



RURAD

"In the Sticks"

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In the Sticks

February 2017

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.

If you want to receive a copy electronically e-mail uplonkerrodney2006@yahoo.co.uk

Or for current & previous issues log on to <http://www.mansfield.camra.org.uk>

Olive, Sally, Jean & Steve welcome you to the



ROYAL OAK



55 Green Lane, Ockbrook, Derby.
Tel: 01332 662378

Country Pub of the Year
2011/2012/2013/2015/2016

Bass & 4 Constantly Changing
Guest Ales Available.

Lunches Served:
Everyday 12.00 – 2.00
Evening Meals:
Mon to Sat 6.00 – 8.30

Dave Tizzard, the Fun Fair brewer, has decided to keep his brewery going but will convert his pub, the Chequers, into a private dwelling, in the sleepy village of Elston

Sooty reports "News has reached us that the Coopers in Burton upon Trent is to close on February 5th for 3 weeks to have as they put it a sympathetic refurbishment, there has been conflicting reports as to what they are exactly planning to do we just have to hope that the heritage listed bottle store serving area remains the same"

The Chair informs us "Shipstones have now fulfilled their long term desire to brew back in Nottingham, by acquiring the old Alcazar Brewery kit and establishing brewing in Old Basford...not clear if that is at the Fox & Crown, or elsewhere"

year I commented that they only had 2 Raw beers and was told that they were no longer a Raw pub although they still stocked some of their beers. I think they had about 10 beers on in total. I think it probably was a Raw pub when it first opened. I have not been in many times but I am fairly sure there was a bigger range of Raw beers when I first visited"

Tracey & Dave welcome customers old and new to the

Thorn Tree Inn

Church St, Waingroves

We serve a varying range of real ales from around the country.

Open Mon to Thu 6 – 11, Fri 4 – 12,
Sat 12 – 12 and Sun 12 – 11.

Sunday lunch – Hot beef cobs

Regular theme nights – see facebook page
Skittles – Tuesday night.

Darts and dominoes planned for winter.

Vinyl night – 1st Friday of the month
Function room available.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Beer and Pub News

Bald Eagle informs us "My brother Big Nev informs me there's to be a new micro in Loscoe in a former flower shop. The bar was moved in on January 22nd"

Emily Bowler, who runs Arkwright's Bar in Belper, is taking up a new challenge and is set to leave at the beginning of February to take over the reigns at the Smithfield in Derby, hopefully around 24th of February

The Butchers Arms in Langley has been sold and it is not looking likely that it will remain a pub

The Needlemakers on Nottingham Road, Ilkeston is currently closed and hopefully is not earmarked for housing

The Seven Stars in Openwoodgate has been sold and we await news concerning the future of this pub.

A sale has been agreed at the Wheel at Holbrook and it's sister pub, the Hunters in Kilburn, is up for sale

Kim Beresford, who owns the Poets Corner in Ashover, is now bringing the Royal Oak at nearby Tupton back to life, which has been closed and boarded up for too long. It is hoped to be reopening soon

5TH BIRTHDAY



BLACK BULLS HEAD

2 Kilburn Lane, Openwoodgate,
Belper, Derbyshire DE56 0SF
30 Beers & Ciders

24th & 25th February

Friday: Beer, Band, Bangers & Burgers

Saturday: Beer, Bangers & Burgers
Twitter @blackbullshhead

Gordon e-mailed to say "I must take issue with the comments on the Brown Cow in Mansfield. I think it is unfair to compare it with the White Swan, as I believe that the pubs are run differently. The Brown Cow is a Raw Brewery pub and usually has 4 or 5 Raw beers plus Tiger and a few guests. Raw seem to keep producing new beers. I go in there about every 2 weeks before Stags home games and there is often a new Raw beer on offer. I was in there last night and there were 4 Raw beers, Tiger and 2 guests. The Tiger ran out while I was in there and was replaced by another Raw beer. Generally there are more than 2 guest beers. The White Swan in Chesterfield is a pub that stocks Raw beers. On my last brief visit in there which was probably early last

Amber Valley CAMRA Update

23rd - AGM 8pm, the Old Oak Inn, Horsley Woodhouse

Bald Eagle and Charisma paid a visit to yet another new micro bar called the Crafty One, which is in a converted cafe on South Street, Ilkeston, just across the road from the Spanish Bar. They found 2 handpumps, 4 ciders, 4 craft keg and a large selection of bottled beers. Sharp's Atlantic and Blue Sky from Arbor Brewery were the beers available on hand pump

Charisma reports "A new micro bar opened in Matlock Bath mid-January and is called the Old Bank. I paid a visit on January 21st to find a selection of 4 real ales which included Black Sheep, Plum Porter, Landlord and Bradfield Farmers Blonde and also 2 ciders on hand pump. I had the landlord at £1.75 a half!"

