



RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

In The Sticks

January 2006

Free Copy

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

Happy New Year and welcome to the latest issue of "In the Sticks" the newsletter of RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers. We hope you enjoy reading it.

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Or for back issues log on to
<http://www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk/Rurad.html>

Number Crunching

In this issue we bring you news of 66 pubs in 41 different locations, 7 Breweries and 26 Beer Festivals.

Beer and Pub News

Nigel and Mo left the **Prince of Wales** in Ripley on Monday 9th January.

Hardys & Hansons pubs to let in our area include the **Homesford Cottage** in Whatstandwell and the **Moulders Arms** in Church Street Riddings. For further details visit www.hardysandhansons.plc.uk

Punch Taverns website currently identifies the following pubs in our area as "pub refurbishment planned" Greyhound Inn Belper, Park Belper, Fox & Hounds Coxbench, Hollybush Inn Marehay and the Prince of Wales Ripley. Full details can be found by following the refurbishment-planned link on www.Punchpubs.co.uk for Derbyshire pubs.

Tweedle Dee reports that **The Nags Head** in **Smalley** is now open from 12:00 EVERY DAY. When visiting on Monday 12th December, the beers available were Charles Wells Bombardier, Hook Norton Old Hooky and Draught Bass - the Bombardier and Old Hooky were both sampled and found to be in "fine form." The next day at the **Victoria** in **Alfreton** where Heather Fraoch and Williams Black were the Guest Beers available - the Williams was sampled and found to be excellent. Nick advised that his forthcoming Guest Beers would hopefully include Archers of Swindon and Howard Town from Glossop.

Chesterfield CAMRA has voted the **Old Poets Corner** in **Ashover** as their Pub of the Year.

The **Hunters Arms** in **Kilburn** is open again; on Thursday 12th January Phoenix Wobbly Bob was available.

On Friday 9th December 2005 in line with our "Supporting local Beer Festivals" policy Charisma and I visited **Eastwood's** first ever beer festival which was held at the **Three Tuns** on Three Tuns Road.

23 beers from the likes of Brains, Bateman's, Brakspear, Castle Rock, Cotliegh, Exmoor, Highgate, Hopback, Jennings, Kelham Island, Holland, Phoenix, Robinson's, Smiles, Woodforde's and York were available on stillage in the back porch all at £1.00 a half.

If that wasn't enough, on hand pulls in the pub itself were Black Sheep Bitter, Wells Bombardier, Everards Tiger and Banks Original. Roger Wood the licensee told us that he had big plans for the Punch Taverns pub which was due to close in January for up to 6 weeks for refurbishing and re opening again with upto 12 hand pulls on the bar.

After about an hour we retraced our steps down the A610 calling in at **Thorn Tree Woodlinkin**, which had recently seen a change in licensee; Marstons Pedigree, Black Sheep Best Bitter and Courage Directors (£2.20) were all available. The pub is predominantly food led but there are places where you can sit away from the dining area to enjoy a pint.

Next we called in to see Primoz at the **Moss Cottage** on Nottingham Road **Ripley** who had regular Olde Trip £2.35 with guests Fullers Vintage 8.5% at a modest £2.40 and Slaters On the Pull 5.2% at £2.35.

Primoz told us that the Vintage Ale was one of only 90 barrels brewed in the country.

From here we called in to see John at the **GBG** listed **Anchor Inn** on Chesterfield Road **Oakerthorpe** for a spot of quiet background music and a choice Cropton Honey Gold 4.2%, Autumn Ale 4.6% at £2.40 and Monkman's Slaughter 6.0%.

Back into **Belper** now and the **Lord Nelson** on Bridge Street, which had St Austell Tribute at £2.30 a pint. The pub's new opening hours are Mon to Wed 11 to 11; Thur to Sat 11 to 1am; Sun 12 to 10.30.

Travellers Rest, **Kilburn** is currently offering Titanic White Star and Banks' Mild on draught in addition to the other 5 Cask ales regularly available.

