



RURAD

"In the Sticks"

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and **BOTTLE BROOK**
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In the Sticks

July 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>

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.

Eastwood must be the most populated place for micro bars! As far as I'm aware they already have 3, with planning application passed for a 4th and another one going through the process of application.

Charisma informs us "On the opening day of the **Tupton Tap** at **Tupton** (formerly the Royal Oak) I decided to pay a visit only to find the car park packed, and when I finally made my way into the bar the queue to be served was out the door! I returned a week later and was very impressed with the layout of the pub, and the beer choice was also impressive with 8 real ales available including Tupton Tipple, Tupton Pale and Alton from Ashover Brewery, along with Sturdy IPA from Abstract Jungle, Skull & Spanners from Batemans, Captain Smiths from Titanic and Supreme Bitter from Nottingham brewery. Well worth a visit and well worth the wait!"

minutes into the Championship play-off final so I was able to watch the penalty shoot-out before my departure. It's on the Three Valleys Trail but well worth a visit at any time"

Amber Valley CAMRA Update

10th - 8pm, Beer festival meeting Thorn Tree, Ripley. **14th** - Evening survey trip, contact Jane Wallis 01773 745966. **27th** - 8pm, branch meeting Thorn Tree, Waingroves

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Beer and Pub News

Littleover Brewery is to open a micro pub called the **Pothole** at the Park Farm shopping centre in **Allestree**

Wingfield Wanderer reports "Big changes at **South Wingfield Social Club**. They now have a regular real ale on through the week and 2 most weekends. Of late there has been a regular showing from the Exmoor Brewery and more recently from the Lenton Lane Brewery including the excellent Gamblers Best Bitter at 4.7% and attractively priced at under £3. In fact the Lenton Lane owners paid a visit recently"

The **Spotted Cow** at **Holbrook** is due to reopen on July 16th

Proposals are being considered for a Jacobean-themed micro pub called the **Rebellion Ale House** in College Place, Full St in **Derby**

The **Bear and Monkey**, the micro bar on Oxford Street, **Ripley**, has been sold.

The sale of the **Wheel** at **Holbrook** has finally been completed, with Dee and her parents firmly in charge.

The **Travellers Rest** in **Kilburn**, which recently re-opened, had Doom Bar and Bass on the bar when I recently paid a visit.

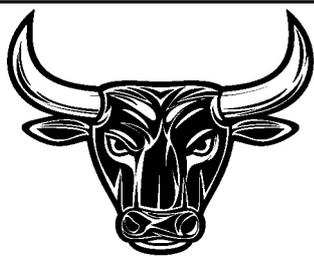
The Burnt Pig
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Ilkeston DE7 5RB
Tel: 07538 723 722
Open
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Chris P Duck reports "On Bank Holiday Monday 31st May I made a first visit to the **Travellers Rest** at **Hundall** which is located northeast of Chesterfield. As I approached I could hear a house alarm and soon realised that there had been a power cut so the pub was in almost complete darkness. There was a very full pub in the gloom possibly because Mondays are £2 a pint days but maybe because of the excellent friendly ambience or the bank holiday afternoon. There were 3 ales from Drone Valley, 1 from Red Willow and another that I could not see. When the power came back on the TV sport was 119

On Tuesday 13th June Chris P Duck made a first visit since it became a community hub to the **Anglers Rest** at **Bamford**. This now contains a post office and a tearoom with the bar serving Chantry Diamond Black Stout, Kelham Island Kelham Best, Acorn Summer Pale & Barnsley Bitter and Black Sheep Best Bitter. He had a half of all except the latter and all were very good as you would expect having won Sheffield CAMRA awards. There was also a mobile pizza oven on a trailer on the car park. Worth visiting if in the Derwent Dams area