The Didler informs us "January 6th I made my first visit to Roots, the new micro pub in Kimberley, which is situated in a former second-hand shop on Main Street. It's a much larger type than most so plenty of room to swing a cat around with a great choice of 6 ales on handpumps, which consisted of Marble Carefully Planned, Redwillow Fearless, Dancing Duck Ay Up & Quack Addict, Lincoln Green Tuck and Oakham Bishops Farewell all in top condition. All ales are ever changing so guaranteed to always be something different available, Nice old decor and friendly atmosphere

very well run by a well known local couple and a great addition to Kimberley's up and coming beer scene. A must visit if in the area"

If you like the Glenn Miller sound the Ockbrook Big Band will be performing at the **Royal Oak, Ockbrook** 12th and 26th of February 8 - 10pm. The Hadacol Hotshots will also be performing on February 18th from 8pm (£8)

The **Redemption Ale House** in **Hearon** will be holding a beer festival 2nd to 5th March featuring 18 Welsh micro brewery beers

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3 beer festivals a year

On a recent trip to **Leeds** I started my day at a little cafe for a full English breakfast and then made my way to the exquisite **Victoria Family and Commercial Hotel** at back of town hall, with it's superb interior with cut glasswork and polished floors etc. Here sampled a half of **Brains Cafe Phoenix** 4.4% at £1.80 in good condition, Then a short stroll below to **Veritas Ale and Wine Bar**, a bright and modern pub where a half of **Kirkstall 3 Swords** at 4.5% £1.65 was brilliant (this turned out to be best drink of the day). Moving on to the **Town Hall Tavern**, a Timmy Taylor pub had half **Golden Best** 3.5% at £1.70 a nice drink in warm cosy pub. Away to the nearby **Foleys Tap House**, which is a York brewery pub here half **York Otherside IPA** 4.5% at £1.75 was a decent drop. It was then a 10-minute walk to the classic **Templar** probably my favourite in Leeds this former Tetley heritage pub has a wonderful interior with long narrow bar and wood panelling, horse racing on TV and classic music playing. Here I had half **Whippet House Dogge** 3.7% at £1.35 and very good beer. A short walk to the **Duck and Drake** for a half of **Saltaire Cascade** 4.8% at £2.05 didn't like the price and beer nothing great, I decided to then try a half of **Saltaire No5 Stout** at 4.3% £1.98 in good order, but most expensive of the day by far. It was then a good walk to the **Grove, Holbeck**, with its old unspoilt interior and 4 small rooms off the passageway and real fire. I settled for half of **Acorn Winter Pale Ale** 4.5% at £1.80p in good nick from a poor choice of ales available. Away and onto the **Hop** situated under the arches of train station platforms and owned by **Ossett Brewery**. I had a half of **Ossett Inception** 4% at £1.55, decent enough. It was then to the **Brewery Tap** (Leeds Brewery) for a half of **Leeds Best** 4.3% at £1.80 and always a good stop just

below railway station. My final stop was the **Wetherspoons** on the station concourse, which was very busy but had brisk service, I had a pint of **Leeds Pale** 3.8% at £2.45 with my 50p-off voucher and a very decent pint to finish - **The Didler**

