



# RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

**LEADMILL BREWERY**  
and **BOTTLE BROOK**  
**BREWERY.**  
Producers of Traditional  
Hand Crafted Real Ales.

## 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 [uplonkerrdney2006@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:uplonkerrdney2006@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 49 pubs in 29 different locations, 4 Breweries and 27 Beer Festivals.

### Beer and Pub News

It is with great regret that we announce the permanent closure of Leadmill Brewery's **Old Stables Bar** at **Denby** the exact reasons for the decision are still unclear.

Amongst the many Guest Beers recently featured at **The Moss Cottage Hotel** in **Ripley** has been **York Ebor Ale** 4.3% and **Holland Street Organ Porter** 4.5%. Also now permanently available is **Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger** 5.0% - a premium ale not often seen in the area!!! A regular "guest" is **Thornbridge Jaipur IPA**, which may become permanent in the future possibly?

The **New Inn** at **Little Eaton** is to close for the duration of some refurbishment work.

After closure for extensive refurbishment work the **Fox & Hounds** at **Coxbench** re-opened on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October when **Charisma** paid a visit and reported that the real ales on offer were **Tetley**, **Bombardier** & **Pedi** all at £2.60 a pint and that the interior is now more like a trendy wine bar (which reflects in the prices).

Our congratulations go to **Kim & Jackie Beresford** at the **Old Poets Corner** at **Ashover** on being awarded the **CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year**. After only 2 years at the pub **Kim** was said to be "Totally thrilled" at receiving such an accolade. **Kim** also said "At the **Old Poets Corner** we sell at least 6 ciders & perries from various producers all the time and we are very pleased to be flying the flag for Derbyshire by winning this award". This honour will go well with the **Chesterfield CAMRA Pub of the Year** award for 2006. Well done **Kim & Jackie**. We also hope to have news of the new brewery in the near future.

On a recent visit to the **Dead Poets** at **Holbrook** **Old Mother Redcap** reported that the beers available were **Abbeylea Drop Hammer** 4.3% £2.30, **Caledonian Deuchars IPA** 3.8% £2.00, **Kelham Island Pale Rider** 5.2% £2.40, **Hopback Crop Circle** 4.2% £2.30, **Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger** 5% £2.40 & **Wye Valley Butty Bach** 4.5% £2.40 on the bar with **Abbot** 5% £2.40 & **Pedigree** 4.5% £2.35 from the jug.

## November 2006

The Sinclair Family  
welcome you to the  
**Cross Keys**

35 Market Place  
Belper  
DE56 1FZ

Tel: 01773 599191

Range of Bateman's  
"Good Honest Beers"  
Featured "Brewery of the  
Month" plus guest ales  
Real Cider & Perry.  
Traditional pub games.

Opening hours:  
1pm til 1am at the  
Managements discretion.

A trip was made to **The Canal Inn** at **Bullbridge** for lunch on Wednesday 4th October, where we were disappointed to see that the **Hardys & Hansons** seasonal ale had been replaced by **Greene King Abbot** on the bar! This was of course less than 24-hours after **GK** had confirmed their intentions to close the brewery at Christmas!! (What does this mean for the **H&H** seasonals???) Later that evening, I paid a quick visit to **The Nags Head** in **Ripley**, where a wide range of ciders and perries were on sale alongside the cask ales - **Pedigree**, **Whim Hartington IPA** and **Leadmill Ghost Rider**. I was able to try a half of **Amber Ales Original Black Stout** from the cellar which was very moreish, but unfortunately time dictated otherwise - **Tweedle Dee**

I read of the acquisition of **The Marquis of Granby** at **Granby** by **Brewsters Brewery** in the **Nottingham Drinker**, so decided to check it out last Saturday. We arrived around 1:45pm, so only had time for a quick pint. They were still decorating the main bar, so we sat outside to savour it. A pint of their **Hophead** and a pint of **Springhead (Boneshaker)**, I think it was) with a packet of **Cheddars** for the dog, set us back £5.10 which, by my experience, is a touch topside of what I would expect to pay from a local micro. Wonder how the **Granby** community will take to the new set-up? I can understand them wanting to start afresh and strip out the old bar set-up, but at the moment, it looks a bit bare. Look forward to a follow-up visit shortly - **Tomatoman**

## Free Copy

**Colin's "Brewery of the Month"** for November at the **Cross Keys, Belper** continues with beers from the **Abbeylea Brewery** in **Sheffield** and includes **Matins** 3.6%, **Moonshine** 4.3%, **Drop Hammer** 4.3% and **Fruition** 5.0%. Other attractions will be **Wolfe Coyote** 4.3%, **St Austell Tinnars** 3.7%, **Titanic Iceberg** 4.1%, **Highwood Harvest Bitter** 4.3% and **Crouch Vale Brewers Gold** 4.0%. Finally don't forget the **Beer Festival** which runs from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> of November where 10 guest beers plus traditional **Cider** and **Perry** will be available. The pub will be open from 1pm each day.