For a friendly welcome, coal fires and Real Ales in Kilburn, visit Wendy and Terry this festive season and New Year. *Beermeister.*

Colin's "Brewery of the Month" for this month at the **Cross Keys Belper** continues with beers from the Timothy Taylors Brewery in Keighley and includes Golden Best 3.5%, Best 4.0%, Ram Tam 4.5% and Landlord 4.3%; Other attractions include Burton Bridge Salem Porter 4.7%, Castle Rock Hemlock 4.0% and Mauldons Midwinter Gold 4.5%

Me Owd Conker who, recently emigrated to Australia, called at the **Acland Cellar Bar** in the St. Kilda district of **Melbourne**. Where they sell 101 beers from around the world, including UK lagers, bitters & real ales. Their current range of UK real ales is: Old Speckled Hen, Badgers Tanglefoot, Fullers Honey Dew, Ruddles County, Blacksheep Ale, Draught Bass, Bishops Finger, Fullers London Pride, Marstons Pedigree, Hopback Summer Lightning, Marstons Double Drop & Badgers Golder Glory. All priced at around \$7 per bottle (about £2.80).

OK, so they're all bottled beers but it's a good start. I tried the Marstons Pedigree, which was a reasonable drink - you could say it travels well!

The barman showed me a list of around 100 UK beers he has access to and he usually has around 12 real ales available at any one time. I'm still looking for the first place to sell a pint from out the barrel.

Jonathan Kriek and JB paid a pre Christmas visit to **Matlock Bath** calling in at the **Temple Hotel** to try the Black Sheep Bitter 3.8% and although in "cracking condition" I can't help think it was a case of being fleeced at £2.40 a pint.

The next port of call was the former **GBG** listed **Princess Victoria** which had regulars Batemans XB, XXXB at £2.25 and Abbot Ale and guests Mauldon's Bah Humbug 4.2% at £2.35 and Rosey Nosey 5.0%.

The new opening hours for the **Oak at Horsley Woodhouse** are Mon to Wed 4pm to 11pm; Thur & Fri 3pm to 11pm; Sat 12 noon to 11pm and Sun 12 noon to 10.30pm.

The Union Pub Company owned **Que Sera** (formerly the Crown Inn) on Church Street **Heanor** is available for lease. For full details visit www.tupc.co.uk

Brewery News

Leadmill-Denby

www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

The latest beers from Leadmill include Duchess 4.3%, Ghost Rider 5.4%, Suzy Q 5.8% and Nemesis 6.4%.

Both Duchess and Nemesis were both on at Derby CAMRA's 5th Winter Beer Festival.

Amber Valley Brewery-Hammersmith

A new microbrewery recently set up; As yet we have no further details.

Clarion Brewery Blackwell, Derbyshire

A new brewery has been set up by brewer Richard Hand and is situated in Blackwell, Derbyshire on the B6049 off the A6 between Bakewell and Buxton. It is anticipated that production will start in April this year.

Danelaw-Chellaston

www.danelawbrewery.co.uk

Danelaw beers continue to appear on a regular basis at the **Durham Ox** in **Derby**.

The lads have been commissioned by the **Babington Arms** in **Derby** for a further range of beers the first one being called Dark Nose at 4.9%.

Golden Tears, which was originally brewed as a festival beer has now become a regular beer.

Derventio Brewery Derby

www.derventiobrewery.co.uk

The brewery, which was originally on Nottingham Road Derby close to the **Liversage Arms**, is on the move to Trusley Brook Farm near Dalbury Lees. It is hoped the brewery will be up and running by March.

Falstaff-Normanton

www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk

Falstaff's latest theme for beers is taken from songs in the Rocky Horror Picture Show with the first being Time Warp at 4.5% and described as a dark brown fruity session beer.

Jim & Steph are also working on a new range of beers for the **Babington Arms** in **Derby**; At the time of going to print the theme was still to be decided.

Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

www.funfairbrewingcompany.com

Christmas Cake Walk 6.5% proved so popular at the 3rd Christmas Beer Festival held at the **Old Oak Horsley Woodhouse** it was the first beer to go.

The beer has also made an appearance recently at the **Old Stables Bar** in **Denby** as well as the **George & Dragon** in **Belper**.

Dave brewed a new light fruity session beer at 3.8% in early January, which could possibly be called Galloper.

Visit Reports

The Bald Eagle lands in Grantham

Blue Bull on Westgate; An unusual name for a good pub, beers from the Newby Wyke portfolio which change regularly; Black Squall, Red Squall and White Sea when I called; Very tasteful Christmas decorations with friendly and helpful staff; A good place to start or finish a crawl.

Chequers; Two real ales available which included Oldershaws Cascade and Charles Well Bombardier; Wooden polished floor boards, comfortable settles.

Black Dog on Watergate; wooden floors, Beamed ceiling and part stone flagged floor. Once again 2 real ales on offer Belhaven St Andrews Ale and Highgate Fat Catz.

Angel & Trumpet High Street; Two separate bars with the same beer in each. Historic as in one bar; Newby Wyke Bear Island only real ale but good quality.

Blue Pig on Vine Street; Oakham JHB, Taylors Landlord, Charles Wells Bombardier, Deuchars IPA, Flowers Un-Original (sorry) and Bass; Please note the pub does not serve food all day Mon to Thurs, last food at dinner is before 2.30pm; Pub and food OK but beer not so good quality. JHB changed twice; Deuchars IPA well below average disappointing.

Beehive Inn on Castlegate; Both signs outside are worthy of a mention; beware of beer in summer months; Comfortable pub with Newby Wyke Bear Island, White Squall and Everards Tiger; Sayings were on the walls and ceiling.

Castlegate Tavern; Across the road from the Beehive one roomed pub with pool table and one ever changing beer Stilton Porter from Brewster's-Luvly.

Unfortunately due to restraints I had to wing it away back home so missed the **Nobody Inn** on North Street; however there's always another time.

Bald Eagle and Harry Lyme had a stroll to the **Bulls Head** on **Denby Common**; 3 real ales were on offer Marstons Pedigree, Old Speckled Hen and Jennings Cumberland Ale. We then walked to **Loscoe** our first stop was the **Gate Inn** where on our visit (Tuesday night in November) there was no real ale at all.

Disappointed we called in to the **Eclipse**; Things were a lot better here with Bank's Original, Marstons Pedigree and Owd Roger (seasonal guest).

We reminisced about days gone by while having pints of "Pedro" ($\frac{1}{2}$ of Pedi & $\frac{1}{2}$ of Owd Roger in the same glass); we also used to have a "Megamix" which was $\frac{1}{2}$ of Merrie Monk & $\frac{1}{2}$ of Pedi.

The Merrie Monk was Pedigree with added caramel at 4.3% not too strong but very satisfying. It would be nice to see this beer return if only as a seasonal guest.

Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

On Sunday 18th of December Del & I were joined by Uncle Albert & Two Pints as we headed off to Hartington for the annual Christmas cheese run. After we'd done our shopping we parked up at Hollinsclough and made our way, via Sheepwash Bridge & Chrome Hill, to **Earl Sterndale** and the **GBG** listed **Quiet Woman**. Five real ales were available Jennings Dark Mild 3.1%, Archers Rule of Thumb 4.4%, Marston's Burton Bitter 3.8%, Pedigree 4.5% & Owd Rodger 7.6% (which in the good old days was a regular here). Though it was nice to see Owd Rodger again it wasn't as good as it used to be, which goes for pretty much all Marstons beer. This is a fantastic pub (as long as you don't catch the landlord on a bad day) and is well worth a visit. I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of Del & I to wish you, constant reader, a happy and prosperous 2006.

