



*In The Sticks*

# RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

February 2006

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](mailto: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 53 pubs in 25 different locations, 6 Breweries and 33 Beer Festivals.

## Beer and Pub News

Simon, Andy & Rob from the **Seven Stars Belper** emailed me to advise that guest ales available through February will be **Marstons Sweet Chariot** 4.8%, **Jennings LA' AL Cockle Warmer** 6.5%, **Red Brick Double Barrel** 4.3%, **Titanic Captain Smiths** 5.2% and **Hydes HPA** 4.5%.

At the **White Hart Bargate** on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January were regular **Hardys & Hansons Kimberley Bitter** and seasonal guest **Rocking Rudolph**.

At **The Hop Inn** in **Openwoodgate** the same evening was regular real ale in the shape of **Marstons Pedigree**.

Across the road the **Black Bulls Head** had **Hardys & Hansons Kimberley Bitter** and **Olde Trip** as the regulars with **Abstinence** 3.6% as the seasonal guest.

A visit to **Belper's** only back street boozier the **Royal Oak** on Mill Street on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January found it closed with an **Admiral Taverns** sign outside advising "Business Opportunity"; Those interested should call 07812 975734 or 01923 726367 or visit [www.admiraltaverns.co.uk](http://www.admiraltaverns.co.uk)

S & N Pub Enterprises have submitted a planning application to Amber Valley Borough Council for the "Conversion of existing outbuilding to form a hotel block" at the **Railway Hotel** on King Street **Belper**; Progress of application AVA/2005/1263 can be followed by visiting [www.ambervalley.gov.uk](http://www.ambervalley.gov.uk)

**Budvar Black**, the first beer to go at last years **GBBF**, could soon become a regular at the **Queens Head Belper**.

In May 2004 "Rurad man" the character on the top left of our newsletter was born, however since then he has been without a name, poor thing, so feeling a bit sorry for him **Richard Creighton**, the head brewer of the **Leadmill Brewery**, suggested that our readers may wish to give him a suitable name with an agricultural theme.

Richard has agreed to choose the most appropriate entry and the lucky winner will be invited to help brew a commemorative beer by the same name.

Please send your suggestions by email to [billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk) the closing date for this competition is Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Additional hand pumps were installed at the **GBG** listed **Steampacket** at **Swanwick** over the weekend of the **Derby Winter Beer Festival**. The 'Bar' now has an impressive array of 8 pumps with 6 ales, some changing and a brace of Ciders including **Old Rosey & Addestones**. My own Local, the **Jug & Glass** at **Lea** has had a major overall (about a year ago) and now has regularly **Abbott**, **Hartington IPA**, **Peddy**, **Mansfield Bitter & Black Sheep**. All always in top condition. **Bob & Julie** do regular bar snacks, an excellent Sunday Lunch and on alternating Thursdays, and Indian and Chinese themed menu. Plus, if this is what floats yer boat, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday monthly is the meeting place of the local **MG Club**. Go on give it a whirl. - *Wheatcroft Wanderer*

Scaffolding and tarpaulin was erected on the outside of the **Black Swan** on **Belper Market Place** in early January. The work which, is being funded by the **Belper & Milford Townscape Initiative**, includes having the exterior paint chemically stripped back to the original brickwork, new windows and roof, and will also see the original guttering replaced. The pub is "Open as Usual" selling **Greene King IPA** as the regular real ale and either **Shepherd Neame Spitfire** or **Abbot Ale** which alternate as the guest.

Neil told me that as the **Spitfire** had proved so popular he was looking to make it one of the regular real ales available.

Other plans for the future include opening a restaurant down stairs where a selection of bottled Belgian beers will be available; the opening date is "to be advised"

Colin's "Brewery of the Month" for this month at the **Cross Keys Belper** continues with beers from the **Adnams Brewery** and includes:- **Adnams Bitter** 3.7%, **Broadside** 4.7%, **Oyster Stout** 4.3% and a new beer called **Explorer** 4.3%.

Out and about in **Belper** on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January found me on **Parks Estate** to check out the **Park** formerly the **Bullfinch**, which according to **Punch Taverns** website is marked for refurbishment, however the pub was boarded up so it was a quick about turn and on to the **Welcome Tavern** on Mill Lane where I tried the one regular real ale on offer **Marstons Pedigree** at £2.30 a pint dispensed by gravity from the jug.