The view from The Chair

Originally pencilled in as a trip to Bridgnorth, as requested by Sister Tones, we where we anticipated similar weather to the preceding few days. However we had overlooked the fact that it was a Saturday and the weather acted accordingly and turned on it's head. So we had to do some quick revising of plans and noting a pub beer festival at the Shrewsbury Arms (Blackcountry Ales) pub in Stafford, and a desire to visit the Hooded Ram Pub in Wolves, we incorporated the two places into a day trip. We travelled via Birmingham New St to facilitate these calls. On arrival in **Stafford** we undertook the 25 min walk from the station to the **Kings Arms** in the north of the city. A pubco flexible lease allows two to three guest beers amongst the five wickets, in this tidy terraced pub, which



BLACK BULLS HEAD

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

supports various sports on it's two TV's which are not too intrusive. Having enjoyed a Felinfol Double Dragon, we retraced our steps back towards town and into the **Greyhound**, which sits on another terraced street opposite Stafford Jail. This pub has been a long-term proponent of cask ales and there is a northern slant to the beer choice with Abbeydale /Rat /Bradfield /Mallinsons /etc featuring regularly. On the day this also included a less than top flight Bathams Best, which was a shame, and unusual for the pub. Next stop back in town was **Ye Olde Rose & Crown**, a Joules pub, very olde worlde inside, and where an additional wicket has been installed for a guest beer, from outside the Joules estate. This time it was Elgoods Black Dog mild....sadly in very poor order...Oh Dear! So back to the Market Square and No: 7 Market Square, it was around 1-30pm and we found this bottle shop/Micro Bar was not opening till 2pm. Shame cos through their 3 wickets and 3 Keg taps they do have some interesting brews including some FM. So on to the **Shrewsbury Arms** (Blackcountry Ales) and their beer festival. On arriving at the pub we found a stillage hosting six brews with a Black Country theme. Sadly five of them were mainstream... Holdens Golden Glow, Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild, and Kinver Light Railway etc, one was of more interest. Pig Iron IPA. The usual mix of ales were available through the hand pulls. Now the female Barkeeper had a very offhand attitude, which did nowt to enhance proceedings. So we ordered the aforementioned Pig Iron and Welbeck Abbey Portland Black and sloped off to sample them. Sadly neither were to our liking, the Pig Iron may have been infected it was certainly well off beam and the Welbeck was also not up to par. So with not too much else tempting us, we sadly moved on. Our next call was the **Picturehouse** (Spoons) where we enjoyed Kingston SPL from Arkells and Black Stallion mild from Arundel. The **Sun** (Titanic Project William) had a very nice Revolutions Bitter called Grip, and in the **Floodgate Ale House** micro pub we availed ourselves of Beowulf Nordic Noir (strong mild 6%) and a Shiny Pale Brew. We then caught the train back to **Wollyhampton**, making the **Lych Gate** (Blackcountry Ales) our first port of call. Hayley the landlady presents a much more friendly ambience here than that experienced in Stafford. One of my first choices tasted dubious, it was checked, found to be bottom of the barrel

and readily changed. We sampled four whilst here and whilst in conversion Hayley talked about contact, which she had with a new brewery Dogs Breath (Kinver) who are normally bottle only. The pub put on a meet the Brewer evening and following it's success and a bit of badgering, the Brewer arranged to put some of his smoked Porter 5.9% in cask, exclusively for the **Lych Gate** it was in the cellar conditioning, and whilst not quite ready to put on, a half was offered for us to sample. Now Sister Tones is not keen on smoked beer but we both found this very much to our liking, it had a very nice balance was easy drinking for its strength, but with plenty of flavour...one to note for the future I feel. Many thanks to Hayley for arranging this. We next called at **Slaters Bar** (Stafford Brewery) and tried one of their guest beers. First choice a Muirhouse mild burst on request, and the second choice, one from Old School House, tasted like it might be heading the same way, so we just shared the one arf! Then it was time for the **Hooded Ram**, situated in the Old Nat-West Bank building on Lichfield St. It is a busy street corner Bar/Kitchen with the Bar dominated by five beers from Hooded Ram Brewery (Isle of Man). We chose a single hop Mosaic and Jack the Ram a stout. The mosaic was superb as expected but the Jack the Ram was not too happy, and was returned. We were later offered a replacement but by then we were on our way. The menu looks interesting middle eastern/Asian influence and we understand from people who have eaten there that the food is good. So quick call in the **Moon Under Water** (Spoons) where Aj's (Walsall) Blonde was in fine form, followed by a bit of natty footwork saw us make a train back to Brum. So whilst everything did not go entirely to plan, the day did have it's moments!

