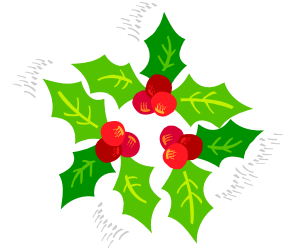




In The Sticks

RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

December 2005



Free Copy

Welcome to this months edition of "In the Sticks"

Welcome to the latest issue of "In the Sticks" the newsletter of RuRad Rural Real Ale Drinkers. We hope you enjoy your read but before you get started we would like to wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

To receive an electronic copy e-mail billyonemate2004@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 69 pubs in 35 different locations, 4 Breweries and 17 Beer Festivals.

Beer and Pub News

Simon, Andy & Rob from the **Seven Stars**

Belper emailed me to advise the guest beers for December will include Marstons Christmas Ale 5.8%, Theakstons XB 4.6%, Bateman's Rosey Nosey 4.9, Cameron's Castle Eden Ale 4.2% and numerous ales from Leadmill.

The **Hunters Arms** in **Kilburn** was closed again on Saturday 26th November, unconfirmed reports suggest due to an anomaly with the new license.

Jedediah Trippe reports that on Wednesday 16th November that there was no real ale available at **Tollgate** in **Heage** whilst in **Duffield** the **Lord Scarsdale** had Pedigree and Old Hooky. The **Pattenmakers** had a delicious Acorn Barnsley Gold for its guest ale - alongside Deuchars IPA and Pedigree.

A special Cask Marque presentation evening was held at the **Bell** in **Smalley** on Wednesday 30th November. On two separate occasions the pub scored some of the highest marks in the country. Several ales including Marstons Burton Bitter, Adnams Broadside and the excellent Thornbridge Hall Jaipur 5.9% were all available at £1.00 a pint.

The **Joiners Arms** on Church Road **Quarndon** had Pedigree, Taylor's Landlord and Abbot Ale on Monday 28th November - *Half pint*

The **Ilford Club** in **Ilkeston** has been renamed to the Ilford Pub.

The first ever Beer Festival to be held in **Eastwood** was at the **Three Tuns** from the 8th to the 11th December. -Report to follow next month.

Half Pint and I called in at the **Wellington Inn** on Bennets Hill **Birmingham** on Monday 21st November to discover that Birmingham Camra has named the pub as Pub of the Year, which is not bad as it's only been open for about 11 months.

The pub usually has 15 real ales available with 3 regulars from the Black Country Brewery and to date 2272 different ales have been sold in 2005.

From the 24th November for a trial period the pubs opening hours will be 10am to midnight.

Jonathan Kriek reported that the Milestone Black Pearl was in good order at the **Salutation** on Maid Marion Way **Nottingham** on Monday 21st November but there again it should have been at £2.49 a pint. Also available were Badger Tanglefoot (£2.49) and Milestone Loxley Ale (£2.29).

On at the **Black Bull** at **Belper Lane End** on Friday 18th November were Abbot Ale, Bass, and Black Sheep Bitter. Donna the licensee told me that she had been looking to replace the Abbot but it had proved too popular even being liked by the Lager drinkers!!!!

Real Ales on at the **Fisherman's Rest**

Broadholme the same day included Belhaven St Andrews Ale 4.9%, Old Hooky 4.6%, Pedigree 4.5% and Marstons Owd Roger 7.6%.

On at the **White Swan Belper** on Friday 25th November were Highgate Fat Catz 4.8 at £2.30 and Jennings Cockerhoop, the pubs new opening hours are 11am to midnight seven days and usually has two guest beers a week.

The same evening the **Black Swan** had Green King IPA and Thwaite's Lancaster Bomber 4.4% at £2.40 a pint, the pubs new opening hours are 11am to midnight.

Whilst up Chesterfield Road the **Thorn Tree** had Green King IPA and Abbot Ale as their permanent beers with Bass and Ruddles Orchard 4.2% at £2.20 a pint as guests.

M&B Mild was back on at the **Imperial Vaults** in **Belper** when Jedediah called in on Saturday 3rd December at £1.96 a pint.

After nearly 6 months with out the **Queens Head** in **Belper** is to receive a new pub sign.

