

## **The Bear & Blacksmith**

### **Chillington.**

The choices for eating out locally are numerous and varied, and pub restaurants can be found in almost every village. A few miles from Kingsbridge, between cottages on the main road in Chillington, is The Bear & Blacksmith. Its appearance outside is in keeping with the village, but the inside is refurbished to a contemporary style and has a modern kitchen.

Gone are the traditional dark furnishings and decor except for a couple of overhead beams that contrast the white decor. The new bar was updated to light wood and is lit by trendy outsized electric bulbs. A good number of people enjoy the bar area where drinks are served quickly. This village local pub has an ambiance that is welcoming and comfortable.

It was once known as The Open Arms, but its new name, The Bear & Blacksmith, recalls the village's last dancing bear whose paws were kept for display in the blacksmith's forge.

For diners there are tables set in three bright rooms and an enclosed al fresco garden. Sunday lunch is nicely done for £11 - a call to book a table on 01548 581171 is advisable. The a la carte menu is priced reasonably, and some specials, like surf & turf with sweet potato chips on the side, for £21, were creative items that made the pub meal into a feast. If you are vegetarian, £11 buys Goan vegetable curry and wild rice. Your meal can start well with garlic mushrooms at £6, fish cakes £7, or whitebait £7. The deserts wonderfully included chocolate profiteroles £6, seasonal fruit (apple crumble) £6, and ice cream £4.50. The Bear and Blacksmith 015488 581171. [www.thebearandblacksmith.com/](http://www.thebearandblacksmith.com/)