; and old dado panelling.

A passage from the rear of ‘This Bar’ dog-legs to the right and a door on the rear right leads to ‘’Other Bar’, a small roomwith a parquet floor. It has old dado panelling, a brick, stoneand wood surround fireplace that looks 1930s work with amodern fire added; a canted bar counter that looks of similardate (but might be 50s?); and there are only two tables. Theladies’ toilets are in the far right corner of this room. Thegents’ are outside, but now covered over and have beenbrought up to date.

The walls of all three rooms are covered with framed photographs etc., also wine box timber added to the dado of some walls and wine corks elsewhere.

The only significant change to the interior is when the small

Servery in This Bar

Wokingham

23 The Terrace, Wokingham, RG40 1BP
Tel: (0118) 978 1221
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Wokingham) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Queen's Head ★

This small, appealing terrace pub started life as an early 15th-century cruck-framed house (now encased in painted brick and render) with a hall in the centre. It now has a single bar space but there were formerly two rooms, as suggested by the red and cream tiled entrance corridor which lay between the two. The internal walls were removed by Morlands brewery in 1961. There is also a strong interwar imprint, notably the 1930s-style brick fireplaces and, very likely, the bar counter (the bar back is of fairly indeterminate date).

Interior 1

Buckinghamshire

Forty Green

Forty Green Road, Forty Green, HP9 1XT
Tel: (01494) 673382
Email: theoldestpub@btconnect.com
Website: https://www.theoldestpub.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: Not listed

Royal Standard of England ★★

This is an extraordinary amalgam of nooks and crannies with lots of exposed timber-work but, from our point of view here there is one particularly special feature – a spectacular old settle bulging out into the entrance corridor (which has an old, very worn red tile and brick floor). This settle formed one side of a room with a quarry-tile floor and open fire. The space has suffered from being opened up towards the rest of the pub. In 1963 there was a number of changes including the installation of some quality fittings, including two bar counters, but with the removal of parts of partitions. This has meant that all the various spaces are interlinked apart from a room on the left which does retains its door. The pub website and inn signs make the nonsensical and unverifiable claim that this is the oldest free house in England.

Barn Bar

Hambleden

, Hambleden, RG9 6RP
Tel: (01491) 571227
Email: hello@stagandhuntsman.com
Website: https://www.thestagandhuntsman.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: Not listed

Stag & Huntsman ★

The main part of the building, with the brick and flint frontage, dates from around 1900 but other sections are older (to the right) and recent (at the back). The tiled entrance passage has old dado panelling, a hatch to the servery, and an unusual hinged 'shutter' on the back of the front door. To the left, the narrow snug has an inter-war canted counter and matchboard dado panelling with attached benches. Similar panelling is in the public bar beyond, along with a parquet floor and Edwardian fireplace (but the counter looks post-war). These two formerly separate rooms were linked as part of a refurbishment in 2012. At the rear are two rooms, now joined together, which probably came into pub use between the wars.

Left Hand Bar

Hedgerley

Village Lane, Hedgerley, SL2 3UY
Directions: in old village, near church
Tel: (01753) 643225
Email: enquiries@thewhitehorsehedgerley.co.uk
Website: http://www.thewhitehorsehedgerley.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

White Horse ★

A seventeenth-century timber-framed building, re-fronted in the nineteenth and faced with whitewashed brick. The left-hand door leads to a tiny lobby and a small, unspoilt public bar with a flagstone floor, inglenook fireplace, and venerable bare benches attached to the panelled walls. The counter may date from 1930s. The servery is substantial and here casks are mounted on a brick thrawl and on some wooden stillages. From the lobby the door ahead leads to the lounge which has a counter again (possibly) from the 1930s and an old panelled dado. The lounge has been expanded to the right thus doubling its size. Outside toilets.

Lounge

West Wycombe

High Street, West Wycombe, HP14 3AE
Tel: (01494) 527031
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Swan ★★★

The Swan dates back to the eighteenth-century and has been run by the same family since 1910 under the ownership of the National Trust. What counts here is that it was totally refitted and extended in 1932 by Wheeler's Wycombe brewery and little has changed since. There are two well-preserved pub rooms – the saloon (at the front) and a rather spartan public bar – set at right-angles to one another and with an L-shaped servery: note the curtains for providing some privacy between the two bars. Each part of the servery has a mirrored bar-back fitting. In the saloon there is an inglenook fireplace at the far end, plus a brick one which probably dates from the 1932 refit: there is a similar fireplace in the public bar. Both rooms have herringbone parquet flooring. The crisp, white-tiled gents' is a splendid affair, untouched since the 1930s, and sited on the corner of the building with access from both bars (via an 'anteroom' space on each side). Down the left-hand side is a door marked 'Reception' (the former jug and bottle) and another door to the dining room. As at a number of pubs in the Chilterns, the casks are stillaged at the back of the servery.

Public Bar

East Sussex

Bexhill on Sea

32 Ninfield Road, Bexhill on Sea, TN39 5AB
Tel: (01424) 552100
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bexhill) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

New Inn ★

A lovely pub high up on a green and probably dating from the 18th century (forget about the ambitiously advertised c. 1376 stuff!). On entry you face a small window suggesting an off-sales hatch in times past, then there are bars left and right. On the left are three rooms (one now just for storage). That at the front has bench seating in the bay window (as also in the right-hand bar), a boarded ceiling, and an inglenook-style fireplace. There's a lovely rear room, again with bench seating: note the tip-up part to allow access to the room beyond. In the bar on the right (was two spaces till the 1950s), the servery must surely have once been longer to connect with the presumed off-sales hatch. Bakelite enthusiasts (and, yes, they do exist - honest) will drool over the old-fashioned, still-working switches beside the servery.

Left Hand Bar

Blackboys

Lewes Road, Blackboys, TN22 5LG
Tel: (01825) 890283
Email: enquiries@theblackboys.co.uk
Website: http://www.theblackboys.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Blackboys Inn ★

Faced with painted brick and weatherboarding, this pub consists of a long series of rooms across the front and one to the right rear (the latter probably brought into use quite recently for dining). An old photograph in the far right front room suggests the pub once comprised a couple of rooms either side of the main entrance with the parts further to the right being in domestic use. The interwar period (probably 1930s) saw a good deal of work including extension to the left. The front left door leads to an inner lobby with some fielded panelling on one wall. The left-hand bar has a boarded floor, dado panelling, a panelled counter and large inglenook fireplace all from the inter-war period including a window seating area (wood-block flooring here). Elsewhere the padded counter front must surely be post-war work.

Lounge Bar

Brighton

12 Gloucester Road, Brighton, BN1 4AD
Tel: (01273) 689006
Email: managers@thebasketmakers.pub
Website: https://www.basket-makers-brighton.co.uk

Basketmakers Arms ★

Brighton

99-100 Gloucester Road, Brighton, BN1 4AP
Tel: (01273) 680365
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Brighton Tavern ★

Rebuilt 1937 by Kemp Town Brewery with two rooms either side of the servery and a now-lost off-sales. The recessed entrance has two doors facing the road. The left-hand one gave access to the former off-sales and so leads now into the public bar: the other door is to the private accommodation on the first floor. On the right-hand return the door opens to some steps down into a second, small lower room (former saloon?). The counters in both rooms appear to date from 1937 and the bar-back fittings also seem substantially original. The public bar still has its 1930s brick fireplace.

Public Bar & Servery

Brighton

10 New Road, Brighton, BN1 1UF
Tel: (01273) 328728
Email: info@thecolonnadebrighton.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Colonnade Bar ★★

Interior

Created in 1894 when part of an existing Georgian building was incorporated into the Theatre Royal complex. It still serves as a theatre bar for interval drinks. The frontage is set back from the eponymous colonnade and has doors left (blocked) and right. Beside each is a pretty tiled panel with a thistly design and bearing the name ‘Colonnade Hotel’ (presumablyan honorific title!) The maker signs himself ‘Webb & Co, 294 Euston Road, London NW.’ At the top of the front windows is a series of etched glass panels. The two doorways tell us that, although tiny, the pub was originally divided into a private bar (left) and a larger saloon. The screen between them ran from the counter to the baffle by the right-hand entrance. Since then the counter has been reduced in length at each end (ten feet in total) in 1952 which is perhaps when the grim padded panels were applied. There is an attractive three-bay bar-back, no doubt of 1894, with a curved cornice above. Mirrors on the righthand walls serve to give an illusion of space. Postwar work includes the lowered ceiling areas, especially the long, narrow part on the right.

Brighton

15 Black Lion Street, Brighton, BN1 1ND
Tel: (01273) 329472
Email: cricketersbn1@googlemail.com
Website: https://cricketersbrighton.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Cricketers ★★

This double bow-fronted Georgian building was once a coaching inn whose carriageway on the right is now laid outfor today's drinkers. A pair of very worn brass plates on thefront door states 'R. W. Pitt Brandy Merchant' who waslandlord from the 1880s until his death in 1945 aged 93. Hewas responsible for the refitting of 1886 of which muchsurvives: etched glass, a panelled counter, and, most notably, abar-back fitting with etched glass and glazed panels at the top proclaiming 'Bonder of Spirits', 'Foreign Brandies' and 'Choice Brands' (that with 'Cricketers' is a modern addition). The spaces in the pub are now interconnected but at the rearare a couple of adjacent snugs linked by an interesting archway with a doubled fretwork infill in the head. The snug on the right has an interwar brick fireplace, that on the left a pink marble-surround one. The glazed lobby on the left side of the main bar has etched glass with birds and foliage to a design that was commonplace in pubs during the 1880s and '90s.

Rear Lobby

Brighton

175 Queens Park Road, Brighton, BN2 9ZA
Tel: (01273) 625429
Email: HELLO@ISLINGWORD.PUB
Website: https://www.islingword.pub/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: Not listed

Islingword Inn ★

Victorian three-storey pub given a 1930s refit and although the room divisions have been lost there is a lot of quality work here. The bar counter appears to be Victorian in the centre and from the 1930s on the left and right. The fine bar back fitting has slender columns holding up the shelves. Much fielded panelling on the walls. two good 1930s brick fireplaces on the rear left wall and a small one on the right. The fixed seating could be Victorian having carved legs and re-upholstered. There is a good corner vestibule entrance. Urinals in gents could be from the 1930s. The area on the right on a higher level was added in the 1970s/1980s.

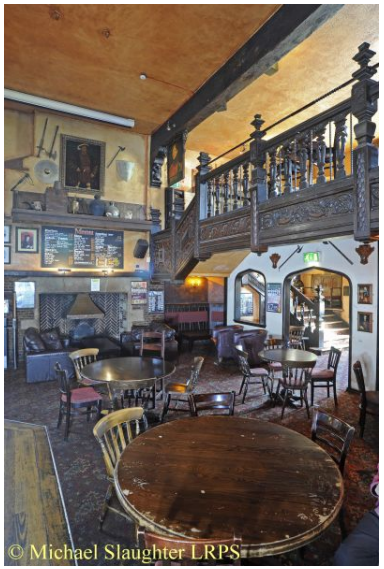
Servery

Brighton

13-17 Marlborough Place, Brighton, BN1 1UB
Tel: (01273) 607207
Email: info@thekingandqueen.co.uk
Website: http://www.thekingandqueen.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

King & Queen ★★★

Near the Royal Pavilion, this is a truly stunning pub, nostalgically evoking the good old days of the Tudors. It was rebuilt in 1931 under local architects Clayton & Black for Edlins, a firm of drink retailers whose name is carved over the entrance. The building tender was a hefty £25,428. The slightly asymmetrical façade bristles with halftimbering and has figures of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. The gatehouse block on the right was added in 1935–6. Inside you will find a mighty Tudor hall which until about 1967 had a screen dividing it into two halves. The counter is partly original but the back-fittings are probably from the 1960s and above the servery is the unsightly addition of the ‘Royal Box’. Despite these changes, the character is still very much as Edlins intended for the delight and astonishment of their customers. On the first floor at the front is a minstrels’ gallery, open to the hall, and also an enclosed bar with glazed windows to the main space. Overlooking the courtyard is the ‘Tudor Room’ with a barrel-vaulted ceiling. Rear left there is a small panelled pool room with a red tiled floor, originally a reading room. The interior is full of joyous detail, too rich and extensive to describe in detail here – stained glass, carved foliage and beasts, painted emblems on chimney breasts, grand fireplaces and much more. In the attractive courtyard is a collection of Dutch tiles (also in the former reading room) plus a large tiled painting by an artist from Delft showing a steam launch passing Windsor Castle. TVs showing sport are something of a distraction.



Interior 1

Brighton

2 Mackie Avenue, Brighton, BN1 8RA
Tel: (01273) 554647
Email: info@theladiesmilepub.co.uk
Website: http://www.theladiesmilepub.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Ladies Mile ★

Interior

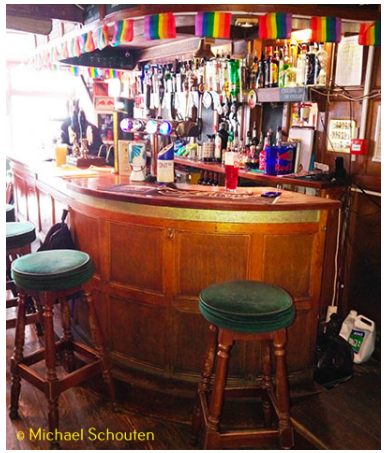
Interwar pub-building at its best; Neo-Georgian in style and with a fine Moderne interior. Built as the Ladies Mile Hotel in 1935 and designed by architect Arthur Packham (1866–1947), it formed a focal point in a major housing development by Scottish-born entrepreneur George Ferguson. The exterior is symmetrical with a grand central colonnade (a shame about the glitzy modern mirror tiles applied on the columns). Through the central entrance is a long bar largely covered by a truly remarkable six-sided illuminated glass canopy which does seem an original feature. The counter is a sleek, curved Moderne affair and the bar back is mostly original. Note the sexy statuette on the counter and others gracing the seating (the latter not original). This area beneath the canopy was originally the public bar and either side of it were two smaller, separate rooms; a saloon left and private bar right. Various changes have taken place over the years, starting in 1970, whereby the three bars are now linked and the original kitchen has been thrown open to the former private bar. The counter has been shortened on the left and also modified on the right. There are some lovely metal door furnishings and also fireplaces with small panels of horsewomen energetically traversing the ‘Ladies’ Mile’: This name refers to the old drove-road between Patcham and Stanmer and popular with female riders in the late nineteenth century. Structurally separate from the pub is the fine-looking ‘Function Hall’, still much used for private events. It has a barrel-vaulted ceiling and original 1930s work in the bar-back and loos. Curiously the Ladies Mile has no sign of an off-sales that might have served the thirsty denizens of Mr Ferguson’s huge new estate.

Brighton

13 Broad Street, Brighton, BN2 1TJ
Tel: (01273) 965484
Website: https://www.themarinetavern.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Marine Tavern ★

Tiny narrow pub down a small side street that can get packed and which looks like it was refitted in the early 1960s. The panelled bar counter, bar back with mirrored panels, fielded panelled walls up to the ceiling, which continue to the first floor staircase to private quarters and down to the toilets in the basement, and radiators at the rear all look to be from the early 1960s. Rear section has more modern panelling. Popular with the gay community.



Servery

Brighton

48 Trafalgar Street, Brighton, BN1 4ED
Tel: (01273) 730499
Website: https://princealbertbrighton.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Prince Albert ★★★

Three storey pub built 1860 which retains a five room layout and bar counter from the 1930s. Tamplins Brewery plan for changes to the pub in 1936 are on the wall of the smoking room. Front right is the public bar with a bare wood floor, a 1930s panelled bar counter, old dado panelling painted yellow, a ‘Public Bar’ gold etched panel in the door. The smoking room on the front left has a wide arch into it and has a bare wood floor, old wood surround with new cast-iron hearth fireplace, old dado panelling painted yellow with wall benches attached to part of it.

Servery

Brighton

46 Market Street, Brighton, BN1 1HH
Directions: In the Lanes
Tel: (01273) 827421
Website: https://www.nicholsonspubs.co.uk/restaurants/southeast/thepumphousebrighton
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Pump House ★

Occupying a late 18th century building, the original pub was extended into the nrighbouring property in 1954. The front left bar has panelling from the 1954 refit though the wood derives from the building's first floor. The curved counter is of the same date though the bar-back is more recent. There is more 1954 panelling and a similar counter in the front right room - the bar-back looks to be of mixed vintage. An old door at the back leads to a passage then a small room on the right with another 1954 curved counter. The room benind the front left bar only came into pub use in 1980.

Saloon Bar

Brighton

12-13 North Street, Brighton, BN1 3GJ
Tel: (01273) 733238
Email: info@quadrantbrighton.com
Website: https://www.quadrantbrighton.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Quadrant ★★

The small bare boarded **lower bar** has a moulded ceiling, panelled semi-circular chunky Victorian bar counter and excellent carved bar back with unusual central arch with scrolled brackets and ornate pediment over, mirror-panels to either side flanked by fluted Ionic columns and mirror-glass to toplights. There is a Victorian glazed brick and wood surround fireplace, also a panelled and bowed screen to the stairs leading to the rear exit in Air Street with a pair of etched glass windows divided by pilasters with Doric capitals, one a replacement. The panelling and fixed seating are not that old. The **small bar in the apex** has a bar counter that is a post-war copy of the lower bar one and the dado panelling is modern. There is a plain triangular-shaped room upstairs. Watch the vertiginous descent to the gents, hazardous enough when fully sober.

Lower Bar

Brighton

38 Dean Street, Brighton, BN1 3EG
Tel: (01273) 751011
Email: info@therook.pub
Website: http://therook.pub/
Listed Status: Not listed

Rook Taproom ★

This is now a small single room pub, formerly known as the Prince Arthur, with a servery and bar back that appear to bepre-war. Plans from 1928 reveal, however, that there were atthat time three tiny rooms (saloon at the rear of the pub, publicand private bars to the front with separate entrances directly from the street into the two front bars) with a bar counter configured to serve both the public and private bars. There does not appear to have been a separate off sales. Since then the servery has been narrowed but also lengthened by means of the removal of a staircase, and the partitions between the three rooms have been removed with the overall size of the bar area increased by moving the WC to the rear of the pub.

Exterior 1

Brighton

6 Duke Street, Brighton, BN1 1AH
Tel: (01273) 326555
Email: hello@victory.pub
Website: http://victory.pub/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Brighton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Victory Inn ★

The stripy ceramic frontage, in two-tone green, brings joy to this street corner. It is a refronting of about 1910 of an early- to mid-nineteenth-century building and was the work of Brighton brewers Tamplin's, who stamped their presence in the advertising fascia and in gold lettering in one of many original windows. Nelson's flagship sails calmly into view in a roundel over the front door. The main front bar, with its (presumably) 1910 counter would have once been divided. It has also been opened up to the former smoke room (named in the window glass) at the rear right: this space has an ornate fireplace with columns and a mirrored overmantel. The pair of doors on the corner bear the names 'private bar' and 'saloon bar'. The other two ground-floor rooms are modern extensions.