Forthcoming attractions at the **Cross Keys Belper** this month include: - St Austell Tribute 4.2%, Burton Bridge XL 4.0%, Robinson's Old Tom 8.5%, Bateman's Rosey Nosey 4.9%, Derby White Christmas 5.5%, Young's Winter Warmer 5.0% and Derby Tranquility 4.5%.

Just attended this event, over Friday and Saturday, 28th & 29th October at the twinned venues of the **Three Crowns** and the **White Horse, Ruddington**. First thing to say is that the flat rate tariff of £2.20 per pint was very fair for the range of ales offered, and the quality of ale served was fine. Northern Ales at the 3 Crowns and Southern at the Horse. What was odd, and unique in my experience of beer fests, was that there were obvious examples of ale brands being sold that were just plain wrong.

--A barrel of Jennings Snecklifter clearly was NOT. (It was a pleasant ale, the barrel was marked with a plain sticker as Snecklifter, but.....it just wasn't!!)

--A barrel of Crouch Vale Brewer's Gold, again, pleasant ale, the barrel marked Crouch Vale, but it definitely wasn't Brewer's Gold!!

Now, I've never encountered such apparent skulduggery anywhere, let alone a beer fest, and when I quizzed the staff serving, they seemed genuine in their intent and blissfully ignorant of their "crime".

Can there be an explanation? Is there a precedent for such an occurrence?

I can only assume that the pubs concerned bought these ales in good faith, (from a single source?), and that the source was incompetent or misrepresentation in some way, for some reason.

It clearly is a potential hazard of attending a small-scale pubfest, where the hosts may not have the knowledge to spot such errors.

Comments?- *Tomatoman*

Pubs in our region to receive the Cask Marque accreditation recently include the GBG listed **Bell** at **Smalley** and the **Cricketers** at **Kilburn** which, by my reckoning brings the total in the Amber Valley to 17. An addition to the Erewash list is the **Queens Head** in **Little Eaton**. For the complete list visit www.cask-marque.co.uk

C & H Calderone are the new licensees of the **New Inn** at **Milford**.

A survey of the 8 pubs in **Somercotes** on Saturday 3rd December revealed the following: - **New Inn** on Birchwood Lane Old Speckled Hen; **Old English Gentleman** on Somercotes Hill Old Speckled Hen and Deuchars IPA; **Royal Tiger** on Nottingham Road H&H Olde Trip and seasonal guest Rocking Rudolph, for me the star performer was the **Horse & Jockey** on Leabrooks Road which had Regulars Courage Bitter and Theakstons Best Bitter with Holts Touchwood 4.2% as the guest.

Sadly the **Cotes Park Inn** on Nottingham Road, **Devonshire Arms** on Somercotes Hill, **Crown Inn** on Sleetmoor Lane and **Rifle Volunteer** on Birchwood Lane all had no real ale available, as was also the case at the **Three Horse Shoes** in **Leabrooks**.

The **Wardwick** in **Derby** seems to be emerging as an up and coming real ale pub, on a recent visit an impressed Charisma found Tetley Bitter as the regular and 5 guest ales.

Whilst out walking in the Derbyshire Dales Pete & Alex called in at the **Quite Woman** in **Earl Sterndale** to sample the Martons Owd Roger 7.6% which was in "excellent condition".

On Saturday 3rd December the **Nags Head** in **Belper** had Belhaven St Andrews Ale 4.9% as the guest along side regular Pedigree. Due on next was Old Hooky from Hook Norton.

Steady Steve at the **Royal Oak, Ockbrook**, has got an awesome array of ales to serve up over the festive period including the likes of Cropton Nervous Turkey 4.3% & Bah Humbug 5.0%, Springhead Fallen Angel 4.5%, Cottage Christmas Ale 4.5%, Christmas Cracker 4.5% & Santa's Steaming 5.5%, Rudgate Crimble Ale 4.2%, Scattor Rock Rockin' Rudolph 4.3%, Scattor Claus 4.7% & Not Out 2005 4.5%, York Stocking Filler 4.8%, Wye Valley Santa's Delight 4.2%, Holland Holly Hop 4.7%, Howard Town Robin's Nest 5.2%, Bradfield Belgian Blue 4.9% & Everards Sleighbells 4.5. There are also beers from Derby Brewing Co & Boggart Hole Clough to be confirmed. And Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without Whim Snow White 5.0 & the marvellous Black Christmas 6.3%..... 'tis the season to be jolly.