The pubs new opening hours are Mon 7 til 11; Tues to Thur 5 til 12; Fri 5 til 1; Sat 12 til 1 & Sun 12 til 2.

Next I called in at the **Greyhound** on **Whitemoor Lane** where **Wells Bombardier** was one of the regular real ale on offer. The pub usually has **Marstons Pedigree** and one guest; with all the beers at £2.30 a pint. The new opening hours here are Mon to Thurs 5 til 12; Fri & Sat 12 til 1 & Sun 12 til 11.30.

Christmas Eve found **Half Pint**, **Jonathan Kriek**, **JB** and I "supporting local beer festivals" at the **Grapes in Belper** where they were holding their 2<sup>nd</sup> beer festival in the seasonally decorated courtyard next to the pub.

6 real ales were on offer including **Caledonian Santa's Little Helper** 3.9%, **Ruddles County**, **Jennings Snecklifter**, **Castle Eden Ale**, **Adnams Bitter** and **Shepherd Neame Master Brew Best Bitter** all at £2.20 a pint.

Also on the bar in the pub were regulars **Marstons Pedigree** and **Burton Bitter** with guest **Theakstons XB**.

Look out for the next Beer Festival, which is penciled in for the end of March.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January saw a change of licensee at the **Imperial Vaults** on **King Street Belper** when **Mrs. Jacqueline Penman** took over the helm.

The following pubs in our area are available for leasehold: - the **Fisherman's Rest** at **Broadholme** and the **Punch Bowl** in **West Hallam** for more details visit [www.bvandp.co.uk](http://www.bvandp.co.uk)

On at the **Punch Bowl West Hallam** on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January were **Marstons Pedigree**, **Tetley Cask** and **Wadsworth 6X**.



We had heard that the **Old Crown & Anchor** on Wetmore Road, **Burton** had been refurbished and had opened again, in December 2005, this time as a real ale pub. We made it on a Sunday lunchtime in January to find the 'Whetmore Whistle', a completely refurbished pub - but thankfully done in the traditional style - comfortable, warm, not too much music and even food bits on the bar. The beers on offer were even better: - Gravity Bass, 4.4% at £2.20 and Marstons Pedigree, 4.5% at £2.30 were just delicious. Also tasted were Batemans XXXB, 4.8% at £2.25 and Castle Rock Harvest, 3.8% at £1.90 others on offer were St Austell HSD, 5.0% at £2, 30 and Abbeydale Absolution, 5.5% at £2.40, as well as a variety of draft continental beers and real cider. A range of very reasonably priced snacks is on hand and attached to the pub is the Wetmore cafe, where as well as the beers from the bar, a wider range of food is available.

From Derby on the A38 toward Burton, turn left at the Pirelli Stadium then left again at a mini island, the pub is on the right at the next T-junction, about five minutes walk from Burton Albion's ground. What a gem - we'll be back *Nitdad, Kit Kat and son*

The **Hill Top** has Hardys & Hansons current line-up of Best Bitter 3.9%, Olde Trip 4.3% and seasonal ale Abstinence 3.6%. Tried the latter, but found it a bit on the bland side; Its replacement was Fatal Distraction 4.5%, a much better brew in my opinion. *Midshiresman*

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan took a different route home for a change of scenery. Visited the **Nag's Head**, and was delighted to find Jennings Snecklifter 5.1% on offer at £2.30 in addition to Pedigree. So good I had to try another, which was just as good. Next to the **Grapes**, where Marston's Bitter and Pedigree were on offer, but I thought Gales HSB 4.8% at £2.35 more interesting. Finally the **Queen's Head** had Deuchar's IPA 3.8% and Jennings Cumberland 4.0%. The Jennings was my choice, and didn't disappoint. *Midshiresman*

On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January, Tweedle Dee, Tweedle Dumb and The Old Man paid a visit to the **Devonshire Arms** in **South Normanton**, which has recently reopened after a substantial refurbishment. Mine hosts are Bill and Trish (formerly of The Hawthorns) and a fine range of real ales was on offer - we tried the Greene King Abbot 5.0% and Old Speckled Hen 5.2% both of which were excellent at just £1.95 a pint - Trish advised us that her forthcoming Guest Beers will include Abbeydale Absolution, Abbeydale Belfry, Ridleys Rumpus and numerous others. Home cooked food is also available daily. Anyway, time was against us, so we moved onto the **Clock** where the ales on offer were Everards Tiger 4.2%, Marstons Burton Bitter 3.8% and Marstons Old Empire 5.7% - we tried the Old Empire at £2.30, before a quick stroll up to the **Hawthorns** where Theakstons Old Peculiar 5.6% was available at £2.20, together with Timothy Taylors Landlord 4.3% and Greene King Abbot. All in all, it was an enjoyable evening - South Normanton is definitely back on the map for real ales.