Servery

Colemans Hatch

Kidds Hill, Colemans Hatch, TN7 4EJ
Tel: (01342) 822363
Email: hatchinnreservations@gmail.com
Website: http://www.hatchinn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Hatch Inn ★

This building, faced with brick and weatherboarding, is believed to have been a pub since about 1810 (the '1430' on the pub sign, presumably intended for the building itself, must be treated with a good pinch of salt). It appears to once have had three rooms (suggested by three fireplaces) but is now one long narrow bar though still retaining fittings probably of varied dates between the 1930s and 1960s. In the left-hand, low-ceilinged area there is a (disused) brick fireplace, dado panelling and a bare wooden bench. It's hard to estimate a date for the rather nondescript counter. The right-hand area has a couple of brick fireplaces and some bench seating. At the rear left, down two steps, is a small dining room that has been brought into use. Now a food-oriented pub.

Servery Left Hand Side

Danehill

School Lane, Danehill, RH17 7JF
Tel: (01825) 740369
Website: http://www.coachandhorses.co/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Coach & Horses ★

Built in 1847, this little-altered pub has two bare-boarded bars and two other rooms, one being the conversion of former stables. The small public bar on the right with '2' on the door has matchboard dado panelling all around, an old wood-surround fireplace with interwar brick infill and a boarded ceiling but the small counter is a recent addition replacing a hatch. On the left the main bar with '1' on the door has what looks like a 1930s counter. Through a wide curtained gap, and down a couple of steps, is a room with a brick floor, another old wood-surround fireplace with a brick infill and matchboard dado panelling. From here, through another wide doorway and a set of curtains, is a dining room in the former stables.

Left Hand Main Bar Servery

Eastbourne

14 South Street, Eastbourne, BN21 4XF
Tel: (01323) 746622
Email: info@thedolphineastbourne.co.uk
Website: http://www.thedolphineastbourne.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Eastbourne) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Dolphin ★

Rebuilt about 1930 and with a lovely Arts and Crafts feel. The architect was J. L. Denman for Kemp Town Brewery. The exterior features 'KTB' on stone brackets and dolphins, the brewery's emblem, decorate the fascia. The main front bar was originally two rooms – note the wording 'Private Bar' and 'Public Bar' at the top of the two oak front doors which have carved 'KTB' monograms in roundels above and vestibules beyond. The leaded windows include more dolphins and four shields with 'KTB'. This wood-floored room retains its original fixed seating, dado panelling, small brick fireplace, bar counter, and amodest bar back that may be original. To the rear left there was an off sales: a former door has a leaded window incorporating 'KTB' (the lettering facing inwards). A widish gap leads to a small rear room with a bar that appears to be post-war, as suggested by its 'Toby' illuminated bar back fitting. At the rear is a large flat-roofed and parquet-floored room.

Front Room Bar

Eastbourne

36 High Street, Eastbourne, BN21 1HH
Tel: (01323) 720545
Email: manager@thelambeastbourne.co.uk
Website: http://www.thelambeastbourne.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Eastbourne) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Lamb Inn ★

Occupying a 16th century timber building, the pub retains three distinct areas around what appears to be the remains of a central drinking corridor. It's a hotchpotch of ages but some of the counter-front, ply walls anddoors are from a late 50s, early 60s refit. The toilets and access corridor are all new. The front bar was formerly at least two rooms, the western left end being a Jug and Bottle. The most interesting part of the building is a medieval undercroft or vaulted chamber with ribs and a central boss.

Front Bar

Eastbourne

9 High Street, Eastbourne, BN21 1HG
Tel: (01323) 727754
Email: theprincealbertrestaurant@gmail.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Eastbourne) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Prince Albert ★

A grand Tudor-style public house rebuilt by the Star brewery in two phases, the left-hand part in 1936 but redevelopment of the old pub and its site delayed completion until 1939. It had five rooms up until at least the mid-1960s. The left-hand public bar (two rooms in the past) has a panelled dado (now sadly painted pale grey, as elsewhere) and brick fireplace, and a counter with an unusual concave curved section: the bar-back is modern. The right-hand bar consisted of three rooms in the past and has two 1930s Tudor-style fireplaces, fielded panelling and original panelled counter with another unusual concave curved section. The front central door (believed to have led into an off-sales shop) is now blocked-up. Just up the road is the Lamb, a wonderful, venerable pub with medieval origins but pretty much opened out: the servery there seems to date from about 1960.

Right-Hand Room Servery

Eastbourne

27 Latimer Road, Eastbourne, BN22 7BU
Directions: behind TAVR Centre from Seaside
Tel: (01323) 722673
Email: the-vic-eastbourne@sky.com
Website: https://www.thevictoriaeastbourne.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Eastbourne) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Victoria Hotel ★

Victorian pub originally that had at least three separate spaces divided by partitions as indicated by the three front doors, but now one room. It retains a fine curved Victorian bar-back fitting with the original makers label. A door in the-bar back fitting leads to an office behind. The bar counter is original but has new panels on the front. A shame about the intrusive pot shelf which hides much of the bar back from view. The fixed seating in bays looks to date from the 1960s or later. There is a small games room to the rear with a serving hatch. Toad in the hole is still played here. New windows with transfer decoration with the name of the pub and pictures of Queen Victoria are a nice touch.

Front Bar Servery

Falmer

Middle Street, Falmer, BN1 9PD
Directions: just off A27 in N of village
Tel: (01273) 681842
Email: swanfalmer@yahoo.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Falmer) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Swan Inn ★

Old brick and flint three-bar pub. in the same family for over 100 years. Most of the fittings in the narrow middle room can be dated to around 1947 (the date on the handpumps). The left-hand bar has fittings (three-sided counter, dado panelling, parquet flooring) from the 1930s - the room was extended in 1969. The right-hand bar, extended in 1986, has an old-looking counter.

Exterior

Firle

The Street, Firle, BN8 6NS
Tel: (01273) 858222
Email: manager@raminn.co.uk
Website: http://www.raminn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Glynde) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Ram Inn ★★

An eighteenth-century, part-flint, part-tile-hung building with three pub rooms and which remained unspoilt whilst in Mrs Mary Hufnet's family from 1908 to the 1980s.

The small original public bar has a quarry-tiled floor, dado panelling with some attached benching and a disused hatch that served the room behind. Both the panelled counter and the lower parts of the bar back are old but the upper section of the latter is from 2005.

A door to the left of the servery leads down to a snug/games room where the parquet floor and brick fireplace are from the 1930s but the dado panelling and attached benches are older.

Some years ago, the bar was opened up to the bare-boarded left-hand room; floor and ceiling markings show the former position of the dividing wall. From this area, steps lead to a room that, until the late nineteenth century, doubled as a court house. It has a bare, uneven wood floor and a fine old fireplace.

Bar

Fletching

High Street, Fletching, TN22 3SS
Tel: (01825) 722890
Email: info@thegriffininn.co.uk
Website: http://www.thegriffininn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Griffin Inn ★

A multi-room village pub. The building itself may date back to the sixteenth century and was refronted in the eighteenth. There are lots of interwar, probably 1930s, fittings, for example the fielded wall panelling, counter and brick fireplace in the right-hand bar. There is a narrow island servery fitting which is also probably interwar. The left-hand bar has more interwar work including the counter which has an inbuilt shelf (hard to imagine its usage other than for glasses for stand-up drinkers. There has been opening up to the left where there is a brick fireplace set at an angle and more (seemingly quite modern). This area has moulded beams (sixteenth-century?) to the ceiling room. A further room on the left, the 'Gun Room', has been brought into use and has an interwar brick fireplace. New restaurant at the rear left.

Left hand bar counter & fireplace

Hadlow Down

Main Road, Hadlow Down, TN22 4HJ
Directions: on the 272
Tel: None
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

New Inn ★★★

A roadside hotel-cum-pub rebuilt in 1885 by Southdown & East Grinstead Breweries Ltd to designs probably by Samuel Denman of Brighton. The hotel function is firmly proclaimed in the etched glass of the central doors. The pub part is on the right and has a long room with simple fittings. These are much as they were in Victorian times with a wood-block floor, wall seating, panelled counter and bar-back fitting (with cash drawers including two slots for notes – discreetly placed at the rear inside) and a series of ceramic spirit casks. Note the hatch on the left of the servery for hotel customers and waiters who would have served the restaurant on the left (now a function room). The small room at the rear has a split door, served via a hatch from the servery. Outside toilets.

Public Bar

Hailsham

67 High Street, Hailsham, BN27 1AS
Tel: (01323) 842152
Website: https://www.harveys.org.uk/pub/grenadier
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Grenadier ★★

The exotic architectural confection of a frontage was added in 1910 to an existing pub. Very revealing are the stone reliefs over the groundfloor windows which show how a century ago the pub was divided (left to right) into a private bar, public bar and saloon. What is also remarkable is the survival of the etched glass windows in the frontage and the naming of rooms in the door glass. The present public bar (left) is a combination of the private and public bars. The original counter , albeit with modern panels, survives (see the brackets), as does the bar-back. The counter in the right-hand area also has had modern panels fitted to the front. This area is a combination of the saloon area and a former sitting room behind: there is a small hatch with ledge built into the door to the servery.

Public Bar Left-Hand Side

Hastings

33 George Street, Hastings, TN34 3EA
Tel: (01424) 439156
Email: info@albionhastings.com
Website: http://www.albionhastings.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hastings) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Albion ★★

Tartan Panels

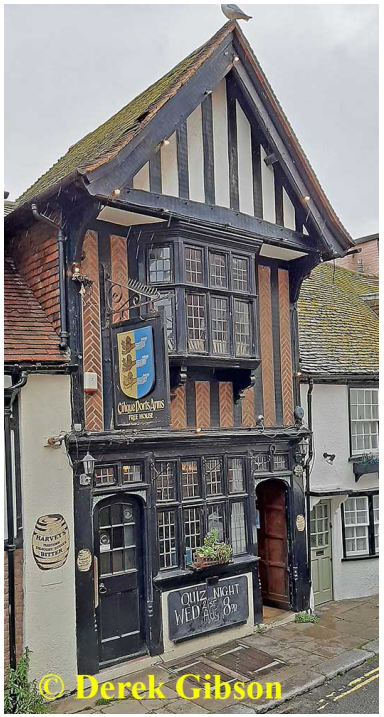
What a haven amid tacky seaside Hastings! For this we must thank the Edinburgh brewers, Younger's, who held it in 1930s (their most southerly pub) and the present enlightened owners. There are two very different bars. That on the right is aglorious late interwar celebration of Scottishness by Youngerswith a sequence of tartans, all labelled, set in the upper tier ofthe wall panelling: they were restored in time for Burns Nightin January 2018, including replacing six panels which had been lost or damaged. Other examples in Younger's London pubs are long lost so this is a rather special collection. This wonderful room (entered by a lobby from George Street) may have once been divided but nothing is now clear. On the leftthe high-ceilinged bar seems to have been given a 1930smakeover with panelling (minus tartans) mirroring that on theright-hand side. The counter was evidently once longer and itsdetails are the same as in the right-hand bar and thus suggestit's part of the Youngers' refit, complete with the brickfireplace. In about 2016 the current owners commissioned thelovely wallpaper frieze depicting the 'rolling hills of Albion' (the beautifully crafted metal counter and bar-back tops date from about the same time).

Hastings

105 All Saints Street, Hastings, TN34 3BE
Tel: (01424) 444758
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hastings) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Cinque Ports Arms ★

A fine old half-timbered pub, partly rebuilt after a fire in 1925 and with lots of panelling typical of the time. The rear area was a smoking room but is now open to the rest of the pub. Thetwo front doors led into two spaces with a small, screenedprivate bar on the left-hand side. The delightful little recess onthe left is oversailed by the property on that side. The counterseems interwar but the back fitting generally appears to datefrom the postwar period (?1960s). Upstairs is a small roomcovered with fielded panelling installed in about 2009 andbrought in from Indonesia



Exterior

Hastings

27 Havelock Road, Hastings, TN34 1BP
Tel: (01424) 719048
Website: https://havelock-hastings.craftunionpubs.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hastings) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Havelock ★★

This pub is included here for one reason – the most resplendent pictorial pub tiling in England, rivalled in the UK only at the Café Royal, Edinburgh. An existing pub was renamed after Henry Havelock, a hero in the Indian Mutiny of 1857, who sits proudly astride his horse by the Havelock Street entrance. This is, like the rest of the tiling, from a refit in 1889–90 and an inscription tells us it came from A.T.S. Carter of Brockley, south-east London. The son of Jesse Carter of tile-makers Carters of Poole, Arthur set up as a builders' merchant fromthe mid-1870s. He soon became a tile merchant, but althoughhis firm produced mosaic, it seems he bought in tiles fromlarger firms – Doulton in this case. Lining a former corridorare scenes depicting Hastings Castle, a mightily energetic Battle of Hastings, and a sea engagement in which stout-hearted English fishermen, lay into a French pirate ship, the appropriately named Cormoran Affamé (hungry cormorant). Since the English vessel is labelled 'Conqueror, Hastings', the correct outcome can be in no doubt! Below is a relief tile dado while the floor has black-and-white geometrical designs and bears the name of the pub.

Interior

Hastings

69 High Street, Hastings, TN34 3EW
Tel: (01424) 421392
Email: reception@jennylindhastings.co.uk
Website: http://jennylindhastings.co.uk
Listed Status: Unknown

Jenny Lind ★

Once known as the Bell, this two-room pub is now named after the famous mid-19th-century Swedish opera singer. Look atthe exterior and you will realise this Georgian-style building isnot all that old. In fact it was rebuilt after war damage in 1943, reopening its doors in 1951 with some old woodwork being reused, particularly in the rear. The panelling in the front room seems more modern: this room was divided into two originally (see the signs in the floor). The two counters are identical and still have the style of interwar work. In the area between the two bars there is a ledge in the door which served the off-sales trade (customers would have used the side door for this purpose). There is a bar billiards table and an old-fashioned scorer. Both sets of gents' retain their original urinals: the front bar loo has an old penny-in-the-slot device.

Front Bar

Hastings

64 George Street, Hastings, TN34 3EE
Tel: (01424) 422016
Email: enquiries@yeoldepumphouse.com
Website: http://yeoldepumphouse.com
Listed Status: II

Olde Pumphouse ★★

Upper bar

Early 17th century three-storey building which until the 1950s operated as a boot and shoe shop on the ground floor. It was restored and a mock Tudor frontage added in 1956 and opened as a pub on various levels. It has half timbered walls, a wealth of beams and timbers, and old brick fireplaces.

Main bar is on the first floor with access via a staircase from the small front bar or walk up the lane on the right-hand side of the building and enter by the door half way up. It has a bar counter with a linenfold front from the 1950s and the bar back shelves might well be 1950s. Bare wood floor throughout first floor. Up a further six steps is another small room / area and further on the left (down three steps) is a pool room where the fittings are very modern.

The small ground floor bar has a flagstone floor and another linenfold bar counter from 1956 and bar back shelves might be 1950s, old brick fireplace inglenook-style. However, the bar counter was originally on the right and moved across so that the staircase to the first floor could be added.

Hastings

14 All Saints Street, Hastings, TN34 3BJ
Tel: (01424) 438791
Email: info@staghastings.co.uk
Website: http://staghastings.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hastings) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Stag Inn ★★

A late sixteenth-century timber-framed building behind a Victorian refronting. What we have inside is a complete scheme from a 1952 refit by Fremlin's brewery and thus an interesting early example of how pubs would be treated in the post-war period. The bar parlour, off-sales and public bar were combined by removing partitions to form the present front bar and a new counter. The three-bay bar-back is of unusual design and has three drawers, one of which served as the till in the days before new-fangled electronic ones. In 1952 the rear club room became the smoke room. The pub has two fine old Tudor fireplaces plus a rather grim showcase in the front bar with mummified cats and rats. The plans for the 1952 work are signed by A. Thompson who was very likely Fremlins' in-house architect.

Front Bar

Lewes

1 Mount Place, Lewes, BN7 1YH
Tel: (01273) 473152
Email: hello@lewesarms.com
Website: http://lewesarms.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Lewes) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Lewes Arms ★★★

Rebuilt in the early nineteenth century, the Lewes Arms is a superb three-room pub. The front door declares 'Lewes Arms' in an etched glass panel and leads through into a passageway, with a hatch to the servery. Pride of place goes to the two right-hand rooms, the front one being a small snug, that behind rather larger. The left-hand room, which houses a rare example of the toad-in-the-hole game, is an amalgamation of two rooms in the mid-1950s: the tiny one at the front was known as the smoking room behind which was a games room. The fittings are hard to date. The snug has a curved bar counter which may be interwar but probably not older: oddly, it also has a blocked doorway, now straddled by the bench seating.

Rear Servery

Litlington

The Street, Litlington, BN26 5RE
Tel: (01323) 870632
Email: bookings@thepandh.co.uk
Website: http://www.ploughandharrowlitlington.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Plough & Harrow ★

Tamplin's of Brighton carried out a major refit at this eighteenthcentury building in the 1950s. The public bar was converted to a small snug bar with a wood-block floor, distinctive curved counter with a Formica inlaid top, back fitting and seating. The old stone fireplace remains. The main bar has a wood-block floor and the large wavy curved counter and servery fittings are of the 1950s once more. Note the number of Tamplin's barrel seats which date from the refitting. The small dining room at the rear is of 1950s style. The pub is the tap for the nearby Long Man brewery.

Main servery

Mayfield

Fletching Street, Mayfield, TN20 6TE
Tel: (01435) 872200
Email: roseandcrownmayfield@live.co.uk
Website:
http://roseandcrownmayfield.co.uk

Rose & Crown ★

Newhaven

49 South Road, Newhaven, BN9 9QL
Tel: (01273) 513364
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Harbour) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Prince of Wales ★

Refitted in the 1930s when the splendid green United Breweries faience exterior was added. The pub retains two rooms, the off-sales having been combined with the bar some time ago. The counters and dado panelling are probably from the 1930s, as is the parquet floor in the left-hand bar. The bar-back fittings have seen some modernisation such as the Formica and the glass shelves (perhaps 1960s) while the pot shelves are also modern. There is inter-war tiling in both gents' (Doulton urinals) and ladies', but unusually only the ladies' is outside and was probably built as a gents' WC.