The **Hippodrome** in **Ripley** had a special 14% bottled beer called Schleisenbrau available on Wednesday 7th December. **Chippy Cherry**

Two new beers due to appear at the GBG listed **Anchor Inn** at **Oakerthorpe** are its own "House Beer" called Anchor Best Bitter 4.6% and Seasonal guest Old Goat 8.0% both from the Cropton Brewery.

If the tongue in cheek advise of the licensee of a pub not too far from Crich is to be believed, the tasting notes for Kimberley Bitter needs updating to include "p**swatteh" in the description. I wonder if Messrs H & H concur?

Brewery News

Leadmill-Denby

www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

The latest beers to appear from Leadmill include Ghost Rider 5.4% a full bodied bitter with plenty of flavour tasting slightly sweet with a nice bite to it. The beer went very well at the **Old Stables Bar** recently selling out on 3 consecutive days. The second beer is called Nemesis at 6.5% ish and is a typical strong Christmas beer due to appear at the **Old Stables Bar** in early December.

Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

www.funfairbrewingcompany.com

Dave is looking to become a member of the Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA). The Christmas beer Christmas Cake Walk 6.5% will be among the guest beers at the **Old Oak Beer Festival** in **Horsley Woodhouse**, which runs from the 15th to the 18th December. Pop Corn, the lager malt pale bitter with an ABV in the mid 4% region, was due to be brewed in early December.

Falstaff-Normanton

www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk

Falstaff are brewing a festival special called "Feste" at 6.5%, named after one of the characters from Shakespeare's Twelfth Night play, for Derby CAMRA's 5th Winter Beer Festival to be held in the Darwin Suite of the Assembly Rooms on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th January 2006.

The latest Shakespeare themed beer is called To Be ABV or Not To Be ABV at 3.6%.

Danelaw-Chellaston

www.danelawbrewery.co.uk

Paul is brewing a dark beer, in the region of 4.9%, for the **Babbington Arms** dark beer fest, which runs from the 12th to the 25th December. Both Valhalla and Rape & Pillage are being brewed for Derby CAMRA's 5th Winter Beer Festival.

The Ex Adman Column

For this month, we again visit Greater Manchester, and area with many superb pubs, and the **White Lion** at **Westhoughton**. Though there has been a pub on this site for well over 250 years, the White Lion's interior is the result of a 1920's refit, the pub being acquired by local brewer Joseph Holt in 1925. This totally unspoilt pub has 5 distinctive drinking areas, which comprise a lounge, bar, vault, smoke room and a lobby area, all served by a curved, shuttered island bar. There is some fine tiling and flooring, and whilst much of the furniture and fittings have been restored, the work has been done sympathetically, in keeping with the type of pub this is. The White Lion is on Market Street, about 20 minutes walk from

the local railway station, which is served somewhat infrequently by trains from Manchester Victoria station. Holts Mild and Bitter are the beers on offer, both in good condition on the day I visited the pub, which is open all day from 11am, subject of course to the new licensing regulations which may have brought about a change. Not the easiest pub to get to due to the sparsity of public transport (1 train per hour in either direction), but if you do make the effort to visit it, you will not be disappointed.

Visit Reports

Teddy's Travels In Albert's Taxis

October 2005

Teddy hasn't been away on holiday recently, but whilst out walking has sampled a few beers calling at some classic pubs!

He called at the **Quiet Woman** at **Earl Sterndale**, serving on the day - Marstons Bitter and Pedigree - and Archers - A Fair Cop. A lovely day was spent strolling on the Roaches, calling at the **Ship Inn** at **Wincle** who were serving a good selection of beers including Fullers London Pride, Fullers Discovery, O'Hanlon's Yellowhammer, Hydes Traditional Mild and Westons Traditional Scrupmy. An annual beer festival is held each August Bank Holiday weekend.

The SAS pilgrimage to the **Yew Tree** at **Cauldon** was a great day, the usual beers were available, Burton Bridge Bitter, and Bass. What a gem of a pub this is and excellent pork pies! This fell on the same Saturday as the beer festival at the **Hollybush** at **Makeney** so we finished the day off there enjoying the great selection of beers (Otter Bright being Teddy's personal favorite) more pork pie and an excellent craic.