**Tweedle-Dum** and **The Old Man** visited the following pubs on Sunday 1st October, **The Victoria, Alfreton** **Houston Auld Humdinger** 4.2%, **Belvoir Shepherd's Delight** 4.5%. Next **Nelson's Powder Monkey** 4.4% (This was available on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> as I re-visited!!) **The Moss Cottage, Ripley** **Church End Old Gravel Treader** 5.0%, **Holland Street Organ Porter** 4.5%, **Tower Moss Cottage Special** 4.5% (Coming Soon **Burton Bridge Cliff Hanger**, **York Ebor Ale**, **Danelaw Golden Tears**). **The Devonshire Arms, South Normanton** **Greene King Abbot**, **Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger**, **Watered Down** 4.5% **Old Speckled Hen**, **Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby**. All beers at the **Devonshire** are now £2.00/pint, they were £1.95 !!

This month's Friday Five pub-crawl, the eighth in the series, sees us back in **Belper** on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. We will be starting at the **Railway Hotel** on **King Street** at 8pm then the **Imperial Vaults** at 8.30, the **Cross Keys** 9pm the **Grapes** 9.30, **Thorn Tree** 10pm, finishing off at the **Queens Head** at 10.30 for their 21<sup>st</sup> "Coming of age Beer Festival". If you are unable to join us at the start call **Billy** on 07802 914832 to find out where we are - **Billy**

**Mel Mexted** recently took over at the **Devonshire Arms** at **Pentrich Lane End** near **Buckland Hollow**, he is planning to have 2 guest beers alongside **Pedigree**.

Roger, Frances and all the staff  
welcome you to the

**Old Oak Inn**

176 Main Street  
Horsley Woodhouse  
DE7 6AW

01332 881299

Weekdays 5 (4 Fri) - 11

Saturday 12 - 11

Sunday 12 - 10.30

Serving a wide selection of beers  
from **BOTTLE BROOK** and  
**LEADMILL** Breweries  
plus Guest Beers



Established in 2004 we now have a core range of hand crafted beers from the Showman's range including IPA 5.3%, Bitter 4.6%, and Gold 4.4%; also available are Gallopers 3.8%, Dodgem 4.7%, Brandy Snap 4.7%, and Cake Walk 6.0%.

For further details contact  
Dave & Gemma

Tel: +44 (0) 7971 540186 (Mobile)

Email: [sales@funfairbrewingcompany.com](mailto:sales@funfairbrewingcompany.com)

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

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November Dodgem paid a visit to **Bilston** to see Rod Argent and Colin Blunstone in the reformed **Zombies**. With a couple of hours to spare before the band took the stage, and a lack of availability of real ale at the venue, it was with great delight that on peering through the windows of neighbouring hostelrys, eventually a hand pump was spotted. Well, several hand pumps in fact. But first, it was off to the local Indian for an "eat as much as you like" buffet for £7.95. Not the wisest move Dodgem has ever made. With only three curries on offer, one of which was luminous green, each lift of a lid revealed tradition Indian fare: chicken nuggets, prawn crackers, chips...I was expecting one to find faggots or grey peas. After a truly average meal, it was over the road to the **GBG Olde White Rose**. Wow, a dozen hand pumps serving real ale plus every lager, stout and nitro-wazz you could think of. The list of real ales was astounding. **Loddon Oarsome** 4.4%, **Archers Crystal Clear** 5%, **Greene King Abbott Ale** 5%, **Enville Old Porter** 4.5%, **Sarah Hughes Imperial Stout** 7.3%, **Palmers Tally Ho** 5.5%, **Little Valley Stoodley Stout** 4.8%, **Thornbridge Jaipur** 5.9%, **Salopian Gunsmoke** 4.5%, **Uley Pig's ear** 5%, **Anglo Dutch Wildflower** 4.2% and last but not least **Black Sheep Emmerdale Ale** 5%. Dodgem opted for the **Enville Old Porter** and **Anglo Dutch Wildflower**. Strangely they both tasted very similar, sort of garlic flavoured! The **White Rose** was very busy for early evening but it soon became apparent that the majority were paying a fleeting visit as members of a coach party of **CAMRA** members. Definitely worth adding to a **Black Country** itinerary, but best skip the Indian and visit the local chippy instead. Oh, and for the record, the gig was superb!