Public Bar

Old Heathfield

Church Street, Old Heathfield, TN21 9AH
Tel: (01435) 863570
Email: chappellhatpeg@aol.com
Website: http://starinnoldheathfield.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Star Inn ★★

This old country pub has undergone some changes in recent times but none that unduly detracts from its overall historic character nor the utter charm of its setting. It developed during the interwar period from a single-room (now the small tap room to the right) to incorporate the larger left-hand area with its inglenook fireplace, fitting this out as an L-shaped saloon with a counter in distinctive interwar style. The walls have dado panelling and fixed seating and a small snug area has been more recently created (rear left). The tap room too has more panelling, fixed seating aqnd a fireplace which may result from some prewar re-fitting, although the old timber on the far right-hand was added in the 1990s, soon after the gents' toilets were repositioned here (replacing their outside predecessors). The separate function/ dining room upstairs, with its unusual arching ceiling, its panelled walls, and its marble fireplace (although possibly a replacement) is an undoubted highlight. Until 1988, when the present internal staircase was installed, it had only been accessible from outside.

Saloon Bar

Peacehaven

19 Steyning Avenue, Peacehaven, BN10 8HN
Tel: (01273) 587216
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Dewdrop Inn ★★

Originally built as a tearoom and shop in 1924 this became a pub in 1928. It has a small public bar with its original counter, back fitting with a bevelled mirror central panel, dadopanelling and a section of fixed seating. It also has a typical1960s tiled fireplace. There was a small room, possibly the off-sales shop, on the Steyning Road side. The whole ensemblecomes with a period display of old plates on a high shelf, oldimplements, firearms and a display of model toys. Note theinglenook fireplace. The gents' is fitted with 1960s green tiles,some with flower motifs, whilst the ladies' is identical exceptfor being pink. It's been run by the owners for 50 years: theytook over the pub four days after getting married and havebeen there ever since.

Lounge Bar

Plumpton Green

South Road, Plumpton Green, BN7 3DF
Directions: N of village
Tel: (01273) 890311
Email: info@theploughatplumpton.co.uk
Website: https://www.theploughatplumpton.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Plumpton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Plough Inn ★

Built in 1956 in 1930s chalet style to replace the original pub which was demolished during World War II the war to make way for RAF Chailey airfield and until alterations in 2003 it was completely intact. The public bar still has its parquet floor, original and distinctive counter front (new top), brick fireplace and some dado panelling but all that remains of the bar back is the cabinet work. Originally beer was served directly from casks. A pity about the overpowering addition of a pot shelf.

Right hand side public bar servery

Portslade

Mile Oak Road, Portslade, BN41 2RB
Tel: (01273) 881860
Email: info@mileoakinn.co.uk
Website: http://www.mileoakinn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Fishersgate) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Mile Oak Inn ★

Opening in December 1954 for the burgeoning Mile Oak Estate, this is a good example of early postwar pub-building. The plans had been drawn up in 1951 by J. L. Denman & Son of Brighton for the Kemp Town Brewery which, with its 236 pubs, was taken over by the big London brewers, Charringtons, in 1954. As was still usual, it was planned with multiplerooms, in this case three of them: a public bar on the left,saloon at the centre, and a further room on the right. The counter in the first of these is faced with curved oak panels laid horizontally: the back fitting is mostly original. The middle room is similar to the public bar but the back fitting is embellished with an illuminated top section advertising Charringtons. On the walls are strips of panelling. There have been some changes to the layout at the rear in recent times. On the right is a larger room, now the function room, with a counter similar to the other bars but now painted while the bar-back fitting is much modernised. A passage runs down the back of the serveries and off it are two gents' and two ladies' toilets which have many original fittings.

Main Bar

Rottingdean

Vicarage Lane, Rottingdean, BN2 7HD
Tel: (01273) 390635
Email: theploughinnrottingdean@gmail.com
Website: http://www.theploughinnrottingdean.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Plough Inn ★

01273 390635 theploughinnrottingdean.co.uk Not listed LPA: Brighton & Hove A yx (L, E) A large, attractive 1930s pub whose interior is of three distinctive parts: bars to the left and right separated by a wall with a double-width sized gap (was single size as proven by floor markings) and a separate room (was function room) at the rear now opened-up. A lot of good inter-war fittings remain. The walls have attractive panelling with a linenfold pattern section at the top The counter has linenfold patterning too. The back fitting faces two ways and also has linenfold pattern sections. The small brick fireplace at the rear left seems interwar but was moved from its original position, as evidenced by the chimney breast now panelledover (check the alignment outside!) possibly with panels from the stripped bare section. There is a modern fireplace on the right. A third room/area (formerly a function room) can be found through a wide gap on the rear right. 1930s doors throughout.

Interior

Rye

Mermaid Street, Rye, TN31 7EY
Tel: (01797) 223065
Email: info@mermaidinn.com
Website: http://www.mermaidinn.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rye (East Sussex)) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Mermaid Inn ★

One of the oldest and finest genuine inns in England, the Mermaid was rebuilt in 1420 and has a 13th century stone vaulted cellar. As licensed premises, it has a complex recent history and was not allowed to install a bar until 1955. The present counter of rough-hewn overlapping planks with a wooden top may well date from then' as might the lower shelves behind but the rest of the bar-back looks more recent. The splendid room it occupies has old wall panelling and the 'Giant's Fireplace' which dates back to Tudor times.

Main Dining Room

Rye

33 The Mint, Rye, TN31 7EN
Tel: (01797) 223323
Website: https://oldbellrye.com/OldBellRye/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rye (East Sussex)) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Old Bell Inn ★

The interior retains a substantial amount of fittings from the 1934 refit. Originally it consisted of three rooms - note the right hand door (no longer in use) has 'Public Bar' carved into it; middle door (also disused) has 'Private Bar' carved into it, and the only entrance is now on the left hand corner which was originally the saloon bar entrance. The public bar on the right has a distinctive style of panelling on the bar counter, half-height panelling, even on a bench, and on the doors including a narrow one (disused) between it and the private bar in the timber and brick part glazed partition wall. There is some 1930s floor to ceiling tiling in the entrance lobby, now the kitchen at the rear of the public bar.

Saloon Bar

Rye

Wish Ward, Rye, TN31 7DH
Tel: (01797) 229961
Email: pipesofrye@gmail.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: Not listed

Pipemakers Arms ★

On the right the public bar has original pitch pine panelled walls, a 1930s brick fireplace and counter, which has been moved and shortened. Originally it nearly reached the fireplace but in the 1990s it was moved to create an access to the central small snug. This room was the original off-sales and later a cellar and originally you could not walk between the three rooms. It has new full-height panelling, a modern fireplace and the section of counter here has come from the left room. The rear shelving in the servery is old but the rest is modern.

Public Bar

St. Leonards on Sea

25 Grosvenor Crescent, St. Leonards on Sea, TN38 0AA
Tel: (01424) 427371
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (West St Leonards) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Bo Peep ★

Built in 1860 but extended to the rear and right (single storey) in about 1930 and retaining a lot of the fittings from that time. There is a three-room layout with some opening-up and fielded panelling to picture frame height throughout, which has recently been rubbed down to give it a rather distasteful 'distressed' look. The 1930s slanting counters remain in all three bars but with modern tops. The counter was reduced on the far left end by some nine feet in about 2000 (originally it curved towards the panelled wall). There are a couple of 1930s brick fireplaces. The bar-back fitting in the left-hand and middle bars seem old: there is a former dumb waiter. The gents' on the rear left and rear right retain their 1930s urinals. This is one of several pubs in the Hastings area where the rare pub game of shove is played: usually it is shove ha'penny but here they use pennies (see also p. 53). The board is in the middle bar attached to the wall and at quiet times you can ask the bar staff for the pennies to play.

Left Hand Bar

Udimore

Udimore Road, Udimore, TN31 6BG
Tel: (01424) 882116
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

King's Head ★

A tile-hung building with a long modern veranda at the front. There was a significant refurbishment in around 1930 and lots of the fittings from this period remain. The main door leads into the public bar on the left with its parquet floor, oak counter and what is probably 1930s bar-back shelving; also a small brick fireplace (disused) with a new fireplace added on the left. Note on the front of the counter opposite the door a groove indicating a partition/screen creating an off-sales in times past. Up a step and now only separated by some upright timbers is the saloon bar on the right which also has c. 1930 fittings in the form of the counter, the back fitting and a 1930s brick fireplace. Timbers divide a raised area on the right which has the old cellar at the front and a skittle alley at the rear.

Right-Hand Side of the Bar

Hampshire

Bighton

, Bighton, SO24 9RE
Directions: Turn off the B3046 between New & Old Alresford, two miles on in Bighton, bear right, then left signposted Ropley & Medstead. The pub is on the left.
Tel: (01962) 735876
Email: hello@thethreehorseshoesbighton.co.uk
Website: https://www.thethreehorseshoesbighton.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Three Horseshoes ★

Dating from the 18th Century, standing prominently overlooking the road, two front doors lead into a three room pub. To the left is the small bare boarded 'Gun Bar' with a quarter circle interwar bar with the front painted a deep blue grey, old dado panelling also painted a deep blue grey, reclaimed brick fireplace and modern shelves for a bar back. To the right is a larger bar, once the 'public', with well worn parquet flooring, a large brick and wood surround inglenook fireplace with a log fire; and some old dado panelling also painted a deep blue grey. As there is also a small reclaimed brick fireplace implying the room was two sometime in the past. The small bar counter is not particularly old and the bar back shelving is modern. Through an old plank door is a restaurant room at the rear.

Gun Room

Hartley Wintney

High Street, Hartley Wintney, RG27 8NY
Tel: (01252) 842119
Email: Kaesy_steele@hotmail.com
Website: http://thewagg.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Waggon & Horses ★

A pleasant Victorian local on the main street, probably refitted in the 1930s and with limited changes since. To the right of a central passage is a small saloon with a counter, bar back and brick fireplace all seemingly dating back to the Thirties. On the left the public bar consists of two small rooms which have been joined together. Both parts retain their 1930s parquet flooring, counters and bar backs with some modern additions, but the brick and part-timbered fireplace may later. In the corridor a former small square hatch to the servery is now blocked. A veteran drinker here since the Sixties recalls no changes in his time.

Left Hand Bar

Hythe

5 High Street, Hythe, SO45 6AG
Directions: Town centre.
Tel: (023) 8084 2169
Email: lordnelsonhythe@gmail.com
Website: https://www.lordnelsonhythe.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Lord Nelson ★★★

This must-visit pub is close to the wonderful 1922 electric railway on the pier to the Southampton ferry. It seems little altered in the last hundred years with three rooms, all with probably Victorian or early twentieth-century fittings plus a space for off-sales. A corridor (sadly with grim modern flooring) leads back from the front entrance. On the left is the 'Trafalgar Bar' which is entered through a pair of double doors; on the right is the 'Victory Bar'. Both have their old bar counters. A little further back on the left there is the off-sales area (with half-height door-cum-htach) and adjacent to this a delightful small, screened snug, now named the 'Poop Deck' A rear extension was added in about 1990 but it impacts little on the historic core: it was further extended in 2006 to create an even larger room with views over the Solent and its shipping.

"Poop Deck" Snug

Portsmouth

39 Castle Road, Portsmouth, PO5 3DE
Tel: (023) 9282 3492
Email: barleymow_southsea@yahoo.co.uk
Website: http://www.barleymowsouthsea.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Portsmouth & Southsea) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Barley Mow ★

The **public bar** on the right is, curiously, in a single storey flat roof part of the building. The counter could be old but the dado panelling has been largely replace by bare brick. The bar back fitting is modern. The original outside gents and ladies for the public bar remain.

The **lounge bar** on the left retains inter-war panelling all around the room, inter-war (or possibly 1950s) brick fireplace and an inter-war counter front (gantry and stained glass panels above are modern) The bar back fitting is a mixture of inter-war and modern work – most of the top section looks modern.

Lounge Bar

Portsmouth

124 Prince Albert Road, Portsmouth, PO4 9HT
Tel: (023) 9275 0102
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Fratton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Eastfield ★

An interesting back-street pub of 1906 and one of many in Portsmouth with fine exterior ceramics, in this case advertising Portsmouth United Breweries (formed by amalgamation in 1896) and their wares. It was designed by well-known pub architect A.E. Cogswell (1856–1934) and now consists of two entirely separate rooms: a public bar on the corner and a saloon, so-named in two sets of etched window glass. There also seems to have been a ‘bottle and jug’ between the two judging by the window glass. Perhaps the most interesting part is the saloon which was much smaller in 1906 but has been extended at the rear. It has rather strange, coarsely detailed full-height panelling the date of which is hard to guess. More attractively there is a sinuously-shaped counter which, judging by the ply-panelling probably dates from the 1950s or ’60s (the similarly shaped canopy above is no doubt from the same scheme along with the brick fireplaces). A snug has been created on the rear right.

Saloon Bar

Portsmouth

74 Albert Road, Portsmouth, PO5 2SL
Tel: (023) 9282 2245
Email: fifthhants@gmail.com
Website: https://www.volunteerarmssouthsea.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Fratton) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Fifth Hants Volunteer Arms ★

Much altered but still with two rooms. In the public bar, the bar-back, with decorative brackets, looks early 20th century but the counter is post-war in style. Fixed seating and fireplace have gone and the dado panelling is modern. The lounge counter is also probably early post-war and the bar-back is in a different style (1930s? 1950s?) from that in the public. Splendid old blue-tiled wood surround fireplace and some old etched windows.

Lounge Bar

Portsmouth

2 Eastbourne Road, Portsmouth, PO3 6LN
Tel: (023) 9264 3113
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Jolly Taxpayer ★★

This fine community local was built in 1928 for Brickwoods brewery in a rather quirky sub-Arts andf Crafts style. It has an interior has considerable integrity, retaining two (was five) rooms plus a first-class example of an off-sales which, amazingly in the 21st century, is still functioning. The public bar was originally divided into three: see the three outside doors. It still has its original panelling, counter, back fittings, and a pair of red-brick fireplaces. Round the corner and facing the off-sales hatch is a set of drawers for cash etc in the back fitting. The lounge is panelled too, the wood being said to be Hungarian oak (Portsmouth News, 13 March 1980). The canopies over the servery are no doubt work of the early interwar period, perhaps of the 1960s. Should you be ticking unusual pub names, you'll need to visit the Ming Arcade in downtown Singapore for the world's other Jolly Taxpayer pub.

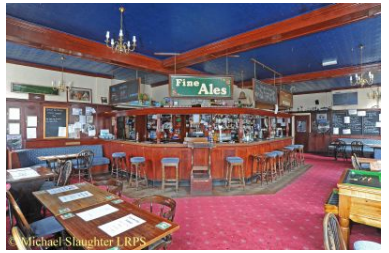
Public Bar

Portsmouth

51 Torrington Road, Portsmouth, PO2 0TN
Tel: (023) 9266 0744
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hilsea) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Phoenix ★★

Built 1937 it has two large bars both with walls covered in fielded panelling and retaining their original bar counters but now all painted pastel grey. The lounge has two bar-back fittings but that in the public bar is modern: both bars have original tiled fireplaces. The bottle and jug is partly retained with its back fitting but the former off sales shop is now the cellar. All four toilets are intact but when built the pub was built one had to exit and re-enter through in another door.



Public Bar

Priors Dean

Monkey Lane, Priors Dean, GU32 1DA
Tel: (01420) 588387
Email: info@pubwithnoname.co.uk
Website: https://www.whitehorsepetersfield.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: Not listed

White Horse ★★

Fireplace in Servery

An example of what has been termed 'publican's rustic', a popular form of pub-furnishing appearing between the wars using rough, chunky woodwork; half-timbered effects, rough plasterwork and exposed brick and stone. The idea was to create a sense of rural charm and the good old days of yore. The pub originally consisted of the left-hand bar which is barely altered in years with a large stone fireplace, now with a modern log burner, and old furniture including a small settle. The bar counter itself does look old but with a mighty split-log frontage added in around 1962. On the wall are two copper-framed pictures showing the supposedly glorious days of coaching. Note the brick inglenook fireplace behind the servery indicating this area was converted from other uses, possibly in the interwar period. The bar back fitting is modern rather than old work. The right-hand bar is of similar style but is, in fact, a conversion of the adjoining shed, the work being completed in around 1962. Rear dining area of the 1990s.

Southampton

55 High Street, Southampton, SO14 2NS
Directions: Lower end of High Street
Tel: (023) 8033 3595
Email: info@theredlionpubsouthampton.co.uk
Website: https://theredlionpubsouthampton.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II*

Red Lion ★★★

The interest here is twofold. Not only is the layout largely as it was before the Second World War but, also, it exists in the rather spectacular setting of a late medieval hall-house. Thesite is long and narrow which in itself is suggestive of anancient town plot. The façade consists of a ground floor re-fronted after wartime bomb damage and a half timbered upperstorey which is redolent of ‘Brewers’ Tudor’ of the 1920s (butcould be a faithful post-war replacement). The wonderfulmedieval hall is in the centre of the building. It is tall andreveals its original timber framing. The servery is locatedbeneath what was the medieval private upper chamber. Itsactual fittings may have come from another war-damaged pubalthough the heated (and still-functioning) foot-rail may wellbe older. A corridor runs down the left-hand side above whichis a gallery (with 16th- or 17th-century timbering) leading to the upper chamber. At the rear of the hall is a grand Tudor stone fireplace (a less elaborate one lies behind in the dining room) whilst the gallery leads to another upper chamber (screened-off until the post-war repairs).

Public Bar

Southampton

21 Priory Road, Southampton, SO17 2JZ
Directions: 200m south of St Denys Station east (down) side
Tel: (023) 8039 1330
Email: junction@woodiesgroup.com
Website: https://www.woodieswinebar.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (St Denys) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Woodies at the Junction Inn ★★

Handy for St Denys station and a master-class in the way pubs used to be. It was built in 1876 and the fittings probably date back to that time. Marstons took over from the Winchester brewery in 1929 and added their imprint with a series offrosted windows but these have recently been removed,They gave the various old room names and their actualexistence can still be ascertained, partly thanks to the survivalof remnants of the internal screens. On the right is the publicbar (not actually named and now perhaps the combination oftwo spaces, hence the two outside doors), then the jug andbottle, private bar and saloon. What's extraordinary is the waythese small drinkers' spaces wrap around the serving area andare almost subordinate to it in scale. Unusually there is a Victorian fireplace within the serving area. After a fire in 2012 (which affected the upper floors) the woodwork in the pub was, unfortunately, given a pastel hue but a recent refurbishment has resulted in a more appropriate colour scheme. In the 1990s there were changes on the left-hand side and the room behind the saloon was created out of the former ground-floor cellar and another room was created in an extension. The toilets on the left are modern but have an old, relocated penny-in-the-slot machine.