Olive, Sally, Jean & Steve
welcome you to the



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After a reasonable night's beer and wine fuelled sleep in the Premier Inn we headed off to Liverpool for the day. The plan was to take the Ferry 'Cross the Mersey but once we discovered that the first ferry of the

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day didn't leave Woodside Terminal until 10.30 and that it cost £10, we took the bus through the Queensway tunnel instead. We wondered how many passengers (on the ferry) get tossed overboard by the staff for singing THAT song?! Too early for the pubs (since we tend not to use JDW establishments), we headed directly to Albert Dock and the Maritime Museum. GC may take issue with the term "directly" as he's convinced that I meander round the streets in a confused way like I've just escaped from a Home for the Terminally Bewildered. Be that as it may, our route took us past Mathew Street, home to the "World Famous" Cavern Club. As you would expect, the area is filled with Beatles themed bars & shops and there are also statues of John Lennon and Cilla Black to admire (or take a selfie with if that's what floats your boat) - would that be 'cross the Mersey? - Ed. The Maritime Museum is well worth a visit with excellent displays describing the sinking of the Lusitania, the WWII Battle of the Atlantic and the Titanic tragedy. Since we had explored pubs in the southern half of the city on a previous visit we decided to focus on the area between Hanover Street and Water & Dale Streets in the centre of Liverpool. I had based the selection on the GBG but things didn't start well! The first pub, the Abbey, was a rather cavernous city centre pub with many TV screens showing sport. It also had a single hand pump serving Greene King Abbot Ale. You do have to wonder about the GBG at times. We walked in and we walked out. I then discovered that the following two pubs (Richard John Blackler & North Western) were both Wetherspoons pubs so GC vetoed visiting them. Since it was close by, we called in at the **Globe** to take stock. Although not in the GBG, this is an attractive, cosy pub with a good reputation (according to the WhatPub and TripAdvisor web-sites). It's also where Liverpool CAMRA started and has won awards in the past so we wondered what it had done to get dropped from the guide. The beer choice was mainly national brands (Timothy Taylor, Marstons, Thwaites etc) but it had a Butcombe guest ale on which was the one we tried. Entertainment was provided by the barmaid who had an uncanny resemblance to Lily Savage and who never stopped talking from the moment we arrived to the moment we left. And then we were invaded by the Germans (it sounds better if you adopt a Scouse accent when you read this. No really, it does.). The pubs and beer choice now started to improve. We

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headed next to the **Excelsior**, which had 6 hand pumps offering Salopian Oracle, Parker Barbarian Bitter and Rock The Boat Dazzle as well as the more usual Timothy Taylor Landlord, Brains Reverend James and Robinsons Dizzy Blonde. Right next door was the **Ship & Mitre**, which wins the award for the best pub of the day. An extremely popular pub with 12 ales on offer plus a wide selection of ciders and world beers. Breweries on offer when we visited included Milestone, JW Lee's, Brimstage, Jennings and B&T plus the pub's own Ship & Mitre beers brewed for them by Stamps. All this plus an efficient (but somewhat fierce) Polish barmaid! Although it would have been easy to spend the rest of the day here, we moved on to the **Vernon Arms** a short distance away. A handsome pub with beers from Liverpool Organic, Bays, Brains, Stamp & Partners plus a Rum Porter.... or was that a Plum Porter. GC's writing was beginning to suffer by this stage! We then called at the **Lion Tavern** mainly because it features an impressive Art Nouveau interior deemed to be of national importance but it also happened to have 8 hand pumps with beers from Moorhouse, Everards, Titanic and No. 18 Yard Brewhouse (Shepherd Neame) amongst others. Entertainment was provided unexpectedly by an Orange Order parade of marching bands, which passed the pub and is apparently a regular occurrence during the summer months in Liverpool. We had planned to call finally at Thomas Rigby's, owned by the Isle of Man brewery Okells but by this time on a Saturday afternoon, it was heaving so we decided to get the bus back to Birkenhead and have the last couple of pints in **Gallaghers Pub & Barber Shop**. All in all, another (mostly) successful day exploring Liverpool - Snug Dave