The 7<sup>th</sup> Beer Festival at the **Royal Oak, Ockbrook** got underway on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October featuring over 35 beers from 18 Norfolk breweries. There were beers from 4 breweries new to the 2007 **GBG**, **Blackfriars** of Great Yarmouth, **Bull Box** of Downham Market, **Fat Cat** of Norwich & **Why Not** also of Norwich. **Chalk Hill** failed to supply but unfortunately the same could not be said for **Reepham**. A late addition to the list was **Front Street** from the **Chequers Inn** at Binham, another new brewery. There were 32 beers in the Assembly room with 3 or 4 rotating on the bar. I managed (in 5 visits) to get through 34 different beers 21 of which were new beers to me (.....I haven't got a drink problem, Honest) and not a bad one between them but I was fore-warned by **Charisma**

(several times) about the **Morse & Export Gold** from **Reepham**. My personal faves were **Waveney East Coast Mild** 3.8%, **Wissey Valley Khaki Sergeant** 6.7%, **Bull Box Kerb Crawler** 5.2%, **Iceni Cranberry Wheat** 5% & **Spectrum Old Stootwobbler** 6%. Congratulations must go to **Steady Steve** for accumulating such an outstanding array of wonderful beers from such new and obscure breweries. Look out for beers from **Shropshire** next year.

Ian Wood and all the staff  
Welcome you to  
**The Nags Head**

18 Main Road  
Smalley  
DE7 6EE  
01332 880737

4 to 6 Regularly Changing  
Guest Ales  
Open Everyday From 3pm  
OPEN ALL DAY  
Weekends & Bank  
Holidays

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October, a trip was made to **Nottingham** with a view to going to **Nottingham Beer Festival**. However, using **Public Transport** meant that we didn't get into **Nottingham** until 8:30, by which time the queue to get into the festival was about 45 minutes. Not having time to wait, we decided to pop into **Bunkers Hill** whilst in the vicinity, where we sampled **Magpie Two** 4 **Joy** 4.2% which was very good, together with **Wadworth 6X** 4.3% and **Nottingham Rock** 3.8%. We then moved onto **Lloyds No 1**, but had to leave because **The Old Man** complained about the noise !!! We decided to visit **Wetherspoons** instead and found their latest beer festival in full swing **Batemans Strawberry Fields** 4.2% was in fine form along with **Caledonian XPA** 4.3% and **Wychwood Hobgoblin** 5.0%. Our final port of call before returning to **Ripley** was **The Roebuck** (also **JDW**) where we tried **York Centurions Ghost** 5.4%. - Tweedle Dee

I can remember the time when you could look forward to a new monthly guest beer every time you visited a **Hardy's & Hansons** pub, however since **Greene Kings** takeover this appears to be a thing of the past as **Old Horse** reported that when he called in to the **Black Bull's Head** in **Openwoodgate**, the guest was **Ruddles County** which was to be followed by **Old Speckled Hen-Billy**.

Old Mother Redcap visited the **Smiths Tavern** at **Ashbourne**, **Marstons Pedigree**, **Burton Bitter** & **Old empire** & **Jennings Sneckliffter** & **Crag Rat** were available.

## RuRAD supporting local beer festivals

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of October **Steady Steve** took **Del Boy** and I to the beer festival at the **Steam Packet** at **Swanwick**. There were 6 beers (and 2 ciders) on the bar, which included **Belvoir Enigma** 4%, **Abbeydale Moonshine** 4.3%, **Oldershaws Regal Blond** 4.4% and **Milestone Crusader** 4.4% with 3 more beers (and several ciders) in a secret room guarded by the landlord. We tried all the beers on offer and all were in good order I even tried **Westons Old Rosie** but not being a regular cider drinker I could have cracked a walnut in my bum cheeks!