Before Christmas I visited the newly re-opened (after many years) **Cock Inn** at **Mugginton Lane End**. It has had a 2-floor extension and a restaurant added although the main bar area layout appears to be similar to previous as I recall from many years ago. I was able to chat for a while with the owner who explained the reason for having a horse on the external signs; apparently it is from when a 'cock' horse was used to assist carriages up the steep hill to the hostelry. There are 2 house beers being a bitter from an old Bass Brewery recipe (£3.20) and a stout brewed by **Boot** (£3.40), both decent and named **Berkeley** after the owning company. It has been very nicely refurbished at great expense and is aimed predominately at the gastro eating visitor. However the bar area is still accessible to drinkers although I personally would not pay £3.70 for **Black Sheep**, £3.90 for **Atlantic** and certainly not £4.90 for **Jaipur**; **Pedigree** is also available at £3.50. The **Berkeley** group already own the **Three Horseshoes** on **Long Lane** and have recently acquired the **Blue Bell** at **Kirk Langley** from **Punch** which had been closed for several months - **Chris P Duck**

Mark and Dawn welcome you to

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The view from The Chair

I was aware of a number of new developments which have taken place in the Jewellery Quarter, which I had not found time to investigate previously, so that formed this particular spin. Any paid up members of the **Flat Earth Society** probably should avert their eyes as plenty of **Keg** features in this report. Start point was the **Drop Forge**, an ex industrial unit just across the road from the **Jewellery Quarter Station** and tram stop, converted by **Marston** there is some arrangement with **Malvern**

The Angels

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Now open serving a
selection of real ales
from the barrel and a
selection of ciders

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(Also bank holidays)

Hills Brewery, as at least one of their Brews available. Pub had just opened and the beer was showing its poorer side. On to the **Rose Villa Tavern**, where I was surprised to find a **Manchester Brewing Co** beer on offer, which was enjoyed sat in a leather armchair in the sumptuous surroundings of the rear room. Next I tried the **Red Lion** but it was wedged at 12.30 and had loud music blasting forth...couldn't even get near the bar, so didn't linger. Retracing my steps up **Warstone Lane** I turned right towards town, down **Frederick St**, to the **Button Factory** (formerly **Vertu**), and on one of their two wickets was **West Berks Good Old Boy**. I would have had that but it **Burst** on request, so I had two **Forpure Keg** options instead, the **West Coast IPA** and the **Stout**. Just a little further down the road is another new arrival the **1000 Trades**. A freehouse with four **Wickets** and half a dozen **Keg**, it covers three stories and calls itself a **Bar & Kitchen**. The partners are passionate about beer and although too large and it does food, it nevertheless has a feel of a micro pub about it. My choices here were all good, I cask and two **Keg**, with the latter not being too cold. Over the road and along **Albion St** is the **Pig & Tail**, another similar venue though this is all on one level, two wickets and several **Keg** options. Both of the last two venues have been open for around 6 months. On arrival at the **Pig** there was one empty wicket and one sporting a **Doom Bar clip**, although by the time I left a **Fallen brew** was gracing the second pump. I opted for **Keg** again here and although one of my options was a **Kernel**, even better on this occasion was the **Brew By Numbers!** On leaving the **Pig & Tail** I retraced my steps up **Albion St**, over **Frederick St** and down **Regent Place** heading for the **Rock & Roll Tap**. On Arrival the couple who brew there were just emerging having had a visit from a private party. They advised me that they open on the first Saturday of each month. They were heading to **Burning Soul Brewery Tap** as was I so offered to escort me. **Burning Soul** have been around for approx 12 months and the set up at the **Tap** reminded me very much of that at **North Brewing Co Leeds** when I visited a couple of weeks ago. I also encountered a visiting party on this occasion organised through the local **Birmingham mail**. There was a **Keg Wall** and the beers tried were very good. The premises are those occupied previously by **Two Towers Brewery**, which relocated to the **Gunmakers Arms** not too far

away. At this stage I was mindful of capacity issues and decided to head back into town in order to visit Click, another new bar and bottle shop located at the Custard Factory development in Digbeth. I walked from near Birmingham New St and via Moors St. Running down the side of the station is Shaws Passage, and in a couple of railway arches is located the **Patty Men Rest** run by Siren. It was busy and as solely a drinker you were not especially welcome. When I offered some resistance to the suggestion I should not be there, they gave me approx 1/3rd of Cherry Porter and I snook off to a corner to sample it! Then on to my penultimate call at **Click**. It took a bit of finding in the dark, but again there was sufficient available via Keg to make the visit worthwhile, and they were defiantly much more welcoming. It is similar to most of the current small bar/bottle shop set ups and worth a visit. On leaving I crossed to the far side of the main road and hopped on a bus back into the centre, having just time for a very quick call at the **Post Office Vaults** prior to the train

BEEHIVE

151 Peashill, Ripley
Tel: 07510431414

Mandy & Dave would like to invite customers old and new to the Beehive/Honey Pot.

