



RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

In The Sticks

April 2006

Free Copy

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

Number Crunching

In this issue we bring you news of 45 pubs in 34 different locations, 5 Breweries and 41 Beer Festivals.

Beer and Pub News

After being closed for nearly 10 weeks **Belper's** only back street boozer the **Royal Oak** on Mill Street re opened again on Friday 24th March. The following Friday Jedediah, JB and I called in to try a fine drop of the one real ale on offer Marstons Pedigree at £2.40 a pint.

We learnt whilst chatting to the new licensee Jed Tracy and daughter Gemma that the pubs opening hours are 5pm til 1am from Monday to Sunday and that plans for the future include the introduction of a guest beer and the painting of the outside of the pub.

It was about 10pm and the pub was well patronized which was nice to see, infact we all commented separately that this was the most people we had ever seen inside. Well done and keep up the good work!

Punch Taverns planned refurbishment of the **Park** on Parks Estate **Belper** has not yet started as the pub was still boarded up when I passed on Friday 24th March.

The number of real ales on at the **Hunters Arms** in **Kilburn** is set to increase to 3 with the introduction of Jennings Cumberland Ale adding to the existing two other regulars Deuchars IPA and GK Abbot Ale.

The second of our Friday Five pub crawls continues in **Heage** on Friday 28th April at the Windmill Inn on Park Road at 7pm we then move onto the Tollgate for 7.30pm (although previous visits have found no real ale), Black Boy for 8pm, the Eagle Tavern for 8.30pm finishing up at the White Hart Inn at 9pm.

The **New Inn** on Birchwood Lane **Somercotes** was found to be boarded up (23rd March) and is set to be demolished for houses. I recall that the pub had just started selling real ale again the first time I called in October 2004 when Old Speckled Hen 5.2% was the order of the day.

It is with deep sorrow that we have to report that the beer at the GBG listed **Abbey** in **Darley Abbey** has gone up 2p to £1.35 a pint which means unfortunately you can no longer get 3 pints of Sam Smith Old Brewery Bitter for less than four quid. ☺ *The Professional*

The GBG listed **Holly Bush Makeney** held a "surprise" beer festival from the 23rd to 26th of March (when I say surprise I mean it came as a surprise to Charisma our pub liaison officer!). 18 beers were on offer on the bar and on stillage in a separate room at the back of the pub.

For those that didn't make it the full list of beers was Fyne Ales Highlander 4.8%, Harviestoun Bitter & Twisted Downton Chimera Gold 4.3%, Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby 6.0%, J.W Lees Moonraker 7.5%, Hampshire Ironside 4.2%, Butts Barbus Barbus 4.6%, Woods Old Slam 4.6%, Beartown Kodiak Gold 4.0%, Orkney Raven Ale 3.8%, Mauldon's Suffolk Pride 4.8%, Enville Ginger Beer 4.6%, Ringwood Bold Forester 4.2%, Atlas Nimbus 5.0%, Young's Kew Brew 4.6%, Roosters Leghorn 4.3%, Highgate Irish Whiskey 4.6%, and Moorhouses Pride of Pendle 4.1%.

Charisma called into the **Devonshire Arms** on **Pentrich Lane End** on Tuesday 14th March to find new Licensee Steve Osborne, a big real ale man from the Leek area, at the helm. Steve who has been at the pub for about 2 months now has 3 real ales available with Adnams Bitter as the regular and 2 rotating guests form W&D's portfolio which on this occasion were Marstons Double Drop and Jennings Cumberland Ale.

The **Horse & Jockey, Selston** now has up to 9 (nine) real ales on offer at any one time. Les the manager has 4 on hand pump, 2 on purpose built stone stillage, and 3 from the jug. When we called in last Monday (13th March), he had on Bass, Abbott, Old Speckled Hen, Brewers Gold, XXXB, Old Hooky, JHB, Taylor's Best Bitter & Barnsley Bitter. - *The Old Man*

The **Royal Oak, Tamworth Road, Long Eaton** will be holding their 1st Beer Festival from the 29th April - 1st May.

