



RuRAD

"In the Sticks"

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

In the Sticks

March 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>

THE AWARD WINNING **HUNTERS ARMS**

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The Wingfield Wanderer reports "It appears Denise Hartshorn is leaving the Yew Tree Inn in South Wingfield on March 31st for pastures unknown. The Yew is being taken over by those in or just departed from the Malt Shovel at Wirksworth. It is not known if this changeover will be seamless or whether there will be a short closure. Also it's been confirmed by the owner, Steve Seaman, that the Bluebell in South Wingfield will close on 1st March for about 6 months for major refurbishment"

Nora informs us "News of another micro opening in Eastwood on Nottingham Road in premises between the relocated Post Office and David Hammond estate agents at the Mansfield Rd/Church St traffic lights/roundabout end. Joint owners, Kathryn and David, Tracie and Stephen are busy at work on the interior and have named the venture the Dog & Parrot (after their pets) with intended opening date on Friday evening Feb 24th"

Dave at the King William, Milford got in touch to inform us of his next beer festival "It starts on Thursday April 20th at 2.30pm to 11.30, same times Friday 21st and 12.30pm to close Saturday and Sunday. There will be 20 cask ales plus 4 trad ciders/perries on offer. That intriguing multi-instrumentalist Whisky Bob Shaker performs on Thursday, with madcap Box o' Frogs Friday and sunshine music from Mambo Jambo on Saturday. There will music (TBA) on drinking up day Sunday, with 25% off remaining beers"

Beer and Pub News

Emily Bowler informs us "I'm over the moon to have my own pub for the first time and the Smithfield in Derby is a fantastic opportunity. I'm lucky to have got such a great pub and to have such good support from everyone, it's time I put my money where my mouth is so to speak. I'll be keeping a full 8 hand pulls, including making sure there's always a dark offering, and having 'craft' keg lines fitted. I've got some great music booked including an acoustic session night, soul night, Sunday afternoon artists and of course classic rock night. The kitchen may take a while to be fully running again but in the meantime my long suffering partner will be dishing up Sunday lunches and for match days there'll be a burger van."

Greene King have put the Golden Pheasant at Chellaston up for sale, maybe someone with an interest in beer will take it over

The 38th Burton CAMRA beer festival will be held March 30th to April 1st at the town hall. There will be over 150 beers and ciders plus music on Friday & Saturday evenings. The festival is open Thursday 6-11 (free), Friday & Saturday 11-6 (£2, CAMRA members free), Friday 6-11 (£6, CAMRA members £2) and Saturday 6-10 (£3, CAMRA members £2). Festival glass hire /purchase is £2 all sessions, food and soft drinks will be available and children are welcome til 6pm

Amber Valley CAMRA Update

3rd - Evening survey trip, contact Jane Wallis 01773 745966 to book. 13th - 8pm beer festival meeting, for venue see branch website. 23rd - 8pm branch meeting, the George, Lowes Hill, Ripley

Nicky & Pete Foster welcome you to the **TAVERN**

Derby Rd, Belper Tel: 01773 826956
Range of real ales
Bookings taken for functions at £4.95 p/h
Do your own food policy i.e. birthdays,
funerals etc
Undercover Mediterranean style heated
smoking area.
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Sports.
Clean well-behaved dogs welcome.
Children welcome until 8.30pm.
Mon to Thur 3 - 11, Fri & Sat 12 - 1am,
Sun 12 - 11
www.thetavernbelper.co.uk

By the time you read this the Draycott Tap House, Draycott Brewery's tap house - believe it or not! - should be up and running - due to open Feb 24th. It is situated on the corner of Derby Rd & Victoria St, dead opposite the Victoria pub in - surprise, surprise - Draycott. It will be open Wed to Sat 4 - 10 and Sun 12 - 3 and will offer a 20p a pint discount to card carrying CAMRA members

Congratulations to the Brunswick on being voted Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year and equally to the Royal Oak at Ockbrook for being voted Country Pub of the Year yet again, there will be a celebration evening at the Oak on March 2nd

The view from The Chair

It is now over two years since I last paid a visit to these two towns...so I thought I would. It was never going to set the world on fire and a few pubs have closed, on the other hand there have been a few openings (Wellingborough now has 2 micro pubs) and there is a sprinkling of better pubs in each place. So commencing in Kettering I was attracted by a new Cafe Bar called Reunion on Market place which was more cafe than bar but I went in for a chat...nowt of interest on the bar, which was all keg...cans of Brewdog in the fridge, but I talked to the proprietor about local offerings, which they thought might be a possibility...then the lady owner remembered a visit from a young lad who left a few sample bottles which she produced from under the counter....what do you know, 3 Hills (Northampton)

53 Market St,
Ilkeston DE7 5RB
Tel: 07538 723 722
Open
Thursday to Sunday
11 til 11



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!