Left Hand Bar

Steep

Harrow Lane, Steep, GU32 2DA
Tel: (01730) 262685
Website: http://www.theharrowinnsteep.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Harrow ★★★

A wonderful village pub, rather hard to find but well worth the effort (you may well need a Satnav or the grid reference! It's just east of Bedales school). It has been run since 1932 by the Dodd and McCutcheon families who bought it from the brewers Whitbread in 1991. It is now run by sisters Claire and Nisa McCutcheon, both of whom were born and brought up there and took over in 2004. There are two splendid rustic bars, each measuring only about 12 feet x 12 feet. That on the left is the public bar and has a quarry-tiled floor, bench seating, wall panelling and a massive fireplace: service is through a hatch from the ground-floor 'cellar' where casks rest on a long wooden stillage. The second room is identified on its old name plate as the 'Smoking Room'. This too has a hatch for service, a panelled dado, and a miscellaneous collection of seating (not to mention stuffed animals and an old Polyphon). This is one of those rare pubs that still has outside loos (with partly open-air gents'), but you have to cross the road to get to them.

Left Bar

Winchester

25 The Square, Winchester, SO23 9EX
Tel: (01962) 865676
Email: manager@the-eclipse-winchester.co.uk
Website: https://the-eclipse-winchester.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Winchester) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Eclipse Inn ★

A 16th-century building which was extensively restored in the 1920s by the Lion Brewery (taken over by Strongs of Romsey in 1931) as evidenced by a copy of the revised plans approved by Winchester CC on 23/6/25 framed on the L/H wall. Strongs name appears on the exterior lantern. The facade was refronted in Tudor Revival style and the interior refitted including a wood beamed ceiling that arches over the fireplace. There is a single front bar with 1920s counter and brick fireplace but the bar back could be more recent as is most of the fixed seating but the rear settle bench could be older. At the rear is a small smoke room with part of an old counter, the rest having been removed to allow access to the ladies' toilet upstairs. Both the counter and the fixed bare back seating pre-date 1920 but the brick fireplace is modern. Upstairs a function room has been created from former private use.

Front Bar

Isle of Wight

Bonchurch

The Shute, Bonchurch, PO38 1NU
Directions: signed from Shanklin-Ventnor road
Tel: (01983) 852611
Email: gillian@bonchurch-inn.co.uk
Website: http://www.bonchurch-inn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Bonchurch Inn ★★★

This two-room pub has the best-preserved interior on the Island. On the left is the former, now disused public bar entrance, still with its etched glass. The present-day pub was converted from the stable block and hayloft of the nearby Manor House in 1904. The long, rectangular public bar has a counter and fittings which appear to date from the early twentieth century (apart from the 1995 pot-shelf). The walls have floor-to-ceiling panelling. Beer is drawn direct from casks in the servery. The simple, smaller saloon bar/family room is entered via its own door and has a matchboard counter that may date from about 1960s plus an asymmetrical brick fireplace incorporating a small tapered tiled hood. It has a panelled dado and some of the servery shelving may date from before the c. 1960 work. Outside toilets.

Public Bar

Ventnor

30 Victoria Street, Ventnor, PO38 1ES
Directions: 50yds from bus terminal
Tel: 07592 262325
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Volunteer ★

A late Victorian terraced pub with a traditional layout of two small rooms and former off-sales in between, with original access off an outside corridor. The counter fronts and back fittings were replaced in the 1980s and a new pot-shelf fitted. In the front bar there is half-height panelling on most walls, recently painted a pastel shade and an old tiled fireplace with a wooden surround, also recently painted. The rear bar is plain and simple with etched and frosted panels on the gents' door. The traditional pub game of rings is played here and Ventnor is the only town in the UK still with a league

Front Bar

Kent

Biddenden

Hareplain Road, Biddenden, TN27 8LW
Directions: 1m W of village on A262
Tel: (01580) 291472
Email: info@thethreechimneys.co.uk
Website: http://www.thethreechimneys.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: Not listed

Three Chimneys ★

A wonderful, centuries-old timber-framed pub, once the haunt of ordinary labourers, now with a prestigious reputation for food. Our concern is more with the former! The left-hand bar is probably the original drinking area, hence the utterly simple, narrow L-shaped bench seating with a horizontal two-plank back-rest and fully matchboarded walls. Cold-weather drinkers would have enjoyed the big open fireplace opposite. There is a door (in situ) into the next room where the pub no doubt expanded. A further room to the right has been pressed into service (probably domestic accommodation in former times). The unanswered question is the date of the long counter which spans all three rooms. When did it go in? It is sloping, matchboarded, and has no real datable characteristics. Perhaps in the 1930s as more people came out to enjoy the antique, country delights of the pub? There are major extensions at the rear and right for dining but they do no impact on the historic core. As in times long ago, beer is still dispensed from stillages at ground-floor level.

Old Bar

Broadstairs

1-5 Harbour Street, Broadstairs, CT10 1ET
Tel: (01843) 602234
Website: http://www.neptuneshall.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Broadstairs) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Neptunes Hall ★★

This landmark building in old Broadstairs was rebuilt as a pub-cum-hotel towards the end of the nineteenth century. It has been very much altered over the years, not least in a ‘modernising’ refurbishment in 2018-19 by Shepherd Neame which included the application of today’s ubiquitous pastel paint to the panelling. However, it is included here chiefly for the wonderful L-shaped servery with its lovely bar-back fitting and delicate turned shafts and coved cornice. The counter is also of some note with its robust detailing. Otherwise it has a small snug on the left and, on the far right, an entrance corridor with lovely etched glass screenwork. Incredibly, in 2016 Shepherd Neame applied to rip it and the other screens out but this was refused by Thanet Council, thus showing the importance of listed building protection. Eventually they were allowed to make alterations to the screen at right-angles to it, introducing folding doors and replacing the old high-level glazing with new glass.

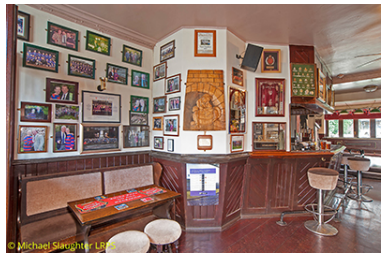
Public Bar

Brompton

15 Garden Street, Brompton, ME7 5AS
Tel: (01634) 841006
Email: markseanmarriott@icloud.com
Website: https://www.thecannonpub.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Chatham) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Cannon ★

The lovely green-glazed frontage and its raised lettering is a striking sight. This is in the house style, developed before the First World War by London and Burton brewers Truman, Hanbury & Buxton. They are said to have acquired the Cannon only in 1929 and such dating would make the ceramic work a rather late example of this treatment. A big rear extension was added about 1984. The two front doors both open into the public bar: presumably the left one originally went into a lobby/vestibule that accessed the lounge (left) and probablyhad another door straight ahead for the off-sales (which musthave been very narrow): any off-sales partition or hatch to the servery have now gone. It’s hard to explain the curiousbulbous projection of the bar counter in this area (pictured:perhaps it had something to do with the off-salesarrangements). The sloping public bar counter is presumably from the THB refurbishment (the back fitting seems much later). Other fittings also seem later and a particular curiosity is the roof tiling on the overhang to the lounge counter: just the sort of strangeness that 1960s pub designers went in for in the interest of novelty (the counter below could also be of the Sixties).



Left Hand Bar

Canterbury

61 St Dunstan's Street, Canterbury, CT2 8BS
Tel: (01227) 463187
Email: info@unicorninn.com
Website: http://www.unicorninn.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Canterbury West) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Unicorn ★

A pub for some centuries but note that the timbering on the first floor was part of an interwar remodelling. This is when there was internal refitting too, for example, the counter in the two front bars (which have now been amalgamated): the wall panelling is in similar style. The seating may also be part of the same scheme. At the rear left is a pleasant small panelled area with a bar billiards table. All areas have timber ceiling joists and beams, some very old, others probably interwar. The interwar work may be related to the takeover by Alfred Leney & Co. in 1924 or Fremlins in 1926.

Bar

Chiddingstone

Chiddingstone, Chiddingstone, TN8 7AH
Directions: turn off B2027 approx 1 mile W of Penshurst station
Tel: (01892) 870371
Email: castleinnchidd@gmail.com
Website: https://www.thecastleinnchiddingstone.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II*

Castle Inn ★

Behind the long tile-hung frontage (with central brick bay), lies a timber-framed building perhaps dating from the early seventeenth century. The Castle has an utterly traditional small public bar with a red and black quarry-tiled floor, full-height matchboard-panelled walls, an old brick fireplace and some simple bench seating. The counter could date from interwar times: the routine bar-back shelves are hard to date. The saloon bar accessed from the left-hand side of the building is in three distinct parts. The centre section contains a bar counter and may date from interwar times. To the left is a small seating are including some old benches and to the right down a couple of steps is a tiny alcove called 'the Confessional' with more basic seating. There is a small dining room to the right of the public bar and another at the rear.

Left Hand Bar

Coldred

The Green, Coldred, CT15 5AJ
Tel: (01304) 830190
Email: carpenters.arms@outlook.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: Not listed

Carpenters Arms ★★

Public Bar

Step back to the 1960s at this rather wonderful, friendly pub across from the village pond. It has changed little since being remodelled by Maidstone brewers Fremlins in 1965. In large measure this is because it has been in the hands of the same tenants, the Fagg family, since 1912 with Daphne Fagg being licensee for over forty years until her death in 2010. In 1965 Fremlins doubled the size of the left-hand bar with a flat-roofed extension which brought the toilets inside but this two-roomed pub. Come down the steps from the main road and to the right is the public bar with a light cream Formica dado and wood-effect bar counter (plus Formica top), fixed seating and a brick-surround fireplace. Turn left and here is the saloon bar, with a counter mirroring that to the right. A distinctive feature here is the very 1960s vertically slatted opening adjacent to the outside door on the left. This bar retains its bar back with a 'Fremlins' illuminated panel at the top and glass shelves: there are also classic 1960s small low Formica-topped tables.

Cowden Pound

Hartfield Road, Cowden Pound, TN8 5NP
Directions: on B2026 halfway between Edenbridge and A264
Tel: 07854 626004
Website: https://www.instagram.com/queensarmscowdenofficial/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Queens Arms ★★★

Right Hand Bar

A precious survival of a small Victorian wayside country pub. Land for it was acquired in 1841 and the pub was named to commemorate the Queen's Royal West Kent Regiment. It was in the same family hands from January 1913 when Henry Long became the licensee, followed in 1973 by his daughter Elsie Maynard who died, aged 91, in April 2015. The presentowners had taken over in August 2014 intending to keep it justas it was (including the no lager policy!). Ahead of theentrance is a door leading to private quarters while that on theright leads into the tiny, simply appointed public bar. Thecounter, shelving and plain bench seating are pretty timelessand but they could well go back to the 1840s. The Dalex handpumps are dated 1948, prior to which beer was brought from the cellar in jugs. There is still no till, hence the bowls for coins. The only significant modern changes have been the addition of the gents' in 1953 (formerly outside) and the fireplace brickwork. Note the Bissett darts scorer, a finger-operated device to save the strain of mental arithmetic. The saloon (left) was doubled in size in 1953 by taking in a private room: it too retains its Victorian counter (which has acquired bright yellow paint but a good few years ago).

Dartford

3 Darenth Road, Dartford, DA1 1LP
Tel: (01322) 224381
Email: themaltshoveldartford@gmail.com
Website: http://www.maltshovelda1.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Dartford) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Malt Shovel ★

The small ‘Tap Bar’ with a bay window occupies two tiny17th-century cottages. The décor appears to be from a 1930s refurbishment such as some bar back shelves, and two small brick and tile fireplaces; a single slender iron column supports one of the beams and there is an old draught screen on entry:no fixed furniture. There is a on old 'Dartford Brewery Co.mirror over the left-hand fireplace. The lounge has a 1930sbrick fireplace, boarded walls, and three benches. The left-hand bar back fitting with a central mirrored section was added by Young's in a 2009 refurbishment. A flat-roofed extension was added in the 1930s. At the back is a modern conservatory. The counters in both public bar and lounge have boarded fronts, possibly of 1930s date, but in the 2009 refurbishment they were painted grey.

Tap Bar

Faversham

3 Market Place, Faversham, ME13 7AG
Tel: (01795) 532668
Website: http://www.bearinnfaversham.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Faversham) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Bear Inn ★★★

A must-visit if in Faversham: a traditional town centre public house with a great sense of antiquity. Yet much of what we experience dates only from 1906 when the frontage was rebuilt after a fire and there was much refitting under local architects, Edward Pover & Son for Shepherd Neame who are said tohave taken over in 1736. The plan is simple: a panelledcorridor on the left-hand side off which lead three partitioneddrinking spaces: public bar (front), snug behind (but on the1906 plan referenced as a bottle and jug), and then a privatebar which has been amalgamated at some stage with what wasa living room The coloured door glass is presumably from1906. There is a lovely bar-back fitting down the right-handside with some delicate detail in its cornice (one bay has beenlost at the front while the quadrant-shaped counter is thought tohave been set back somewhat to create more customer space).But for a real piece of old pub fitting, what about the cellardoor with its wrought-iron fittings: we might well beconnecting here with the eighteenth-century pub.

Entrance to Front Bar

Faversham

1 Tanners Street, Faversham, ME13 7JL
Tel: (01795) 534740
Website: http://www.bullinnfaversham.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Faversham) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Bull Inn ★★

A fine jettied, fifteenth-century timber-framed building. Inside, at both ends, you can find an abundance of exposed heavy timbering. The etched glass identifies the former tripartite division of the pub into ‘parlour’ (left), ‘bar’ (centre) and ‘smoke room’ (right, now called the saloon). The division between the first two has gone. Also, facing the front steps is what must have once been an off-sales hatch. The fixtures and fittings seem to date from various periods Perhaps the best ‘pubby’ feature is the main counter which with vertical stripsin high relief (postwar?): the right-hand counter is distinctivetoo with its built-in shelf (?post-war). Then there is the stained glass in the upper part of the windows (date uncertain) and the very chunky doors to two bars (?1930s).

Main Bar

Faversham

Preston Street, Faversham, ME13 8PE
Tel: (01795) 501550
Email: info@railwayhotelfaversham.co.uk
Website: http://www.railwayhotelfaversham.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Faversham) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Railway Hotel ★★

A building in decidedly two halves: the painted early nineteenth-century brick structure serves as the restaurant but what is of interest to us is the large red-brick block designed in 1898 for Shepherd Neame by Edward Pover & Son of Faversham (who drawings are displayed and who also worked at the Bear). What remains is much window glass and the spacious, elegant L-shaped servery (with impressively curved bar counter) and wonderful full-height back fitting divided up by tall columns: especially notable is the series of no less than twelve drawers (a UK record?) for cash and storage. As built, there was a hotel entrance on Preston Street (reception deskstill there) and a public bar on the corner flanked by a pair ofprivate bars: then beyond the right-hand one of these and partlybehind the servery was a lounge. All this can still be read – butno thanks to what happened in 1966 when the place wasopened up. But then, in 2007, under the enlightened ChrisMacLean, three screens were reinstated in their originalpositions (albeit with openings), so we can appreciate the placemuch as fin-de-siècle travellers did as they waited for or piled off their trains!

Main Bar

Fordwich

King Street, Fordwich, CT2 0DB
Tel: (01227) 710444
Website: http://www.fordwicharms.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Sturry) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Fordwich Arms ★★

Attractively set beside the Great Stour river, this is a fine, well-designed 1930s pub, faced with narrow red bricks and having a symmetrical frontage facing the Fordwich's old town hall. Curiously the public rooms are smaller than one would expect for a pub of this size. The public bar is long and narrow and runs parallel to the street. The two doors into it surely indicate that once it had a partition. The servery has a panelled counter and simple back-fitting. At the rear left is a dining room with high-quality panelling. A corridor from the public bar to the river terrace has very low original panelling. Note the old brass penny-in-the-slot devices in both the gents' and ladies' toilets. Three original fireplaces.

Main Bar

Groombridge

Groombridge Hill, Groombridge, TN3 9QH
Directions: On village green
Tel: (01892) 864742
Email: crown.inn.groombridge@gmail.com
Website: http://www.thecrowngroombridge.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Groombridge) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II*

Crown Inn ★

Behind the red-brick and tile-hung frontage, lies a mid/late seventeenth-century timber-framed building. The entrance is up steps into what was the lobby to a three-room pub a century ago: inside, the lobby window on the left then led to a public bar while on the right was a small snug (still very evident), and beyond that a further room that used to be accessed by steps from the main road. There were substantial changes in the 1980s when the cottage on the left was pressed into service for a further pub room and toilets, while another room was added on the rear right. The counter in the old public bar seems to date from the 1930s while its right-hand addition is probably from the 1980s work (also modern bar-back shelving). The most striking feature is the brick inglenook fireplace in the former public bar in front of which is old brick flooring. There, tucked away in the left is a ceramic plaque advertising the PRHA (People's Refreshment House Association), founded in 1896 to lease improved pubs to promote responsible drinking.

Main Bar

Herne Bay

173 Mortimer Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5DS
Tel: (01227) 374205
Website: http://www.princeofwaleshernebay.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Herne Bay) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Prince of Wales ★

This pub gives a a good sense of how pubs were laid out and fitted up around 1900. Plans were drawn up for it in 1893 and the Art Nouveau window glass is typical of the time. The sense of separate rooms is conveyed by the different room names in the door and window glass, and a screen still with its door dividing the main bar into two. On the right is a large room which looks as though it was a billiard room (a name in the old glass mounted on a wall but the outside, now boarded ove , says Lounge and tea room, evidently planned with holidaymakers in mind. There was a substantial refurbishment in 2005 which provided some of the window glass: seems mighty unlikely that a century ago rooms would have had the jokey descriptions of ‘Ladies Gin Room’ or ‘Lying Bar’!

Right Hand Bar

Ightham Common

Redwell Lane, Ightham Common, TN15 9EE
Directions: 1/2 mile SW of Ightham village, between A25 and A227
Tel: (01732) 886077
Website: http://www.oldhouse.pub
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Old House ★★★

A wonderful but hard-to-find country pub (the signage long gone). It probably started as a couple ofseventeenth-century cottages which were pressed into service as a beerhouse in the mid nineteenth century. A full licence was only acquired in 1953. The pub was extended to its present size in 1888. The new work lies to the right and the change in the lower walling between the two windows left of the entrance tells of this, as does the difference in ceiling treatment within the main bar (boarded left, plastered and papered right). On entry you face a small off-sales compartment with its own small counter, andon the left is the main bar with its mightily impressiveinglenook fireplace. The floor is of wood blocks and thecounter has a tapering, wooden front. The date of these is hardto gauge and may be twentieth-century rather than Victorian.There is also a right-hand room formed in 1888 and which isserved through a hatch created, perhaps, in the 1970s. All beerand cider is fetched from the ground-floor cellar. The puboffers some 200 whiskies.

