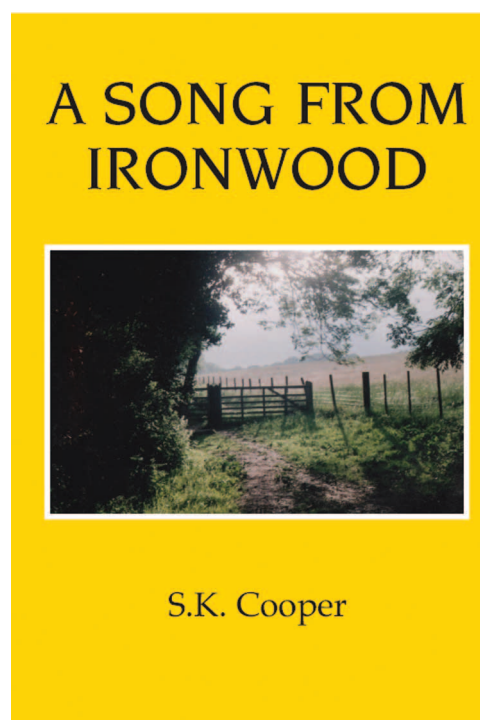




## A SONG FROM IRONWOOD

S.K. Cooper

Country Books paperback 210 x 148mm 178 pages **£8.00**



The first published novel by a Sussex author whose main interests include folklore, fields and farms.

*A Song from Ironwood* is a modern story of romance and friendship and honour, featuring a playful character who is not easily forgotten.

It begins in the summer of 1987, when two people return to Sussex to visit the villages where they grew up. Kate, the narrator, goes to the downland village of Eartham to stay a few days with her friend Sian, a horse whisperer, who lives close to Madehurst, which is where Kate was born.

Then, while the girls are perambulating the quiet rural places they know so well, and reflecting on the events which led to their friendship, they meet a hunky guy who has a motorbike, and an old man seeking redemption.

What follows is a tender paean to first love, interwoven with strands of Sussex history and legend, set among the Wealden villages south of Petworth, in the summer of 1914.

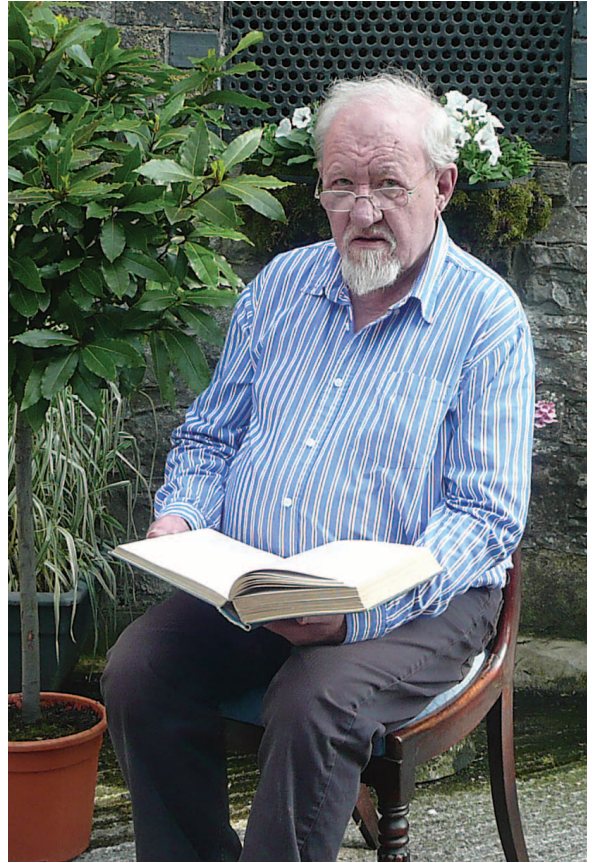
The book contains a list of old Sussex apple varieties.

Dear Members,

Firstly my apologies for the lateness of this newsletter – Spring has gone – so it should be the ‘Summer’ edition! A few health problems have caused the delay, but I hope it was worth the wait?

A few new books again, but please watch the publication dates mentioned – some are to be published in the Autumn.

It is a pleasure to include Shaun Cooper’s first novel (page 1) – members will be familiar with his previous books on witches in Sussex and a biography of the writer, Sheila Kaye Smith. Ian Hilder’s wonderful new book on Barcombe in WWI (page 11) was too late for the Christmas newsletter, so appears here. See (page 18) for two new books – a new Holmes collection by Tim Symonds and an autobiography by the well-known musician, Jimmy Lee. Sadly, this last one is only available as an Ebook!



I have had to hold over for the Christmas newsletter a review of Mrs Henry Dudeney by Diana Crook. A riveting read which I am finding difficult to put down.

I am selling my extensive library of country books – not just Sussex! Country writers Flora Thompson, BB, Fred Archers, etc. Architecture – barns, farmhouses, dovecotes, churches, windmills and watermills. Gypsies and folklore. Canals and inland waterways. I am happy to send a list on request.