Breakfast Stout. At this point I expressed incredulence that they were not embracing this as part of their offer...hopefully some of my enthusiasm my have rubbed off on her and maybe some better local Brewers bottles might be available in the future. The first call of interest, as expected was the **Three Cocks**, which is a nice pub and where the offer is always dependable. Here from locals I learned of the reopening of the Shire Horse at the top end of town opposite Sainsbury's. It appears this is part of a small chain, which includes the Black Prince in Northampton. Further, Julian Church was without a home for a while but has teamed up with this chain was persuaded to resume brewing and now brews at the Black Prince. The format for these pubs is a multi Ale offer (around 20 at the Prince and 15 at the **Shire Horse**. At the latter the split is around 60-40 in favour of locale/mainstream. This was my next call and I can report quality was good, a fairly basic pub of moderate size with friendly staff. On the way back to the station I called at **Bottle Mixture**, as might be expected a bottle shop which included some from 3 Hills, and offered 1 Cask ale on draught. On the day an uncooled pin of cask Great Oakley: Wot's Occuring ...no problem with quality. Back on the train and continuing a few miles South to **Wellingborough** another typical Northamptonshire town. Here either the first...or last port of call should be the **Little R' Ale House** micro pub. This is situated in what might have been the lamp room in days gone by and is just to the right as you exit the station. This is a fine establishment run by Martin who was the original proprietor of Little Ale House on High St up in the town centre. He sold that last year which allowed him to set up this new venture. 3-4 Ales on Gravity from behind the Bar, my Digfield Shackleshush being as good as ever. A very friendly place where you are welcomed into it's community on arrival so a happy 30-mins spent here and he kindly gave me a bottle Whistling Kite beer to take away. Whistling Kite having recently finished brewing. Then up into town and a few pubs either closed or didn't warrant a linger, until I came to the **Little Ale House** the second of the towns Micro pubs. Again another typical micro with friendly staff and customers my Crouch Vale Mild being very acceptable. From this point onwards I was doing a bit of clock watching as there is only one

train per hour to convey one back to Leicester with a rather tight connection there (2mins) for Coleshill. However I still had time for a couple more calls, I paid a flying visit to Spoons Red Well where the "Av Soon" beers well outweighed those actually on so "Didn't Linger". Rather I made my way along Oxford St past the Coach and Horses and into the **Old Gramarians Sports Club**. Access here is via the car park at the rear and strictly speaking you are supposed to be signed in by a member. On this occasion it was not necessary. The beer choice is a touch predictable but the quality is good and I enjoyed my Woodfords Nelsons Revenge. Then over the road to my final call of the day the **Coach and Horses**. Here their eleven wickets are heavily biased towards locale, quality is generally very good, I caught the end of Nobby's Red Ale but it was readily exchanged and my samples enjoyed. There are a couple of other pubs in town worthy of a call but not visited on this occasion due to time constraints, and also one in Kettering which was similar. A Taxi wisked me back to the station and due to slight late running of my connection at Leicester I was back at Coleshill in good time for Toni's Taxi. Another grand Day

Olive, Sally, Jean & Steve
welcome you to the



ROYAL OAK



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Derby. Tel: 01332 662378
**Country Pub of the Year
2011/2012/2013/2015/2016**

**Bass & 4 Constantly
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Available.**

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

Met up with Little Sister Kit and her bloke Health and Safety Dave for the annual trip to **Liverpool** beer festival, arriving at about 12.40pm at this great venue the Crypt Cathedral. Here I had halves of Big Bog Frosty Bog 4%, Britman Best Bitter 4.2%, Neptune Fugu 4%, Beer Brothers IPA 4% and Hooded Ram Cascade all at £1.50 and all in good order. Also spotted Swifty, Mr Potato Man, Dave and Family and Hucknall Richard and Mrs, so in good company. Our 3 then made our way to **Belverdere** a small 2 roomed back street pub with 4 ales I had Rock the Boat Mussel Wrecker 3.9% at £3.10, which was ok, Next to the **Grapes** had Chapter Deadmans First Smoked Stout 5.5% at £3.80, lovely stuff but felt the effect, Then into heart of city to the classic **Globe** with