Public Bar

Maidstone

28 Wyatt Street, Maidstone, ME14 1EU
Tel: (01622) 750540
Email: polly@theriflevolunteers.co.uk
Website: https://www.theriflevolunteers.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Maidstone East) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Rifle Volunteers ★

This early to mid-Victorian pub had two rooms until they were joined in the 1960s. The panelled bar counter appears to be Victorian and is curved on the right. There are two bar-back fittings, that on the right being the more impressive with a mirrored back and surviving old cash drawers: the left-hand fittings is probably of the 1960s. There is old dado panelling on the front wall and full-height work on the rear one.

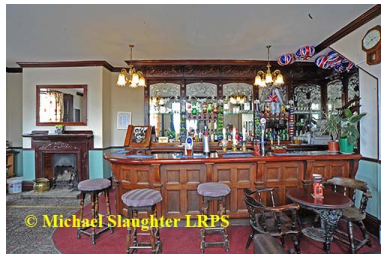
Servery & Bar Backs

Margate

49/50 Trinity Square, Margate, CT9 1HT
Tel: (01843) 223461
Website: https://www.roseinjune.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Margate) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Rose In June ★

A Victorian pub thought to have been refitted in 1911. What we have now is two rooms: that on the left is the saloon (named in one door panel), and public bar on the right, believed to have been divided into two in the past. The bar counters in both have the same detail but that on the right appears to have been cleaned of the dark stain apparent on the left. The L-shaped cut-glass, mirrored bar-back on the left is particularly notable: the curved cornice has cherubs picked out in gold.



Smoke Room

Penshurst

Smarts Hill, Penshurst, TN11 8EP
Directions: turn off B2188 S of Penshurst
Tel: (01892) 870253
Email: nigelhunt1961@gmail.com
Website: http://www.spotteddogpub.com
Listed Status: II

Spotted Dog ★

16th century timber-framed weatherboarded pub that retains many fittings from an interwar refurbishment. The interior of character consists of a series of small areas including a partitioned snug and an old inglenook fireplace. Outside gents' and ladies'.

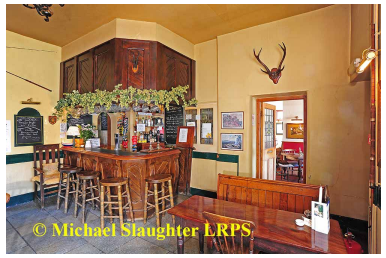
Main Bar

Pluckley

Station Road, Pluckley, TN27 0RR
Directions: Adjacent to Pluckley Station
Tel: (01233) 840371
Email: jim@deringarms.com
Website: https://www.deringarms.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Pluckley)
Listed Status: II

Dering Arms ★

The coming of the railway in 1844 led Sir Edward Cholmeley Dering to provide this flamboyant building for his guests and its architecture echoes his main house and other buildings on the estate. After this was sold in 1928, it was turned into a pub, neatly confirmed by the date of 1931 on one of the quadrant arms of the hand pumps in the left-hand bar. There are two bars at the front, much as they were about 1930, with their original counters and a back fitting which houses a couple of drawers for cash or other items. The door between the two rooms has colourful glass as does the small divider sitting on the counter. The large rear room, although apparently dating from about 1845, now has no features of historic interest.



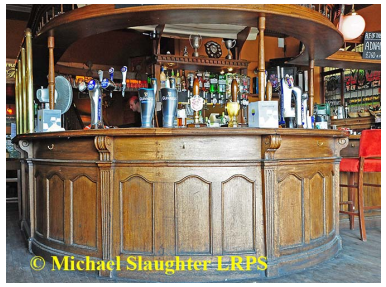
Left Hand Bar

Ramsgate

78 Harbour Parade, Ramsgate, CT11 8LP
Tel: (01843) 592442
Email: queenshead@thorleytaverns.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Ramsgate) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Queens Head ★

A red-brick rebuild of 1908 brick with a wonderfully colourful ceramic frontage including the pub name which also appears in mosaic at two entrances. The three front doors indicate at least three separate rooms originally. The rear saloon would have been accessed via a partitioned passage on the left (the tiled dado here is modern). The island bar counter is believed to be the original but in about 2005 it was extended to the right so now covers an area of 1908 tiling. The modest island 'gantry'/bar-back fitting may be original but the pot shelf is modern. In 2005 a false ceiling was added. A number of good etched windows remain though some may be replacements. The small areas of fixed seating in the bay windows are also original. There is a fine dado of brown tiling on the right-hand side wall, a ceramic fireplace and Art Nouveau stained glass window. The pub has been extended to the rear in recent years. Don't miss a trip to the amazing, enormous Wetherspoons which has colonised the Royal Victoria Pavilion close by and which is now claimed to be the largest pub in the country..



Servery

Rochester

292 High Street, Rochester, ME1 1HS
Tel: (01634) 843150
Email: m.lane_thenags@yahoo.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Rochester) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Nags Head ★

A whitewashed three-storey, 17th-century pub with weatherboarded frontage at the start of one of the high pavements: there is a single-storey extension at the rear. Inside are two bars with old fittings. The upper bar (formerly two rooms) has a bare wooden floor and old panelled bar counter (now painted cream). The bar back is possibly Victorian with four bays and a doorway on the left to the lower bar. There are ornate mirror strips: also there is dado panelling which rises to full height within the servery. There is also a marble surround and tiled fireplace. The lower front bar has old full-height panelling on the walls (cream) and panelling to the front halfof the ceiling (pink). There's a quadrant-shaped curved bar counter with panelled front (black): the bar-back seems quite modern. The fixed seating seems post-war.

Rear Bar

Sandgate

Brewers Hill, Sandgate, CT20 3DH
Directions: 25 metres up footpath off the A259 from the seafront between Seabrook and Sandgate next to a public phonebox.
Tel: (01303) 248684
Email: clarendon@easy.com
Website: https://the-earl-of-clarendon.business.site/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Folkestone West) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Earl of Clarendon ★★

Built 1862 and later remodelled but still with two separate rooms. The fine bar-back (date uncertain) spans both rooms and has mirrored panels and slender columns between each shelf. There is a doorway to private quarters in the middle and a clock bearing the name of the pub. The bar counter is quite plain and may date from the 1930s: it has similar detailing on both sides of the pub. In the 1890s a landslip affected the area and hence there is the disconcerting slope in the right-hand bar and a wedge-shaped infill to the bar-back to correct the wrong. Bar billiards can be played here.

Right Hand Bar

Sandgate

65 Sandgate High Street, Sandgate, CT20 3AH
Directions: on A259
Email: hello@landb-restaurants.co.uk
Website: https://www.landb-restaurants.co.uk/thefamousshipinn
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Folkestone West) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Ship Inn ★★

The historic interior interest here is the front bar which is claimed to have been refitted in 1948 – an extraordinary date for such work in the immediate aftermath of war and its consequent shortage of materials. The walls have full-height panelling, and there's a panelled ceiling, horizontally-boarded counter, fixed seating, a gently curved concave fire surround and a rather remarkable array of seats and tables made out of old casks. The rear bar is of less interest but still retains some features from the putative 1948 remodelling although its character derives much from a 2013 refit. Towards the sea is a restaurant area added in 2010 above which is a lovely terrace with views of the sea. The pub is linked to the Amazing Brewery Company next door which opened in 2015 and whose beers it sells.

Front Bar

Smeeth

Church Road, Smeeth, TN25 6RX
Directions: North off the A20 between Ashford and Sellindge signposted to Smeeth
Tel: (01303) 814095
Email: thewoolpacksmeeth@gmail.com
Website: https://www.woolpacksmeeth.co.uk/index
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Woolpack Inn ★

An attractive rebuild in brick by Fremlins of 1937. Much opened up but still retaining a small public bar and to its right a much larger space which ia an amalgamation of two (possibly three) rooms. Both bars retain their fielded panelled counters and wall panelling but in the public bar these have unfortunately been painted a light grey: on the right-hand side they have suffered somewhat the stripping of staining or varnish. The back-to-back fireplaces seem to be of 1930s brick but do not tie up with the panelling. There is a elegant stone fireplace at the rear right. Sadly a rather crude opening has been created in the wall of the corridor to the public bar.

Left Hand Bar

Snargate

, Snargate, TN29 9UQ
Directions: On B2080, 1 mile Northwest of Brenzett
Tel: (01797) 344648
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Appledore) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Red Lion ★★★

A great rural classic, run by the Jemison family since 1911. A century ago the pub consisted of just a small public bar (left) and a tap room (right). The former retains its old counter with, unusually, a white marble top on which is a pewter housing for a set of four hand-pumps dating back to 1870 (but unused as beer is now drawn from casks behind the bar). Three walls of this room have boarded panelling. Beyond the partition at the back is a second room, formerly living quarters, but part of the pub since the 1990s when the screen was moved further back. After the Second World War the tap room was converted into a shop which survived until 1974. In the early 1980s it was brought back into pub use with a new quarry-tiled floor and is now a room for games which includes toad in the hole and table skittles. You can’t miss the extensive World War II memorabilia: this pub was situated in a militarily sensitive area at that time. Good old-fashioned outside loos.

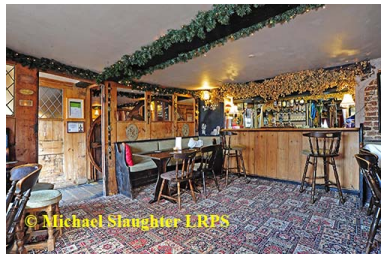
Servery

St Nicholas-at-Wade

The Street, St Nicholas-at-Wade, CT7 0NT
Tel: (01843) 847250
Website: http://www.thebellstnicholas.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Listed Status: II

Bell Inn ★

The nineteenth-century frontage conceals a seventeenth-century half-timbered building. There seems to have been a refitting in the 1930s, as suggested by the date of 1937 on the hand-pumps. There are now four rooms. On the right from the entrance is a partition wall with a doorway to the public bar on right. Here there is an interesting ‘ducks nest’ fireplace (so-named from the shape of the grate). Bell-ringing is celebrated in the wheel mechanism preserved in the panelled passagefrom the front door. The left-hand front room has anapparently 1930s brick fireplace with a terracotta knight onhorseback. Behind is a small room, also with an apparently1930s brick fireplace with, left of the fireplace, a low doorprobably for storage. The rear right room has been brought intouse, extended in post-war times, and modernised in 2020 so noold fittings here.



Public Bar

Upper Upnor

2 High Street, Upper Upnor, ME2 4XG
Tel: (01634) 717490
Website: http://www.kingsarmsupnor.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

King's Arms ★

At the top end of the lovely cobbled street leading down to the Medway, this is an attractive late C19 or very early C20 structure, brick-built with some tile hanging. It still has three separate rooms and a traditional ambience. On the corner is the public bar, modestly fitted out with its old counter with diagonally-boarded panels (now painted), mirrored bar-back, and wainscoting. Beyond is another small room but this has no features of particular interest. On the High Street side is largest of the three rooms, the restaurant where, again, there are no interesting old features apart from the simple brick fireplace (the counter is quite modern). Excellent range of real ale and cider.

Main Bar

Upper Upnor

29 High Street, Upper Upnor, ME2 4XG
Tel: (01634) 714175
Website: http://www.tudorroseupnor.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Tudor Rose ★

A short way down the hill from the King's Arms is another multi-roomed pub which has developed over the years, colonising a former cottage on the left and now a warren of no less than five rooms. We start with the tiny public bar at the front, at a lower level than the rest, where the servery (old counter and bar-back) takes up half the space, allowing little room for drinkers. You may enjoy the intimate little room behind with a large fireplace and hatch to the servery. This is linked by a charmingly narrow passage behind the servery to a larger room on the right which has two different styles of wall panelling and a cooking range: has this long been here or is it an import: it does not look particularly old? On the left are two simply appointed, linked rooms set within the former cottage. There was extensive refurbishment about 2013 when most of the woodwork was painted a Farrow & Ball blue or a light blue-grey which does mightily little for the historic ambience.

Front Bar

Oxfordshire

Abingdon

6 Market Place, Abingdon, OX14 3HG
Tel: (01235) 352861
Website: https://punchbowlabingdon.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Punchbowl ★

A partly early seventeenth-century timber-framed building. It's included here for the Oak Room, a delightful low-ceilinged lounge accessed on the side via a brick-floored passageway. The walls of this carpeted room have eighteenth-century (or earlier) dark wood panelling and some fixed bench seating along the outside wall. The fielded-panelled counter appears to be interwar, as does the fire-surround and three movable benches which carry a band of pretty decoration. The little alcove is in fact a fairly modern creation. A plan in the modernised public bar at the front, and dating perhaps from the interwar period, shows there was a staircase in this area. The plan also shows that the front bar formerly had three small rooms.

Lounge 1

Banbury

47 Parsons Street, Banbury, OX16 5NA
Tel: (01295) 270972
Email: hello@reindeerbanbury.com
Website: http://www.yeoldereinedeerinn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Banbury) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II*

Olde Reine Deer Inn ★

Globe Room

In the heart of historic Banbury, this wonderful old inn may have originated as a fifteenth-century timber-framed structure and was extended in the early/mid-sixteenth century. It was an inn perhaps from about 1570 but the first mention of it byname was in 1666. For our purposes the main attraction is theGlobe Room of 1637, a near-square space which was richlyfitted out immediately after building with superb panelling, astone fireplace, Ionic columns framing the great east window,and a pair of ornate doors plus a richly-moulded plaster ceiling(see old photos in the pub). The panelling was sold off in 1912but, after storage in London, was returned in 1965 and finally reinstalled in its original home which formally reopened in 1984. Not so the ceiling, plaster casts of which are in the Victoria & Albert Museum. The front part of the pub isthought to have comprised two small rooms either side of acorridor. There are a couple of seventeenth-century firesurrounds (no doubt imported from elsewhere), a heavily beamed ceiling and some old panelling. The faux-antique spelling of the name is relatively modern (in 1760 it was the ‘Rein Deer & Plough’) but, as the mosaic floor at the entrance testifies, it was current by the early twentieth century.

Checkendon

Burncote Lane, Checkendon, RG8 0TE
Directions: 500 yards along narrow lane north-east from the Checkendon-Stoke Row road
Tel: (01491) 680418
Email: claretmorgan1973@hotmail.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: Not listed

Black Horse ★★

This, the ‘pub in the woods’, is a long red-brick building with an attractive green-painted verandah, and has been in the same family hands since 1905. Inside are three small rooms but the two right-hand ones have been largely amalgamated. It is probable a corridor ran along the exterior wall. There is a red-quarry tiled floor and a counter which is no doubt a century or more old. No new-fangled items here – even the till is an old wooden pull-out drawer and bills are totted up by pen andpaper when beyond the reach of mental arithmetic.. The left-hand room (not always open) has been brought into use,probably in the mid-twentieth century. Note the glass-fronted advertising signs for Guinness and Bass by the entrances. Beer is fetched from the cellar. Outside toilets. Food consists of hot baguettes and bacon rolls served at lunchtimes. Until the 1980s this was a combined pub and dairy farm business, typical of the way pubs often doubled up with other occupations many years ago.

Bar

Christmas Common

, Christmas Common, OX49 5HL
Tel: (01491) 612599
Website: http://www.topfoxpub.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Fox & Hounds ★

In times past there were two bars here on either side of the entrance: a public bar to the left and a private bar to the right with an off-sales in between facing the door. The off-sales is still evident with its still-working glazed hatch. In the public bar is a large fireplace with a bread oven on its left-hand side. The traditional, rustic core still has its simple ambiance but the pub has now expanded considerably beyond it. On the far left the former village shop has been pressed into service as has the old kitchen area behind the public bar. Both bar and ex-kitchen have red and black quarry-tiled flooring. On the far right is a large but not overly obtrusive extension dating from about 2000 and mainly used for food service.

Left Hand Bar

Coleshill

32 Coleshill, Coleshill, SN6 7PR
Tel: (01793) 766667
Email: info@theradnorarmscoleshill.com
Website: https://www.theradnorarmscoleshill.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Radnor Arms ★

This attractive village pub was originally a smithy and was turned into a pub by Ushers' brewery architect A.G. Wright in 1949, an unusual date since postwar austerity put a stop to most pub-building and refurbishment till well into the Fifties. However, here labour and most materials were available from the Radnor estate. There are three rooms with red quarry-tile floors throughout. The front two counters appear to be original but the plain affair in the back room seems later. The front room with its high ceiling may well have served as the forge and has a rather remarkable, quirky twisted chimneypiece (incorporating new brickwork.in places). This room has an old settle. The 'distressed' wooden boarding in places seems very recent. There is an emphasis on locally sourced food. The pub is leased from the National Trust.

Former Forge Room

Oxford

6 Alfred Street, Oxford, OX1 4EH
Tel: (01865) 728164
Website: https://www.bearoxford.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Oxford) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Bear Inn ★★

A cosy pub in central Oxford. The tiny snug off Alfred Street leads to the small public bar on the corner. This has vintage fixed seating but, sadly, much of the old woodwork has been spoilt by blast cleaning at some stage. The rear room fronting Blue Boar Street is the most impressive space with interwar floor-to-ceiling panelling (but modern seating) and brass bell-pushes from the days of waiter service. In the public bar and snug the pewter counter top was replaced in 2000. The servery back fittings are modern, possibly from the 2000 refurbishment. The Bear features a prodigious collection of ties covering everything from the St Moritz Tobogganing Club to Chichester Theological College – so the Victorian tradition of pubs as cabinets of curiosities lives on! The ladies' loo is accessed via a spiral staircase off the snug.

Public Bar

Oxford

40 Holywell Street, Oxford, OX1 3SP
Tel: (01865) 242369
Website: https://www.kingsarmsoxford.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Oxford) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

King's Arms ★

Claimed as Oxford’s oldest pub, built in 1607, though rebuilt in the eighteenth century, hence its Georgian appearance. The front parts are largely opened out and modernised though some decorative ceiling plasterwork remaining. The opening rear left, however, leads to a most characterful back portion. The corridor ahead has a glazed and heavily bowed partition behind which is a small bar that was 'gentlemen only' until about 1973. A now-closed door in the partition suggests this space was once split into two tiny rooms. The bar itself has old dado panelling and a very old bench at the rear; the counter is in the same style as the rest of the room but is more recent and the bar-back shelves mix old and new. Separating this bar from a lobby area is a glazed partition that almost reaches the ceiling and has a doorway and three sliding windows in the open position, two of which form hatches for service. The lobby has old dado panelling with bench seating attached and a baffle by the back door. Up three steps is a lounge, converted in 1992 from a former 'family room' for the licensee. It has a modern 'window' cut into the partition wall for supervision purposes.

Right Rear Room

Oxford

14 North Parade Avenue, Oxford, OX2 6LX
Directions: 1/2 mile N of city centre, off Banbury Rd
Tel: (01865) 510551
Email: halls@roseandcrownoxford.com
Website: https://roseandcrownoxford.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Oxford) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Rose & Crown ★★

This end-of-terrace pub retains a traditional layout of three small rooms with fittings that are probably forty or more years old. The rear bar has a counter with ply panelling and a servery back fitting with small glass pieces of a style often seen in the 1960s. The front room has an Art Deco-style marble fireplace and is served via a door to the back of the servery. The third room is more of a drinking passageway from the front door to the rear with a hatch for service. The outside gents’ are accessed via the large covered patio at the rear.