On Thursday 22nd of December Charisma, Loco, Two Pints, Sooty, Pedro, 'Er in Doors, Malc the Alc, Tweedle Dumb, Tweedle Dee, Sea Bass, Uncle Albert, Trigger, Cassandra, Del Boy and I all met up at the **Royal Oak** at **Ockbrook** for the RuRAD Christmas social. Steady Steve laid on some suitably festive beer for us Ossett Nervous Turkey 4.3% & Cottage Santa's Steaming Ale 5.5% along with Falstaff To ABV or not to ABV 3.9% & Bass 4.4% with some sandwiches to soak up the vast quantities of ale consumed. On an evening of civilised chat (with a bit of festive background music) a good time was had by all and one or two plans for the forthcoming year was hatched...watch this space! *Rodders*

-O-O-O-O-O-

On the 29th December, after catching the R61 from Belper and armed with a trusty Zig Zag ticket, JB set off walking in the snow near Bakewell and called in at the **Packhorse Inn** in **Little Longstone**.

Here he joined fellow walkers in this traditional two roomed village pub to enjoy a couple of decent pints of Old Speckled Hen at £2.50 a pint (no it's not a typing error). Other real ales available included Marstons Pedigree and Marstons Burton Bitter.

On at the **Thorn Tree** in **Belper** on Thursday 29th December were regulars Green King IPA, Abbot and Bass and guest Riddleys Rumpus 4.5% at £2.20 a pint described as "Nutty and Distinctive" those present will confirm it certainly was!

The former Burtonwood and now Union Pub Co pub the **White Swan** on the Market Place **Belper** had two guest beers on Friday 13th January these being Gales HSB 4.8% at £2.30 and Jennings Snecklifter 5.1%.

Not the Midlands Way Friday 18th November 2005

Abandoned the Midlands for the winter, next stage is south from Northampton, so tried something more local. I started off around 7:30am from Matlock, and after walking up through Rowsley and Chatsworth, headed through Edensor towards Bakewell. Picked up the Monsal trail here, and then swerved over to **Great Longstone**. By now a great thirst was developing. Both the **White Lion** and the **Crispin** were still closed, a lamentable mistiming. However, half a mile up the road at **Little Longstone**, the **Packhorse Inn** showed an irresistibly open door. Don't know if any other readers use this place, but I think it could possibly be the friendliest pub in the Peak. On offer were Marston's Burton Bitter 3.8% and Pedigree 4.5%, but I opted for Morland (Greene King) Old Speckled Hen 5.2%, and very good it was too. Could have stayed all day, but there was much more to see (and drink). Obviously, next stop was the **Monsal Head Hotel**. I don't know if this was some special event, at 12:15 the staff were too busy talk, the place was packed to the rafters, but here's the list: Theakstons Best Bitter 3.8% and Old Peculiar 5.7%, Lloyd's Monsal Bitter 4.2%, Whim Ales Columbus 4.8%, Thornbridge Lord Marples 4.0% and Brock 4.1%, Abbeydale Moonshine 4.3%, Taylors Landlord 4.3% and even a treat for the fizz drinker, Budvar 5.0%.

Had a look up **Miller's Dale**, then sat outside on a frosty seat with a pint of Old P, there surely can't be many things better than this? So I Phoned work to gloat.

Next down the delightful Pennyunk Lane (still largely frozen) to the **Bull at Ashford in the Water**. This must vie with the Packhorse for the friendliest reception, even down to slipcovers for muddy boots. Inside awaits a good fire and beer from the fifth best Robinson's cellar in the region. On offer were Unicorn 4.2% Double Hop 5.0% and Old Stockport 3.5%. In the absence of Old Tom 8.5%, the Unicorn was in great nick.

Next was the **Ashford Arms** where Draught Bass 4.4% and Tetley's Bitter 3.8 % were available. Given the less than effusive welcome, I somehow wish I hadn't bothered. Ah well, there's always another pub, I say!