The pub has just been named "Winter Pub of the Season" by Erewash Camra, with the award presented on Monday 20th March. - *Florence & Dougal*

Colin's "Brewery of the Month" for this month at the **Cross Keys Belper** continues with beers from the Cropton Brewery in North Yorkshire. The beers available will be Yorkshire Moors Bitter 4.6%, Monkmans Slaughter 6.0%, Honey Gold 4.2%, Two Pints 4.0% and Endeavor 3.6%. Other attractions for the month will include Everards Buddings 4.5%, Titanic Iceberg 4.1%, Highwood Bomber County 4.8%, Bateman's Spring Goddess 4.2% and Salem Porter 4.7%. On the traditional pub games front you can try your hand at Ring the Bull, Bar Billiards, Table Skittles and Shove Ha'penny. (Colin will provide the Ha'pennies but does anyone know the rules?).

Florence & Dougal visited the **Needlemakers Arms** in **Ilkeston** on the 25th February to be greeted with 3 real ales on draught Bread of Heaven - Brains 4.0%, Rich Ruby - Milestone 4.5%, Deuchars IPA - Caledonian 3.9% and a further ale in the jug Exmoor Stag 5.2%. All were tried and found to be of excellent quality. During their visit Chris the Landlord informed them that they had won Erewash Camera Award for "Pub of the Year 2006".

This was confirmed with Erewash Camera and the presentation for this will be on Saturday 8th April.

The Needlemakers Arms are to hold their first beer festival between 19th & 21st May.

The following Saturday they called at the **Dewdrop Inn, Ilkeston**. The beers on draught were Mallard Ducking 4.2%, Timothy Taylor Best Bitter 4.0%, Castle Rock Harvest Pale 3.8% and Bishop's Farewell 4.6%. The Harvest Pale and Bishop's Farewell were tried which were both excellent so they re-sampled them both.

Rumour has it that you may soon be able to enjoy a pint of your favorite Leadmill beer by catching a train from Derby to the **Old Stables Bar** if an imaginative plan to reopen the currently moth balled Little Eaton Jct to Denby railway line go ahead.

A temporary platform called the Old Stables Bar Halt will be erected and will mean less than a five minute walk up Park Hall Road.

Extensive work on the former Derby to Ripley line, which last saw a regular passenger service over half a century ago, was due to start on April 1st this year. - *Poison d'Avril*

Taylor's Landlord has replaced Sharps Doom Bar as the regular real ale at the **Queens Head** in **Belper**.

On Monday (27th March) I visited the **Royal Oak** in **Wirksworth** where I had an excellent Hartington IPA. Also on offer were Fullers London Pride, Taylor Landlord, Bass and guest ale Archers Golden Train. I also visited the **Bulls' Head, Leek**, which is the Leek Brewery Tap. Three of their ales were on offer, and I enjoyed Staffordshire Gold. A good town for a trippe one day? - *Jedediah*

Last week (Mid March) we had a walk round **Hilton** for a lunchtime session. Our first call at the **Old Talbot** didn't last long as it was closed (this was 1pm on a Wednesday). Instead we went across the road to the **King's Head**. This place now shares its ground floor with a Thai restaurant. All they had on was Marston's Pedigree. As it was the first dispense of the day, the barman poured the first half straight down the sink, which I thought was a good sign. I'd barely taken two steps from the bar with my pint when the barman called me back as he'd decided it looked too cloudy and promptly changed the barrel. The resultant drink was as pleasant as you'd expect given the attention lavished upon it.

