



RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

In The Sticks

October 2005

Free Copy

Welcome to this month's edition of "In the Sticks"

Welcome to the latest issue of "In the Sticks" the newsletter of RuRAD Rural Real ale drinkers. We hope you enjoy reading it.

If you want to receive a copy electronically e-mail billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk

Or for back issues log on to

<http://www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk/Rurad.html>

Number Crunching

In this issue we bring you news of 55 pubs in 33 different locations, 4 Breweries and 31 Beer Festivals.

Beer and Pub News

Champions of Real Ale for Ripley Nigel & Mo Eadie were due to leave the GBG listed **George Inn** on Lowes Hill Ripley on Sunday 9th October and take over at the **Prince of Wales** on Butterley Hill the next day.

The **Talbot** on Butterley Hill Ripley was due to close at the end of September; we understand that long-term plans will see it turned into flats.

Donna, Samantha and Gary left the **Thorn Tree** on Nottingham Road Woodlinkin in early September.

The **White Horse** at **Wooley Moor** is under offer.

We have been advised of a Beer Festival at the **Bee Hive** on Peasehill Ripley from the 3rd to the 6th of November. 12 Real ales will be available 8 from Greene King and 4 from Fullers.

When Charisma visited the **Old Poets Corner** in **Ashover** on Sunday 28th September 7 real ales and 6 ciders were available on the bar. One of the real ales, Fullers Vintage 8.5% was a rare sight indeed as this is usually only available in bottles.

Cider week at the **Old Poets**, starts on the 15th October, should see upto 8 different ciders available. For more details visit www.oldpoets.co.uk

As part of Hardy & Hansons re branding programme the **Bulls Head** in **Openwoodgate** is now called the Black Bulls Head.

A note for your diary the Beer Festival at **Barrow Hill** next year is due to run between the 19th and 20th of May.

The 33rd edition of the GBG, which was launched on Wednesday 19th September, sees a couple of changes in the Amber Valley area with the **Thorn Tree** in **Belper** and the **Wheel** at **Holbrook** being replaced by the **Anchor Inn** at **Oakerthorpe** and the **George Inn Ripley**.

Punch Taverns Three Horseshoes on the Main Road at **Leabrooks** is "To Let"

Whilst in **Alfreton** on Saturday 24th September I called in at the **Station** on Mansfield Road for a chat with the new licensee Peter Chambers who has been in at the pub since July this year.

The Station usually has one real ale available which on my visit was Wells Bombardier 4.3%. Peter told me he was looking to introduce a second beer from a local micro brewery. Peter also told me that he was the ex Landlord at the birth place of Derby Camra the **Alexandra Hotel** on Siddals Road where, to celebrate CAMRA's 10th anniversary, Shipstones who were the owners of the pub sent 3 barrels of Mild & Bitter which were duly sold at the 1975 price of 4 old pence.

On the same day the long closed **Railway Hotel's** days appeared to be numbered, as the building was all cordoned off with the bulldozers ready to move in.

Whilst in London Old Horse called in at the **Bricklayers Arms**, a Sam Smiths pub on Gresse Street **Fitzrovia**, to find Old Brewery Bitter 4.0% at £1.70 a pint. The pub can be found close to Tottenham Court Road Tube station.

After being closed for nearly 9 weeks the **Hunters Arms** in **Kilburn** reopened again on Friday 30th September.

The **Hawk & Buckle** in **Etwell** is up for another W&D good beer award. Congratulations go to Clive who has won it for the last two years.

Haddonsman reported that on 15/09/05 the **Royal Oak** at **Ockbrook** had Bradfield Farmer's Bitter 3.9% £2.00; Burton Bridge Prestwick Pinnacle 4.5%, £2.20 and Hartington IPA 4.5% £2.20.

The beers list for Colin's Beer Festival at the **Cross Keys Belper**, which will run from Thursday 27th October until Sunday 30th October, is as follows: - beers served form hand pulls will be Bateman's XB 3.7%, XXXB 4.8%, Victory Ale 5.9%, two from Derby Brewing Co: - Loose Cannon 4.2% & Roger the Cabin Boy 4.2%, Nelson Admirals Bitter 3.8%. Served from the Jug will be Adnams Flagship 4.3%, Gales Trafalgar 4.2%, Fullers Trafalgar 5.0%, plus 6 beers from the Nelson Brewery in Chatham Kent including Hardy's Kiss 4.2%, England Expects 4.2%, 1805 5.5%, Friggin in the Riggin 4.7%, Nelsons Blood 6.0%, Woodforde's Admirals Reserve 5.0% & O'Hanlon's Port Stout 4.8%.