Half Pint, Jonathan Kriek and I paid a visit to the **George & Dragon** on Bridge Street **Belper** on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January to sample the Archers Pixie Juice 4.2% and Lloyds Frosted Hop 4.3% whilst getting a warm from the open log fire.

A third guest beer available was Church End What the fox's hat 4.2% at £2.40 a pint which was along side the two regular beers Tetley's Cask and GK Abbot Ale.

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February I met up with Jedediah enroute to **Kilburn** to call in at the **Hunters Arms** on Church Street opposite the former White Hart pub. The building itself, which dates back to 1879 is part of Enterprise Inns estate and, takes its name from the Hunter family who used to own Kilburn Hall and most of the village. Brian, Katrina and Mat now run the pub, which has been open on a regular basis since the 3<sup>rd</sup> January this year.

There is a real fire and an upstairs function room suitable for between 30 and 60 people. Real ales available on our visit were regular Deuchars IPA with guest Greene King Abbot Ale both at £2.30 a pint. Homemade food is served in the non-smoking dining area from Tuesdays to Saturdays between 6pm and 8.30pm with a carvery on Thursday evenings and between 12 and 2.30pm on Sundays. Saturday night is steak night and recent themed nights have included curry and Italian nights. It is advisable to book on Tel 01332 882907 to avoid disappointment. The opening hours are Mon to Sat 5pm til 11pm and 12 til 10.30 on Sundays.

To complete this months round up of **Belper** pubs starting at the **Duke of Devonshire** on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January were Courage Directors 4.8% as the regular with Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger 5.0% £2.00 as the guest Across the road in the **Rifleman's Arms** were Bass, Pedigree and my choice Boddingtons Bitter £2.20.

Next door the **Nelson Inn** had St Austell Tribute. On Chesterfield Road the **Thorn Tree** was regulars Greene King IPA, Abbot, Bass and guest Ridleys Rumpus 4.5% all at £2.20 a pint. Whilst next door, resplendent with its new pub sign, the **Queens Head** had Sharp's Doom Bar, Draught Burton Ale, Deuchars IPA, Jennings Cumberland Ale and guest Howard Town Bleaklow 3.8% at £2.20 a pint.

Jedediah has been busy recently with Trippes to both **Newcastle** and **Exeter**, unfortunately due to space constraints this month we can not bring you his reports, however should any one like to receive a copy please email Billy.

The "Friday Fives" are coming-keep an eye out for more details in next months issue.

## Brewery News

### Leadmill-Denby

[www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk](http://www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk)

The latest beers from Leadmill include Destitution 5.3% & Old Mottled Cock Extra 4.6%. The Destitution proved so popular it sold out twice completely when it made its first appearance at the **Old Stables Bar** in mid Jan. Refurbishment work carried out on the brewery recently includes a repaint, fitting new extractor fans and making the brewing vessels free standing.

Richard is currently on the look out for old pub signs for the Stables Bar.

### Amber Valley Brewery-Hammersmith

Our man on the ground paid a visit in early February to find an empty shed on an industrial estate in Hammersmith. We will keep you advised as and when things develop.

### Danelaw-Chellaston

[www.danelawbrewery.co.uk](http://www.danelawbrewery.co.uk)

Danelaw has brewed another special for the **Babington Arms** called "Babington Plot". It's a 4.5% ABV Best Bitter. Rape and Pillage, which is supplied to **Broughton Heath Golf Club**, has had its name changed to India Pale Ale following comments from the lady members.

### Falstaff-Normanton

[www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk](http://www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk)

The first of this years the special poet themed beers for the **Babington Arms** is called Byron's Best and is a mid brown session beer at 4.7%, and was delivered at the end of January.

### Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

[www.funfairbrewingcompany.com](http://www.funfairbrewingcompany.com)

The latest beer from Funfair is called Showman's IPA at 5.3% and described as a true IPA, golden in colour with an extremely citrusy aroma.

Brandy Snap, the pale ginger beer, was recently available at the **Old Stables Bar Denby** and the **Victoria** in **Alfreton**.

A special beer is to be brewed for the St Georges day parade in Ilkeston which will be a 4.5% traditional bitter.

### Spire Brewery-Staveley.

[www.spirebrewery.co.uk](http://www.spirebrewery.co.uk)

A new brewery called the Spire Brewery is being set up in Staveley near Chesterfield by "brewers in waiting" David McLaren and Andy Bolton. It is hoped the 10-barrel plant will be up and running towards the end of April 2006. Amongst the first three beers will be Spire Best Bitter a premium best at around 4.8%, Golden Ale also around 4.8% and a session beer Encore 4.0%.



## Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January saw our walk start from the Staffordshire village of Wetton in the Peak District. We headed down into the Manifold Valley past Thors Cave, which was hidden in the fog; back up through Ladyside Wood to the village of **Grindon**. We were too early for the **Cavalier** so we had to make do with a coffee. The **Black Lion Inn** at **Butterton** was our first stop; here there was Greene King IPA 3.6%, Gales HSB 4.8%, Dark Star Hophead 3.8%, White Horse Brewery Dragon Hill 4.2% & Mansfield Cask 3.8%. We tried the White Horse having not come across it before which was ok but not really to our taste. I always considered this a worthy entry in the GBG alas not this year. Next, after a short but muddy stroll we arrived at the **Greyhound Inn** at **Warslow** where, Though there were 4 hand pumps on the bar, we had a choice from Bass 4.4% & a Skinners beer (we couldn't see which and the bar man just said it was "bitter") we went for it any way and nice it was too even though whilst perusing the GBG later I couldn't find a Skinners Bitter. What could it have been???

Answers on a postcard please.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> of January saw us joined by Uncle Albert as we headed off to the heart of the Peak District. We parked at Monsal Head and walked down to Cressbrook then up to **Litton** (unfortunately too early for the **Red Lion**), passing the **Anchor** on the A623 down the road to **Little Hucklow**. Here I intended for us to call in at the **Old Bulls Head** unfortunately since our last visit it's become a house so we headed to **Great Hucklow** and the GBG listed **Queen Anne**, which is still a pub...thank goodness. Here we had a choice of either Adnams Bitter 3.7% or Storm Silk of Amnesia 4.7% Del & Albert opted for the former, I the latter (both in good order) as we warmed ourselves in front of the lovely open fire. The landlord did tell us that the beer range does widen in summer and that we'd missed the **Old Bulls Head** by about 2 months. From there we made our way to the GBG and National Inventory listed **Three Stags Heads** at **Wardlow Mires**. This is a "no frills" pub if ever there was one there's no plush carpet, no fancy upholstery and occasionally more dogs than customers (though on this visit the ratio was about 2 to 1 in favour of non canines) and we jokingly say you have to wipe your feet before you leave. Four beers from Abbeydale were available; Matins 3.8%, Brimstone 3.9%, Absolution 5.3% and the house beer **Black Lurcher** 8.0%. I know people who have had a bad experience with the beer here but I've never had any cause to complain. There is a little sign at the bar that says, "Please don't ask for lager as a smack in the mouth often offends"...Amen to that.

Teddy opened his Christmas presents so excitedly, there were the usual chocolates, whisky and wine and then he found a small intriguing parcel -wow!!! "An overnight stay at the **George Hotel** in **Castleton**". He'd been in **Castleton** a couple of weeks previous and had called at the **George** for a pint and loved the place. A warm welcoming atmosphere and being beautifully decorated for the festive season, it looked very inviting.

So he set off on the 28<sup>th</sup> December, a lovely crisp winter's day, firstly taking a stroll around the Hope Valley and then arriving at the **George** late afternoon. A quick tour round the village revealed six pubs/hotels to keep him occupied for the evening.

First stop - the **Cheshire Cheese** - serving -

Deakins White Rabbit Spring Ale. very pleasant and quite a nice place.