Contrast that with our next call, the **Hilton Brook**, recently built by Marstons in a better position to exploit the spread of housing around Hilton than the King's Head. Surprisingly, as well as the ubiquitous Pedigree, they had Hyde's Highly Prestigious Ale (4.5%) on the bar. Unfortunately, what was served was totally undrinkable and very obviously 'off'. Whilst it was swapped without quibble for Pedigree that was just drinkable, we were somewhat alarmed that the Hyde's pump clip remained in place, awaiting the next unsuspecting customer. - *Maz & Jabba*

RuRad supporting local beer festivals

On Friday March 24th Steady Steve joined Del Boy and me on a visit to the beer festival at the **Old Crown** at **Cavendish Bridge**. There were 17 beers available; Jennings Bitter 3.5%, Cumberland 4.0%, Cocker Hoop 4.6% & Golden Host 4.3%, Cameron's Strongarm 4.0%, Adnams Explorer 4.3%, Everards Tiger 4.2% & Marstons Pedigree 4.5% were on the bar with Tom Wood Old Timber 4.5%, St Austell Tribute 4.2%, Hopback Odyssey 4.0%, Caledonian Deuchars IPA 3.8%, Springhead Charlie's Angels 4.5%, Archers Crystal Clear 5.0%, York Yorkshire Terrier 4.2%, Jennings Mild 3.1% & Wychwood Wychcraft? % available from the cellar in the back car park. All the beers that we tried were in good order but unfortunately the weather wasn't conducive to standing around outside still there's nothing you can do about that. The landlady did say that they'd get some heaters in for the Saturday session and if all goes well there will be another festival in the summer...watch this space!!!!!! - *Rodders*.

"I breezed into my Local last night, The **Jug & Glass** at **Lea** and what a wonderful sight greeted me. An impressive array of EIGHT pump clips. To compliment his 5 regulars (Peddy, Mansfield, Black Sheep, Hartington IPA & Abbott) were, straight out of the Cellar, Hobgoblin, Adnams Broadside and Landlord, the latter is selling very well and could become a regular". - *Wheatcroft Wanderer*

Last Saturday (25th March) I visited the **White Hart** at **Bargate**, and had a very good pint of H&H Bitter in this tied house. The other beer on offer was Old Kim (4.5%). A lovely old building on the outside, it has been modernised inside and is comfortable. It was good to see that it was patronised by a number of young people, but the music system was very loud. - *Jedediah*

Ripley Round Up

Celtic Black 4.2% was Hardys & Hansons seasonal guest available at the **Generous Britton** at £2.20 a pint on Sunday 11th March. 11 different real ales were available at the **Red Lion** the same day.

Real ale is no longer available at the **Out of Town** on Lowes Hill. - *Nigel & Mo*

The **Railway** on Peashill no longer serves real ale, however the hand pump still remains on the bar should the need arise. - *BOM*

Staggering around in Stockport

I visited Stockport last weekend and sampled many fine brews.

Two establishments were visited on the evening of 19th March. Firstly, **The Railway** on Avenue Street in the Portwood district of the town centre. The Railway always serves half a dozen beers from the Porter's Rossendale Brewery in Haslingden. There are usually a couple of guest beers too. I tried the "Tiger Rut" (4.0%) from the Millstone Brewery in Mossley. Also available was "Double Header" (5.3%) from the RCH brewery in Weston-Super-Mare. From the Rossendale range I had the extremely hoppy "Sunshine" (5.3%) and "Railway Sleeper" (4.2%) - a personal favorite. Other Rossendale ales are "Porter" (5.0%), "Dark Mild" (3.3%) and "Floral Dance" (3.6%) - another personal favorite.

In addition to this there are a huge range (dozens?) of bottled continental beers and lagers, including a couple of bottled beers from the Goose Island brewery in Chicago which have to be tasted to be believed. We enjoyed a "Goose Island IPA" (5.9%) and a Ch'ti "Blonde" (6.4%) from the French "Brasserie Castelain", both fabulously malty bottled beers.