Wednesday 21st September saw the introduction of a new pricing structure for all cask-conditioned ales at the **Old Oak** in **Horsley Woodhouse**. The beers are priced according to their ABV and means that beers upto 4.4% are £2.00 a pint, beers between 4.5% and 5.4% are £2.10 a pint and beers above 5.5% are £2.20 a pint.

After a period of closure the **Hollybush** at **Marehay** has re-opened and is serving real ales. In the first couple of weeks there has been Bombardier, Old Speckled Hen and Greene King Abbott Ale.

On a recent visit to the **Princess Victoria** in **Matlock Bath** Jonathan Kriek found Bateman's XB at £2.10, XXXB £2.20, Valliant £2.30, Combined Harvest £2.35 and Greene King Abbot Ale at £2.40 a pint. 16/09/05

The **Dewdrop** on Station Road **Ilkeston** has been voted Erewash CAMRA pub of the year for the second successive year.

The **Gentle Giant** spent an evening in the York Brewery pub the **Yorkshire Terrier** recently sampling Fullers Discovery 3.9%, York Last Drop 4.5% and Castlerock Harvest Pale 3.8% all at £2.10 a pint.

According to an article in the Morning Advertiser on the 6th of October the **Victoria Inn** on Midland Place **Derby** could be demolished under the councils Cityscape regeneration plan. To find out more and to sign an on line petition, which has already over 3000 signatures, visit www.thevicinn.co.uk

The GBG listed **Three Horseshoes in Morley Smithy** was recently awarded the Cask Marque.

The **Rifleman's Arms** on Chapel Street Belper is up for leasehold.

Rumour has it that the **Boat at Pinxton Wharf** could soon see a change of licensee "watch this space".

Brewery News

Leadmill-Denby

www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

The latest beers to be added to the Leadmill portfolio include Mash Tun Bitter 3.6% and Autumn Goddess 4.2%.

Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

www.funfairbrewingcompany.com

Funfair beers will soon be appearing on a regular basis in pubs in our area including the **Old Mail House in Ilkeston** and following deals struck with Wetherspoons the **Observatory in Ilkeston** and the **Babington Arms in Derby**.

Dodgem was available at the **Old Oak Horsley Woodhouse** on Monday 11th September.

Danelaw-Chellaston

www.danelawbrewery.co.uk

Steve and Paul brewed their latest beer called Valhalla 5.0% in early September, which was sampled at CURAD head quarters (the **Falstaff in Normanton**), courtesy of Jim. Steve reports that it was a fine brew (luckily). Also recently brewed was Danelaw's IPA called Rape and Pillage at 5.7%.

Milestone Brewery-Cromwell

www.milestonebrewery.co.uk

On Friday 7th October a group of 18 of us met up at the **Old Oak in Horsley Woodhouse** for a bus trip, jointly organized by Tweedle Dee with Mansfield Camra, to the **Milestone Brewery** in Cromwell near Newark.

After what seemed to be a never-ending journey we finally arrived at the Brewery just ahead of the Mansfield Camra contingent to be greeted by Ken and Deano.

No fewer than 7 Milestone beers available on hand pulls on the bar, which we were able to sample during our stay together with a buffet, which had also been kindly, laid on.

The beers included Lions Pride 3.8%, Dark Mild 4.0%, Loxley Ale 4.2%, Black Pearl 4.3%, Crusader 4.4%, Rich Ruby 4.5% and ESB 5.4%. Our time to leave came all too soon but not before taking the opportunity to thank Ken, Deano and the rest of the bar staff for an excellent evenings hospitality.

Visit Reports

Jedediah's Trip to Outer Birmingham June 2005

Having visited most of the GBG listed pubs in central Birmingham; I decided to visit as many of those outside the City Centre as I could in one day. So, armed with the Guide and Billy's A-Z I set off to Birmingham New Street. Near the station entrance I found the Centro information office and bought a Metro/Bus Daytripper ticket for £3.90, giving me unlimited travel on all West Midland buses and the Metro tram service to Wolverhampton. I also took their free bus map and guide.