Thanks to Albert's Taxis for getting us all home safely!!!

Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

On Friday 21st October Uncle Albert & Charisma Bypass joined Del Boy & me as we headed up to the Lake District for our annual October jaunt. The journey up was absolutely hellish and took nearly 4 hours which scuppered my plans to visit the GBG listed Sun Inn at Crook and Royal Oak at Bowness as we headed straight to **Ambleside**. After checking in at the digs and visiting a chip shop we headed for the GBG listed **Golden Rule** on Smithy Brow. This is a Robinson's pub and had Hatters 3.3%, Old Stockport 3.5%, Hartley's XB 4.0%, Cumbria Way 4.1%, Unicorn 4.2% & Double Hop 5.0%. Del and I tried the Hatters, Uncle Albert the Unicorn and Charisma tried the Cumbria Way, but he wasn't too impressed. From there we moved on to the **Unicorn**, on North Road, another Robinson's pub, which had Hartley's XB, Cumbria Way, Unicorn & Double Hop. The **Cellar Bar** at the **Queens Hotel** on Market Place was our last stop where we had a choice



of Yates Bitter 3.7% which was probably the best drink of the night. On our way back we had a look in the hotel bar and saw 6 hand pumps so we were a bit peeved.

The following morning, after a hearty breakfast, Del drove us to Grasmere for the days walk (Charisma managed to keep Possession of his brekky...unlike last year!). Fairfield, 2863 ft, was the main object of the day, which was reached via Stone Arthur & Great Rigg. Fortunately it didn't start raining until we got to the top of Seat Sandal, our final summit of the day, but from there it was down hill (some of which Charisma & Albert spent on their behinds) all the way to the pub so we didn't give a damn. The pub in question was the new 2006 GBG listed **Badger Bar** at the **Glen Rothay Hotel** on the A591 at Rydal. This old coaching inn dating from 1624 had 3 real ales available, Thwaite's Liberation 4.5%, Barnegates Pride of Westmorland 4.1% & Coniston Bluebird XB 4.2% all at £2.50; it also had some very comfortable easy chairs which were just the job after a hard day on the fells. After we'd freshened up and got over the disappointment of the Rams going down 2-1 at Hull I thought we should take Charisma out to sample some of the delights of the locality so Del drove us to **The Drunken Duck Inn at Barnegates** (which can be quite hard to find in the dark), home of Barnegates Brewery. We had a choice from Cat Nap 3.6%, Tag Lag 4.4%, Pride of Westmorland 4.1% & Westmorland Gold 4.2%, which were all in good order. I then decided we should go to the GBG listed **Kings Arms Hotel** on The Square at **Hawkshead**, which we got to after driving the wrong way up a one way street, this very busy pub had Coniston Bluebird 3.6%, Blacksheep Best Bitter 3.8%, Hawkshead Bitter 3.7% & Gold 4.4% I dread to think how busy it gets in summer. Then it was back to **Ambleside** where we tried the **Queens Hotel** bar, which had Moorhouses Pride of Pendle 4.1%, Jennings (or is that Wolverhampton & Dudley?) Bitter 3.5%, Hawkshead Bitter 3.7%, Thwaite's Lancaster Bomber 4.4% & Yates Bitter 3.7% and to think we sat in the Cellar Bar last night...TUT! It seems strange that the only place in Ambleside with a half decent guest beer policy didn't get into the GBG this year. We finished the night off back in the **Unicorn**; for the live music, not the beer. *Rodders.*

On the morning of Saturday 26th of November Del Boy and I met up with Cassandra, Uncle Albert, Pedro & 'Er in doors at Derby train station where we caught the 10.35 to **Leicester** and for a change it was on time which was a shame because Charisma wasn't and just got on the platform as it was pulling out.....bugger. At Long Eaton we were joined by Malc the Alc and we arrived in Leicester at 11.05 where Cassandra was frisked by one of the many policemen on duty....he didn't want to but she insisted. Our first pub was the **Ale Wagon** on Rutland St, which, as several notices stuck about the place

informed us, was closed for the day...good start. So we headed for the GBG listed **Globe**, an Everards pub on Silver St, here there was a choice from Tom Wood Old Timber 4.5%, Brunswick Father Mike's Dark Rich Ruby 5.8%, Everards Beacon 3.8%, Tiger 4.2%, Original 5.0% & Sleighbell 4.5%.