Day 1: Beer Brother Phil (landlord of the Dewdrop in Ilkeston) picked me up in the car at 6am, first stop at Red Cat Brewery in **Winchester** to deliver 2 empty casks. I had a good look around this well run brewery, we were both given a free bottle of brewery's bottle conditioned Huehuentenango Coffee Stout 5.8%, a great start to the trip We then made our way to **Flowerpots Inn** (home of Flowerpots Brewery) at **Cheriton** to return 1 empty cask and then into lounge of this brew pub for a half of Flowerpots Perridge 3.6% £1.40 (a little lacking in flavour) then half Flowerpots Bitter 3.8% (very good and great

prices) beers all direct from casks I'd not been here for many years but it's a top classic not to be missed by any RuRADians if in the area. We then made our way to the **Hawley Inn** at **Hawley** for a half of Three Castles Heritage 4.2% £1.80 another brilliant country pub, all going well except for the none stop torrential rain, as we made our way back to Premier Inn at Winchester where our 4 nights room was only accommodation. After wash and brush up we made our way into town centre in this monsoon weather to **Westgate** for a half of Red Cat Prowler 3.6% £1.90 superb ale, we then moved onto the **Albion**, a proper traditional street corner boozier, small and cozy owned by Flowerpots Brewery with great choice. I had a half of Broken Bridge Rye 4.2% £1.80 superb from this new local micro brewery. Reluctantly we moved down the road to the **Hyde Tavern**, an old low beamed pub below street level, for a half of Harveys Sussex Best 4% £2. Then had half of Ballards Midhurst Mild 3.4% but not at all to my taste. Then away in the still torrential rain and short walk to **Gaol House** 'spoons for half of Upham Last Suspect 3.8% £1.35 and in good order and one of quietest spoons I've been in. We then made our way to oldest pub here, the **Black Boy** a superb ancient local with interconnecting rooms, much bric a brac and around 6 real ales. Sampled halves of Alfreds Saxon Bronze 3.8% very good nick and Andwell Darter 4.6% again very good drop, supper of plate of chips each was taken, before a taxi back as rain continued. Day 2: In Winchester town centre at 8.50am into Forte kitchen lovely cafe for breakfast then local bus to Alresford, very impressive town, and made my way down to the Watercress line steam preservation train station catching the first 11am steam service to **Alton** and very busy arriving 11.40. Another nice interesting town and made my way to the **George** - local pub of the year - found a poor choice of mainly national ales so had a half Sharps Sea Fury 5% £1.90 but it was beautifully kept and a new beer for me.

Then to the **French Horn** - furthest out pub - beamed interior had half Otter Bitter 3.6% £1.70, great. Then headed back and into **Ivy House** 'spoons most improved pub locally and one of best been in half a Long Dog Golden Poacher 3.9% £1.25, terrific drop very relaxed and a good choice on two levels very impressed. Next onto **Kings Arms** for a half of Flack Manor Double Drop 3.7% £1.70 just basic and moved onto **Eight Bells** lovely original black beamed interior on busy main road, half of Listers Best Bitter 3.9% £1.65 well priced in this area and in good nick. I then made my to **Railwaymans Arms** owned by Triple fff Brewery for a half of Citra Tonic 4.4% £1.65 I really struggled to drink it as I'm not really a FFF fan, had half of Red Cat Scratch 4% £1.60 which was very good I then made my way back to station in the heavy rain. Got same last steam train 92212 at 4pm to **Alresford**, here made my way to **Horse and Groom** for a half of Fullers Southern Star 4% £2.05 most expensive yet, but very nice ale then local bus back to Winchester. None stop rain on the way to the Gaol House for a pint of Stonehenge Great Bustard 4.8% and curry total £6.85 and sorted me. Then away to the **Wykenham Arms** for a half of Fullers Seafarers 3.6% £1.95 good reliable local attracts many students. Now down to the **Queens Inn** and a half of Andwell Sovereign 4.3% £1.85 good stuff, then half of Red Cat Cherry Peppercorn 5.4% £2.10, wonderful. Beer Brother Phil then joined me and gave him the low down of my day. We got a taxi back cos of the rain! TBC - The Didler