Next - (almost next door) the **Peaks Inn** - serving - Caledonian Deuchars IPA, Black Sheep, and Thwaites's Good Elf.

Next - **Ye Olde Nags Head Hotel** - serving - Timothy Taylor's Landlord, Black Sheep Bitter and Storm Brewing Company-Downpour. very nice!!!!

Next - the **Bulls Head** - serving - Robinsons Unicorn Bitter and Robinsons Hatters Mild. not really my cup of tea this place and at fourth on the tour I was finding it difficult to get up again off the luxurious low sofas (says it all really) Next - the **Castle** - serving- bass, John Smith's Cask and Tetley's Bitter. not the best selection of beers of the night but a great place.

next - the **George Hotel**-serving - Archers Oatmeal Stout, Thornbridge Brock , Thornbridge Lord Marples and Greene King IPA. Definitely the jewel of **Castleton**. Great atmosphere, beer, and friendly welcome.

Teddy fancied a bag of crisps with his last pint to the landlords' dismay as he warned him he would not need them, as his breakfasts were world famous!! he wasn't wrong either, it was wonderful, just setting Teddy up ready for a moorland walk and thank goodness for his fur coat, it was minus nine when he left the hotel !!

Next - he'll have to wait and see, perhaps his Easter egg will have a lovely surprise inside it!

**N**omadic Rex spent Christmas and the New Year near Lake Windermere Cumbria. Several sessions were had at an old favorite of mine the **Watermill Inn, Ings, Staveley**. Last time I was there they were extending the building to house a **Micro Brewery** this has now been completed alas though the equipment to produce the beer has been delivered but was not yet working, I was informed that it will be a 5 barrel plant producing a 3.8% supping beer 4.4% ish beer and a 5% monthly special, It was said that all beers will have **dog related** names. The following were available on the pull the last day of 2005 J W Leas Moonraker 7.5%, Theakstons Best Bitter 3.8%, Theakstons Old Peculiar 5.7%, Black Sheep Best Bitter 3.8%, Black Sheep Special 4.4%, Hesket Great Cock-up Porter 3.0%, Hesket Haystacks 3.7%, Hesket Skiddaw 3.9%, Caledonian Deuchars IPA 3.8%, Caledonian Ale Lang Syne 4.6%, Timothy Taylor Landlord 4.3%, Bateman's XB 3.7%, Wadsworth 6X 4.3%, Shepherd Neame Spitfire 3.7%, Hawkshead Bitter 3.7%, Coniston Bluebird 3.6% and Moorhouses Black Cat Mild 3.2%. They also have 50 bottle beers mostly foreign. More Details [www.watermillinn.co.uk](http://www.watermillinn.co.uk)

## The Ex Adman Column

I visited Scotland recently, staying in Glasgow for a few nights, and also managed to get to **Edinburgh**, and of course I did a sightseeing tour of the historic pubs of both cities, with the idea of including a few in the series in future. I managed to get to a round dozen, most of which were well worth an article.

For this month, we will visit the **Oxford Bar**, which is situated on Young Street; about 20 minutes walk from Edinburgh Waverley railway station.

This is a two - room pub, with a small bar area and

a larger room to the right where many local societies meet, on the day of my visit the Freemasons were using it. This small, friendly pub has a very welcoming feel to it, and has remained unchanged for many years. No spectacular fittings adorn it, unlike many of the other NI pubs in the area; it has more in common perhaps with pubs like the Turf Tavern in the West Midlands -a no - nonsense back street local. Burns memorabilia decorate the walls, and if you have ever read Ian Rankin's Inspector Rebus novels, this is the pub where the "Professor" holds court. Three real ales were available on the day of my visit -Belhaven 80/-, Deuchars IPA, both regulars, and Edinburgh Brewery EPA, the guest beer, and probably the best beer I sampled over the weekend. There are no meals available, but there is a selection of modestly - priced cobs. As well as being in the NI, the Oxford has been a GBG regular for years, and is well worth its place in both publications. If you go to Edinburgh, make sure you visit this pub.

## Big Foz's Travels with his Dad

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2006

**Waterloo Inn, Biggin-by-Newhaven**

Black Sheep Bitter, Black Sheep Special, Wychwood Hobgoblin

Dad says: I'm surprised they let you in here, after what you said last time.

