



 NOLA's Oliver Brown is spearheading a revival of the former Stag Hotel in Adelaide's East End.
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SA BUSINESS

The team behind East End bar NOLA will re-open the historic Stag venue next month

Giuseppe Tauriello, The Advertiser

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Oliver Brown and Joshua Talbot – two of NOLA’s four owners – are putting the finishing touches to a new fit-out, which will become home to a new restaurant, front bar and function space.

The renamed Stag Public House will deliver “Aussie pub classics with a twist” in the front bar, while “casual fine dining” restaurant Charlick’s will complete the transformation of the heritage building.

Mr Brown said talks with landlord Maras Group to take over the historic venue kicked off after previous operator [The Fat Stag fell into administration](#) in April.

“It’s been a problem site in the past few years and probably hasn’t taken off the way we thought it really could – it’s a really exciting challenge,” he said.

Benetton F1 car outside the Stag Hotel

“We thought the space as a whole was a bit big, cavernous and open and we wanted to break it down into three distinct areas.”

Mr Brown said fresh local produce would inspire the menu at Charlick’s – named after William Charlick who developed the East End’s Adelaide Fruit and Produce Exchange in 1904.



[Matiya Marovic](#) – who’s inspired the interiors of a string of bars across Adelaide including NOLA and Pink Moon Saloon – has designed the new fit-out, which will “completely change the look” of the venue.

“We wanted to add some character and bring that warm feel and honesty to the place, which was really a big open faceless venue,” Mr Brown said.

“We want people to know the people behind the bar and create an honest local Aussie pub.

“Food is going to play a really big part at Stag Public House. We’re bringing back the Aussie pub classics – we’ll do schnitzels and steak sangers but with our own twist.

“And it’s going to be super local – we’ll support local producers from farmers in Murray Bridge to local wines too.”



The former Stag Hotel venue on Rundle St.

The new venue’s upstairs space will initially be made available for functions, but there are long-term plans to convert the area into a live music venue.

The NOLA team has partnered with the Maras Group before, both at NOLA and more recently opening [pizzeria and bar Anchovy Bandit](#) at the developer’s [Palace](#)

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“The one thing that nailed it from my perspective was the fact they are young, enthusiastic and willing to take the next step up from running a small bar to running something bigger.

Mr Brown said a reopened venue at the former Stag site would add to the momentum building in Adelaide’s East End.

“The Stag being closed is not good for the area but giving it that touch of quality will be a huge benefit to this end of town,” he said.

“There are some really good young guys doing really good things with Africola, BRKLYN and Mr Goodbar – there’s a huge buzz.

“Everyone was scared of winter but at NOLA it’s been our best winter yet and I’m confident things are only going to get better.”

Stag Public House will open by the end of next month, followed by Charlick’s in August.



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