My first call was at the **Barton's Arms**, Aston High Street, using a 33 bus to get there (routes 34, 51, 52 and 107 are also available). This National Inventory pub is a riot of tiles and superb fittings including snob screens. It was already full with lunchtime diners when I arrived, but with a generous bar area for those simply wishing to have a drink. The pub is owned by Oakham Brewery, and offers a full range of their own beers and some guests. I had a splendid half of JHB.

Crossing over Park Lane I caught the 8c Inner Circle bus route (c for clockwise) getting off where it turned right into Cromwell Street. Retracing my steps to Rocky Lane, I walked to the roundabout and then set off down Nechells New Road. I walked for about 10 minutes until I reached the **Villa Tavern** on the left. (With hindsight, I could have saved time by catching a passing bus for two or three stops.) This pub is also in the National Inventory, with stained glass, tiles and brass fittings, although not as grand or as sympathetically presented as the Barton's Arms. It is a real local, however, where you can hear traditional Brummagem spoken. The limited range of beer available (Ansells and Pedigree) is offered at competitive prices, and the Mild I sampled was excellent.

Outside the pub (opposite a Victorian swimming bathhouse boarded up in, sadly, a state of neglect) I caught a 66 bus (also 66a) going north to Sutton New Road in Erdington. This is parallel to the High Street on its eastern side, and one of the connecting streets is Barnabas Road, where I found the **Charlie Hall** on the right. This is a Wetherspoon's pub, described in the GBG as a former bingo hall. I do wonder from its appearance, though, whether it had been built originally as a cinema. JDW had done their usual expert refurbishment and offered their customary selection of beers. I enjoyed an Arkell's Kingsdown at their normal knockdown price.

I walked back down the High Street and turned left at the Six Ways roundabout into Wood End Road, crossing Kingsbury Road where it becomes Bromford Lane (I could have

used the 11c Outer Circle bus.) There on my left was the **Lad in the Lane**, the oldest pub in Birmingham. It was comfortable enough, and certainly had an interesting rural appearance, with a number of notable interior features. I think that it has more potential, however, and they could definitely offer a more imaginative range of beers than the Tetley Bitter and John Smith Cask that I found. I quite enjoyed a half of Cask though.

Walking back to Kingsbury Road I caught a 115 bus back to the City Centre (operated by Arriva, but they still accepted my Daytripper ticket; routes 114 and 116 also available). Once there I followed the pedestrian signs to Moor Street Railway Station and then to Digbeth. I turned right into Rea Street and walked to the corner of Bradford Street where I found the **Anchor**. This is yet another National Inventory pub with an extensive and ever-changing range of beers. Bazens May Tricks was an excellent seasonal offering.

A short walk up Bradford Street brought me to the **White Swan**, the fourth National Inventory pub I visited that day. In contrast to the previous one it offered only Banks beers and Pedigree. The Bank's Bitter was in very good form, however, and worth the walk.

I retraced my steps back down Bradford Street and turned left into Barford Street. This is not on a bus route, but it is only a five-minute walk to the **Lamp Tavern**, Highgate. This is a rather unassuming pub on the outside, but its unpromising exterior leads into a small, snug lounge bar with an unusual choice of beers. I resisted the temptation to try one of their regular Stanney ales but opted for an excellent Goff's Jouser instead.

I then walked for about fifteen minutes, first continuing along Barford Street and turning left into Gooch Street. Here I found where Beorna first established his homestead. There's no indication that this is the ancient centre of Birmingham apart from a decorated bridge proclaiming the fact. I crossed Belgrave Middleway into Longmore Street and left into Balsall Heath Road. I then turned right into Mary Street, and left into Edward Road. Tindal Street is on the right, just after George Street, but not immediately obvious as it is accessed by a footpath, the carriageway having been blocked off. The **Old Moseley Arms** is on the right, where I sampled one of its fine selection of regulars, Enville Ale.

Continuing along Tindal Street, and turning left at the end I soon found myself on Moseley Road where I was able to catch the 50 (or 50a) bus back to the City Centre.

Had I more time I might have managed to get to Moseley, Selly Oak, Five Ways and

Harborne, but having sampled Enville Ale I decided to go for more Black Country beer. I made my way to Snow Hill Railway Station and caught the Metro tram to Soho (third stop). Leaving the station I turned right and almost immediately found the **Black Eagle**, Hockley, on the left. Despite the address, Factory Road, it is in quite an attractive street in a quiet area. It had an unusual range of beers, and I enjoyed Weatheroak's It's Now or Never, (I know it's not from the Black Country) complete with Elvis's picture on the pump clip.