BigFoz says: it's good ale...and I'm not ashamed of anything I've said.

Dad says: why the disguise, then?

**Horseshoe Inn, Longnor**

Marston Burton Bitter, Pedigree

BigFoz says: Pedigree like oxtail soup again.

Dad says: at least he changed it without any trouble.

BigFoz says: only because I left it on the bar.

**Staffordshire Knot, Sheen**

Pedigree

BigFoz says: not often a pub says they're shut when they're obviously open.

Dad says: what was that all about, then?

BigFoz says: it'll have to remain a mystery...and it was only Pedigree anyway.

Dad says: probably didn't like the look of your face...I know I don't.

5<sup>th</sup> January 2006

**Princess Victoria, Matlock Bath**

Bateman XB, Valiant, XXXB, Abbot, Titanic Full

Steam Ahead

BigFoz says: don't particularly like the pub but the ale's superb.

Dad says: there used to be a petrifying well across the road.

BigFoz says: and it's just started taking effect on you.

**Fishpond, Matlock Bath**

Old Speckled Hen, Pedigree, Abbot

BigFoz says: never been in here before.

Dad says: what?

BigFoz says: surprisingly good beer.

Dad says: what?

BigFoz says: and live music.

Dad says: I can't hear you because of the live music.

6<sup>th</sup> January 2006

**Clock Inn, South Normanton**

Everards Tiger, Marston Bitter, Cottage Santa's

Steaming Ale

BigFoz says: good beer but what have they tried to do to this place?

Dad says: don't know, but they haven't succeeded.

### Boundary, South Normanton

Pedigree, Marston Old Empire, Marston Christmas Ale  
BigFoz says: now here's a rarity: a beer that looks good but is totally out of condition.

Dad says: don't like kids running around like this.

BigFoz says: even so, you didn't have to trip that one up.

Dad says: heh-heh.

13<sup>th</sup> January 2006

### Bar, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Greater Manchester

Marble Roadrider, Ginger Marble, Manchester Bitter, Phoenix Thirsty Moon, Wobbly Bob

Dad says: what are we back here for?

BigFoz says: excellent ale, excellent food; what more could you ask for?

Dad says: not drinking in a shop window.



### Proposed Trips

"RoRAT" (Rodney's Real Ale Tours) Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April by train visiting GBG & NI pubs in Birmingham city centre & Digbeth. Contact Rodney on 01332 726604.

### Beer Festival Diary - 3 Month Look Ahead

15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February Rotherham Oakwood Real Ale & Music Festival, Oakwood Technology College, Moor Road-Rotherham. [www.realale.oakwood.yorks.com](http://www.realale.oakwood.yorks.com)

15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February Liverpool Beer Festival The Crypt Hall, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, Brownlow Hill-Liverpool. [www.merseycamra.org.uk](http://www.merseycamra.org.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February Bartons Arms Beer Festival, High Street, Aston-Birmingham. [www.bartons-arms.co.uk](http://www.bartons-arms.co.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February Essex Boys & Girls Beer Festival, the Criterion, Millstone Lane-Leicester. [www.mainlybeer.com](http://www.mainlybeer.com)

18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February North Cotswold Beer Festival, the Babington Arms, Babington Lane-Derby.

20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February Audley FC Annual Beer Festival No5, Old Road, Bignall End-Stoke on Trent.

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February Bradford Beer Festival, Victoria Hall, Saltaire. [www.bradfordcamra.org.uk](http://www.bradfordcamra.org.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February Heavyweight Beer Festival, Olde Dolphin Inne, Queen Street-Derby.

24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February George & Dragon Beer Festival, Old Brampton-Chesterfield.

24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February Forever Bury Beer Festival Bury FC Social Club, Gigg Lane-Bury.

25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> February Old Ales Beer Festival, the Babington Arms, Babington Lane-Derby.

2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> March Loughborough Beer Festival, Polish Club off William Street-Loughborough.

9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March Darlington Snooker Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Mini Beer Festival, Corporation Road-Darlington.