Front Bar

Steventon

2 Stocks Lane, Steventon, OX13 6SG
Directions: at the end of The Causeway off B4017
Tel: None
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

North Star ★★★

The main bar is one of the great village pub rooms of Britain. Its arrangements would have once been common enough, but are now incredibly rare. It has settles in the centre forming a rectangle focusing on the fireplace: the attached ironwork formerly carried curtains for greater privacy and warmth. There is no bar counter and this too is a great rarity. Service is via a stable door from the ground-floor ‘cellar’ plus service from a hatch to the garden. Many locals drink in the passageway and, at busy times, getting a beer can be a challenge. The second room (rather more modern) is served from a hatch to the cellar. Another plain room lies across a corridor further back in the pub. The timber porch has some fixed seating and now doubles as the smoking shelter. Outdoor toilets. Between the urinals and the WCs are two Aunt Sally pitches as the pub sports two teams. The pub name derives not from the heavenly body but one of Daniel Gooch’s GWR broad gauge locomotives introduced in 1838.

Cellar Servery

Stoke Lyne

School Lane, Stoke Lyne, OX27 8SD
Tel: 07546 066160
Website: https://www.hooky.co.uk/our_pubs/peyton-arms-in-stoke-lyne/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Peyton Arms ★★★

A gloriously simple country local within a pair of early-nineteenth-century stone-built properties and which once incorporated the village shop. Its heart is now a single unspoilt bar in the centre. This has, however, seen modest changes. At some time after it was sold by the Peyton estate to HookNorton in 1954, a counter was installed for the first time (thelandlord says in 1962): it has tasteful vertical panelling. Alsothere used to be a tiny snug partitioned off to the right of theentrance. Across the corridor is the former village shop whichfor a time was a public room with pool table but is now usedfor storage. At the front of the building is another former barroom (but once domestic accommodation) in use till about2008 and now also used for storage. Between this and the solepresent-day bar is a corridor-like ground-floor cellar wherebeer is dispensed direct from the casks.

Public Bar

Stoke Row

Newlands Lane, Stoke Row, RG9 5PU
Tel: (01491) 681048
Website: http://thecrookedbillet.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Crooked Billet ★★

Now primarily functioning as a restaurant, it is possible to have only a drink at some tables and in the garden. The two left-hand rooms retain great historic character. On the far left is a small room with a large open fireplace and a quarry tile floor. The middle room has a wood block floor. The large room on the right seems to have been added in the nineteenth century. There is no bar counter so beer is fetched from the cellar.

Public Bar

Surrey

Betchworth

The Street, Betchworth, RH3 7DW
Tel: (01737) 842288
Website: http://www.dolphinbetchworth.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Dolphin ★

This is a mid- to late-eighteenth-century house, later converted into a pub. Until relatively recent times there were two pub rooms, one on the corner (with dolphins in the etched door glass) and one to its right. These are now linked. The former has a fine old flagstone floor and a big inglenook fireplace, the latter (the Toby Room) heavy wooden floorboards and old fielded wall-panelling . There seems to have been work in the interwar period, hence the lapped bar counters and brick fireplace in the Toby Room. Much expansion has taken place with rooms brought into use off both the aforementioned rooms and a new extension at the rear right.

Main Bar Servery

Chiddingfold

The Green, Petworth Road, Chiddingfold, GU8 4TX
Tel: (01428) 682255
Email: enquiries@thecrownchiddingfold.com
Website: http://www.thecrownchiddingfold.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II*

Crown Inn ★

This magnificent old building has fourteenth-century origins and certainly appears to have been let as an inn in 1383. It hasa two-bay central hall area (now divided horizontally) and, atthe sides, jettied cross-wings. What is of interest for this bookis, of course, the bar at the front and which sits within the hallarea. Here, as elsewhere, there is lots of heavy timbering and itis a wonderful place for a drink in historic surroundings. The inglenook fireplace seems to be an in situ, late medieval/Tudor feature. It's hard to know when this bar assumed its present appearance but there is little doubt it is from at least the early/mid 1950s when the entire building underwent a major restoration by its then owners which made the most of the historic ambience. Some of what we see in the bar may not be as old as it might wish to appear (e.g. some of the woodwork is in fact quite modern but has been 'distressed'). It is known that the restaurant area with its wonderful panelling, fireplace and ceiling was fitted out in the 1950s using material brought from elsewhere. Several windows have stained glass medallions which appear to be old but you never know!

Exterior

Churt

Churt Road, Churt, GU10 2JS
Tel: (01428) 714323
Website: http://www.thecrosswaysinn.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Crossways Inn ★

A partly tile-hung pub with an interwar, flat-roofed addition on the left. The small public bar on the right has a red and black quarry-tiled floor, old half-height panelled walls and old fireplace (but new brick infill): sadly the bench seating has been removed. The counter is perhaps a 1960s replacement for a hatch. The larger L-shaped left-hand saloon includes the interwar extension and consisted of two rooms until 1966 when the present counter was installed. Look for the oval mirror in the public bar advertising 'Mann Crossman Beers – its the malt that matters'.

Public Bar

Claygate

58 Common Road, Claygate, KT10 0HW
Tel: (01372) 463799
Email: tom@yourgriffin.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Claygate) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Griffin ★★

A friendly, attractive two-roomer. It was rebuilt just after owners Brandon's Putney Brewery were taken over by the huge London and Burton brewers Mann, Crossman & Paulin Ltd. in 1920. Their name is in original gold lettering in the windows along with room names. On the left is the saloon and on the right the public bar. But beware of lettering in its left-hand doors! It says 'public bar' but originally the space behind was an off-sales compartment and name was added by the present licensee to reflect the change of: a nice touch. The most striking internal feature is the timber and glass screen between the saloon and former off-sales: it has a door just 5ft 6ins high. The screen to the off-sales compartment was removed in, or shortly after, 1977. The saloon retains its interwar bar-back, sloping counter and a pair of brick fireplaces: the servery fittings on the other side are similar but the bar-back is modern, as is the brick fireplace and imitation stone flooring. For a curiosity look out for the old penny-in-the-slot machine in the saloon gents' (free to today's users!)

Saloon Bar & Screen

The brick fireplaces may be from the Claygate Fireplace Co. founded in 1922; its 'Old English' brick fireplaces were sold all over the UK for the next 40 years,

Mugswell

Chipstead Lane, Mugswell, CR5 3SQ
Directions: off A217
Tel: (01737) 830640
Email: info@thewellhouseinn.co.uk
Website: http://thewellhouseinn.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Well House Inn ★

Originally a row of three timber-framed cottages from the 1560s, converted to Tea Rooms in 1926 and then to a pub in 1956, since when it has changed very little. The main bar, inthe middle, has a wooden bar front with a shelf on thecustomer side (a sometime feature of 1950s/60s bar fittings), abar-back typical of the era, a large brick and stone fireplacewith copper hood and bench seating. Beer was originallydrawn from casks which may have been situated in the arearear left of the servery. The smaller heavily-beamed bar on theleft has its own front door entrance plus a curved counter and similar bar-back and fireplace to the main bar. The dado panelling near the front door is very 1950s as is the adzed wooden pillar. The beamed dining room, the Falstaff, has a quarter-circle wooden bar and brick fireplace with another period-style copper hood; the conservatory extension is the only significant change to the internal layout. Between the main bar and dining room is a lobby with an unusually-timbered wall.

Main Bar

Walton-on-the- Hill

Withybed Corner, Walton-on-the- Hill, KT20 7UJ
Tel: (01737) 812132
Website: http://www.thebell-therat.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Bell ★★★

Left Hand Bar

An interesting pub – find it if you can (directions later)! It’s basically an appendage to a row of cottages and an old photograph shows it to be a rebuilding of an alehouse in the same position. This was done about 1955 and not much has changed since apart from creating on opening between the two rooms: public bar right and ‘better room’ left which has cosy, low area projecting backwards to the old cottages. It is further embellished with a pretty vine-leaf cornice and plasteremblems above the panelling showing the emblems of the UKcountries plus a fleur-de-lys. Many features seem original:dimpled glass in the windows, counters, fireplaces, and bar-backs with illuminated 'Charrington’s Ales' signage in bothrooms. As for the nickname, various explanations are offered,the most plausible being that the local stable boys whofrequented it were known as ‘rats’. And to get there, turn off the track north of the village pond, then take the right-hand fork and just keep going up the track.

Warlingham

3 Farleigh Road, Warlingham, CR6 9EG
Directions: on B269
Tel: (01883) 625085
Email: whitelionwarlingham@emberinns.co.uk
Website:
https://www.emberinns.co.uk/nationalsearch/southeast/the-white-lion-warlingham
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

White Lion ★★★

This wonderful old pub has evolved over the years from a seventeenthcentury house: the big right-hand wing withapplied timbering probably dates from the 1920s when suchwork was so popular. The historic core consists of a low-ceilinged room with its old bar counter (but modern bar-back)and the delightful little snug beyond it behind a charming oldscreen and with an impressive fireplace within. The other roomat the front left was probably pressed into service later and hasa 1930s brick fireplace. Right of the old servery is a further beamed snug with an old fireplace, then a further couple of rooms which contain what is probably 1920s panelling and period fireplaces. Considerable extensions took place to therear in 2004 when Mitchells & Butlers removed a garden barand added a new lounge and more seating areas to the rearright. However, thankfully, these do not impact hugely on the super historic core.

Middle Room

West Sussex

Balls Cross

, Balls Cross, GU28 9JP
Tel: (01403) 820241
Email: info@staginnballscross.co.uk
Website: https://www.staginnballscross.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Stag Inn ★★★

This was a simple beerhouse in the late eighteenth century. The two rooms in the centre of the present pub form its historic core. This was extended in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century when the former post office-cum-cottage of 1880 (on the right) was added, whilst the fourth room (left), the former beer store, became a games room in the mid-1990s. The public bar is floored with large Horsham flags and has an inglenook fireplace and half-height panelling. The counter is interwar as is the quarter-circle counter in the second room to the right (it appears in an old newspaper photo of 1938 on show here). The post office/cottage was converted to dining use in the 1990s. Outside toilets.

Main Bar

Barnham

Yapton Road, Barnham, PO22 0AS
Directions: 350m E of railway station exit, under bridge
Tel: (01243) 553320
Email: steverowntree1964@hotmail.co.uk
Website: http://murrellarms.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Barnham) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Murrell Arms ★

Built c.1750 by William Murrell as a farmhouse and became a pub in 1866. This pub has been much altered over the years. The interior is a mish-mash of period work, dating from Victorian times/interwar/ post WWII. Public bar on right was two small rooms and retains some half panelling (but part re-worked), some parquet flooring, what appears to be an inter-war bar counter (but new top) with a totally inappropriate modern (1980s?) semi-circular brick bar back with modern shelving. Front door to former off sales remains. Work of post war vintages in rear of bar, together with a modern 'themed' stonework fireplace.

Main Bar

Lounge on left has vestible entrance with two etched glass windows proclaiming Public Bar and Private bar side by side and clearly have been moved there from elsewhere. Some old panelling and fireplaces and a bar front (post war) constructed to resemble a barrel with hoops and staves which impinges ona former fireplace. Overall, an eclectic mix of period styles and bric a brac.

Coolham

Cowfold Road, Coolham, Coolham, RH13 8QJ
Directions: Junction of A272 and B2139.
Tel: (01403) 741537
Website: http://www.theselseyarms.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Selsey Arms ★

This pub retains a now opened-out three-room layout, the last major changes having been made back in the 1950s. In the middle is the main bar with a bare wood floor, a (possibly) 1950s counter with matchboarded front. There is a small 1930s brick fireplace and wall benches on three sides near the window. A gap formed by partial wall removal accesses the room on the right which is down a step and has a large inglenook fireplace. Behind the TV is an old wheel in which a dog would turn the spit in the inglenook, by way of a connecting pulley! The counter here is of a style seen in the 1950s and the bench seating is similar. Note the wheel with ten segments mounted on the ceiling for playing ‘twister’, a game of chance, far removed from its more popular location in East Anglia. There is a large gap to the left-hand room which has a 1930s-style brick fireplace and is now the restaurant area with modern tables and chairs installed in 2018. This room has a collection of memorabilia about the Polish airmen stationed at the nearby airfield during World War II.

Servery in Main Bar

Crawley

65 High Street, Crawley, RH10 1BQ
Tel: (01293) 520033
Email: manager@whitehartcrawley.co.uk
Website: http://www.whitehartcrawley.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Crawley) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

White Hart ★

This eighteenth-century pub was refitted in the interwar period and retains many fittings from that time. There are three rather opened-up rooms and it seems a former off-sales may have been incorporated. On the right the bar still has its full-height interwar panelling and its counter but the back fitting is a mixture of old and new. A wide doorway leads to the rear pool room on the right which has more full-height panelling, and a small intact counter and mirrored bar-back. The left-hand bar retains its counter, panelling, and partly old bar-back fitting. In addition, a dining room to the rear left has been brought into use. Across the road the George has a rare ‘gallows’ inn sign.

Right hand bar servery

Elsted

, Elsted, GU29 0JY
Directions: at E end of village
Tel: (01730) 825746
Website: http://www.3hs.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Three Horseshoes ★

This pub has evolved out of four early nineteenth-century cottages which once included a butcher's shop. The public bar has a quarry-tiled floor, old matchboard panelling, counter, a bar back fitting with a couple of deep drawers and some bench seating. The saloon (with '3' on the door) has similar character and more bench seating but a bare brick floor, large open fireplace and small counter for service. On the far right is the former butcher's shop still with hooks in the ceiling and a brick floor. This became a pub room in the 1970s. On the far left is an extension for a dining room (originally two small private rooms) brought into use in 1982. This pub is renowned for its high quality, locally sourced food. Chickens roam the delightful garden which has views over the South Downs. Basic outside loos retained, but modern ones inside!

Bar

Felpham

Waterloo Road, Felpham, PO22 7EH
Directions: Turn right at the post office, then right again
Tel: (01243) 829363
Email: info@thefoxfelpham.com
Website: https://www.thefoxfelpham.com/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bognor Regis) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Fox Inn ★

This was the very first permanent pub built in Britain after World War II. The old Fox was virtually destroyed by fire in October 1946 and was rebuilt in replica in 1949 by Chichester brewers Henty & Constable using much of the original material. It officially reopened on 19 January 1950 and has been little altered over the years. The saloon includes panelling brought in from Col. Henty's house in Chichester with matching work of 1949. The small snug-like area left of the main bar was an off-sales until 1990 (note the display window). The Nautical Bar (left) retains its original panelling, counter front and parts of the back fitting: original 1940s gents'. Note the blue plaque commemorating poet and artist William Blake who got himself arrested here in 1803 for allegedly making seditious remarks to a soldier.

Main Bar

Henley

, Henley, GU27 3HQ
Directions: off A286, 2 miles N of Midhurst
Tel: (01428) 652280
Email: info@thedukeofcumberland.com
Website: http://dukeofcumberland.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Duke of Cumberland ★★

Within this eighteenth-century building lies a pub with a couple of simple but truly wonderful linked rooms at the front, looking much as they would have done when the clientele was made up of farm workers. Red quarry-tiles cover both floors, the walls and ceilings are cased in boarding and there is bench seating throughout. The counters in both rooms have matchboard fronts and curved ends although their date is hard to ascertain (perhaps interwar?). Some of the panelling between the two rooms is evidently quite recent. The farm workers may have gone and the pub is now renowned for high-quality food yet it still has a welcoming, true pub atmosphere. Beer is drawn from casks stillaged behind the servery. Outside gents'. There is a modern but attractive timber garden pavilion to increase the undercover customer accommodation. The restaurant area at the rear does not impact on the historic rooms. Delightful gardens in which a pond houses trout for the pot.

Left Hand Bar

Horsted Keynes Station

Station Approach Road, Horsted Keynes Station, RH17 7BB
Tel: (01825) 720831
Email: enquiries@bluebell-railway.co.uk
Website: https://www.bluebell-railway.com/horsted-keynes-station/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Bluebell Railway)
Listed Status: II

Horsted Keynes Station Bar ★★★

Situated between platforms 3 and 4 on the Bluebell Line, this is a real time-warp. The present station aims to recreate the world of the 1930s and the buffet fits perfectly. There's nothing elaborate about any of it, just a small buffet of the type that existed at hundreds of stations up and down the land. Drinks are served when the railway is operating its 'Service One' trains. The two other most notable historic railway buffets are at Bridlington in East Yorkshire (closed at time of writing) and Stalybridge, Greater Manchester.

Servery

Itchenor

The Street, Itchenor, PO20 7AH
Directions: turn off the B2179 following signs for village and pub
Tel: (01243) 512284
Website: http://www.theshipinnitchenor.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Ship ★

Rebuilt in 1933 by brewers Henty & Constable of Chichester, the Ship retains three of its four rooms, all with fielded panelling, parquet floors and original fireplaces apart from one in the front room, now covered with replacement panelling. On the ceiling of this room you can trace how a thin partition wall once divided it into two. Whilst the counters may be original, work in about 2010 included the upper bar-back shelving and the rather exaggerated superstructures carried on supports made from an old yacht mast. The door to the middle room was removed in about 2010 with some opening out. Originally there was a folding partition separating the middle room and the rear right-hand room. The 1930s woodwork in the latter has all now been painted over.

Left Hand Bar

Keymer

Keymer Road, Keymer, BN6 8QT
Tel: (01273) 842645
Email: mortazavihassan@yahoo.co.uk
Website: http://www.thegreyhoundkeymer.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Hassocks) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Greyhound Inn ★

This is a venerable old building, two-thirds of which was refaced in the inter-war period when a flat-roof extension with the two entrance doors was added. It retains many fittings from this scheme. On the left is the former public bar with a small curved counter, brick fireplace and dado panelling. Note the ‘Jug & Bottle’ sign on a beam that has come from a door and is clear evidence of the removal of an off-sales. The former saloon is now the main bar. The fireplace within the inglenook is definitely interwar work, as is the dado panelling, and there is wall bench seating in the extension. Through a gap to the rear is another interwar counter, panelling and a ‘Private Bar’ sign from a door. The right-hand room is for diners and has a painted brick fireplace and dado panelling. Early 1980s extension at the rear.