Finally a plea: I am anxious to buy a copy of  
**TALES OF OLDE SUSSEX**

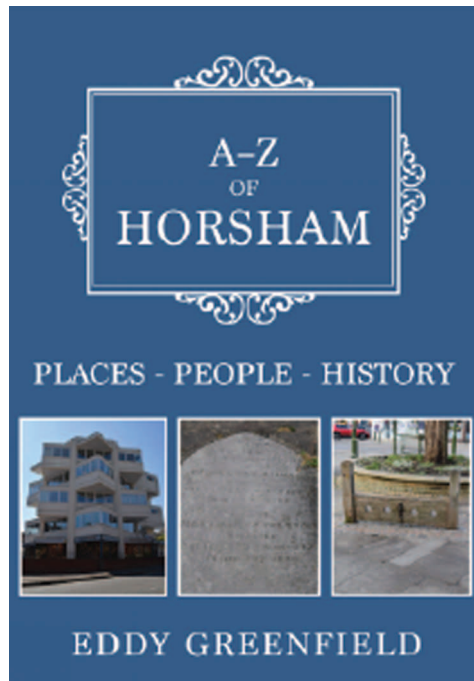
This was written and published by Philip Mercer in 1834. He was an Anglican curate and collected these tales in Sussex from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Most I have never seen in print before and I propose to republish them. My attention was drawn to them by a Worthing man, Richard Vobes, also known as ‘The Bald Explorer’.

Happy reading,  
*Dick Richardson*

# A-Z OF HORSHAM PLACES-PEOPLE-HISTORY

Eddy Greenfield

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 100 illustrations



*The A-Z of Horsham* delves into the history of this West Sussex market town. It highlights well-known town landmarks, famous (and infamous) residents and digs beneath the surface to uncover some of the lesser-known facts and hidden gems of Horsham. The town's most significant landmarks and buildings include the Old Town Hall (scene of the Acid Bath Murder trials in 1949), the lonely tower of St Mark's Church and Christ's Hospital School, but Horsham's story also includes tales of criminal, military, political, social and ancient history.

Famous names associated with the town include Barnes Wallis, Catherine Howard, test pilot Neville Duke and Percy Bysshe Shelley, but this book also unveils a darker underbelly to its history, including the time the town flirted with Mosley and his Blackshirts, why several residents were interned by the British government in the Second World War, how the population struggled against the plague and how Horsham was once the capital of political corruption. This fascinating A-Z tour of Horsham's history is fully illustrated and will appeal to all those with an interest in this West Sussex town.

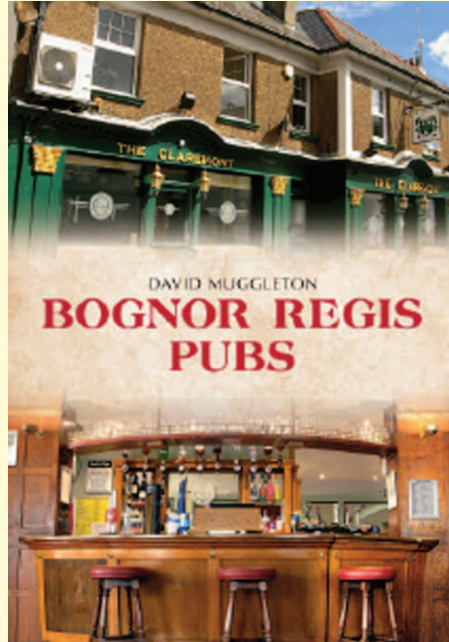
## THE AUTHOR

Eddy Greenfield is a local historian based in West Sussex who has written for a number of local magazines in the Sussex area.

# BOGNOR REGIS PUBS

David Muggleton

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 100 illustrations



Once a small fishing hamlet, the origins of modern Bognor Regis lie in the attempt by Sir Richard Hotham to develop this part of the south coast as a fashionable resort in the late eighteenth century. Hotham's original profession is given in the name of the town's JD Wetherspoon outlet, the Hatter's Inn, while the pub originally called the Railway Tavern has recently been renamed the Hothampton Arms in memory of Hotham's preferred name for his resort. The oldest pub still trading in the town is the William Hardwicke, which was built by 1817 as the New Inn. Bognor expanded with the arrival of the railway in 1864, which led to the building of new pubs such as the Terminus and the development of those already existing such as the Alexander Tavern.

David Muggleton takes us on a walking tour of this seaside town's finest pubs, taking in the ex-Berkeley Arms, now home to the town museum; the Claremont Inn, whose interwar interior makes it a CAMRA heritage pub of some regional importance; and the Punch & Judy, originally the Orlando, but recently renamed as a reminder of the Tony Hancock film *The Punch & Judy Man*, filmed partly on location in the town.

## THE AUTHOR

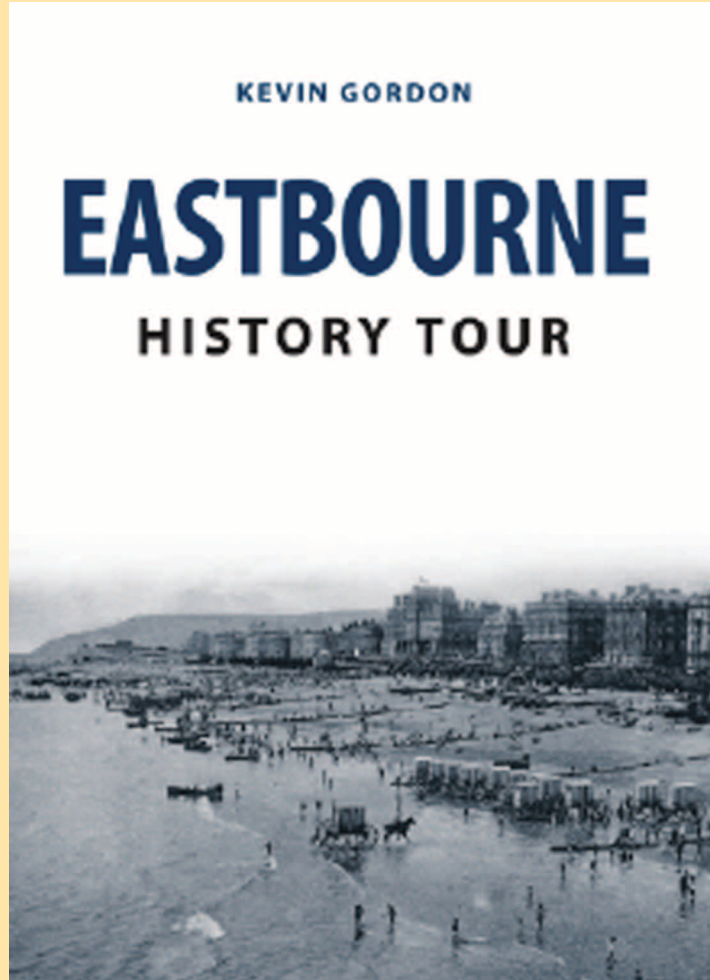
David Muggleton is a professional lecturer and writer with a particular interest in pub and brewery history. He is a member of the British Guild of Beer Writers, Pub History Society, Brewery History Society and CAMRA. Over the years, David has gained an extensive knowledge of Brighton pubs both by drinking in them and by delving deep into local archives to uncover their fascinating histories.