Selection of 3 real ales at the Beehive and 6 real ales at the Honey Pot as well as various ciders and perrys.

Darts, Dominoes and Skittles on weekly.

Quiz night Fridays plus card bingo.

Everyone welcome.

Rodders takes One Step Beyond

Saturday January 21st I got the 9.01 train from Derby to London St Pancras, arriving in the smoke at 10.30. I immediately headed across the road to **Kings Cross** and visited the GBG **Parcel Yard**, where I had a choice from Olivers Island, London Pride, ESB, HSB, Seafarers and Butcombe Bitter & Rare Breed at London prices in this Fullers pub. Then it was back to St Pancras for the 11.10 Thameslink to **Kentish Town**, a journey of just a few minutes. First port of call, mainly because it is right outside the station.....and it was open.....was the **Assembly House** on Kentish Town Rd, where I had a choice from IPA, Old Dairy Blue Top & Gold Top, Sambrooks Pumphouse Pale and Portobello Westway Pale, with the latter being favoured, not a bad selection for a GK house. From there I made my way to the GBG **Lion & Unicorn** on Gaisford St, again because it was open. This cracking pub, with a lovely central open fire, had Youngs Bitter, Signature Backstage IPA and a house beer on hand pump with a couple more coming soon. I went for the IPA, which was a nice drop. From there I retraced my steps and continued on to the GBG **Pineapple** on Leverton St, which didn't look very open as I approached but I ventured through the door.....and a curtain to be confronted by a lovely wood and mirrored

bar offering Doom Bar, Windsor & Eaton Treetops, Bellville Picnic, Trumans Attaboy and Stod Fold Solstice on handpump of which the latter was preferred. I was tempted to stop for another, but there was plenty to do. Next it was on to the GBG **Junction Tavern** on Fortress Rd, again it didn't look very open as I approached but there was Landlord, Southwold, Tribute, HPA and Trumans Runner with the Trumans being the obvious choice. Then it was on to the best pub of the day, the GBG **Southampton Arms** on Highgate Rd. This cracking little pub had 10 ales on hand pump from the likes of Gun, Big Smoke, Kent, Dark Star, Revelation, Burning Sky and Wye Valley with Gun Smoked Rye being chosen, a prolonged stay was warranted but I erred on the side of caution. I had a good 15-minute walk back past the station to my final port of call in Kentish Town, the GBG **Grafton** on Prince of Wales Rd, where I favoured Five Points Hook Island Red over Hammerton NIAdnams Mosaic, Sambrooks Wandle and Landlord. A short walk away and I was in **Camden Town** at the GBG **Tapping the Admiral** on Castle Rd where I favoured Haresfoot Old Tiney over Siren Vermont Tea Party, Owd Rodger, Animal Heron, Stod Fold Blonde, 360 Degrees Pale and XT2. From there I had a short detour to Chalk Farm tube station before heading through Camden Town proper, which was heaving, past Camden Lock and Arlington House, on to the **Dublin Castle** on Parkway. Tribute, Hobgoblin and Trooper were the only beers on hand pump, but I wasn't here for the beer. This is the pub where the band that supplied the soundtrack to my adolescence used to play before they hit the big time. That band being Madness. There is lots of memorabilia around the bar, signed pictures from Suggs and Co and the like. Chalk Farm station is where the album cover for Absolutely was taken and Arlington House, a former homeless refuge featured in the song One Better Day. Nostalgia over I headed for the GBG **Constitution** on St Pancras Way where Gloucester Cherry Picker & Gold, Dark Star Hophead and Sambrooks