Now this next was a bit of a stupid diversion, but I can never resist the **Cock & Pullet** at **Sheldon**, where we have Fuller's Discovery 3.9%, Thornbridge Lord Marples 4.0%, Taylors Landlord 4.3%, and Black Sheep Best Bitter 3.8%, which did not disappoint. Retracing my steps, I headed for **Over Haddon**, where I arrived at the **Lathkill Hotel** just as they were closing. Being thoroughly good people though, and obviously recognising an idiot in need, they allowed that I could choose from Wells Bombardier 4.3%, Fuller's Discovery or ESB 5.5%, Hartington Bitter 4.0%, or Cottage Whippet Howling Ale 4.6%. The latter was too good an offer to resist at £1.50, being the end of the barrel.

The landlord said it hadn't gone very well, but it seemed fine to me. Onwards then to the **George Hotel** in **Youlgreave**, for another pint of OSH, in favour of John Smith's Cask Aish? Theakstons Traditional Mild 3.5% and Lloyd's Copper Beech (abv not advertised). Following an excellent pork pie from the village butcher, paid a visit to the **Farmyard Inn**, where Hardys & Hanson's usual suspects were lined up. Gunpowder Plot 5.0% went down well. Now, by this time it was completely dark apart from moon and stars, so perhaps I would be the only person to contemplate continuing this journey, but that's what I did of course. I struck off for **Elton**, intending to visit the **Druid's at Birchover**, but somehow took a wrong turn and ended up at a farm and campsite. Perfectly clear on the map, I know. The lost time made me abandon that idea, so I just made for Elton, where a passing youth informed me that the **Duke of York** didn't open until about 8:40pm. Ah well, somebody is trying to tell me something. It was then over to **Winster**, and the possibilities of the **Miner's Standard** and the **Old Bowling Green**. By this time however, various bits had begun to hurt, and as a kind lady told me there was a bus for Matlock imminent, it seemed an opportune moment to bale out.

Matlock of course has many opportunities, but by this time I was flagging, so a couple of Abbots in the **Crown** was plenty before the train home. Maybe next summer...

Whilst delivering the December edition of "In the Sticks" in **Belper** on Saturday 17th December I found Derby Lion-Bru 4.2% at £2.30 and Batman's Rosey Nosey 4.3% on at the **Lion Hotel**, the **Lord Nelson** had St Austell Tribute as the regular and the ever popular Leadmill Dream Weaver 4.3% at £2.30 a pint as the guest.

Steve told me that the first time he put the Dream Weaver on it disappeared the same night, now that's what I call popular! Across the road the **George & Dragon** had Moorhouses Black Witch 4.2%, Funfair Christmas Cake Walk 6.5% and Lloyds Firebox 4.1% all at £2.40 a pint as the guests, along side regulars Abbot Ale and Tetley Bitter.

The Christmas Cake Walk went down well in front of a roaring open fire. Onward to Belper's only back street boozier the **Royal Oak** on Mill Street to sample an excellent half of Pedigree at £1.15.

I then retraced my steps to the **Old Kings Head** on Days Lane to sample an old favorite of mine an ex Whitbread brew Castle Eden Ale 4.2% at £2.30 a pint; The regulars here were Marstons Bitter and Pedigree.

I then joined Half Pint and Jonathan Kriek in the **Cross Keys** to try the Robinsons Old Tom 8.5% at £2.80 a pint.

Also on offer were Brains SA 4.2% at £2.25, Bateman's DM 3.0% at £2.00, Valiant 4.2% at

£2.5, XB 3.7% at £2.10 and XXXB 4.8% at £2.25.

Finally tout ensemble we made our way to the **Thorn Tree** on Chesterfield Road to sample a fine pint of Belhaven 80/- 4.2%.