it's wonderful sloping narrow front bar and small cosy back lounge and always busy with great scouse conversation which you are immediately welcomed into. The pub has national ales, so had Wells Bombardier Pale Ale 4.6% at £3.40, pleasant enough, I'm now in singing mode as 60's records blasting out and every one in full voice, a hard pub to leave. Now snap time so a visit to Yannis chippy for sit down large cod chips peas £5.50 good stuff. We looked in various other pubs but my next drink was in the **Crown** next to the train station and a had half Knops Musselborough Broke 4.5% at £1.50, good, then tried half Great Yorkshire Top of the Hops 4.5% at £1.45 ok, in here the beer took control of my brain, think it's called a beer storm. Arrived on platform to the announcement our last train 38 mins late, then missed the bus at Langley Mill so walked home and got in at 12 midnight, At least the walk cleared the dysfunctional brain - The Didler



BLACK BULLS HEAD

2 Kilburn Lane, Openwoodgate,
Belper, Derbyshire
DE56 0SF

On the decidedly wintry morning of February 11th I met up with Trigger at Derby train station where we got the 10.21 St Pancras train, alighting at Leicester. From there we got the 11.18 to Birmingham New St, which deposited us in **Hinckley** at 11.40-ish. We walked in to town and called in the **Bounty** on Market Place, because it was open and we've both been in the 'spoons before. Otter Dark, Everards Cathedral and Bass were on offer and the former was sampled but considered to be a bit barrel-endy. From there we made our way to the **Prince of Wales** on Coventry Rd, the reason for this visit as they were holding a stout, porter & mild festival....right up our street! Of the 17 beers on the festival list 6 had already gone but there was still plenty for us to go at. The beers were split between the bar, the cellar and a stillage and there we offerings from the likes of Ferry, Black Metal, Cross Borders, Granite Rock, Hybrid, Fallen, Top Out, Elephant, Asylum Harbour, North Riding, Market Bosworth and Lawman. We both sampled Granite Rock Glaslyn College Porter, North Riding Fat Lads Mild - very apt - and Ferry Stout and all were in fine form. Trigger got chatting to a fellow RuRADian from Bosworth and he gave us the heads-up on the goings on in Leicester before we moved on to the **White Bear** almost next door. This Steamin' Billy pub had Bitter, Topsy Fisherman & Ruckin' Flanker and Durham Kama Citra on hand pump, with the Flanker being preferred. From there we had a

walk to the **GBG Queens Head** on Upper Bond St, which is a superb old pub with loads of character. Jaipur, Bass, Broadside and Golden Glow were on the pumps with the latter 2 being chosen. Then it was on to the other GBG pub in the town, the **New Plough Inn** on Leicester Rd, a friendly Marston's pub with Saddle Tank, Pedi and Lancaster Bomber on hand pump plus another 2 or 3 "coming soon". We had a chat with the landlady - we presumed - about Marston's rebranding and renaming their beers, which is about as innovative as Marston's get! Next it was the **Greyhound** on New Buildings, not on the itinerary but we were walking past it. Elliswood Royal Standard, a local brew, was favoured over Pedi and Saddle Tank, which made the visit worthwhile. From there it was on to the **Pestle & Mortar**, a micro pub on Castle St where Sambrooks Pump House, Black Sheep Holy Grail, Hartshorns Russet, Bass, Everards Tight Head and Castlegate Merlins Own were alongside 12 real ciders. The Everards and Castlegate were preferred. Finally it was on to the other micro pub in the town, the **Elbow Room** on Station St and we found Wishbone Pastiche, Slaters Haka, Liverpool Craft Mork and Bakers Dozen System of a Brown on offer. We had to get the barman to repeats the latter several times before we got it. All bar the Slaters were sampled and found to be in good nick. Taking into consideration what that nice gentleman had told us in the POW we decided to omit the Railway Inn and get the earlier train back to **Leicester** where we called in the **Blue Boar** on Horsefair St, and what a recommendation it was with Bristol Beer Factory Milk Stout, Potbelly Piggins' Saint, Elgoods North Brink Porter, Leatherbritches Bespoke, Hairy Helmet & Blue Boar Bitter, Framework Centennial Rye Wild Child Instant Hobo and North Riding Comet on hand pump. Thanks again to the Bosworth RuRADian. Finally it was round to the **Charlotte** on Oxford St, which apparently is to close soon, where we had a choice from Horncastle Vipers Kiss, Tyne Bank Motuekela Dollar, Bosun King Neptune, ELB Pale, Lincolnshire Don't be Bitter and Old Mill Mild. Then it was back to the train station for the 6.01 back to **Derby** where a swift half was had in the **Brunswick** before I got my bus home - Ed