After this we staggered merrily to the **Old Vic** on Chatham Street in **Edgeley**, a small and friendly pub with an Olde worldie charms all of its own. The Old Vic is very cozy with its real fire! It's amazing what they burn on that fire too! You will have to visit for yourself to find out. The Old Vic usually serves four cask beers of notable quality but there are always a few very pleasant surprises - i.e. beers from micros with which you may not be familiar. I could only remember a little about these by this time: The favorite here tonight was a deliciously hoppy and fruity "Bishop's Farewell" (4.6%) from the Oakham Brewery. I vaguely remember that two of the other beers were from a Hampshire brewery but the names escape me.

After all we had to drink it's amazing we can remember being there at all! There were also two dangerously strong ciders, one of which was Westons "Old Rosie" at 7.0%. Sadly, another favorite, Millstone's "Windy Miller" (4.1%) was not on this evening.

I didn't note the prices but I never do over in Stockport as all the pubs we drink in have **very** reasonably priced beers. i.e. usually no more than £2 per pint! I should be back there again at the weekend. - *The Prisoner*

Billy Bows Out

After nearly 2 years as Editor of our newsletter "In the Sticks" I believe the time is now right to make way for another willing individual to take up the mantle and enable me to devote my time to more personal issues.

Who would have thought that back in August 2003 such a simple idea could have become so popular whilst at the same time helping to raise the profile of Real Ale in our "branch" area and seeing our list of subscribers grow to nearly 200. During my time as Editor I would like to think that we have brought topical items of news, with a touch of humour, and regular features from some of our more colourful characters, to a wide range of like minded people.

It is my intention to step down after the April issue and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped to get us where we are today and for the kind words of support and encouragement in the past.

And finally I'd like to say a word of thank you to our sponsor without whose support and help this newsletter would not have got of the ground. Until the next time? Cheers *Billy*

Just had a trip to the **Famous Red Lion Inn** at **Stonedge** near Chesterfield (Belond Lane, Stonedge, Chesterfield, S45 0LW. Tel: 01246 566142) Three cask beers currently available Caledonian "Six Nations", 4.2% at £20 per pint, Milestone "Loxley", 4.2% at £2.60 per pint and Batemans "Valiant", 4.2% at £2.60 per pint. I also noted that St Austell's "Tribute" will be appearing very soon. *The Prisoner*

The list of the beers appearing at the **Royal Oak, Ockbrook** in May include Archers Dark Mild 3.4% & Strong Dark Mild 5.0%, Whim Magic Mushroom 3.6%, Thornbridge Kastor 2.9% & Pollox 2.9%, Durham Ruby Mild 3.7%, Marston Moor Matchlock Mild 4.0% & Boggart Dark Mild 4.0%.

The **Kings Head** on Town Street **Duffield** are holding an Easter Beer Festival in the Barn from Friday 14th to Monday 17th April. 12 beers will be available together with the regular Deuchars IPA which will be available with a guest on the bar inside the pub. Music and entertainment will also be available.

At time of going to print the jury was still out with regard to selecting an appropriate name for RuRad Man.

Brewery News

Bottle Brook-Kilburn

The first beer from the Bottle Brook Brewery called Full Moon 4.6% made its first appearance at the **Old Stables Bar Denby** on Friday 4th March. It was subsequently sampled by Billy & the Gentle Giant at the **Shovels** beer festival in **Blackpool** earlier this month.

Other beers in the Bottle Brook range include Midnight Mash 5.1% and Deep Well Bitter 5.2%. Bottle Brooks beers were brewed especially for the Leicester Beer Festival with Midnight Mash 5.1% being the second beer to sell out. Richards's next project is to put in a concrete floor at the brewery.

Danelaw-Chellaston

www.danelawbrewery.co.uk

The lads are planning a mild for next month but as yet have not decided on a name.

Falstaff-Normanton

www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk

The latest beer in the Rocky Horror range is called Knees in Tight 4.3% described as a pale straw coloured malty beer with hops at the end. It was recently spotted by Midshiresman in the **George & Dragon Belper**.

Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

www.funfairbrewingcompany.com

The latest addition to the Showman's range of beers, Bitter 4.6% and Pride of Il'ston 4.6% were both among the list of beers available at Daksha's Birthday Beer Festival at the **Out of the Vaults** pub in **Leicester** on the 14th & 15th of April. Session beer Gallopers 3.8% is due to make an appearance at the reading Beer Festival at the end of April.

Leadmill-Denby

www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

The latest beers from Leadmill include Swansong 4.2% and Gone to the Dogs 4.2%.

Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

On Sunday 12th we started our walk from the Derbyshire village of Monyash where the white stuff was falling steadily. We followed the Limestone Way to Flagg then headed for **Chelmorton**; too early for the GBG listed **Church Inn**, which was a shame, we headed back to the Limestone Way and arrived at The **Waterloo** on the A6. This was open but we didn't go in because it's a Robinson's pub and we haven't forgiven them for their invasion of Keswick since the Jennings take over, plus it's an eatery. So we walked into the village of **Taddington** and called in the **Queens Arms** where we had a choice from Thornbridge Lord Marples 4.0% and Copper Dragon Scot's 1816 4.1% we tried both between us and defrosted a while by the open fire (Oakwell Barnsley Bitter is usually

available too). I don't think I've ever seen more than half a dozen people in this pub which is a shame because there is usually some decent real ale on. By this time the precipitation was getting quite heavy so we headed back concerned that we may not be able to get back on to the main roads to get home but we need not have worried as the gritters had been out in force. The **Plough at Flagg** was on our way back but it's now closed down so we had to make do with a cup of soup in the bus shelter, wondering when the Borrowwash flyer's due??

Sunday 19th saw our walk start from a lay by on the A6 near Topley Pike. We walked down Chee Dale, which has got to be one of my favorite areas in the Peak National Park and the place I would send anyone who has never seen a Dipper, we saw about a dozen. I put a towel in my sack in readiness for the negotiation of the Stepping Stones but the Wye was quite low so there was no need to remove the boots and roll up the trouser legs, which made a change. We arrived at **Millers Dale** just a little bit too early to call in the **Anglers Rest** (we'd not long had a coffee break anyway) so we headed up past the old lime works to Priestcliffe and joined the Limestone Way. We crossed the A6 and walked past the **Waterloo** AGAIN! (Still not forgiven Robinson's) ...I can't ever recall us walking past the same pub 2 weeks running, and made our way to **Chelmorton** (there was still some of last weeks snow left under the walls). The GBG listed **Church Inn** has been extensively refurbished since our last visit, which to our surprise is over 4 years ago (we were told that's how long the pool room has been open), but the lay out is still the same, diners get one half of the pub drinkers get the other. Three real ales were available Marstons Burton Bitter 3.8% & Pedigree 4.5% and Adnams Bitter 3.7% we tried the Burton Bitter which as nice (£2.00 a pint made it that bit nicer) and if you've never seen a weather vane shaped like a grasshopper (or it could be a locust or a cricket) pay a visit to Chelmorton church.

We started our walk on Sunday 25th from the village of Yeaveley in the Derbyshire Dales. We made our way, via the quagmire-ish Stydd Hall and Cockshead Lane, to **Snelston Common**, which used to have a nice pub called the **Queen Adelaide** but no more. From there we headed to our first planned pub stop at **Great Cubley** alas the **Howard Arms** is no more so, not holding out much hope, we moved on to **Boylestone** where we thought we would find another ex-pub (it's not dead, it's resting) but to our surprise there was the **Rose & Crown** still alive and kicking. Del Boy was that thirsty he said he would even be grateful for Pedigree, which is just as well because that was the only real ale available (there was a guest but the clip was turned round) but what was lacking in choice was more than compensated for in ambience. I told the landlady of our plight

concerning the Howard Arms and she said that it had been closed for a while. A few of the locals were playing dominoes and we sat by a roaring open fire enjoying the atmosphere which begs the question what makes a good pub? 15 real ales and every table set for diners or 1 real ale, friendly locals and bar staff that don't think they are doing you a favour by topping up your pint...Answers on a post card please. And of the four pubs on this walk that are marked on the map only one is still a going concern, what's the world coming to? Answers on a post card please.-*Rod & Del*