Tracy and all the staff welcome you
to the

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RuRAD supporting local beer festivals

Thursday 15th June I poked my head into the **Poet and Castle** and found a choice of 50 ales and 10 ciders, with most of them set up in an impressive marquee. I started with Frost Hammer 4.6% from Fownes in Dudley, followed by Fubar 4.4% from Tiny Rebel before finishing off on Serendipity Pale Ale 3.9% from Wild Weather. Good to see that all beers were priced at £3 per pint with a nice mix of ales from local breweries and from further afield - such as Alchemy, Brass Castle, Great Heck, Liverpool Organic, Rudgate and Tiny Rebel. Local beers were from Welbeck Abbey, Raw, Old Sawley, Nottingham, Muirhouse, Lincoln Green, Lenton Lane, Idle Valley, Leatherbritches, Everards, Brunswick and Shiny. Sadly I wasn't able to try the Pale Angel brewed by The Old Angel in Nottingham - Charisma

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Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

5th to 9th July 40th Derby City Charter Festival, Market Place-Derby 300+ Ales, 100 Cider/Perry
5th to 9th July Sunfest 2017, The Rising Sun, 471 Fulwood Road-Sheffield 100+ Ales & Cider
7th to 9th July Congleton Big Beer Weekend, 12 Pubs & Clubs around Congleton 70+ Ales
7th to 9th July 3rd Independent Bassetlaw Beer Festival, The Grafton Hotel, 157-161 Gateford Road-Worksop 24 Ales
8th - 9th July Nottingham Scout Group Beer Festival, 477 Hucknall Road- Sherwood, Notts
12th to 16th July Ye Old Dolphin Beer Festival, Queen Street-Derby 50+ Ales
13th to 15th July West Bridgeford Lions CC Beer Festival, Stamford Road-West Bridgeford, Nott's 20+ Ales
14th to 16th July Burton Beer & Jazz Festival, National Brewery Centre-Burton-upon-Trent
14th to 30th July Vicfest 2017, Victoria Hotel, 85 Dovecote Lane-Beeston, Notts
20th to 23rd July 11th Plough Inn Beer Festival, Old Melton Rd-Normanton on the Wolds, Nottinghamshire 25 Ales, Cider
20th to 23rd July White Lion Beer Festival, 352 Tamworth Street-Sawley, Nott's 40 Ales 16 Ciders
21st to 23rd July Amber Ales Amberfest, Unit 7 Whiteley Rd, off Peasehill Road-Ripley 18+ New and Experimental Ales
21st to 23rd July Stainsby Music & Beer Festival, Brunts Fields, Stainsby
28th to 30th July Heckington Summer Beer Festival, 8 Sail Brewery, Heckington Windmill, Hale Rd-Heckington, Lincs
3rd to 5th August Grantham Beer Festival, Huntingtower CP, Huntingtower Road-Grantham 40+ Ales, Cider & Perry
3rd to 6th August Organ Grinder 5th Anniversary Beer Festival, 4 Woodgate-Loughborough, 20 Ales Cider & Food