9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March 1<sup>st</sup> Crown Hotel Beer Festival The Crown Hotel, Platt Lane, Worthington, Standish-Wigan. [www.thecrownatworthington.co.uk](http://www.thecrownatworthington.co.uk)

12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March Light & Dark Beer Festival, Bell Inn, Angel Row, Old Market Square-Nottingham. [www.thebell-inn.com](http://www.thebell-inn.com)

15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March Leicester Beer Festival, The Charotar Pitidar Samaj, off St Margaret's Way-Leicester. [www.camra.org.uk/leicester](http://www.camra.org.uk/leicester)

16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March Leeds Beer, Cider & Perry Festival, Civic Hall-Pudsey. [www.leedsbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.leedsbeerfestival.co.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March Old Poets Corner Spring Beer Festival-Ashover. [www.oldpoets.co.uk](http://www.oldpoets.co.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March Anchor Inn St Patrick's Day Beer Festival, Bradford Street-Digbeth. [www.the-anchor-inn.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.the-anchor-inn.fsnet.co.uk)

17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March Bingham Beer Festival, Bingham Rugby Club, Brendon Road-Bingham.

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 19<sup>th</sup> Wigan Beer Festival Robin Park Indoor Sports Centre, Loire Drive-Wigan.

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2<sup>nd</sup> Pendle Beer Festival, Municipal Hall, Colne. [www.eastlancscamra.org.uk](http://www.eastlancscamra.org.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March Preston Beer Festival St. Walburge's Parish Centre, Weston Street-Preston.

24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March Coventry Beer Festival, Rugby Football Ground, The Butts Park Arena, Butts Road-Coventry.

24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 9<sup>th</sup> Bristol Beer Festival, the Brunel Shed, Temple Meads Station Approach-Bristol.

24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> March 20<sup>th</sup> Oldham Beer Festival Queen Elizabeth Hall-Oldham. [www.robcamra.org.uk](http://www.robcamra.org.uk)

24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> March Bulls Head Beer Festival, Main Street-Ratby.

1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> April Derby Rowing Club Beer Festival, Darley Grove, North Parade-Derby.

5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> April 30<sup>th</sup> Newcastle Beer Festival, Students Union, Newcastle University, Kings Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne. [www.cannybevvy.co.uk](http://www.cannybevvy.co.uk)

6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April Shovels Beer Festival The Shovels, Common Edge Road-Blackpool.

9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April Pump & Truncheon Beer Festival, Bonney Street-Blackpool.

14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> April Out of the Vaults Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester. [www.outofthevaults.com](http://www.outofthevaults.com)

28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April Philadelphia Beer & Blues Festival, various pubs in Sheffield. [philadelphiabluesfest.hummingbirdsbluesband.co.uk](http://philadelphiabluesfest.hummingbirdsbluesband.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 and more 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](mailto:billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk) by the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month.

### Edited by Billy One Mate

*Other contributors and helpers for this issue of "In the Sticks" (not previously credited elsewhere)*

Charisma Bypass, Gentle Giant, Half Pint, Two Gallon Man, Sooty, Wilberforce, Jedediah Trippe, Field Ape 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.

25<sup>th</sup> January 2006

### Packhorse, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds W Yorks

Smiles Winter Stout, Boddington Bitter, GK

IPA, Landlord, Tetley Bitter

Dad says: party going on. The 60's music's too loud.

BigFoz says: shut up...it's not every day you get to listen to the Electric Prunes.

Dad says: it's not *any* day.

### Eldon, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds W Yorks

Deuchar's, Tetley Bitter, Thwaite's Original,

Landlord, Old Mill Bitter, Bombardier

Dad says: excellent beer; good, cheap food.

BigFoz says: and such a friendly landlord.

Dad says: which one's the landlord?

BigFoz says: drink your beer.

26<sup>th</sup> January 2006

### The Old Bridge, Oxton, Nottinghamshire

Everards Sunchaser, Original, Beacon, Tiger, Bombardier

Dad says: nice pub.

BigFoz says: how would you know? You fell down on the way *in* and ended up at the QMC.

Dad says: well, it *looked* like a nice pub.

### Admiral Rodney, Calverton, Nottinghamshire

Everards Original, Tiger Triple Gold

BigFoz says: good pub; good food; good ale. Better

get off and see Dad...but there's no point in

rushing it.

### The Gladstone, Carrington, Nottingham

London Pride, Nottingham EPA, Abbot, GK IPA, Landlord

BigFoz says: it's taken me years to be in

Nottingham when this place is open...and I don't know whether it was worth the wait.