Returning to the station I went back one stop to the famous Jewellery Quarter. Turning left I walked along West Street and crossed the main road into Well Street. I turned left again into Unett Street. Crossing the main road at the pelican crossing I found New John Street and the **White House**, a Holden's tied house. It always has a full range of their beers and the Bitter was excellent.

I retraced my steps back to the main road, Great Hampton Street, and turned left. A few moments later I was by the **Church Inn**. This is a free house, with just two beers. One is usually a national brew, but the other is Balham's Bitter, and very good it was, too. The pub appears to be rather food oriented, but a warm welcome is offered to those who simply want a drink.

Returning to the street I caught a 74 bus (or 78 or 79) into the City Centre. It would be possible to return to the Jewellery Quarter Railway Station or St Paul's (for the tram). Incidentally, the 8 Inner Circle bus passes the Jewellery Quarter Station, so it would also be possible to get the 8c and make a rapid return to the Barton's Arms to start again!

I finished in the **Wellington** in the City Centre, surely the foremost real ale pub in the centre of Birmingham, if not the whole city. They were having a beer festival at the time, with a huge choice, but there is always a large selection of beers, including Black Country ales. Surely it's just a matter of time before this pub is GBG listed.

Del, Rod & Triggers Sassenach Tour PART TWO

On a drive to Canonry Point to see the dolphins I persuaded a few of the fizz drinkers to call into the GBG listed **Anderson at Fortrose**. Two ales were available here Caledonian Deuchars IPA (which Ringo tried again!! Could this be a convert?) and Belhaven Edinburgh Pale Ale 3.6%. On the same day Trigger went to **Elgin** to watch a football match and drag in a few GBG pubs while he was there. At the **Sunninghill Hotel** on Hay Street there was Greene King Old Speckled Hen 5.2%, Houston Marilyn's Draught 3.9% &

Caledonian Deuchars IPA all at £2.50. In **Flanagan's** on High Street there was Kelburn Red Smiddy 4.1% & Houston Barochan 4.1% both at £2.30 and at **Mucklecross**, a Wetherspoons pub, also on High Street there was Marstons Pedigree 4.5%, Courage Directors 4.8%, Deuchars IPA & Harviestoun Schiehallion 4.8% all at £1.49.

The Final Scottish pub of the week that Del, Trigger & I visited was the **Cairn Hotel at Carr Bridge**, which was the nearest habitation to Lochindorb where we were staying. Here they usually have 2 real ales on but on our visit there was only 1, Isle of Skye Red Cuillin 4.2%, but that went offBugger!!!!

On the journey back we stopped over night at **Carlisle** and naturally we had to do the necessaries but unfortunately there was a mix up at the hotel and we left without Del Boy.....oops. Our first port of call was the GBG & National Inventory listed **Cumberland Inn** on Botchergate here there was just the 1 ale on offer, Heskett Newmarket Haystacks 3.6% a traditional pub with oodles of Character but a bit Smokey. I let the fizz drinkers pick the next pub and we ended up going in Yates'.... That'll teach me! Next was the **Howard Arms** on Lowther Street which has a fantastic tiled frontage and was probably one of the best pubs of the week with 3 or 4 little rooms, some great tunes on the juke and Theakstons Best Bitter 3.6% & XB 4.6% on hand pump. From there a very kind gentleman showed us a short cut to our next stop the **Kings Head** on Fisher Street where there was Yates Bitter 3.7%. After quite a discussion Trigger and I made our last stop of the night **Carlisle RFC** which is on Warwick Road. On first inspection it looked closed but we ventured round the back and found signs of life. 2 real ales were on offer here Yates Bitter 3.7% (which has replaced Tetley as the regular) & Theakstons Best Bitter 3.6% though they do usually have another guest. We got talking to the barmaid who told us that it had not long re-opened since the flooding in January so if you're in the area please give this friendly little club your custom.

In summary Scotland has got a lot of very nice characterful pubs but the selection of real ales seems rather limited and it's not like they haven't got much to choose from. Also it could do with moving a few hundred miles south.