# EASTBOURNE HISTORY TOUR

Kevin Gordon

Amberley paperback 168 x 124mm 96 pages **£7.99** 50 illustrations



*Eastbourne History Tour* offers a fascinating insight into the fascinating history of this town on the coast of East Sussex. Author Kevin Gordon guides us around its well-known streets and buildings, showing how its famous landmarks used to look and how they have changed over the years as well as exploring its lesser-known sights and hidden corners. With the help of a handy location map, readers are invited to follow a timeline of events and discover for themselves the changing face of Eastbourne.

## THE AUTHOR

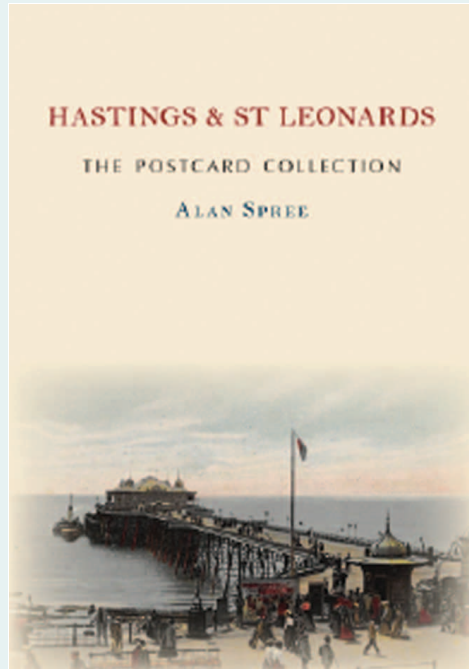
Kevin Gordon is a retired police officer who has a lifelong interest in Sussex History. He is the author of several Eastbourne and Seaford history books and has contributed many items for local newspapers. Kevin is a trustee of Seaford Museum and the Chairman of the Alfriston & Cuckmere Valley Historic Society. In 2016 he was appointed as the Honorary Historian for Seaford Town Council. He has been a volunteer at Seaford Museum for 20 years and maintains their Facebook page.

# HASTINGS & ST LEONARDS

THE POSTCARD COLLECTION

Alan Spree

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 180 illustrations



The town of Hastings, on the coast of East Sussex, was one of the medieval Cinque Ports on the south-east coast of England, benefitting from trade with Continental Europe. As the town developed into a seaside resort in the nineteenth century with the arrival of the railway, the adjoining settlement of St Leonards was built as an elegant new town to attract wealthy incomers. Hastings still operates a fishing fleet today and has grown into a large, culturally diverse town that welcomes many visitors to its ancient streets, historic old town and beaches.

*In Hastings & St Leonards: The Postcard Collection* author Alan Spree has drawn on a remarkable selection of old postcards to give a pictorial record of life in these towns in the past, from the Edwardian period to the end of the First World War. Although many landmarks have remained the same over the years, there have also been many changes in Hastings and St Leonards and the photographs show the towns and their communities adapting and changing over the course of this period. This fascinating collection of images will be of interest to those who have lived in Hastings and St Leonards or know them well.

## THE AUTHOR

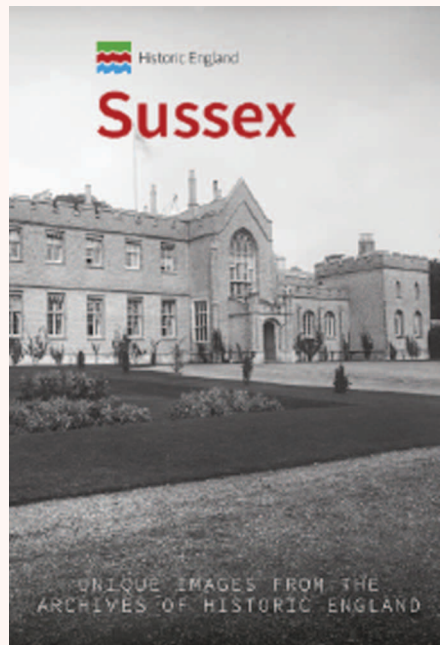
Alan Spree is the great-grandson of the postcard publisher John Henry Spree. Alan was born in Nottingham and went to school in Bilborough before moving to Portsmouth and growing up there.