Mark and Dawn welcome you to

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around 11.15. I had listed a few potential pubs to visit and started via a narrow alleyway at the former **GBG Fountain** on Westgate, which I had visited on my last trip in 2014. There were 5 ales available with several empty sticks, which is understandable in midweek. My Wickwar Bob was one of the best of the day but due to lack of time I did not try the Wye Valley HPA, Bath Gem, St Austell Tribute or the obscurely labelled Bristol Beer Factory Independence. I had a bit of a chat with a local who told me that Tribute was rare in this area but cannot understand why this has been dropped from GBG. Next on to Northgate and the **Imperial**, which has a very rustic green tiled exterior and inside was an old fashioned drinkers pub, 'you get no food in here' the Scottish landlord proudly announced. The beer quality was really good despite the ales being fairly routine with Bass, Doom Bar and my choice the increasingly popular Atlantic. We then nipped up some stairs into the Old Bell on Southgate (not named after the football manager) if only for my companion to get a photo of the famous wooden fireplace; there was a Gloucester beer on but nobody there to serve it. After a quick snack in Greggs and a visit to the TIC for a new map which was worse than the old one we came to the **New Inn** which was fenced off at the front entrance as the roof was collapsing but we accessed it through a passage a few yards along the street. It is set in a courtyard and we found a reasonable selection of Lancaster Blonde, Butcombe Bitter, Bombardier and Tribute (again). I pointed out of the window at an old carriage and asked the barmaid if she had come in the car today. This attempted humour was lost as she failed to understand my accent and replied 'yes the roof has fallen in'. We next noticed that the Whitesmiths Arms (Arkells) disappointingly had failed to open so then walked a fair distance down the Bristol Road to the **Linden Tree**, which is a Wadworths house. Not sure if the landlady was miserable because there being nobody else in or vice versa but the 6X

& Swordfish were decent enough with Horizon & IPA also on the bar. The landlord also ignored us but belatedly piped up just as we were leaving. On the way back into the centre we headed to the docks and over the swing bridge to **Gloucester Brewery** where the assistant brewer gave us a good sized sample of Galaxy IPA. This has relocated to the other side of the water since my last visit and has a vast array of bottles and clothing so I bought a can of Session Ale for later as a thank you for our sampler. Back across the water at the former site of the brewery is **Tank**, which is Gloucester's tap. This has made it to GBG and our Six Malt Porter was very good indeed; my mistake was buying 2 halves at £4-70 when a pint is £3-50. This is a very trendy place with fancy food, in fact much in keeping with the docks area redevelopment and overlooks a Wetherspoons yards away, with Brewhouse & Kitchen another new build very close by along with plenty of designer shops and restaurants. We returned to normality by returning to Westgate to be nearer the bus and went in the **Dick Whittington**, which again is inexplicably no longer in GBG. Our friend from the first pub was there albeit a lot worse for wear and we had more chat with him and the landlady about local pubs. They had on St George's Golden Dragon & Dragons Blood, Lancaster Blonde & Chestnut Red plus Doom Bar. Apparently the owner of Lancaster Brewery was a previous landlord here and is regularly in Gloucester as a rugby fan which is why so many of their ales appear locally. We spent a couple of minutes going down the narrowest street which you would never find without a local tip-off as it is bizarrely located behind an aluminium double-glazed door which somewhat spoils the experience. Lastly to the **GBG Pelican**, which I had previously visited and is a Wye Valley pub of the highest order. Of the 7 WV ales I selected Three Wyes Men as my choice and it was the best of the day and so good I repeated the dose. There was also another Bristol BF ale on but again the pump clip was extremely obscure. The landlord was particularly welcoming and I thought it time to indulge in a local custom, which was a new experience for my companion. This involved having a chilli pickled egg, which is dropped, into a bag of crisps. I had wondered which RuRAD name to choose for my companion so thanks for your good company during the day 'Pickled Egg' - Chris P Duck

The Angels

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Now open serving a
selection of real ales
from the barrel and a
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Opening hours:
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An 8.30 departure from Derby Bus Station using a local coach operator on a January sale tour saw a new companion & I arrive in **Gloucester** at

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Accommodation available
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Open 11 - 11 Monday to
Saturday,
Sunday 12 - 10.30