1st July 11th Warslow Beer & Food Festival, Warslow Village Hall-Warslow 24 Ales + Cider
1st July 18th Devizes Beer Festival, Wharf-Devizes, Wiltshire 60 Ales Cider/Perry
1st to 2nd July Monkey Club Beer Festival, Armitage Bridge Club, Dean Brook Rd Armitage Brook-Huddersfield 60 Ales
4th to 8th July Chelmsford Beer Festival, Admirals Park, Rainsford Road-Chelmsford 300 Ales 100 Ciders
4th to 9th July Ploughmans Beer Festival, Staniland Way, Werrington-Peterborough 50+ Ales, Cider, BBQ
6th to 8th July Scottish Real Ale Festival, Edinburgh Corn Exchange, 11 New Market Rd-Edinburgh 160+ Scottish Ales
6th to 8th July 1st SPDW Wood Fest, The Junction, Carlton Street-Castleford, West Yorks see www.woodfest2017.com
6th to 8th July 13th Chorlton Beer & Cider Festival, St Clements Church, Edge Lane-Chorlton, Manchester 95 Ales 50 Ciders
6th to 8th July Hastings Beer & Music Festival, The Oval, Falaise Road-Hastings 100 Ales, Cider
7th to 8th July 21st Bishops Castle Beer Festival-Bishops Castle, Shropshire, 6 Pubs, 100 Ales + Cider
7th to 9th July Churnet Valley Rail Ale Trail, 4 Pubs, 3 Stations, 2 Trains, 100 Ales 30 Ciders
7th to 9th July 3rd Langton Brewery Beer Festival, Grange Farm-Thorpe Langton, Leicestershire
7th to 9th July Beer on the Wye, Hereford Rowing Club Greyfriars Avenue-Hereford 120+ Ales 120 Ciders & Perries
7th to 11th July 11th Stratford-upon-Avon Beer Festival, Stratford Racecourse, Luddington Road-Stratford-upon-Avon 70 Ales 30 Ciders
7th to 23rd July JD Wetherspoon Cider Festival, All Wetherspoon Pubs www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk
12th to 15th July 28th Ealing Beer Festival, Walpole Park, Mattock Lane-Ealing, Gtr London 500 Ales, Cider/Perry & Foreign
14th to 16th July 1st Waterloo Beer & Cider Festival, Waterloo Road-Blackpool 40+ Ales + Cider
15th July Hook Norton Festival of Beer, Rural Fayre Field-Hook Norton, Oxfordshire
20th to 22nd July Hawkshead Brewery Summer Beer Festival, The Beer Hall, Mill Yard-Steveley, Cumbria 60+ Ales
20th to 22nd July 27th Shrewsbury Beer Festival, Wakeman Hall, Abbey Foregate-Shrewsbury 110 Ales + Cider/Perry
20th to 22nd July 43rd Kent Beer Festival, Barn at Merton Farm, Merton Lane-Canterbury, 120+ Ales, Cider & Perry
20th to 22nd July Gunmakers Arms Vegan Beer Festival, Bath Street, City Centre-Birmingham, Vegan Beer & Food
21st to 23rd July Market Bosworth Beer Festival, Mk Bosworth Station Goods Shed and on the Trains 80 Ales, 30 Ciders
27th to 29th July 10th Stafford Beer Festival, Blessed William Howard School, Rowley Avenue-Blackpool 80+ Ales Cider/Perry
27th to 29th July 9th Bishops Stortford Beer Festival, British Legion Club, 28 Wind Hill-Bishops Stortford 100+ Ales/Cider
28th to 30th July 41st Cotswold Beer Festival, Postlip Hall, Tithe Barn, (off B4632 nr Winchcombe)-Gloucester 70+ Ales
29th July Roosters Brewery Open Day, Unit 3 Grimbold Park, Wetherby Road-Knarsborough, Noon to 1700
3rd to 6th August 27th Egham Ale & Cider Festival, 111 Spring Rise, United Services Club-Egham 60+ Ales
4th to 6th August 5th London Craft Beer Festival, Shoreditch Electric Light Station, Hoxton Square-London
8th to 12th August G.B.B.F. Olympia, London 900 Ales, Cider, Perry & International Beers

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 uplonkerrdney2006@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.

Hollie & Russ welcome you to

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