The Ex Adman Column

This month's National Inventory pub sees us back in **Manchester** at the **Hare & Hounds**, which is located on Shudehill, just a few minutes walk from Manchester Victoria Railway Station, and opposite Shudehill Tram Stop. Although the building dates back to around 1800, it is the 1930's refit that makes the Hare and Hounds such a classic. The pub has a blue/brown front, and there are two rooms connected by a corridor which expands into a central drinking lobby, complete with original tiling. The front vault and the back room feature woodwork from the 1930 refit, and the bar itself features leaded glass and mahogany, also original. All three drinking areas have access to the survery. The Hare is a Tetley's pub which also has Holts Bitter on offer, and has appeared regularly in the Good Beer Guide. This is a quiet, friendly pub just outside the centre of Manchester, and is well worth including on any crawl of that part of the city, or for a one - off visit. The pub is usually open all day, and can be contacted on 0161 832 4737.

Big Foz's Travels with his Dad

6th March 2006

Homesford Cottage Inn, Whatstandwell

Hardys & Hansons Bitter, Olde Trip
BigFoz says: hasn't really improved as a pub over the years.

Dad says: excellent veggie choice on the menu.
BigFoz says: but you're not a vegetarian.
Dad says: thought it was the done thing to mention it.

Old Poets Corner, Ashover

GK Abbot, Kelham Island Night Rider, Oakham JHB, Tower Old Poets Ale, Funfair Showman's IPA

BigFoz says: the only thing wrong with this place is that it's so good, it stops you bothering to go to any other pubs in Ashover.

Dad says: from experience: that's no bad thing!

Hardwick Inn, nr. Hardwick Hall

Pedigree, Old Speckled Hen, Ruddles County, Theakstons XB, Old Peculiar

Dad says: people come here and seem to think that because it's old, it's got to be good.
BigFoz says: that's always been the case here: an opportunity missed. It's also rather expensive.
Dad says: yes, it's got it's head stuck up it's...ooh, look, a squirrel!

16th March 2006

The Reindeer, Southwell, Nottinghamshire

Black Sheep Bitter, Theakstons XB, John Smith Cask

BigFoz says: average pub; decent ale.

Dad says: nice pictures on the walls.

BigFoz says: we're supposed to go to pubs for the ale.

Dad says: and the nice pictures.

BigFoz says: sometimes I wonder about you.

Dad says: and me.

Crown Hotel, Southwell, Nottinghamshire

Nothing, nothing at all.

BigFoz says: avoid, avoid, avoid.

Dad says: quite nice décor. Don't like the way the bar's used as a crèche.

BigFoz says: avoid! Avoid! AVOID!

Dad says: you sound like a dalek.

Bramley Apple, Southwell, Nottinghamshire

Springhead Bitter, Roundhead Gold, Roaring Meg,

Milton Minotaur, Deuchar's, Bombardier, Prior

Tipple

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

Dad says: it could do with some more nice pictures on the walls.

BigFoz says: now don't you start that again.

Proposed Trips

Friday 28th April Friday Five pub crawl of **Heage** meet at the Windmill Inn on Park Road at 7pm. For those traveling from the "Beer Capital of Britain" catch the 6.3 at 6.35pm from Full Street stop X6.

Friday 19th May bus trip to Rail Ale Festival, Barrow Hill Roundhouse. Contact Charisma on 07974 171243.

Beer Festival Diary - 3 Month Look Ahead

13th to 17th April Pride of the Midlands Easter Beer Festival, Victoria Inn Dovecote Lane-Beeston. www.victoriabeeston.co.uk

14th to 15th April Out of the Vaults Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester. www.outofthevaults.com

14th to 17th April Boat Inn Easter Beer Festival, Scarthin-Cromford. www.theboatatcromford.co.uk

14th to 17th April Arkwright Arms Beer Festival-Sutton cum Duckmanton.