After a second visit to **The Royal Oak, Ockbrook** where I tried **Wissey Valley Honeyed Porter** 4.0, **Wolf Straw Dogs** 4.5, & **Iceni Cranberry Wheat** which were all in good condition I decided to make my way to the **Fox & Crown** beer fest at **Basford nr Nottingham** which is also home to the **Alcazar** brewery. After making my way back to **Derby** I caught the next available **Red Arrow** to **Nottingham** using a **Zig Zag** ticket that I had bought to get into town with. Once you get to **Nottingham** alight on upper parliament street and cross the road and board a **Rainbow 1** which you can use your **Zig Zag** on and alight at **The Newcastle** pub on the corner of **Basford Road**. Cross the road and walk down **Basford Road** to the end turn right then left and the **Fox & Crown** is on your right (about 10 min walk). Here I sampled **Saffron Muntjac** 3.7, **Felstar Bonny B** 4.0, **Alcazar Bowmans Bitter** 3.8, **Amber Ales Original Black Stout** 4.0, **Offa's Dyke Wheat Beer** 4.4 & **Hopstar Jades Jewel** 4.5 among others. **Tom Taylor** from the **Babington Arms** arrived later on and being a dark beer fan was soon quaffing the **Alcazar Devout Stout** 8.0. I returned back to **Derby** the same way that I had come but there is a tram stop 5 min away which will take you back to the **Theatre Royal** were you can get the **Red Arrow** back or continue to **Station St** if you are traveling by train. The next day having recovered by lunchtime I was off to the **Old Poets Corner** beer fest at **Ashover**, this was my first visit here and I was very impressed with the location and the pub. Here I tried **Howard Town Dinting Arches** 4.5, **Townes Ram Ale** 4.0, **Blakemere Tomahawk** 3.9, **Funfair Dive Bomber** 4.6 & **St Georges Autumn Gold** 4.6. According to the front of the program the **Ashover Brewery** which is to be located behind the pub should be up and running by the next beer festival early next year-Sooty.

Our September Friday 5 saw us visit pubs on the **A6** in **Belper** starting at the **Talbot** and finishing at the **Lion Hotel** calling at all points in between. From the **Lion** we made our way up to the **Grapes** to join **Half Pint**, **Jonathan Kriek** and a packed house for their beer festival. A total of 10 beers were being served directly from the cask in the outside lean-to area and included **Marstons Single Malt** 4.2%, **Jennings Crag Rat** 4.3%, **Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger** 5.0%, **Rev James** 4.5%, **Harviestoun Bitter** & **Twisted** 3.8%, **Shepherd Neame Late Red** 4.5%, **Hook Norton Copper Ale** 4.6%, **Woodfordes Norfolk Wherry** 3.8%, **Wychwood Hobgoblin** 5.0% and **Harviestoun Schiehallion** 4.8%. **Marstons Bitter** & **Pedi** were on the bar-Billy.

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October Half Pint, Jonathan Kriek and myself met JB in the **Cross Keys** with the intention of doing a mini pub-crawl round **Belper**. However the Salem Porter 4.7% was so good we abandoned all plans to move on to the next pub and spent the evening being entertained by a group of lads playing traditional pub games like "hook the bull" and bar billiards-Billy

## Brewery News

### Bottle Brook-Kilburn

After the recent success at the Peterborough Beer Festival, where Full Moon 4.6% scooped the award for best beer from a new brewery, Richard has produced Half Moon 4%, which has gone down very well at the **Old Oak** at **Horsley Woodhouse**.

### Falstaff-Normanton

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

The next beers coming soon to continue the Rocky Horror theme are Mind Flip 4.2% and Time Slip 4.4%

### Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

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

No fewer than 5 Funfair beers were on at the same time at the **Observatory** in **Ilkeston** as part of the 754<sup>th</sup> Ilkeston Charter Fair, which ran from the 18th to 21<sup>st</sup> October. The beers included the regular house beer Orbitor 3.9%, Cakewalk 6.0%, Gallopers 3.8%, Roller Ghoster 4.7% and a green beer for Halloween called House of Horrors at 3.8%. Elsewhere the same weekend the **Spanish Bar** had Waltzer, Brandy Snap and Dive Bomber while the **Market Inn**, a relative newcomer to the real ale scene, had Dodgem the **Dew Drop** had Gallopers and wheat beer Hall of Mirrors. The GBG listed **White Post** at **Stanley Common** now has Gallopers as one of its regular beers. Mirror Image 4.2% was one of the guest beers available at the **Wellington Beer Festival** on Bennets Hill **Birmingham**.