The Ex Adman Column

For this month, we again head south to London and visit the **Cittie of Yorke**, in **Holborn**. The Cittie is situated on High Holborn, next to the gatehouse for Gray's Inn, and in an earlier incarnation (there has been a pub on this site since 1430) was called the Gray's Inn Coffee House. The present pub was rebuilt in 1924, but the cellar bar is the old cellar of the Coffee House. The front bar is extensively wood panelled, and has plenty of seating, but the real magnificence of the Cittie can be found in the rear bar. This room is unique amongst English pubs. The roof is high - pitched and open, with glazed - in upper rooms, possibly occupied in earlier times by the local gentry. There is a long bar, with several small alcoves for more private drinking, an extremely rare feature in English pubs, and the left - hand side is dominated by an array of enormous casks, which, like the cast - iron columns supporting the shelving, are of some antiquity. All in all, a unique pub with, in many ways, a unique atmosphere. You don't so much visit this pub, you experience it. The beer on offer is Samuel Smiths OBB. The Cittie is in Central London (WC 1), with Chancery Lane being the nearest Underground Station to it. Anyone planning a visit may be well advised to phone ahead for the opening hours, the number is 020 7242 7670.

Big Foz's Travels with his Dad

1st December 2005

Bell Inn, Angel Row, Nottingham

Christmas Beer Festival

Hambleton Nightmare Stout, Burton Bridge Old Expensive, Tower Winter Spirit, Lefebvre Barbar

Dad says: I expected this to be like the other festivals you take me to...

BigFoz says: ...all the beers available at once?

Dad says: bit disappointing. Good food though.

The Roebuck, St James Street, Nottingham

Alcazar Nottingham Nog, Alcazar Gunpowder Plot

Various other beers + 2 more from Alcazar

Dad says: this is better and there isn't even a beer festival on.

BigFoz says: sit in the window and watch the world go by.

Dad says: those women in Amsterdam did that as well.

2nd December 2005

Jug & Glass, Lea

Pedigree, Mansfield Cask, Black Sheep Bitter, Abbot, Whim Hartington IPA

BigFoz says: Friendly landlord, well-kept ale.
Dad says: and the most uncomfortable settle I've ever sat on.
BigFoz says: stop moaning and get it down you.

Tavern at Tansley, Tansley

Old Speckled Hen, Tetley Bitter, Pedigree
BigFoz says: nice enough place, beer's good.
Dad says: lovely Christmas decorations.
BigFoz says: that's not what we come for.
Dad says: what do we come here for, then?

The Tiger, Turnditch

Pedigree, Marston Burton Bitter, Highgate Fat Catz, Belhaven St Andrew's Ale
BigFoz says: I've always thought this pub had ideas above its station.
Dad says: 'above its station'
BigFoz says: don't start that again, I'm still getting complaints about the last one.

8th December 2005
Nelson & Railway, Kimberley, Nottinghamshire
Hardys & Hansons Bitter, Olde Trip, Gunpowder Plot, Rocking Rudolph
BigFoz says: smashing place and great food.
Dad says: excellent beer.
BigFoz says: it should be; the brewery's only a stone's throw away.
Dad says: if you're particularly gifted at throwing stones.

15th December 2005
Station Hotel, Newstead Village, Nottinghamshire
Acorn Barnsley Bitter, Acorn Old Tom
BigFoz says: wow! This is such a friendly place.
Dad says: and completely unchanged.
BigFoz says: what, the pub or the people?
Dad says: both.

22nd December 2005
Sherwood Ranger, Ravenshead, Nottinghamshire
Hardys & Hansons Kimberley Bitter, Olde Trip, Rocking Rudolph
BigFoz says: for a bog-standard, 60s Kimberley pub, this has got great atmosphere.
Dad says: good beer and I've just had an invite to join those women at the OAP Christmas party.
BigFoz says: yes, I think you're in there, Dad.
Dad says: in where?

29th December 2005
Thorne Tree, Belper
Greene King IPA, Abbot, Ridley Rumpus, Bass
BigFoz says: good ale but I've always thought this pub could do with more atmosphere.
Dad says: or even a bit.