The Ex Adman Column

This month's article takes us to the **Nursery at Heaton Norris**, an unspoilt pub built in 1939. Hidden away in a pleasant suburban area, this comfortable pub retains much of its original character, with full height oak panelling in the lounge, and leaded - glass windows featuring an occasional nursery motif, such as a spade, a watering can or a bucket. As well as the lounge there is a bar lobby area

and a traditional lounge/smoke room with its own entrance. Diners use the lounge, and the pub lunches served at the Nursery are known far and wide. The pub has several sporting connections, with a thriving Bowls Club, which plays on the bowling green at the rear of the pub. It was also the first HQ of Stockport County F.C, who used to play nearby. A long - time Good Beer Guide regular, the Nursery had the distinction of being CAMRA National Pub of the Year in 2001. A Hydes Brewery pub, the beers on offer are Bitter, Mild, Jekyll's Gold plus a seasonal beer. The pub can be found on Green Lane, and can be reached from Heaton Chapel railway station by turning right and walking for a mile or so along Heaton Moor Lane, or from Stockport by walking along Wellington Road North and turning left down Bowerfold Lane. The opening hours are 11:30 - 3, 5:30 - 11 Monday - Friday, 11:30 - 11 Saturday, 12 - 10:30 Sunday. The Nursery can be a little difficult to find, but be assured; it is well worth looking for.

Bigfoz's travels with his Dad

8th September 2005

King's Head, Collingham

Exmoor Gold, Landlord

BigFoz says: we've been building up to this, haven't we? This must be the worst pub I've ever been into.

Dad says: I think it's alright and the waitress is nice looking.

BigFoz says (half-mumbles): maybe, but it's like sitting in someone's kitchen and the beer's rubbish and there's whitebait on the menu...

Marquis of Granby, Hoveringham

Abbot, Tom Wood Best Bitter, Anglo Dutch Ghost on the Rim

Dad says: this is better than the last one.

BigFoz: that's not saying much.

Dad says: at least the beer's drinkable.

BigFoz says: that's always a plus point.

14th September 2005

Muskham Ferry, North Muskham

Everards Tiger (not on until the evening!),

John Smith Cask Bitter

BigFoz says: nice here by the river.

Dad says: not bad, considering we were aiming for Normanton on Trent.

BigFoz says: *you* find it then. Those directions in the GBG are rubbish.

Dad says: yes, right on.

15th September 2005

Moulders Arms, Radford, Nottingham

Oakwell Barnsley Bitter, Oakwell Old Tom

Dad says: you know you were saying last week about that being the worst pub you'd ever been in...

BigFoz says: make for the door. No, lead with your glass; lead with your glass.

16th September 2005

The Bar, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Greater Manchester

Marble Ginger Marble, Marble Manchester Bitter,

Phoenix Arizona, Phoenix Lagonda IPA, Spitfire

Dad says: what do we keep coming here for?

BigFoz says: oh, the food, the glorious food.

Dad says: oh, the beer, the glorious beer.

BigFoz says: that as well.

20th September 2005

Barley Mow, Kirk Ireton

Archers Best, Whim Hartington IPA, Cottage

Rocket, Hook Norton Best Bitter

BigFoz says: I think this must be one of the most characterful pubs in the country.

Dad says: and waiting twenty minutes for someone to appear to serve us just adds to the experience.

Proposed Trips

Saturday 22nd October mini bus trip to the Old Poets Corner Beer Festival in Ashover: Contact The Openwood Wanderer on 07866 262027.

Saturday 26th November visit to GBG pubs in Leicester by train: Contact Charisma on 07974 171243 for further details.

Beer Festival Diary

13th to 15th October 15th Wakefield Beer Festival, Light Waves Leisure Centre-Wakefield. www.camra.org.wakefield

13th to 15th October Quorn Octoberfest, Village Hall, Leicester Road-Quorn.

13th to 16th October Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem Beer Festival, Brewhouse Yard-Nottingham. www.triptojerusalem.com

14th to 16th October 4th Richmond Ale Festival, Market Hall, Market Place-Richmond.

19th to 22nd October 25th Stoke Beer Festival, Kings Hall-Stoke on Trent. www.stokebeerfestival.co.uk

20th to 22nd October Barnsley Camra Beer Festival at the Keel Inn-Barnsley. www.yourpint.com

20th to 23rd October 29th Nottingham Cider & Beer Festival Victoria Leisure Centre-Sneinton. www.nottinghamcamra.org

20th to 23rd October Wellington 3rd Beer Festival, Bennetts Hill-Birmingham.

20th to 24th October Old Poets Corner Beer Festival-Ashover. www.oldpoets.co.uk

21st to 22nd October Doveridge 4th Annual Beer Festival, Village Club-Doveridge.