Live music every weekend
3 beer festivals a year

Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

2nd to 4th March Redemption Ale House Beer Festival, 3 Ray Street-Heanor, Derbyshire 18+ Ales Including Some Welsh

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 25 Ales 2 Ciders

3rd to 5th March Marchington Melee 9 Beer Festival, Dog & Partridge-Marchington, Staffs 20+ Beers & Cider

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

9th to 12th March The Kings Head Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester 20+ Kent Ales, Cider

10th to 12th March National Brewery Centre International Festival of Beer, Horninglow Street-Burton-on-Trent

10th to 12th March Nottingham Rugby Club Beer Festival, Holme Road-West Bridgford, Nottingham 50+ Ales

13th to 19th March Sheffield Beer Week, see www.sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk

16th to 18th March SIBA Beer Alive, Ice Sheffield, Coleridge Road-Sheffield

30th March to 1st April 38th Burton Beer Festival, Burton Town Hall-Burton-on-Trent 130+ Ales Cider/Perry & Bottled

30th March to 1st April Holly Bush Inn Beer Festival, Holly Bush Lane-Makeney, Derbyshire 25 Ales

2nd to 4th March Rotherham Beer Festival, Magna Science Adventure Centre, Sheffield Road-Rotherham 250+ Ales

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

8th to 10th March London Drinker Beer Festival, Camden Centre, Bodborough-Gtr London 150 Ales

9th to 11th March Walsall Beer Festival, The MPV, 1 Whittimere Street, Intown Row-Walsall 75+ Ales Cider/Perry

16th to 18th Leeds Beer Festival, Pudsey Civic Hall, New Pudsey-Leeds 150+ Ales

16th to 18th March St Neots Booze on the Ouse Beer Festival, Priory Centre, Priory Lane-St Neots 70+ Ales + Cider

16th to 19th March, Darlington Snooker Club Beer Festival, 1 Corporation Street-Darlington 25 Ales, Some from the Wood

17th to 18th March Coventry Beer Festival, Coventry Rugby Club, Butts Road-Coventry 80+ Ales

17th to 18th March 7th Winchester Beer & Cider Festival, Winchester Guildhall, High Street-Winchester 70 Ales

22nd March to 2nd April March Real Ale & Cider Festival, All Wetherspoon Pubs www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk

22nd to 26th March Star Inn Beer Festival, 7 Albert Street, Folly Hall-Huddersfield 60+ Ales Tel 01484 545443

23rd to 25th March 20th Bristol Beer Festival, Brunels Old Station, Temple Meads-Bristol 130 Ales 40 Ciders Ticket Only

23rd to 25th March Darlington Beer Festival, The Forum Music Centre, Borough Road-Darlington 30 Ales, Cider/Perry

23rd to 25th March 27th Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival, Brighton Racecourse-Brighton 150+ Ales 40+ Ciders

24th to 26th March Blackpool Beer & Cider Festival, Winter Gardens, 97 Church Street-Blackpool 100+ Ales & Cider

24th to 26th March Hawkshead Spring Beer Festival, The Beer Hall, Mill Yard-Steveley, Cumbria 60+ Ales

31st March to 1st April Gloucester Beer & Cider Festival, Historic Blackfriars Priory, Ladybellegate St-Gloucester 100+ Ales

31st March to 1st April 29th Oldham Beer Festival, Queen Elizabeth Hall, West Street-Oldham 60+ Ales

31st March to 1st April Larbert Beer Festival, Dobbie Hall-Larbert, Stirlingshire 60 Ales, Cider/Perry

3rd to 8th April 11th Audley Cricket Club Beer Festival, Nantwich Road-Audley, Stoke-on-Trent 30+ Ales 6 Ciders

5th to 8th April Maldon Beer Festival, Plume School, Farnbridge Road-Maldon, Essex 60 Ales, Cider/Perry

6th to 8th April 6th Isle of Man Beer & Cider Festival, Villa Marina Complex, Harris Promenade-Douglas 200 Ales, Cider

6th to 8th April Newton-le-Willows Sports Club Beer Festival, Crow Lane East-Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside 100+ Ales

7th to 9th April CAMRA Members Weekend & AGM, Bournemouth International Centre-Bournemouth

7th to 9th April The Talbot, All Saints Beer Festival, Bromyard Road, Knightwick-Worcester 20 Ales, Cider

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 uplonkerrodney2006@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.

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.

Tracy and all the staff welcome you to the

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