Right Hand Bar

Lancing

140 Crabtree Lane, Lancing, BN15 9NQ
Directions: Head north from Lancing station and turn left at Crabtree Parade of shops ? pub is about half-a-mile further on.
Tel: (01903) 755514
Website: http://www.crabtreeinnlancing.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Lancing) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Crabtree Inn ★

1930s brick-built pub originally with three rooms and off-sales. The Spitfire Room on the right retains its original counter, a good cupola ceiling, a decorative cornice all around the room, Tudor style stone double arched fireplace, half-height panelling now painted a pastel grey-green colour and fixed seating the bar back retains some old shelving but fridges replace some shelves and the upper part has much new wood.

Right-Hand Bar

The main bar retains the original bar counter, panelling to picture-frame height now painted pastel grey-green colour, good ceiling decoration, fixed seating in the bay window but the bar back is mostly new. This room has been combined with the lounge on the left but the major part of the bar counter remains now marooned in the middle of the combined room, and there is more half-height panelling painted a pastel grey-green colour and fixed seating around the room.

North Bersted

336 Chichester Road, North Bersted, PO21 5JF
Tel: (01243) 821002
Email: jan@thepinkpub.co.uk
Website: http://www.thepinkpub.co.uk
Listed Status: II

Royal Oak ★

This two-room pub, once belonging to brewers Henty & Constable of Chichester, is in a building probably dating from the seventeenth century, according to the grade II listing. It received an inter-war refit, some features of which survive, particularly in the rear public bar with its plain counter and bar-back shelving, wall-panelling, brick fireplaces and Tudor-style panelled ceiling (this might be post-war). The front lounge bar, mainly for diners, also has an attractive counter, two brick fireplaces, a full-height baffle by the front door and slatted wood-panelled walls. The exterior is painted in an old English colour called cinnabar, hence the pub's nickname of the 'Pink Pub'. Toilets modernised.

Public Bar

Southwick

Manor Hall Road, Southwick, BN42 4NG
Tel: (01273) 592147
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale and Real Cider
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Southwick) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Romans ★

A brick Neo-Georgian pub of 1938, possibly to designs by J.L. Denman, in-house architect to the Kemp Town Brewery (taken over by Charringtons in 1954). It originally had three bars and an off-licence shop. The two bars on the Manor Hall Road side were linked in the early 1980s but retain their original counters (with a dumb waiter set between), most of the bar backs, half-panelled walls, and a fireplace on the left. The off-sales shop which operated until the 1970s is now the bar billiards area. The rear bar has its original counter, the majority of its back fitting and half-height panelled walls, but the fireplace is new. Lots of panelling in the lobby and near the toilets. The fixed seating is new but the pub retains its original internal doors and interestingly shaped windows.

Second Bar Servery

Southwick

Southwick Street, Southwick, BN42 4AD
Tel: (01273) 592958
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Southwick) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Ship Inn ★★

Pub interiors of the 1960s with anything like intactness are now very rare, but here is one, refitted in 1963 by brewers Watneys who had taken over Tamplin's ten years before. The public bar has a contemporary, illuminated bar back, advertising the now-infamous Watneys Red Barrel, which symbolised the keg beer CAMRA was founded to fight. The curved counter has a Formica top. However, there are some 1930s survivals too – panelling, brick fireplace, door glass and a Bisset automatic darts scorer (which saved on mental arithmetic), no longer in use and attached, for some strange reason, to the bottom of the wall behind the door. The saloon bar is intact from 1963 with ply-panelled walls, a counter with a beer barrel-style theme, and another illuminated bar-back fitting.

Public Bar

Steyning

41 High Street, Steyning, BN44 3RE
Directions: In the centre of the village.
Tel: (01903) 814437
Email: enquiries@chequerinnsteyning.co.uk
Website: https://www.chequerinn.co.uk/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Chequer Inn ★

A former coaching inn, this is a timber-framed building, probably of medieval date but refaced in the eighteeth century. It retains two bars either side of the front entrance though there has been some opening up in both. The saloon on the right has a short counter but with a section that has an old glazed screen and part-glazed partition wall that extends to the back of the opened-up room to a small drinking area on the left-hand side called the Farmers' Corner. Opposite the Farmers' Corner is a snug with a room next to it at the back with a parquet floor and large interwar brick fireplace. The main bar is on the left-hand side and was once divided into two rooms by a timber screen but only a short section remains: see the unused door at the front of the pub. The counter is L-shaped and is possibly postwar and the back fittings are modern. At the rear is the games room featuring a full-size billiard table. The dividing wall to the games room has been removed. There is a short corridor between the games room and the Farmers' Corner.

Exterior

The Haven

Opposite Okehurst Road North, The Haven, RH14 9BS
Tel: (01403) 822709
Email: theblueship@hotmail.co.uk
Website: http://www.theblueship.co.uk
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Blue Ship ★★★

A rural classic. The pretty red-brick and tile-hung Victorian exterior conceals an eighteenth-century, possibly earlier, structure. The public space used to be much smaller becausethe left-hand rooms are relatively new additions, being taken in from private quarters in about 1973 (front) and around 1986 (rear). The real focus is the splendid old room on the right with exposed beams, simple seating, scrubbed pine tables, barebrick floor and an inglenook fireplace with seats (but modernstove). Originally this appears to have consisted of two rooms,which were knocked together when the pub was establishedabout a century ago. In past times service seems to have beenat a tiny hatch to the right of the present doorway-cum-hatch.A stone-flagged corridor leads to the much smaller bar at therear and which also only has a doorwaycum-hatch to theservery where beer is drawn direct from the cask.

Interior

Wineham

Wineham Lane, Wineham, BN5 9AY
Tel: (01444) 881252
Email: theroyaloakwineham@sky.com
Website: https://theroyaloakwineham.wordpress.com/contact/
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Listed Status: II

Royal Oak ★★

An attractive, partly half-timbered village pub run by the Peacock family for 60 years until 2007. After they came a number of changes were made in 1946 or 1947, notably alteration of a straight counter to the current polygonal shape. The left-hand side of the main bar has basic bench seating partly made from old barrel staves, an inglenook fireplace, exposed beams and a brick floor. Beer is served from casks on stillage, clearly visible from the counter. Unusually there is a small brick fireplace within the servery area. At the rear is a simply appointed room with a wood-block floor and a narrow passage to the right, at the end of which is a hatch to the back of the servery. The right-hand side of the main bar was created in 1946/7 out of a former shop, the door to which nowprovides service to outdoor customers. To the right of the pubis a separate corrugated-iron function room. Outside gents' but inside ladies' with a blocked spy-hole in the door, this being an exterior door until 1947

Front Room

Closed Pubs

The following pubs would have been main entries in this guide had they currently been open

East Sussex

Eastbourne

222 Seaside, , Eastbourne, BN22 7QX
Tel: (01323) 722274
Listed Status: II

King's Arms ★

01323 722274 No website Grade II listed LPA: Eastbourne It’s seen better days but this piece of fin de siècle pub-building stands up well to contemporary glories in Liverpool or London. Its date, 1900, is inscribed on a bracket to the corner entrance while the building tells us much about the aspirations and functioning of grand pubs a century or so ago. That it doubled as a hotel is clear from the mosaic inscription at the right-hand entrance. Don’t miss the rare pictorial tiling at the entrance by Carters of Poole showing a couple of eighteenth-century anglers about to enjoy the blandishments of ‘Ye Kings Arms’. What is now the main bar would have been subdivided as the surviving inscriptions of ‘saloon bar’, ‘private bar’, ‘bottle & jug’ in the etched window glass indicate. Exactly where these various spaces were organised is, tantalisingly, far from clear especially as new servery layout and fittings were installed under plans of 1981. There is some wondrously outrageous embellishment to the cast-iron columns and other decorative details. At the rear is a large room with a couple of skylights that looks as though it was a billiard or function room. Again there is some boisterous, festive decoration in the friezes with near-naked ladies set among swirling decoration while in the skylights playful cherubs cavort and play musical instruments.

Front Room

Kent

Broadstairs

204 Ramsgate Road, Dumpton, Broadstairs, CT10 2EW
Tel: None
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Railway Station (Dumpton Park) and Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Brown Jug ★★★

This is an appealing, fling-faced local with two little-altered rooms at the front – the tiny left-hand bar has plain bar fittings with a 1970s brick fireplace that replaced a kitchen range. On the right is a small room with a 1920s tiled and wood-surround fireplace. The rear bar was extended towards the back in 1948 and has a plain bar counter and a 1930s brick fireplace. The gents' and ladies' are outside.

Bar

Surrey

Bletchingley

Little Common Lane, , Bletchingley, RH1 4QF
Tel: None
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

William IV ★

Country inn built as two cottages in 1850s and still with three little altered small bars despite the attempts of Youngs Property Company to over-modernise it. The tiny front bar retains its c1960s counter and some old dado panelling. Sadly Youngs ripped out the old bar back fitting when they purchased the pub in 2006 but some old wood remains in the servery area. Another small bar on the left has another c1960s counter and once again has bench seating following Youngs ripping out the original and the new tenant purchasing a replacement in 2008, and a brick fireplace. Another rear bar with an old counter and red tile fireplace is used as a dining room. Even the toilets are outside but now under cover.

Left Hand Bar Servery

Claygate

35, Coverts Road, , Claygate, KT10 0JY
Tel: None
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: Not listed

Winning Horse ★

Built 1920's by Mann, Crossman & Paulin with a green glazed brick dado and still maintaining its 2 bars and an off sales layout. You now enter via the off sales as the front doors to the bars are blocked up. It has an original counter and is still in use by local children to buy sweets etc. Ply panelling was added top walls in the 1950/1960s and new doors cut to the left and right in recent years. Saloon Bar on the left has an original mirrored bar back and includes a carved Tudor arch for staff with hops and hop leaves in the spandrels. The original counter has a frontage added in the 1960's and a flat terrazzo gutter a round it. The brick fireplace is original and the ply panelling added to the walls in the 1960's. The public bar retains its original bar back but was refitted in the 1950s and has a random stone effect counter and tiled fireplace from that period. The intact ladies toilet has red tiled floor and white dado tiled walls.

Saloon Bar

West Sussex

Steyning

18 Church Street, , Steyning, BN44 3YB
Tel: (01903) 812215
Website: https://www.thenorfolkarmssteyning.com
Real Ale & Cider: Real Ale
Public Transport: Near Bus Stop
Listed Status: II

Norfolk Arms ★

This pub was once three cottages and which included a bakery on the right-hand side. The right-hand lounge bar was created in 1935 by the amalgamation of two rooms, the rear having being part of the landlord's accommodation. This was when the present counter was installed. The back fitting is hard to date. There is lots of old panelling on the walls, a 1930s brick fireplace and parquet floor in the rear part. Note an old 'Saloon Bar' etched panel in the door out to the toilets. The left-hand bar is now only open for societies and events and not the general public.

Right Hand Lounge Servery

Ceramic Grandeur in Portsmouth and Gosport by Chris Witt

Pub architecture entered its golden years at the end of the nineteenth century and there is no better place to see this in action than in Ports- mouth and Gosport. Here architec- ture and its embellishment are brought together in a truly stunning series of pubs which, taken together, have no equivalent anywhere else. This is all to do with intense comp- etition between local brewers, notably Brickwoods, Portsmouth United Breweries, and Long's in Portsmouth, and Blakes who were especially strong in Gosport. To entice customers into their pubs between the last Victorian years and the First World War, they chose rich architectural display as a tool and, specifically, the use of fine ceramic façades. Brickwoods were the first to use glazed bricks and faience, usually in trademark dark red or brown with white lettering while United's signature colour was green. Over in Gosport, Blake's tiling was pale green with a yellow panel featuring their name and wares. The usual maker was the famous firm of Carters of Poole in Dorset. Travel around and you will come across these pubs, many now closed and used for other purposes, but still retaining their wonderful ceramic frontages.

Let's start in Portsmouth. It is impossible here to list all the pubs with their ceramics still in situ, but we can look at a sample with some really interesting stories, as well as a good selection of the 'standard' company products.

On Goldsmith Avenue, close by Fratton rail station, stands the magnificent façade of Brickwood's former Talbot, now residential flats, just one example from the prolific Portsmouth architect A.E. Cogswell (1858–1934) who was something of a pub specialist and whose work can be seen all over the city. Whilst the ground floor has the standard brewery ceramics advertising their 'Brilliant Ales' the upper floors feature 'Brewers' Tudor-style' half-timbering and a corner turret; something of a feature to be found all over the city. In the same style but of more modest proportions is the former Florist in nearby Kingston Road.

By way of contrast, the Leopold in Albert Road, Southsea is a perfect example of how United used its house colours to striking effect. No doubts about who produced 'The Perfect Beer'!

In nearby Eastney, the impressive all-over ceramics of the Eastfield Hotel is featured in this book (p. xx). Just north of the city centre in Stamshaw Road stands the former Mediterranean (now flats) dating from 1904 and with a large tiled mural depicting Royal Navy vessels at Gibraltar.

Moving into suburbia there are a number of hidden gems well worth seeking out. The Lord Chichester in North End presents a more standard but nonetheless imposing Edwardian Brickwoods pub, with mosaic used as the background to the brewer's name and products. It is still opera- ting as a pub, as is the Fountain in nearby London Road, a Cogswell design from the same era with some very ornate ceramic work. The Tangier of 1911 in Baffins brings a touch of Moorish exoticism to the area, and is another work from the drawing board of the prolific Cogswell. Two panels by Carters of Poole depict the entrance to the grand market in Tangier and an Arab horseman.

To finish off, we visit the Coach & Horses in Hilsea, rebuilt in 1929–31 by A. E. Cogswell (who else!) replete with tower and finished in red brick, but featuring two extraordinary, highly politicised panels entitled 'A Tale of Highway Robbery'.

In 1907 the War Office, under Asquith's Liberal government, sold the existing pub freehold for the then outrageous sum of £9,500 to Portsmouth United Breweries under its Tory chairman, Sir William Dupree (1856–1933). The Liberals were inveterately opposed to the drink interest and the affair clearly rankled

with Dupree, who like other brewers, was also greatly exercised by the high taxes that temperance- loving Liberals had imposed on drink. Hence, he commissioned a mural from the illustrator Henry Furniss recording the affair which was reproduced in a pair of tiled panels when the pub was rebuilt in 1931: over twenty years on, and at the end of his life, Sir William was Now we cross the harbour by ferry to Gosport, where Blakes predominate with their distinctive ceramic frontages on smaller local pubs. Most of these are now con- verted to alternative use, but good examples of their ceramic work can still be seen at the Britannia, Forton Road; King's Head, Brockhurst Road (now a convenience store); and Royal Oak, Avery Lane.

Brickwoods were present too, of course, the Queen's Head in Brockhurst Road, being a large estate-type pub with Tudor-style timbering to the upper floors whilst the Trafalgar in Trafalgar Square represents the small local pub – both are still trading. Brickwoods also had the Royal Arms in Stoke Road (closed) with its impressive glazed canopy, in stark contrast to the Artillery Arms in Brockhurst Road (residential) with its plain green tiles. We finish our visit with a riot of coloured tiles (green, yellow, vermilion, black and pale blue) that adorn the frontage of the Fox Tavern in North Street. It is one of the few remaining pubs proclaiming Long's brewery of Southsea in white lettering on their standard pale blue fascia.

A tour of both Portsmouth and Gosport is recommended for those interested in the fine ceramic facades to be found there.

Much useful information can be found in Philip Eley & R. C. Riley, Portsmouth Pubs 1900–1950 published by Portsmouth City Council in 1991 and A Toast to Gosport produced in 1996 by a team from CAMRA Portsmouth and S E Hampshire Branch, Gosport Borough Council and Hampshire County Council.

The Difficulty with Dating

Few pubs are the work of known architects whilst the overwhelming majority were fitted out by local builders and chippies, not your 'high-end' craftsmen or artists like Thomas Chippendale or William Morris! We are not at the cutting edge of fine taste where those with a trained eye can spot stylistic nuances that enable a good stab at dating. This is particularly true of bar counters, where a standard design, found thousands of times, involves a series of panels, perhaps divided by pilasters and with brackets just below the counter top: Take that at Cowden Pound, Kent (p. xxx), a pub believed to date from the 1840s. The counter might date back to then, equally it could have been put in in the twentieth century. Short of tree- ring dating, how can we know? Panelling can be a tricky area too. At one pub surveyed for this book (but not included), the George, Felpham, West Sussex, it looks for all the world to be of the 1930s, yet the locals recall its installation in the 1980s! We must remember that in the last century there was no sudden stylistic break after the First World War whilst in the 1950s and even 1960s things often looked very similar (if perhaps that bit flimsier) to work of the 1930s. Guesswork can be dangerous. Occasionally in this guide you may find us using the get-out word 'old'. – sorry to be imprecise but so's the history of what we're dealing with.

Games at the pub

Pubs are places of pleasure and relaxation so it's not surprising that they've always been used for a multitude of games and entertainment. Pub games are not as popular as they were, having fallen victim to changes in pub culture and a growing focus on the provision of food but you will certainly come across them (and, hopefully, have a have a bit of fun on the way). Some, like cards, cribbage, dominoes or that more recent and very popular invention, the pub quiz, require little or no special provision. Others, however, do. While there now appear to be no pub bowling greens in the South East, there are a few pub skittle alleys

remaining but most double up as function rooms. They are to be found in Hampshire and West Sussex with a few in Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Surrey

Darts is now by far the best- known pub game. Back in its glory days of the late 1970s and early 1980s ten per cent of the population, according to a Sports Council survey, played darts (not all in pubs of course), making it more popular than football and second only second to fishing as a participative sport. You will still find dartboards in huge numbers of pubs. The Jolly Taxpayer in Portsmouth (p. XX) has no less than three boards whilst the Phoenix in Hilsea, Portsmoth (p. XX) even sports four. The standard board today has a 20 at the top, double and treble rings, and an inner (50) and outer (25) bull's eye but there have been many variants in the past. You can see examples in what is a veritable darts museum at the Cock at Luddesdown (p. XXX).

Bar billiards, thought to have been introduced from Belgium in the 1930s, is probably more prevalent in the most south- eastern counties of our region than elsewhere. It's a wonderful game that can be played at a number of pubs in this guide, such as the Jenny Lind, Hastings (p. XX), Blue Ship, The Haven (p. XX), Junction Inn, Southampton (p. XX), Phoenix, Hilsea, and the Unicorn, Canterbury (p. XX).

In late Victorian times and the early twentieth century full-sized billiards was widely played in British pubs in rooms large enough to house tables for the purpose. Spacious and lavish former billiard rooms can be found at the King & Queen, Brighton (p. XX), and the King's Arms, Eastbourne (p. XX). From the 1920s snooker supplanted billiards but the space that huge tables required led to their eventual disappearnce (but, of course, the colourful nature of the game and astounding dexterity of its top players make it great TV). A full- sized table remains in use at the Chequer Inn, Steyning (p. XX). Games rooms have now been colonised by the pool table, popularised by the film The Hustler, starring a pool-playing Paul Newman. When it was released in 1961, there were none in Britain: thirty years later there were estimated to be 45,000.