Proposed Trips

Trip by train to Sheffield visiting GBG pubs on Saturday 27th January 2006 contact Rodney on 01332 726604.

Beer Festival Diary

18th to 21st January National Winter Ales Festival, New Century Hall, Corporation Street-Manchester. www.winteralesfestival.org.uk
18th to 22nd January Crescent Beer Festival, Windsor Crescent-Salford.
18th to 22nd Smithfield Beer Festival, Swan Street-Manchester.
19th to 21st January Cambridge Winter Ales Festival, University Sports & Social Club, Mill Lane-Cambridge. www.cambridge-camra.org.uk
19th to 22nd January Beer House Beer Festival, Angel Street-Manchester.
19th to 29th January Black on Black Beer Festival, The Buffet Bar, Stalybridge Station-Stalybridge. www.buffetbar.freewbspace.com
20th to 22nd January Eagle Beer Festival, West Street-Boston.
26th to 28th January 4th Wellington Beer Festival, Bennetts Hill-Birmingham.
27th to 28th January 11th Winter Ales Festival, Town Hall Burton-on-Trent.
1st to 5th February Carlton Arms Winter Beer Festival, Carlton Way-Cambridge. www.thecarltonarms.co.uk
2nd to 4th February Lichfield Beer & Wine Festival, Duke of York, Greenhill-Lichfield. www.lichfieldarts.org.uk
3rd to 4th February Chesterfield Beer Festival, Winding Wheel Holywell Street-Chesterfield. www.chesterfieldbeerfestival.org.uk
3rd to 5th February Ashfield Beer & Cider Festival, Festival Hall, Hodgkinson Road-Kirkby in Ashfield. www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk
9th to 11th February 24th Fleetwood Beer Festival, Marine Hall-Fleetwood.
10th to 12 February Bury's 1st Feb Fest Beer Festival, East Lancashire Railway, Bolton Street-Bury. www.east-lancs-rly.co.uk
15th to 18th February Rotherham Oakwood Real Ale & Music Festival, Oakwood Technology College, Moor Road-Rotherham. www.realale.oakwood.yorks.com
16th to 18th February Cleveland's Ale & Arty Beer Festival, Arc, Dovecote Street-Stockton. www.clevelandcamra.btinternet.co.uk
23rd to 25th February Bradford Beer Festival, Victoria Hall, Saltaire. www.bradfordcamra.org.uk
2nd to 4th March Loughborough Beer Festival, Polish Club off William Street-Loughborough.
3rd to 4th March 4th Elysian Beer Festival, Larkfields Resource Centre, High Barns-Ely. www.elycamra.org.uk
15th to 18th March Leicester Beer Festival, The Charotar Pitidar Samaj, off St Margaret's Way-Leicester. www.camra.org.uk/leicester
16th to 18th March Leeds Beer, Cider & Perry Festival, Civic Hall-Pudsey. www.leedsbeerfestival.co.uk
23rd to 25th March 19th Wigan Beer Festival Robin Park Indoor Sports Centre, Loire Drive-Wigan.
23rd to 25th March 2nd Pendle Beer Festival, Municipal Hall, Colne. www.eastlancscamra.org.uk
24th to 25th March Coventry Beer Festival, Rugby Football Ground, The Butts Park Arena, Butts Road-Coventry.
1st to 2nd April Derby Rowing Club Beer Festival, Darley Grove, North Parade-Derby.

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

Well that's all for this issue folks however if you have any information or news which could be included in a subsequent issue of "In the Sticks" please contact Charisma Bypass on 07974 171243 or e-mail: billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk by the 8th of the month.

Edited by Billy One Mate

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

Charisma Bypass, Gentle Giant, Half Pint, Two Gallon Man, Me Owd Conker, Delboy, Rodney, Exadman, Big Foz & his Dad, Sooty, Jedediah Trippe, Jonathan Kriek, JB, Field Ape, Bald Eagle, Harry Lyme, Midshiresman, Beermeister, Tweedle Dee & The Old Man.
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.