### Leadmill-Denby

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

Richard has produced two new beers to coincide with Halloween and Bonfire Night. They are Toil & Trouble 4.6% (which appeared at Nottingham Beer Festival) and Starburst 5.1%, the Starburst appeared at the **Out of the Vaults** October Beer Festival in **Leicester** recently.

### Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> (Da, Da, Daaaa) of October Uncle Albert & Charisma Bypass joined Del and I as we headed off for our annual October trip to the Lakes, only we missed the Lakes and ended up in **Sedbergh** which is in the Yorkshire Dales National Park but wholly in Cumbria, work that one out. On arrival after checking in at our digs (and passing some bloke asleep in a flower bed) Del Boy drove us the 5 miles down the road to the idyllic village of **Dent** where we visited the GBG listed **Sun Inn** which had Dent Bitter, Aviator & Kamikaze, this is a pub that you can truly ensonce yourself in but we forced ourselves to visit the **George & Dragon** just down the cobbled road. Here we were treated to Tetley, Dent Bitter, Aviator, Kamikaze, Sunny Wether 4.3% & Wish Ewe Where Here 4.5% we

## A Warm Welcome Awaits At The **Royal Oak**

Ockbrook  
Derby  
01332 662378

\*\*\*\*\*

4 Cask Ales  
Constantly Available.  
Lunches Served  
Everyday 12.00 – 2.00  
Evening Meals  
Monday &  
Wednesday – Friday  
6.00 – 800

thought it strange that this pub had more Dent beer than the supposed brewery tap just up the road. I did try to book us some accommodation in Dent because it is such a fantastic place to stay, but it was full. When we got back to Sedbergh we called in the **Dalesman** on Main St but it was 9 deep at the bar so we moved on to the **Bull Hotel**, also on Main St, but there was no real ale available presently so we moved on to the **Red Lion**, on Finkle St, which had Cumberland and the guest beer was Marstons Burton Bitter, Uncle Albert ordered 4 pints of Cumberland which arrived in varying levels of fullness and the bar maid looked decidedly put out when he asked for them to be topped up....appalling. We eventually got in the **Dalesman**, which had Tetley & Dalesman Bitter available, the house beer had no brewery or strength on the clip and that led us to believe it was re-badged Tetley. We'd have asked the barmaid to clarify but she was too confused when asked to remove the sparkler... shocking. The following day after a hearty brekky (which Charisma managed to retain as we started from the digs) and a fine day wandering on the Howgill Fells (Charisma has some new-ish boots that are faster than his old ones) we called in the **Bull Hotel** for some Blacksheep Bitter after a 10 minute wait to get served... dreadful. Later that same day Del Boy spared us the drudgery of a night on the town in Sedbergh and drove us the 9 miles to **Kendal** where (armed with our Cumbria Real Ale Guide) we visited the 2007 GBG pubs. **Burgundy's Wine Bar** on Lowther St was our first stop and we had a choice from York Stonewall, Yates Fever Pitch, Hawkshead Red & Highgate Fat Catz then it was on to the **Rifleman's Arms** up the hill (another hill!) on Greenside. Here we had a choice from Deuchars, Hopback Summer Lightning, Tetley & some beer from the Czech Republic, not sure if this was worth the toil up the hill. Charisma wanted to visit the Westmorland Beer Festival so having been several years ago we knew where it was held but the tympanum

shattering music levels put us right off so we got some chips and headed for the **Castle Inn** on Castle St, which had Tetley, Cumberland, Hawkshead Bitter & Dent Baarister 4.5%. This bustling local along with Burgundy's and the Sun Inn at Dent are everything a good pub should be, it's a shame they aren't in Sedbergh....or as I like to call it Dedbergh, a real ale oasis it most certainly is not.

We started our walk, on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>, from outside the GBG listed Durham Ox at Orston in Nottinghamshire. The forecast wasn't too good and Del's prediction was that we would be toggging up by 12.00. We joined a path that follows the meandering course of the River Smite and passed through Shelton. While we where sat having a cup of coffee a suspicious farmer came over in his fork truck to see what we were up to..apparently you get more car thieves than walkers in these parts. We passed through Sibthorpe, with it's dovecote, and made our way to **Elston** and called in the **Chequers** on Toad Lane where we had a choice from Blacksheep Bitter, Deuchars IPA & Greene King Ruddles County. From there we skirted Syerston, with its pot bellied pigs, and moved on to **Flintham** where we called in the GBG listed **Boot & Shoe** on Main Street and had a choice from Brewsters Hophead & Marquis, Banks' Bitter & Pedi. As we were just finishing our pint the rain came and stayed for the remainder of our day, we managed to find shelter for a bite to eat and a cup of soup in a convenient barn (after we'd followed a procession of partridges) but by the time we got back to the car, via Hawksworth & Thoroton, we were well and truly soggy...but what can you do?