21st to 23rd October Festival Bar, Oxenhope Railway Exhibition Shed-Oxenhope. www.kwvr.co.uk

21st to 23rd October 3rd Elland Beer Festival, Barge & Barrel, Park Road -Elland.

21st to 23rd October Admiral Wells Trafalgar Victory Beer Festival-Holme Cambridgeshire.

27th to 29th October White Horse Beer Festival, Church Street-Ruddington.

27th to 29th October Barnsley Beer Festival at the Keel Inn near Asda-Barnsley. www.yourpint.com

27th to 30th October Holly Bush Inn Beer Festival-Makeney.

27th to 30th October Cross Keys Beer Festival Market Place-Belper.

27th to 30th October Fox & Crown Autumn Beer Festival, Church Street-Old Basford. www.alcazarbrewery.co.uk

27th to 31st October Anchor Inn Autumn Beer Festival Bradford Street-Digbeth. www.the-anchor-inn.fsnet.co.uk

28th to 29th October Mallard Halloween Beer Festival, Railway Station-Worksop.

31st October to 13th November Wetherspoons Beer Festival at participating outlets. www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk

10th to 12th November Monarch Hockey Club Beer Festival, Clubhouse, 276 Loughborough Road-West Bridgeford.

11th to 13th November The Boat Inn Beer Festival, The Scarthin-Cromford. www.theboatatcromford.co.uk

15th & 17th to 19th November Dudley Winter Ales Fayre, Dudley Concert Hall (Town Hall)-Dudley. www.dudleycamra.org.uk

17th to 19th November Cask & Cutler Beer Festival, Henry Street, Shalesmoor-Sheffield.

18th to 19th November Erewash Camra 10th Annual Beer Festival Sports Centre-Sandiacre www.erewash-camra.org

18th to 19th November 23rd Bury Beer Festival, The Met Arts Centre, Market Street-Bury.

24th to 27th November Ilford Club Beer Festival, Station Road-Ilkeston.

25th to 27th November Queens Head Beer Festival, Chesterfield Road-Belper. www.thequeenshead.net

9th to 10th December Out of the Vaults Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester.

15th to 18th December Old Oak Xmas Beer Festival-Horsley Woodhouse. www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

We advise confirmation of dates and times before attending the above festivals, as changes may occur.

In the next issue of "In the Sticks" look out for more Del & Rods Real Ale Rambles, the Exadman's column on historic pubs, Big Foz's travels with his Dad, Jedediah's first Trippe to Norwich and Midshiresman's dirty weekend in Bristol.

Well that's all for this issue folks however if you have any information or news which could be included in the next issue of "In the Sticks" please contact Charisma Bypass on 07974 171243 or e-mail: billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk

Edited by Billy One Mate

Other contributors and helpers for this issue of "In the Sticks":

Charisma Bypass, Gentle Giant, Half Pint, Tweedle Dee, Two Gallon Man, Me Owd Conker, Delboy, Rodney, Trigger, Exadman, Big Foz & his Dad, Sooty, Jedediah Trippe, Jonathan Kriek, Field Ape, Sarge, Haddonsman, Nigel & Mo and Old Horse -Apologies if I've missed anyone.

Disclaimer: We try to ensure that the information in "In the Sticks" is accurate but no responsibility can be accepted for errors or omissions. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editor.

21st September 2005

Victoria Inn, Alfreton

BigFoz says: just read us those opening times again.

Dad says: one to eleven.

BigFoz says: It's half-past one and it's closed.

Dad says: nuff said.

Horse & Jockey, Selston

Bass, Shepherd Neame Late Red, Archers A Fair Cop, Archers Harvest Ale

Dad says: nice pub this. Characterful, if there is such a word.

BigFoz says: there is, and we didn't have to wait for someone to serve us.

Dad says: she didn't do bad, considering it's

her first day.

BigFoz says: she did all right, anyway.

22nd September 2005

Horse & Groom, Linby, Nottinghamshire

Church End S Reg, Milestone Crusader,

Theakstons Mild, Greene King IPA

Dad says: I'm not struck by the fact that, if you want to sit outside, you have to sit in the car park.

BigFoz says: shut up and drink your beer...and mind that car.

For the full list which includes the **Dead Poets' Inn, Holbrook** and the **Fox & Crown, Basford** please email bigfoz1@hotmail.co.uk