# HISTORIC ENGLAND: SUSSEX

UNIQUE IMAGES FROM THE ARCHIVES OF HISTORIC ENGLAND

Kevin Newman and contributions from Historic England

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 160 illustrations



Sussex has been the home of everyone from dinosaurs and early humans, to holidaymakers and the health-conscious. It has been Iron Age, Saxon, Viking and Norman battleground, gateway to England for invaders and home to monarchs, aristocrats, writers, painters and photographers. Since the 1750s it has also been the leading destination of those seeking coastal contentment or rural retreat. Boasting a backbone of seventy miles of the South Downs, beautiful beaches, and thriving resorts has meant the county maintains a warm place in many British hearts, and so many aspects of Sussex life have been captured on film or canvas.

In *Historic England: Sussex*, Brighton-born author Kevin Newman takes readers on a unique and illustrated journey through a personal selection of Sussex's past using photographs from the Historic England Archive. Kevin brings his knowledge as author of numerous publications on Sussex to explain and bring alive photographs and illustrations ranging from the 1850s to the present day. Chapters focus on: Landmarks and scenery; Beautiful buildings; Public buildings; Entertainment and leisure; Education; People and their places; Work and industry.

## THE AUTHOR

Kevin Newman is an author of history textbooks and he gives a number of historical talks and presentations when not running his organisation, All-Inclusive History. He also takes educational and corporate groups, such as Sotherby's School of Art on architectural tours.

# HOVE THE POSTCARD COLLECTION

Trevor Cox

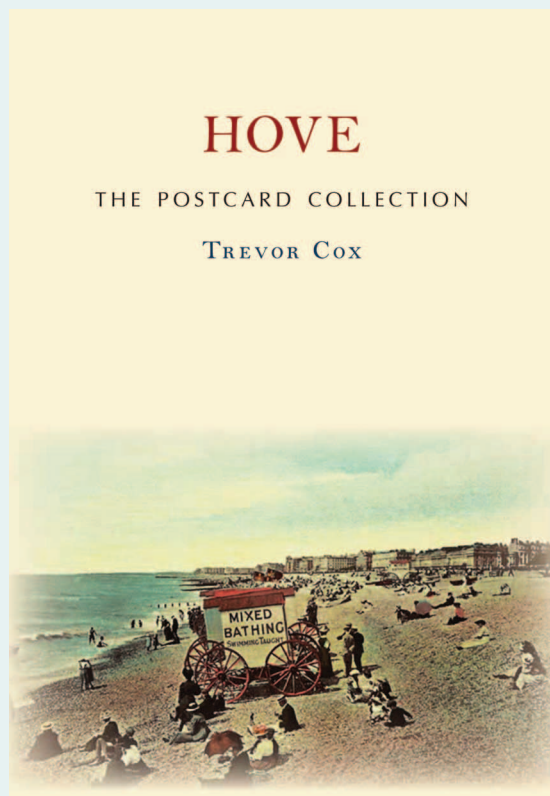
Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 180 illustrations

Hove, west of its immediate neighbour Brighton, was a small fishing village on the Sussex coast until its development in the early 19th century as a fashionable seaside resort for wealthy Londoners following the patronage of the Prince Regent, later George IV. Elegant Regency estates and large Victorian mansions were built in Hove, most of which survive today albeit as flats, and the town is also characterised by the wide boulevards and avenues laid down in that era. Sussex Cricket Club made Hove its home, as did Brighton & Hove Albion FC until it relocated in the 1990s. Hove has always retained its separate identity to Brighton, and today is proud to be a counterpoint to its neighbour.

Hove: The Postcard Collection takes the reader on an evocative journey into Hove's past through a selection of old postcards which offer a fascinating window into the history of this historic town in East Sussex.

## THE AUTHOR

Trevor Cox lives in Hove and has been collecting material on the local history of Hove for many years. He also writes for shipping magazines.

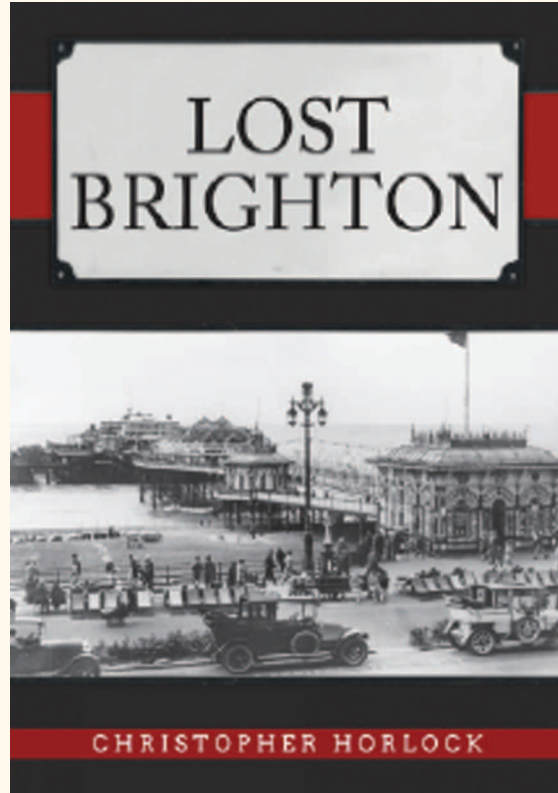




# LOST BRIGHTON

Christopher Horlock

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 100 illustrations



Brighton has grown from a fashionable resort in Georgian times, and a popular place to visit for Londoners once the railways arrived in Sussex in the nineteenth century, to today's lively conurbation on the south coast. In this book, local historian Christopher Horlock charts the changing face of Brighton from the end of the Victorian era to the present day. Not only are many famous lost landmarks recorded, such as the Chain and West piers, Hanningtons department store and the SS Brighton ice rink, but also industrial premises, churches, schools, theatres and cinemas, plus trams, trolleybuses and branch railways.