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11 til 11**



Junction were available. With time running a bit short I started making my way back for the train. My penultimate stop was the **Prince Arthur** on Eversholt St in **Euston**, which had Hogs Back TEA & Farnham White and Ghost Ship on hand pump. Finally it was on to the GBG **Doric Arch**, also on Eversholt St - which is a pub that I missed when I last visited London with HH & The Didler a couple of years ago - Bingham's Space Hoppy was preferred to Fyne Highlander and Fullers London Pride, Olivers Island, Bengal Tiger & ESB. From there it was a short walk back to St Pancras for the 4.58, which got me back into **Derby** at 6.30 where I just about had time for a swift half of Spey Valley Stout in the **Brunswick** before my bus home - Ed

Tracy and all the staff welcome you to the

OLD OAK INN

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A rail trip to Chesterfield in December saw us kick off GBG **Rutland Arms** with a range of 6 ales of which I had a new beer, Rudgate Barleys Angel. The **Royal Oak** in the Shambles area had 5 ales available with my choice this time being Camerons Strongarm, which is not often found in our area. We next found our way to the GBG **Chesterfield Alehouse** where I enjoyed my drink but forgot to do notes - there was at least one collaboration beer of the four available. A longish walk then to the GBG **Chesterfield Arms** which was very popular with my group. This time I took a photo of the beer list with my selection this time being an excellent Abbeydale Full English Breakfast and 11 others available in this justly popular venue. Just around the corner we had been recommended by 2 sources to try the **Neptune** with my Neepsend selection being excellent. We were delighted with this new find, which had a few other interesting ales on and a very friendly atmosphere (I forgot the notes again). We then completed a convoluted route back to the centre (which means basically we were lost) and into the GBG **Market**. A reasonably interesting beer range where I again forgot to take notes but very busy early on a Sat evening so we called again at the Rutland Arms on the way back to the station. Back in Derby we had a probably unnecessary pint in the Brunswick, which caused me to miss the 9.00 & 9.30 buses then went in McTurks for a kebab, which caused me to miss the 10.00 bus. As I now had 25 minutes wait I walked through the city centre before deciding on a quick half in the Flowerpot before successfully getting the 10.30 bus - Chris P Duck

Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

- 3rd to 4th February 19th Chesterfield Beer Festival, Winding Wheel-Chesterfield 100+ Ales Ciders/Perry, Wine, World Beers
9th to 12th February Scottish Beer Festival, The Horse & Jockey, Nottingham Road-Stapleford, Nottingham
10th to 12th February Hucknall Beer Festival, The John Godber Centre-Hucknall, Nottingham 50+ Ales
15th to 18th February Derby Winter Ales Festival, The Roundhouse, Pride Park-Derby 300+ Ales, Cider/Perry
15th to 18th February Furnace Beer Festival, Duke St-Derby
23rd to 25th February Champion Beer of Nottingham Beer Festival, The Canal House, 52 Canal St-Nottingham 60 Ales
24th to 25th February Black Bulls Head 5th Birthday Beer Festival, Kilburn Lane, Openwoodgate-Belper
2nd to 4th March 41st Loughborough Beer Festival, Polish Club, True Lovers Walk off William St-Loughborough 60+ Ales
2nd to 4th March West Bridgford Hockey Club Beer Festival, Loughborough Road-West Bridgford, Nottingham 25 Ales 2 Ciders
2nd to 5th March Redemption Ale House Beer Festival, 3 Ray Street, Heanor, Derbyshire DE75 7GE 18 Ales, showcasing Welsh micro-breweries
8th to 11th March Leicester Beer Festival, Charotar Centre, Bay St, South Churchgate-Leicester 250 Ales 35 Ciders/Perry
8th to 12th March Brood Beer Festival on New Walk-Leicester, 25-30 New or Very New Brewery Beers
10th to 12th March Nottingham Rugby Club Beer Festival, Holme Road-West Bridgford, Nottingham 50+ Ales