Toad in the hole, wherein four age brass coins or 'toads' are aimed at a hole in a padded stool-like structure, is now quite rare but and is played almost exclusively in pubs around Lewes (ES). Score one point for landing on the top and two points for each toad actually in the hole. Successfully tossed toads are retrieved from a small drawer. There is a league and, would you believe, a World Championship. Examples can be found at the Blackboys in the eponymous village (p. xx); Lewes Arms, Lewes (p. xx); and the Ram, Firle (p. xx), but perhaps the best device is that at the Red Lion, Snargate (p. xx), where you can also find other pub games such as table skittles and shove ha'penny, the latter also found at the Bell at Aldworth (p. xx).

Shove or push penny. While shove ha'penny is played in different parts of the UK, there are three areas using pennies – two of which are in the South East. Shove, as it's known there is played in the Hastings area, is by far the more significant with a number of leagues which generally cover both darts darts and shove with both games played but usually by different players. 'Push penny' is also played mainly in the Thanet area of Kent and around Stamford, Lincolnshire, although it barely survives in either.

A rare indoor game is twister, a betting game mainly associated with East Anglia though it makes a rare appearance at the Selsey Arms, Coolham (p. XX), with a typical circle mounted on the ceiling and divided into ten segments: an arrow is spun and settles at one of them. See our article on smuggling (p. XX) for a possible connection with a dodgy past.

Off to the Isle of Wight and the Volunteer in Ventnor (p. XX), which forms part of a league for the game of rings. The idea is to land your three rings on a wall-mounted board with hooks: as with 301 and 501 in darts, the favourite game is to score 201 before your opponent(s).

But finally, back outside – Aunt Sally (PIC 9) is a summer game, played mainly in Oxfordshire but trickling into adjacent counties. It is, encountered at the Bell, Aldworth (p. XXX), North Star, Steventon (p. XXX), and the Queen's Head, Wokingham (p. XXX), in which sticks are thrown at a 'doll' mounted on a post (as a sort-of coconut shy). Like all pub games, dead simple – until you have a go yourself.

A pub game originating in East Anglia but is played at one pub in the South East is dwyle flunking. There are at least two games a year at the Lewes Arms, Lewes (p. XXX). It involves two teams of twelve players with each taking a turn to dance around the other while attempting to avoid a beer- soaked dwyle (cloth) thrown by a member of the non-dancing team. Our photo is of a game at the Red Lion, Snargate (p. xxx), in 2011 organised to celebrate the pub having been held by the same family for one hundred years (Pic 10). This bucolic merriment has staggeringly ancient origins which can probably be traced back as far as the latter half of the twentieth century! A kind of Monty Python meets the English pub.

Fascinating details of these and other pub games can be found in the superb, Played at the Pub: the Pub Games of Britain (2009) by Arthur Taylor which is available for just £10 (post free in the UK) from www.playedinbritain.co.uk

The Tale of the Pump Clip

Walk into a pub and fancy a beer? But which beer? The solution is probably via the pump clips which give information about the beer name and style (sometimes silly or misleading), who brewed it (sometimes misleading or absent) and its strength This may seem all pretty standard and traditional but 'tradition' is constantly being reinvented and sometimes is not that old. So it is with the humble pump clip. In Victorian and Edwardian times, pump clips simply didn't exist. It was usually a straight choice of mild or bitter (perhaps plus, say, old ale) and you knew whose it was because of the pub signage.

We are currently engaged on further archive investigation but it is believed that pump clips first appeared in the mid-1930s with national brands such as Bass and Worthington who concentrated on the free trade, and thus needed to show their products were available and distinct from local offerings. This was also a time of greater mobility and the familiarity with a big brand name no doubt encouraged custom. The earliest securely dateable illustration of a pump clip is from Barclay Perkins' house magazine with a clip advertising 'Barclays Pale Ale', a beer discon- tinued in late 1940. Thirties pump clips might be expected to have a long residence on their hand pumps and were usually made of enamel- led metal and had fixings securely screwed round the handpump.

The situation was little different in the 1950s where, again, visual evidence suggests clips were still rare but becoming more common. The early 1960s saw the rise of keg beer and lager which advertised themselves in variously-shaped dispense housings, always with the name showing. This may have encouraged greater display of cask ale offerings but this is far from clear. Everything must have depended on each brewer's directors and publicity officer.

In 1971 the formation of CAMRA would reactivate our attitudes to and secure the future of real ale. It would lead to a rise of new brewers who would offer a totally unprecedented choice of beers. For these independents the pump clip was an essential tool. Similarly, as the Beer Orders of 1989, forced brewers to sell off tied pubs to a variety of property companies, the link between tied house and owning brewer was broken. You no longer knew whose beer you might expect

to drink and thus the need for pump clips became ever more essential. The ‘barscape’ has changed for ever.

Revolution in Kent: the micropub

Small is beautiful we are often told. And, if you fancy a drink in enjoy- able, social surroundings you can’t do better than visit one of Britain’s new breed of ‘micropubs’. Typically these single-room establishments have colonised one of the increasing number of redundant shops in our towns and cities. They are, by definition, small and will accommodate perhaps just a dozen or a couple of dozen customers. They are low-cost operations, often using recycled furnishings. Many do not even run to a bar counter with beer being brought from casks stillaged at the rear. As at February 2020 there are 357 of them forming members of the Micropub and Microbrewery Association.

As with so much in pub history, form follows legislation! From 2005, under the 2003 Licensing Act, it became easier to change from the planning class usage Class A1, that is, a general shop, to Class A4, a drinking establishment. An intended change of use has to be advertised and, if the local planning department supports it and there are less than five objections, the change will be permitted. Five or more object- ions will require formal approval by the planning committee. A personal and premises licence has to be obtained.

First up in 2005 was the Butcher’s Arms in Herne, Kent, the enterprising creation of Martyn Hiller from a former butcher’s shop and latterly an off-licence. Momentum gradually built up, especially near the movement’s home county and in 2012 there were enough pubs to set up the Micropub Association, a resource for other would-be micropubs, to give free advice on the setting up and running of a successful micropub. It took until 2015 for Scotland to join the bandwagon with the opening Rutherford’s at Kelso in the Borders.

What, you may well ask, has this new movement got to with a book on historic pub interiors? In a funny way, quite a lot as it is a kind of return to the pub’s simple roots mentioned on p. XXX. In the micropub you get the kind of atmosphere which is often held up as the idealised embodiment of a pub – a good drink, good fellowship and the inevitability of being drawn into conversation. In history, what goes round comes round! See micropubassociation.co.uk

A tour of tiles along the South Coast

Portsmouth & Brighton United Breweries made prominent use of distinctive green ceramic frontages to advertise their presence. A typical colourful example is the Heart & Hand in Brighton. as is the Prince of Wales in Newhaven (p.xx), where deep green contrasts with white lettering. Rival brewers, Tamplins, also deployed the bland- ishments of ceramics, for example, at the Victory Inn, Brighton (p. xx), with its strong bands of dark and pale green. The delightful entrance features a roundel of Nelson’s flagship.

Pictorial panels at pub entrances were quite a feature at a number of London pubs around at the end of Victoria’s reign, less so elsewhere. However, but we do find a rather charming example by Carters of Poole at the grand King’s Arms, Eastbourne (p.xx), of 1900. A couple of eighteenth-century fishermen turn up at a coincidentally named ‘Ye Kings Arms’ and get served by the jocund landlord.

But the fitting conclusion to our brief South Coast tour has to be in Hastings where, at the General Havelock (p. xx) there is the grandest display of pictorial pub

tiling in England, rivalled only in Scotland by the Cafe Royal in Edinburgh. There is a panel at the front entrance showing Havelock on horseback and inside are two vast, eight-foot-long panels with the Battle of Hastings and a set-to between sturdy Hastings fishermen and a French pirate ship. The maker was A.T. S. Carter, son of Jesse Carter of the Poole factory.

As a finale and moving way up to the north Kent coast, we show a fine entrance panel discovered during research for this book. It's at a now- closed Army & Navy, Brook Street, Chatham, and shows wondrous harmony and companionship between the armed forces.

Taking on the public house: temperance in the South East by Andrew Davison

This is a book about historic pub interiors, so why an article about a movement that campaigned vociferously against alcohol and the places selling it? The answer is that the Temperance movement had a significant influence on public house design, forcing pub owners to provide improved premises with enhanced facilities, helping turn them from places which simply sold drink, to places which offered alternatives to drinking. Today, it is hard to grasp how central alcohol was to life in early nineteenth-century England. Beer was drunk with meals, at work, and to accompany most leisure pursuits. Whilst theatres and assembly rooms offered more choice for the middle and upper classes in larger towns, for the great majority of people social life revolved around the pub.

Government had always had an equivocal attitude to alcohol. It derived much of its revenue from taxes on alcohol, yet the threat which over-consumption, particularly of spirits, posed to law and order was a constant concern. The Beer Act of 1830 was a result of this concern, giving a boost to British beer at the expense of foreign spirits. It also greatly increased drunkenness, as people took full advantage of the increased availability of beer.

This was the context in which the Temperance movement first appeared. Emerging in the United States in the 1820s, the concept soon crossed the Atlantic. The first English society was formed in Bradford in February 1830; a year later there were 30 societies in England. Early ones preached 'moderation' – drinking beer but not spirits – but in September 1832 the adoption by the Preston Temperance Society of the 'teetotal' pledge, requiring total abstinence from alcohol, spelt the end of 'moderation'. Total rejection of alcohol meant that facilities for holding meetings in pubs and inns were no longer available to Temperance societies, whilst teetotal travellers felt uncomfortable staying at inns.

Teetotal societies began to build their own meeting halls, whilst teetotal entrepreneurs developed a nationwide network of Temperance hotels. The South East was resistant at first to the teetotal message. However, despite opposition (the economies of Kent and Sussex were largely dependent on growing ingredients for beer, and hecklers disrupted teetotal meetings with 'What will you do with the hops?') societies were founded in many places across the region.

In 1851 the US state of Maine passed a law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of alcohol, and the focus of the Temperance movement in the UK switched from 'reclaiming the drunkard' – persuading individuals of the evil of drink– to campaigning for a 'Maine Law' in England. Strong political support, particularly from the Liberal party, meant that whilst prohibition was never achieved, public houses were brought under ever-stricter control.

The late 1870s saw the arrival of the ‘Coffee Tavern movement’, which provided ‘pubs without beer’ selling non-alcoholic drinks, but also offering cheap wholesome hecklers disrupted teetotal meetings with ‘What will you do with the hops?’) societies were founded in many places across the region. food, newspapers, billiards and bowls. These set a design benchmark which the owners of public houses were forced by the authorities to emulate.

The Temperance movement was, in its time, hugely influential. That influence drained away in the early twentieth century, partly because of the demonstrable failure of Prohibition in the United States, but also because the public house itself lost its central role in social life with the development of popular alternatives, notably cinemas. The movement has gone, but examples of its buildings – Temperance halls, hotels, coffee taverns and drinking fountains, amongst others – can still be found across the South East.

A Time-traveller’s Tale: sixty years on

Suppose you’d just been down to your local for a drink with your friends back in 1960, and then, Rip Van Winkle-wise, fallen asleep, and, reawakened to find yourself in 2020. Another trip to the pub to restore equilibrium seems a good idea – but how familiar will everything be, or how different?

First of all, your local may well have vanished as pub numbers have declined by around 40 per cent (yes – 40 per cent) since the 1960s. It might have been demolished and the site built upon; perhaps converted to flats, a mini-market or a car park. If it survives, you probably won’t get a clue as to who owns it! It’s unlikely to be brewery-owned, as was usual in the 1960s The once-familiar brewery insignia will have gone: you might spot some vestigial advertising for, Watneys, Charrington, or Courage but it is only there because no-one has taken it down! The big brewers sold off their estates to what are in effect property companies following the ‘Beer Orders’ of 1989 and these ‘pubcos’ have continued to dominate the trade. In 1960 you’d expect to order a bitter or (now virtually vanished) mild brewed by the company owning the pub. Thus there was no need for pump clips. Today’s choice of ales would seem utterly astounding to a 1960s drinker who was witnessing rapid consolidation of the brewing industry dominated by the ‘Big Six’, hell-bent on promoting easy-to-retail ‘fizz’ in the form keg beer and, increasingly, lager. Salvation, however, would come in 1971 with the creation of CAMRA. In 1960 the typical pub had a greater sense of community focus than it does today. Viewing UK films of the 1950s and early 1960s with scenes set in pubs shows bars where people come together to socialise on a daily basis often at an expected time. In 2020 the advent of the mobile phone and rise of social media has completely changed these dynamics. In 1960 the public bar was, usually, simply appointed and still, in theory, the domain of the working man where one paid a copper or two less than in the somewhat ‘better’ lounge/saloon/smoke room/ private bar. In the latter (whatever it was called) you got more attractive surroundings and, quite likely, a carpet. Ladies were not generally excluded from public bars although some pubs did operate gents only bars but this became illegal from 1 January 1976. Another, much later, legislative change, making the 2020 pub very different from its 1960 counterpart, was the introduction of smoking bans, first in Scotland in 2006, followed by the rest of the UK in 2007.

What of the physical character of the pub itself ? Over sixty years has been a fundamental shift from multi-room pubs to more open spaces. This is the biggest theme of this book which especially celebrates pubs that have still kept ‘traditional’ rooms. A particular casualty and one which started to become very evident at the start of the sixty-years sleep, has been the ‘offie’. In the 1950s and 1960s and, even into the 1970s, the pub, along with off-sales shops, was so often the place where people went to for take-home supplies. The dinner tables of our old films so often show dad with a bottled beer, quite likely brought in from the local. Purchases might be made at a compartment within the pub itself or, in the case of some grander, modern premises (e.g. Romans, Southwick, (p. xxx),

there might be an actual shop attached to the pub) In the 1960s this all began to change with the inexorable rise of the supermarket. The consequence is that most pub off-sales facilities have gone, usually incorporated into the adjacent part of the pub, or perhaps converted to kitchen use or simply used for storage.

Some other trends can be picked out that have altered the character of our pubs. It is now quite usual for external windows to be filled with plain glass: this was unheard of back in 1960 when pub windows invariably were glazed with frosted glass or, in grander Victorian cases, etched and cut glass. It used to be frowned upon for people to be able to look, unimpeded, into the internal, somewhat risqué world of the pub. There was meant to be a veil between the two worlds.

Earlier we mentioned the proliferation of beer offerings over the past sixty years. The same applies to all other drinks. A consequence of today's amazing choices is the need for extra shelving and the provision of a huge range of different glasses. Bar-back fittings are now utterly crammed with choice and fridges have become an essential part of the servery arrangements. The desire for drink-specific glasses and the need to supply a new glass even for repeat orders has led to the rise of the pot-shelf or bar-mounted gantry to house this vast increase in glassware. Prior to 1960 the pot-shelf was pretty well unknown, the consequence of which was a very different, more open character to the servery. Food has been part of the pub scene for centuries but it has assumed ever-growing importance since the early postwar period. Wet-led pubs, especially in inner urban areas have had a tough time of it, and the rise of the gastro-pub, with its emphasis on upmarket food, has transformed parts of the pub scene since the 1980s, offering publicans the opportunity to operate more profitably than the wet trade would ever do. With this has come a (non-too-subtle) change of décor. In an effort to appear modern and get away from the traditional dark colours of the traditional pub, thousands of pubs now sport pastel-coloured paint as the dominant surface treatment. The 'hardware' behind may be the same but the colour change does create a radically different character.

So, our 2020 pub is still fulfilling the same basic job of its predecessor but with subtle and some not so subtle changes – which, it must be said, is all a part of keeping the pub vibrant and relevant. One thing is for sure, the pub of 2080 will be different from that of 2020. But how?

The Selection Criteria for CAMRA's Inventories

The pubs that qualify for the National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors (NI) must have outstanding attributes – either a high degree of internal intactness or, where there has been alteration, some truly exceptional features or rooms. Outstanding bars and pub-type rooms in other kinds of establishment, such as hotel bars, theatre bars or railway buffets, are also embraced. Rather less is expected of candidates for a regional inventory of historic pub interiors (RI), although they must retain a significant amount of genuine historic features and/or a good sense of their historic layout. Most pubs included on an RI will have some combination of both. Pub interiors of Some Regional Interest (SRI) will have experienced even more change but have historic rooms or features worthy of acknowledgement.

Age

The main focus of CAMRA's inventories is on pre-1939 interiors – fabric that is much as it was before the Second World War – but some later interiors that have survived unaltered, especially from before the mid-1960s (when the modern orgy of pub refitting and opening-out began in earnest) are now rare and have to be seriously considered too. There is, however, a need for more research to develop appropriate criteria for post-war pubs and CAMRA has recently assisted

Historic England with an in-depth study of this largely unrecognised era for pubs. In the meantime, CAMRA is careful to restrict its present selections to clear cases that have special merit (exceptional merit, in the case of the NI). Interiors later than 1970 do not qualify at all for the inventories.

Historic pub fittings, features and plan-form

The emphasis is on items that reflect the premises' historic function as a pub, rather than inherited from some other (usually domestic) use of the building, although the line is not always easy to draw. Items of specific interest include such things as fixed settles or bench seating, bar fittings (counter, bar-back), screen partitioning, bell-pushes, dispense equipment and original toilets as well as fittings and décor purpose-designed for pubs (most famously by the Victorians and Edwardians, in decorative glass, joinery, plaster and ceramic work). If features like these survive in abundance, with little lost, the pub is a clear candidate for the NI.

The survival of historic layout is also a crucial factor in assessing NI candidates, but RI candidates too should retain sufficient for their original internal planning to be appreciated and understood. Where a pub has undergone modern extension, as so many have, this need not count against it providing the work has been sensitively done (preferably kept physically separate) and does not seriously compromise its 'historic core'.

The bottom line?

If all that's left is a couple of fixed benches and a bit of matchboard panelling in a largely opened-up pub, inclusion will not be justified as these are common-place and can be found in large numbers. Many pub interiors too still have a few old features like etched glass or tilework which are irreplaceable and a joy to behold but CAMRA has been cautious about developing plans for a nationally-led campaign to identify and catalogue them – the hope being that the inspiration for compiling 'local inventories' will take off at the local level itself. The work done by Sheffield Branch of CAMRA in identifying and describing such pubs in their area shows what a worthwhile exercise this can be.

Factual evidence and informed judgement

CAMRA's inventories set great store by including only what is genuinely old. This ought to be a matter of objective, provable fact and certainly the selections for the South West Regional Inventory have been authenticated wherever possible from documentary sources like original plans, building records or other archive material. However, where no such material exists, as is often the case, the truth is not always easy to establish. Oral testimony from licensees and older regulars can be an invaluable help but reliance often has to be placed on experience and informed judgement.