*Lost Brighton* presents a portrait of a city and a way of life that has radically changed or disappeared today, showing not just the buildings, streets and industries that have gone or changed, but also a way of life. This fascinating photographic history of lost Brighton will appeal to all those who live in the city or know it well, as well as those who remember it from previous decades.

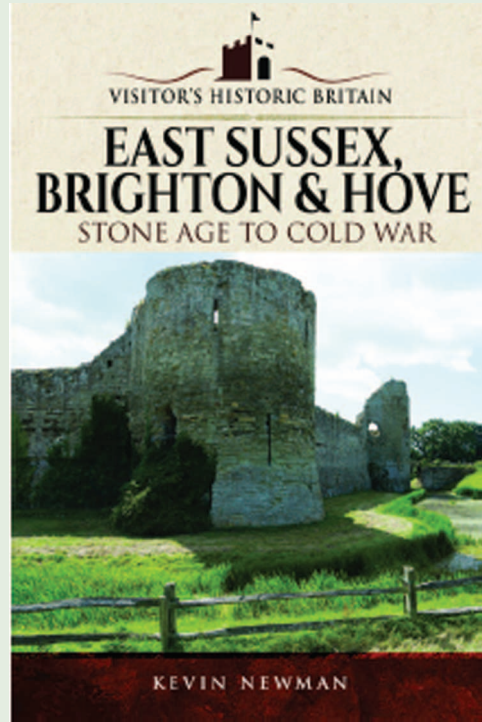
## THE AUTHOR

Christopher Horlock is an author and avid collector of old photographs of Brighton. He writes regularly for 'Sussex Life' magazine and has previously written history books for a local publisher as well Amberley.

Visitors' Historic Britain:  
**East Sussex, Brighton & Hove: Stone Age to Cold War**

Kevin Newman

Pen & Sword paperback 234 x 156mm 208 pages **£14.99** illustrated



Many writers have written about the delights of the former kingdom of the South Saxons, its Downs, villages, countryside, people and their ways but Visitors' Historic Britain is the first series of books to take readers on a tour of discovery of each of the county's historic eras in turn.

*Visitors' Historic Britain – East Sussex* follows its West Sussex predecessor and starts with the prehistoric era. We explore East Sussex from west to east, investigating both littleknown and well-visited sites that tell the story of our ancestors' past. We encounter wild warriors, formidable founders of the county, indefatigable industrialists, excitable eccentrics whilst investigating the lives of Sussex and invaders and inhabitants. Sussex is a country celebrated by writers, painters, royalty, artists and the millions who have enjoyed its changing coastline and verdant villages. *Visitors' Historic Britain – East Sussex* provides a unique series of journeys for those who are inquisitive about this quirky and history-changing part of the South-East.

### The Author

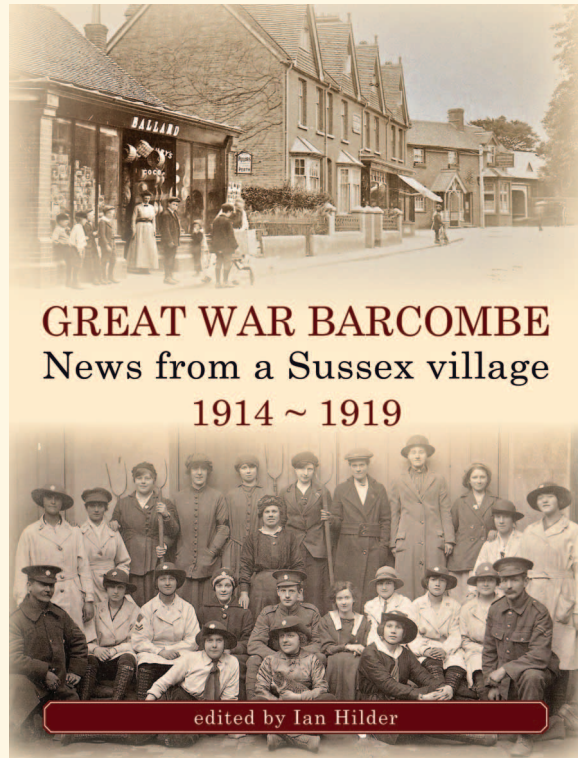
Kevin Newman is a Sussex-born and dwelling author, tour guide, teacher, history consultant, journalist and historian. A member of the Sussex Society of Authors, he has written school textbooks, for Sussex publications such as the Argus and Brighton and Hove Independent as well a range of books on Sussex. When not engaging people of all ages with the past, he escapes up on the South Downs on walks much shorter than Belloc managed.

# GREAT WAR BARCOMBE

## News from a Sussex village 1914-1919

edited by Ian Hilder BA FSG

Country Books paperback 246 x 189mm 248 pages **£15.00**  
over 200 illustrations, many in colour



Local historian Ian Hilder, introduces the reader to the inhabitants of a Sussex village during the Great War in this well-illustrated and lively account.

By the end of the War, Barcombe, an agricultural parish of 1,277 people, had supplied 176 men to the Armed Forces, 36 of whom did not return. What was daily life like for those who were left behind?

Life certainly wasn't dull, with the parish led by a smock-wearing squire, commanding a cyclists' battalion, while promoting a resurgence of the sport of stool-ball for wounded servicemen. They are joined by a new Rector and schoolmaster and an unwitting collaborator in the 'Piltown Man' hoax.