- 2nd to 4th February The Snooty Fox Rock N Ale Festival, 75 Grosvenor Avenue-London
2nd to 4th February Stevenage Winter Beer Festival, Arts & Leisure Centre, Lytton Way-Stevenage 100+ Ales + Cider
2nd to 4th February 22nd Tewkesbury Winter Ales Festival, George Watson Hall, Barton St-Tewkesbury 80+ Winter Ales + Cider
2nd to 4th February 13th Pendle Beer Festival, Municipal Hall-Colne, Lancashire 100+ Ales Cider/Perry Bottled Beers
2nd to 4th February 28th Bent & Bongs Beer Bash, Formby Hall-Atherton, Manchester 70 Ales, Trad Cider, Foreign
3rd to 4th February White Cliffs Festival of Winter Ale, Town Hall-Dover 100+ Winter & Strong Ales
3rd to 4th February Gloucester Brewery Winter Beer Festival, Llanthony Warehouse, The Docks-Gloucester 30 Winter Warmers
3rd to 4th February 29th Dorchester Beerex, Corn Exchange, High St West-Dorchester 80 Ales
3rd to 5th February Weatheroak Hill Beer Festival, The Coach & Horses, Weatheroak-Avechurch, Worcestershire 21 Ales
8th to 12th February Brood at the Prince of Wales, 52 Coventry Road-Hinckley, 25-30 Stout Porter & Milds
9th to 11th February 35th Fleetwood Beer & Cider Festival, Marine Hall, Esplanade-Fleetwood 125+ Ales, Cider/Perry
10th to 11th February 10th Ilkley Beer Festival, Ikley Kings Hall, Station Road-Ilkley 150 Ales Cider/Perry Foreign Beers
15th to 18th February Liverpool Beer Festival, Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt-Liverpool 200+ Ales Cider/Perry
15th to 18th February, 18th Chelmsford Winter Ale Festival King Edward VI Grammar School Broomfield Rd-Chelmsford 170 Ales
16th to 18th February Luton Beer Festival, Hightown Sports & Arts Centre, York Street-Luton 100+ Ales 20 Ciders
16th to 18th February 38th Warwick University Beer Festival, Copper Rooms, Gibbet Hill Road-Coventry 120 Ales plus Cider
17th to 18th February 9th Boston Spa Beer Festival, Village Hall, 199 High St-Boston Spa, West Yorkshire 40 Ales
17th to 19th February Church End Brewery Tap Winter Beer Festival-Ridge Lane, nr Nuneaton 20 Ales Live Music
21st to 25th February National Winter Ales Festival, Blackfriars Hall, St Andrews Plain-Norwich
21st to 25th February Magna Real Ale & Music Festival, Magna Science Adventure Centre-Rotherham 250+ Ales
23rd to 25th February Bradford Beer Festival, Victoria Hall-Saltaire, Bradford 100+ Ales
23rd to 25th February Stockton Ale & Arty Festival, ARC Dovecote Street-Stockton-on-Tees
23rd to 25th February Craft Beer Rising, The Old Trueman Brewery, 91 Brick Lane-London 150+ Ales
24th to 25th February Rugby Beer Festival, Arnold House, Elsee Road-Rugby 30+ Ales Cider
24th to 25th February Gosport Winter Beer Festival, Thorngate Halls, Bury Road-Gosport 70+ Ales + Cider
24th to 25th February North Sussex Beer & Cider Festival, Drill Hall, Denne Road-Horsham 50+ Ales Cider/Perry
24th to 25th February Alton Winter Beer Festival, Alton College, Old Odham Road-Alton, Hampshire
2nd to 4th March 28th Wigan Beer Festival, Robin Park Indoor Sports Centre, Loire Drive-Wigan 70+ Ales Cider
2nd to 4th March 28th Lancaster Beer Festival, Town Hall, Dalton Square-Lancaster 50+ Ales
3rd to 4th March Chappel Winter Beer Festival, East Anglian Railway Museum-Chappel 60+ Winter Ales
3rd to 5th March Marchington Melee 8 Beer Festival, Dog & Partridge-Marchington, Staffs 20+ Beers & Cider
8th to 10th March London Drinker Beer Festival, Camden Centre-Bodborough, Gtr London 150 Ales

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 info or news which could be included in a subsequent issue of "In the Sticks" please contact Charisma Bypass on 07891 365887 or Rodders on uplonkerrodneym2006@yahoo.co.uk by the 23rd of the month.

Edited by Rodders

Other contributors and helpers for this issue of "In the Sticks" (not credited elsewhere) Charisma Bypass, Jedediah Trippe, The Baron, BigFoz, The Tweedles, Sooty, Del Boy, Trigger, Don Pedro, Two Gallon Man, Nora Harper, Billy One Mate -Apologies if I've missed anyone.

Nicky & Pete Foster welcome you to the

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