14th to 17th April Wellington Beer Festival, Bennets Hill-Birmingham.

14th to 17th April Kings Head Beer Festival, Town Street-Duffield.

14th to 17th April Charters Easter Weekend Beer Festival, Town Bridge-Peterborough.

14th to 17th April 11th Green Man Easter Beer Festival, Scotgate-Stamford.

14th to 17th April Harboro' Hotel Beer Festival, Burton Road-Melton Mowbray. www.harborohotel.com

14th to 18th April Company Inn Beer Festival, Castle Wharf-Nottingham.

14th to 23rd April Lion Inn Beer Festival, Mosley Street-Basford.

19th to 23rd April Bold Forester Beer Festival, Botany Avenue-Mansfield.

21st to 22nd April Mallard St Georges Beer Festival-Worksop Train Station.

21st to 23rd April 2nd Sleaford Real Ale Beer Festival, Inside Unit11, 97 East Road-Sleaford. www.s-bf.org.uk

27th April to 1st May Crown Inn Beer Festival, Market Street-Oakengates. www.crown.oakengates.com

28th to 30th April Philadelphi Beer & Blues Festival, various pubs in Sheffield. philadelphiabluesfest.hummingbirdsbluesband.co.uk

28th to 30th April Student's Union Beer Festival, Student's Union Beer Garden - University of Sheffield. www.sheffieldbeerfestival.com

28th April to 1st May Royal Oak Beer Festival, Tamworth Road-Long Eaton.

28th April to 1st May Red Lion Beer Festival-Stonedge.

29th to 30th April Peterborough Rugby Club Beer Festival, Second Drove, Fengate-Peterborough.

30th April to 1st May Old Greyhound Beer Festival-Aslocton.

1st to 7th May Babington Arms Mild Week, Babington Lane-Derby.

4th to 6th May Old Oak Beer Festival-Horsley Woodhouse.

10th to 21st May Wetherspools Beer Festival at participating outlets. www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk

12th to 14th May Hay Beer Festival, 135 Main Road-Shirland.

19th to 20th May Rail Ale Festival, Barrow Hill Roundhouse. www.barrowhill.org.uk

19th to 21st May Queens Head Beer Festival, Chesterfield Road-Belper. www.thequeenshead.net

19th to 21st May Needlemakers Arms Beer Festival, Kensington Street-Ilkeston.

25th to 27th May Lincoln Beer Festival, Drill Hall, Free School Lane-Lincoln. www.lincolncamra.org.uk

25th to 28th May Ruddington Beer Festival, White Horse, 60 Church Street & Three Crowns 23 Easthorpe Street-Ruddington.

26th to 28th May Newark Beer Festival, Riverside Park-Newark. www.newarkcamra.org.uk

26th to 29th May 12th Annual Peak Booze & Blues Festival, the Bentley Brook Inn Fenny Bentley. www.bentleybrookinn.co.uk

26th to 29th May Stag Beer Festival, Nottingham Road-Kimberley.

26th to 29th May Prince of Wales Beer Festival, Chapel Street-Spondon.

26th to 29th May Bluebell Beer Festival, High Street-Bolsover.

26th May to 2nd June County & Station Beer Festival, Dale Road-Matlock Bath.

27th to 29th May Black Lion Beer Festival-Radcliffe on Trent.

2nd to 5th June Vat & Fiddle Beer Festival, Queen's Bridge Road-Nottingham.

9th to 10th June Out of the Vaults Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester. www.outofthevaults.com

23rd June Matlock Rugby Club Beer Festival-Cromford Meadows. www.matlockrugby.com

23rd to 25th June 4th Welland Valley Beer Festival-8 participating pubs.

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

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: uplonkerrodney2006@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" (not credited elsewhere)

Charisma Bypass, Gentle Giant, Half Pint, Two Gallon Man, Sooty, Jedediah Trippe, Field Ape, Dr Who-Apologies if I've missed anyone.

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