A special treat for you this month, being as it's nearly Christmas, is a Friday Five-ish to **Ilkeston** on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November. The Ilkeston Flyer leaves stopway 3 on Derwent St, Derby, at 7.15 and returns at 10.00 and 10.45. The **Poachers, Spanish Bar, Ilford, Dewdrop, Needlemakers & Observatory** are among several pubs we planned to visited

### An away day in Crewe.

Trigger & I decided to combine a day of real ale and football with Trigger going off to watch Kidsgrove Athletic v Rothwell Town in the 2<sup>nd</sup> qualifying round of the FA Cup, while I stayed in Crewe to watch their game against the mighty Carlisle United. Arriving in **Crewe** via coach and rail we made our way into town and called in the **Crown Hotel** on Earle St (Robinsons Hatters 3.3% & Old Stockport 3.5% both £2.00 and Unicorn 4.2% £2.10) a good town centre with a friendly welcoming landlord, well worth a visit. Next was the **Angel** on Victoria St (Oakwell Barnsley Bitter 3.8% £1.52). A bit hard to find this one, situated below street level in the Victoria shopping centre, this single room split level bar with pool table and kids roaming free is not the most exciting place but at least it was friendly and the beer was good (and the cheapest of the day). Just round the corner is Crewe's Wetherspoons, the **Gaffers Row** (Pedi, Abbot, Boddingtons 4.1%, Oakham JHB 3.8%, Titanic Captain Smiths 5.2% & Evans & Evans Harvest Home). Usual Wetherspoons conversion, Modernish design. Not much more to say other than if you decide to eat give yourselves plenty of time, our food took well

over half an hour and others were over heard who'd been waiting 45 minutes plus. Next came the one cock up of the day and a cautionary tale of using old GBG's when compiling trips to new destinations. The idea was to visit the Monkey on West St, an Eccleshall Brewery pub listed in the 2003 guide. After several wrong directions from members of the public we eventually found West St (very few streets in Crewe either appear to have name plates or they are that obscure you can't read them) we then had to decide whether to turn right or left so Trigger asked a passer by the way to the Monkey. We set off on a 10-minute trek down the street only to find that the pub no longer exists. So it was a long walk back into town where we had a welcome drink in the **Borough Arms** on Earle St (Hopback Hop Scotch, Salopian Golden Thread, Phoenix IPA & Struggling Monkey, Smiles Slap & Tickle, Town House Flower Dew & Downton Chimera Red) this pub is situated just off the town centre and over a railway bridge. It is the home of the Borough Arms Brewery, situated in the basement, but alas

there were none of their beers available. Not much to look at from the outside but lots of nooks and crannies on the inside make it well worth a visit. Next it was across the road to the **Kings Arms** (Pedi & Beartown Black Bear 5%) a sizable multi room boozery, the Beartown was my favourite brew of the day. It was then back towards the station to call at the GBG regular **British Lion** on Nantwich Road (Deuchars 3.8%, Tetley Mild 3.2% & Cask Bitter 3.7% and Wyre Piddle Piddlesner) surprisingly for a pub so close to the football ground and with it beginning to get busy with fans outside this single room pub was remarkably free from congestion with friendly locals. At this point I parted company with Trigger, leaving him to make his way to Kildgrove while I ventured into town for a quick one before the game in the **Office** on Pedley St (Bombardier). This is a former GBG pub called the Albion, which then was a traditional unspoilt 2 room corner

local, Now it is an untraditional spoilt 1-room corner local. There was another pump with London Pride on but the clip was turned round, we had passed this place on the way into town about 3 hours earlier and the clip had been turned round then so there had been no effort to get that, or another beer, on. It was now off to the game. Maybe I should have gone with Trigger as Carlisle got thumped 5-1 and we didn't play that bad either (not so different from The Rams then-Ed) or so I kept telling myself on the journey home (not so different at all-Ed). I met up with Trigger and we made our way back to **Derby**. To round the day off we called in the **Brunswick Beer Festival**, well it would have been rude not to, there were a lot of beers from the Black Country including the likes of Sarah Hughes, Holdens, Black Country, Windsor Castle, Toll End, Olde Swan, Kinver, Weatheroak & Beowulf to name but a few. A good way to end the day, oh and by the way Kildgrove won 2-0 - Old Mother Redcap.