Using articles from the Sussex Express, supported by contemporary images, postcards and documents, we follow village life from the eager volunteers of 1914 and their news from the front, to the fund-raising events for refugees and servicemen, and on to conscription and the military tribunals of 1916. The village plans a fete for convalescing soldiers, while Women's Land Army workers make their first appearance on local farms.

Once the war had ended the parish began to consider how best to commemorate the dead, support the survivors and plan for the Peace Celebrations.

# A QUESTION OF IDENTITY

Tim Parker

Country Books paperback 234 x 155mm 94 pages 43 illustrations **£14.50**

"Who do you think you are? Well, it has taken me some sixty odd years to find out. 'A Question of Identity' is the story of what I discovered." Tim Parker, June 2018.

Just who were the Schwabes of Hastings and what did they do? In this enchanting biography Tim Parker reveals their past, their extraordinary accomplishments, sacrifices and their true identity.

The book describes a luxury hotel in Hastings, the Albany, socialising with the celebrated authors Conan Doyle and Arthur Ransome, and MI6 Operations in St Petersburg at the time that Rasputin was shot and the revolution was fomenting. Then there were the trials and tribulations of two World Wars when the Schwabe family, eleven in number, suffered grievous loss and heart ache. As soon they were old enough the Schwabe sons joined the army serving in the First World War in the Fusiliers and the Royal Sussex Regiments. The next generation served with the Navy and the Royal Airforce in the Second World War.

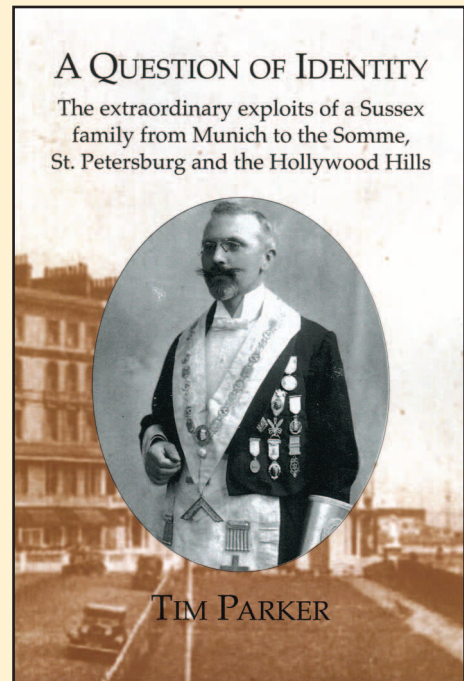
It is a riveting tale and there is glamour too, with theatre, the rise of the Elstree film studios, Ingrid Bergman, Cecil Parker and Hollywood as well as engagement with occupational careers in the Merchant Navy, Textiles, Chemicals and a concert pianist too.

Like most real family sagas the reader will share elation but also pathos, the horrors of war, the uplifting support of family love and the successes which were proudly earned. August wanted to become an Englishman, and with the help of his family that's what he became.

But where did the Schwabes go? An unusual name not found in the telephone directories of a later age. That is the mystery behind this intriguing true story.

On reading the story, Julian Parker, Master Mariner and grandson of Charles August Schwabe, said:

*"My father, like most men of his generation, was a private man, but I was astonished to learn that in those war years he never talked about he had been in Russia and, miraculously, had escaped from the notorious Peter & Paul Fortress and near certain execution by the Bolsheviks by swimming the mighty river Neva."*





# A-Z OF EASTBOURNE PLACES-PEOPLE-HISTORY

Kevin Gordon

Amberley Publishing paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99**

100 illustrations



COVER  
TO  
FOLLOW

The East Sussex seaside resort of Eastbourne at the end of the South Downs, alongside the famous Beachy Head, is largely a creation of the Victorian and Edwardian eras. In the 19th century small hamlets in the area were developed by wealthy landowners, particularly William Cavendish, 7th Duke of Devonshire, as an elegant planned town, and aided by the new railway connection to London the town grew rapidly. Visitors are still attracted to its unspoilt sea front without shops or amusement arcades and today it is one of the fastest growing seaside towns in Britain with an increasingly young population and is a burgeoning centre of industry, commerce and culture for the area.

*A-Z of Eastbourne* delves into the history of this Sussex resort, revealing interesting and significant moments in the story of the town. It highlights well-known landmarks and famous residents, and digs beneath the surface to uncover some of the lesser known facts about Eastbourne and its hidden gems. This fascinating A-Z tour of Eastbourne's history is fully illustrated with photography and will appeal to all those with an interest in this popular seaside town in East Sussex.

## THE AUTHOR

Kevin Gordon is a retired police officer who has a lifelong interest in Sussex History. He is the author of several Eastbourne and Seaford history books and has contributed many items for local newspapers.

## RUSTIC RECIPES

THE WOODBURNER COOKBOOK

JENNIFER LUNENBORG

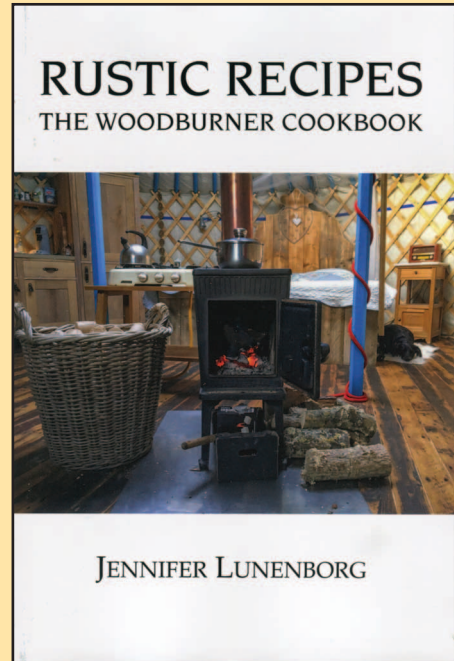
Country Books paperback 234 x 156mm 70pp **£7.99**

Illustrated with colour photos and line drawings

More than just a recipe book, but a lifestyle change, encouraging time out from busy schedules to learn from a simpler time. This book not only contains 50 recipes, ranging from hearty soups, to rustic French, Italian and Dutch dishes, to a section on foraging; but also gives snippets of information on each recipe, for example; how the chocolate truffle was invented, why carrots are orange? etc.

This book is intended as a rough guide, encouraging its readers to try cooking on their woodburner when they have time, but equally it can be used as a standard recipe book.

Jennifer Lunenburg lives in East Sussex



## MIXED FRUIT FROM A SUSSEX TREE

ASPECTS OF JOHN SNELLING

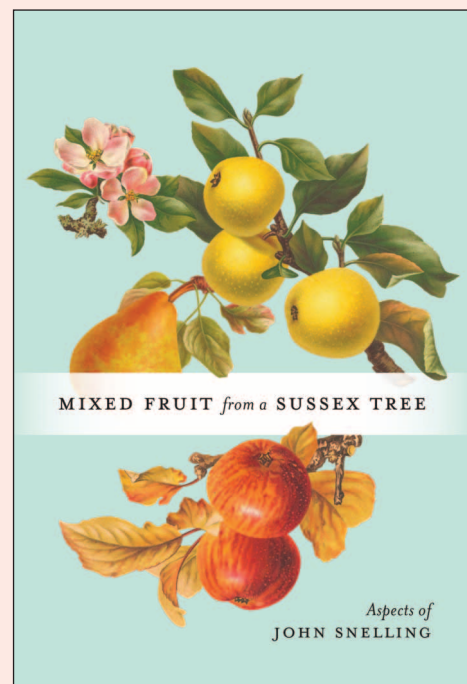
Country Books hardback 210 x 148mm 272 pages **£20.00**

Christina Maude writes of this book:

John has clearly been thinking and writing for most of his life, and the range of this collection is impressive. Social comedy, local history, the use of very different voices and some subtle and moving poetry. The silver thread which runs through it all is that of a devoted and close family within and outside the Anglican church, with some deft pen-portraits of great men and women who made a largely unsung difference to many lives. As a record of vanished times, small scale and local, it will be an ornament to any social history collection.

Amusing, thought-provoking, puckish and intimate by turns, peopled by types whom we will all know from our own lives, but never stereotypical, this is a quiet celebration of an English life which many of us will recognise with affection and nostalgia without ever wishing to turn back the clock.

The author lives in Horsham.



# SECRET BEXHILL-ON-SEA

Alan Starr

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 100 illustrations

COVER  
TO  
FOLLOW

The seaside town of Bexhill-on-Sea in East Sussex is famous for its modernist 1930s De La Warr Pavilion but has a wealth of other fascinating stories connected with its history. Although still a small town at the start of the 19th century it was home to the King's German Legion in 1804, made up of German troops who had escaped Hanover when taken over by Napoleon and who fought in the British Army. Later in the 19th century the De La Warr family transformed Bexhill into an elegant resort, the 8th Earl bringing motorracing to the town but also scandalising it with his two divorces. Author Alan Starr reveals the town's connections with the Indian philosopher Krishnamurti and the Maharajah of Cooch Behar, who influenced building styles in the town, the Mysterious Cobbler who exercised his psychic imagination from his shoe shop, literary associations, including Spike Milligan's time stationed in the town while in the Army, and much more.

With tales of remarkable characters, unusual events and tucked away historical buildings, Secret Bexhill-on-Sea will appeal to all those with an interest in the history of Bexhill.

## THE AUTHOR

Alan Starr is a local historian in East Sussex. His previous book was Making History in Pevensey.

# SECRET CRAWLEY AND GATWICK

Tina Brown

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages **£14.99** 100 illustrations



COVER  
TO  
FOLLOW

The Crawley and Gatwick area are fascinating, both have seen so many changes with the airport at Gatwick being central to this area, and now the second largest urban area in Sussex. Crawley has always been known as trade route with good connections both to the city of London and then down to the coast at Brighton. The coming of the railways brought prosperity to Crawley and saw its first major expansion as well as the development of Gatwick race course and the original Gatwick airfield; the site of both has now been swallowed by today's airport. After World War 2, the town was designated a New Town and has seen a vast increase in population and building to become one of the most important business and employment centres in the South East of England.

Crawley has many buildings of historical importance dating back to the 15th century, and many Grade 1 and 2 listed buildings of all ages up to the present day. Settlements close by on the Weald that are served by Crawley also have many secrets and stories connected to them, including numerous historical churches and manor houses. Gatwick airport itself and some of the buildings that surround the main terminal buildings today, such as the origins of the name of the Beehive Public House in the South Terminal.

## THE AUTHOR

Tina Brown leads guided tours in Hastings, Eastbourne, Middlesbrough and other areas in Britain, and has also worked with the council of Hastings to produce local trails books. She has written books on Haunted Hastings, Haunted Sussex Theatres and Haunted Middlesbrough. As well as running guided tours and her own website, she also tutors evening classes on the history of Gin, tattoos and other various specialist history topics.



# SECRET HORSHAM

Maggie Weir-Wilson

Amberley paperback 234 x 165mm 96 pages £14.99 100 illustrations



COVER  
TO  
FOLLOW

The West Sussex town of Horsham, lying on the River Arun in the Weald, has given its name to the famous Horsham Stone. The area was known for its fossils in Victorian times and rival collectors of the day made important discoveries in and around Horsham, including three Iguanodons. St Leonards Forest on the edge of Horsham has also shaped the town, iron smelting taking place there from Roman times, as well as charcoal and brick making.