#### Proposed Trips

17<sup>th</sup> November Friday Five visit to Belper starting at The Railway Hotel On King St to join on route ring Billy on 07802 914832

24<sup>th</sup> November Friday Five-ish visit to Ilkeston catch the Ilkeston Flyer from stopway 3 on Derwent St. Buses return at 10.00 and 10.45 to join on route call Charisma on 07974 171243

### Beer Festival Diary - 3 Month Look Ahead

2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> November Hull Real Ale & Cider Fest, Hull City Hall, Victoria Square-Hull 70 Ales [www.hullcamra.org](http://www.hullcamra.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> November Cross Keys Autumn Beer Festival, Cross Keys, Market Place-Belper

4<sup>th</sup> November Beehive Beer Festival, Beehive, Peashill-Ripley

9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November West Bridgford Hockey Club Beer Festival, 276 Loughborough Road, next to Fire Station-West Bridgford

9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November Lady Bay Beer Festival, Trent Boulevard-West Bridgford

9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November York Beer Fest Priory St Centre-York 100 Ales [www.yorkcamra.free-online.co.uk](http://www.yorkcamra.free-online.co.uk)

10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> November Festival of Cambridge Beers, Malt Shovel Tavern, 121 Bridge Street-Northampton [www.maltshoveltavern.com](http://www.maltshoveltavern.com)

15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November Ship & Mitre Beer Fest, 133 Dale St, Liverpool, 60 Ales [www.shipandmitre.co.uk](http://www.shipandmitre.co.uk)

16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November Cask & Cutler Beer Fest, Henry St, Sheffield, 30+ Ales Tel 0114 2492295

16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November The Three Ponds Beer Festival, Nuthall, Nottinghamshire

17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> November 24<sup>th</sup> Bury Beer Fest, The Met Art Centre, Market St Bury, 60 Ales [www.robcamra.org.uk](http://www.robcamra.org.uk)

17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November Queens Head 21<sup>st</sup> "Coming of Age" Beer Festival Chesterfield Road-Belper [www.derbyshirepubs.co.uk](http://www.derbyshirepubs.co.uk)

20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November Babington Arms Dark & Winter Ales Fest, Babington Lane Derby, 30+ Ales

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November Dudley Winter Ales Fayre, Dudley Concert Hall, St James Road-Dudley [www.dudleycamra.org.uk](http://www.dudleycamra.org.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November 4<sup>th</sup> Great Welsh Beer Fest, City Hall, Cathays Park, Cardiff, 150 Ales [www.gwbcf.org.uk](http://www.gwbcf.org.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November November Beer Weekend, The Black Horse, Darwin, 10 New Ales [www.theblackun.co.uk](http://www.theblackun.co.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November Ilford Beer Festival, Ilford Club, Station Road-Ilkeston

24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> November Belgian Beer Festival, Swan & Rushes, Infirmary Square-Leicester

24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November Mild, Stout, Porter, & Strong Ale Weekend, The Prince Of Wales, Foxfield, Broughton-in-Furness. 30 Ales

8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December Out of the Vaults Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester. Approx 35 beers [www.outofthevaults.com](http://www.outofthevaults.com)

11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> December Xmas Ales Festival, Babington Arms, Babington Lane-Derby

14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> December Old Oak Beer Festival, Old Oak, Main Street, Horsley Woodhouse

4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> January Derby Winter Beer Festival, Assembly Rooms, Market Place-Derby

12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> January Redditch Beer Festival, Centrepoint, Ipsley Street-Redditch

17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January National Winter Ales Festival-Manchester

18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January Magpies Beer Festival, Meadow Club, Notts County Football Club, Meadow Lane-Nottingham

26<sup>th</sup> January Boat Club Annual Beer Festival, Trentside-Nottingham, 20 beers, open from 6pm

**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: [uplonkerrodneym2006@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:uplonkerrodneym2006@yahoo.co.uk) by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the month.

**Edited by Rodney & BigFoz**

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

Charisma Bypass, Two Gallon Man, Sooty, Billy One Mate, Tweedle Dum, Dodgem, Wilberforce-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 Editors.