In this book author Maggie Weir-Wilson reveals the hidden history of Horsham. Unsavoury tasks were banished to the Common on the edge of town such public hangings, an isolation house in times of disease and leather tanning, while the town centre was the home of several weekly markets and annual fairs. A dragon was reported to be stalking the area in 1614 and is now a symbol of the town. The area was also the home of the young Catherine Howard, Henry VIII's fifth wife, as well as William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania, and the radical poet Percy Bysshe Shelley.

There are tales of ghastly crimes and punishment, the impact of wars at home and abroad, famous and notorious characters, writers and artists, poverty, industry and wealth, and more, in Secret Horsham as the author explores the little-known history of the town.

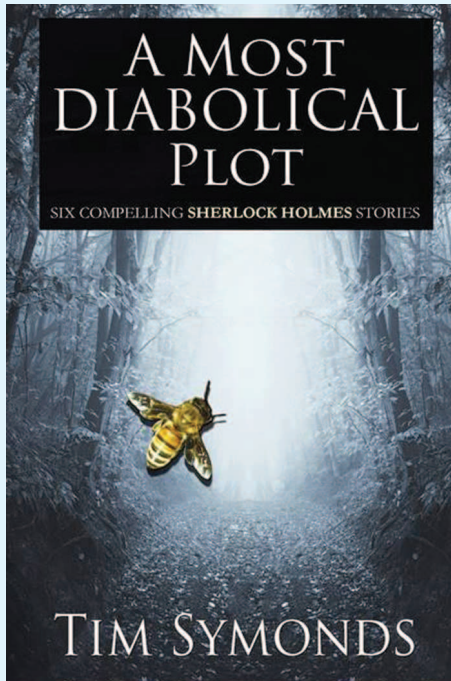
## THE AUTHOR

Maggie Weir-Wilson is a local historian based in Horsham, with a particular interest in St Leonard's Forest and the Horsham area of Sussex.

# A MOST DIABOLICAL PLOT

Tim Symonds

MX Publishing (London) paperback **£10.00**



**TIM SYMONDS IS BACK**  
with his latest book of  
Sherlock Holmes Short Stories

## A MOST DIABOLICAL PLOT.

A Collection of six of the most intriguing cases  
ever to challenge  
Europe's famous Consulting Detective  
and his faithful biographer  
Dr. John H. Watson,  
from the spooky  
'The Ghost Of Dorset House' to  
'The Captain In The Duke of Wellington's  
Regiment',  
a story of a promising undergraduate  
who went wrong.

## BROKEN CHILDHOOD MENDED DREAMS

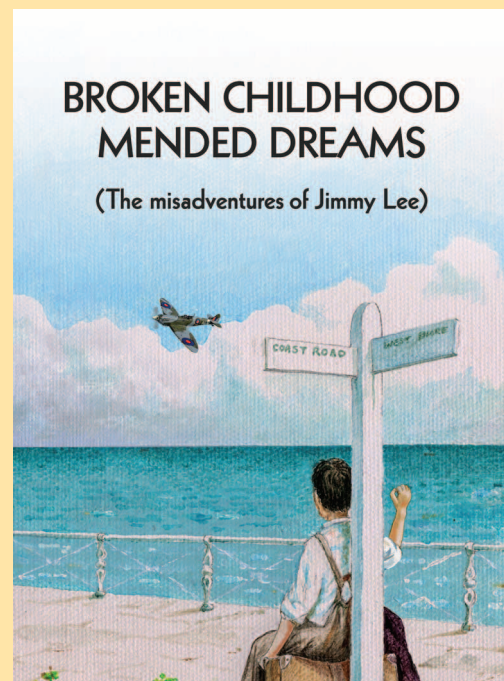
The misadventures of Jimmy Lee

I have just self published my Autobiography  
'Broken Childhood Mended Dreams'  
(The misadventures of Jimmy Lee)  
on Amazon Kindle

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/  
Broken-Childhood-Mended-Dreams-  
Misadventures/dp/199962841](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Broken-Childhood-Mended-Dreams-Misadventures/dp/199962841)

which I am sure will be of great interest  
to your readers.

A true born and bred Sussex boy.  
The book mentions many towns,  
villages, schools and places  
familiar to your readers.





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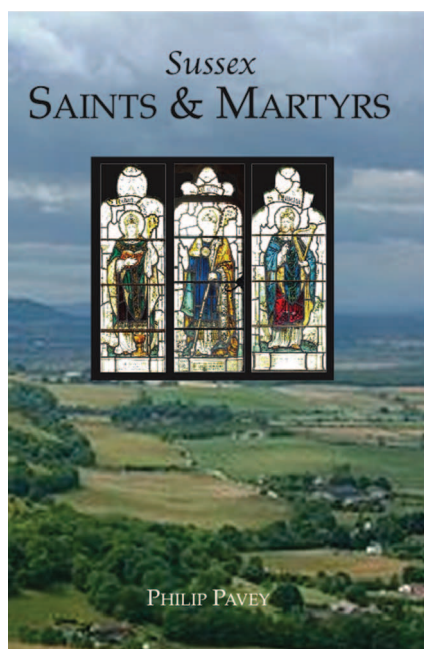
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## SUSSEX SAINTS & MARTYRS

Phil Pavey

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Philip Pavey was born in Brighton and has been a Sussex Rambler all his life. He has also always had a passion for history.

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