From there it was a short walk to High St and the J D Wetherspoons **High Cross**, 7 real ales were available here; John Thompson JTS XXX 4.1%, Vale Edgar's Golden Ale 4.3%, Leadmill Rolling Thunder 4.5%, Shardlow Reverend Eaton 4.5% as guests and Shepherd Neame Spitfire 4.5%, Marstons Pedigree 4.5% & Greene King Abbot 5.0% as regulars not bad for a Wethys. We re-traced our steps back to the Globe and headed for Millstone Lane and the GBG listed **Criterion**. An impressive beer list awaited us here which included Oakham JHB 3.8%, Rugby 1823 3.5% & Victorious 4.2%, Weetwood Best Bitter 3.8%, Red Rose Lancashire & Yorkshire Aleway 4.5%, Coach House Dick Turpin 4.2% & Everards Tiger plus Westons Country Perry 4.5%, Bounds Scrumpy 4.8%, 4 Fruit Beer 5.0% & Old Rosie 7.3% not to mention a wide selection of foreign bottled beers. And if that wasn't enough, after catching a later train, we were finally joined by Charisma Hoorah!! Just a short stroll round the corner was our next port of call; the GBG listed **Shakespeare's Head** on Southgates. Apparently this was once in CAMRA's National Inventory !!!!!!! Oakwell Old Tom Mild 3.4% & Barnsley Bitter 3.8% were available here at the insanely low price of £1.35 & £1.40 a pint... Fantastic and Trigger finally joined us to complete the team. We passed the Jewry Wall on our way to the next stop which was the GBG listed **Tudor** on Tudor Road where we had a choice from Everards Beacon and Tiger (I tried the Tiger...but don't tell anyone). The **Black Horse**, a GBG listed pub on Braunston Gate, was next on my list and here we had a choice from Everards Beacon, Tiger & Sunchaser 4.0%, Beartown Bruins Ruin 5.0%, Tom Wood Old Timber, Wadworth 6X 4.3% & Hop Back Summer Lightning 5.0% but that went off before we could try it. There is also a rather good chip shop next door. **The Leicester Gateway**, a GBG listed Tynemill pub, on Gateway Street was next which had Castle Rock Harvest Pale 3.8% & Elsie Mo 4.7%, Buffy's Mucky Duck 4.5% & Archers Top Tipple 5.0%. Just up Jarrow Street on Infirmary Square is the GBG listed **Swan & Rushes**, which had Newby Wyke HMS Revenge 4.2% & England Expects 4.6%, Oakham JHB & Bishops Farewell 4.6% & Isle of Skye Grand Ale 5.5% we hung on to find out the Rams result. Malc the Alc guided us to the final GBG pub of the day **Out of the Vaults** on King Street....talk about saving the best for last! 12 real ales woo-hoo! Oakham White Dwarf 4.3%, Bishops Farewell & Old Tossport 5.2%, Abbeydale Brimstone 3.9% & Redemption 5.0%, Northern Brewing Co

Northern Soul Rider 4.0%, Beowulf Fins Hall Porter 4.7%, Whitestar Frostbite 4.5%, Battledown Brigand 4.7%, Fernandes Tulyar 3.8%, Goffs Camelot 4.4% & Hobden Russian Stoa 9.0% all available.

If you only ever go to one pub in Leicester make sure this is it. At this point Malc had to head home so we went back to the Globe on Silver Street for the benefit of those who missed it earlier. While we were in there a nice couple directed us to the Black Boy on Albion Street, which has an impressive appearance including a semi-circular recessed, wood panelled entrance. The down side was the Bass 4.4%, Pedigree & Worthington Bitter 3.6% ne'er mind. Heading back to the station we called in at the **Last Plantagenet**, a J D Wetherspoons, on High Street, which had Ringwood Fortyniner 4.9%, Theakstons Grouse Beater 4.2%, Greene King Abbot, Marstons Pedigree & Burton Bitter 3.8%, St Georgen Brau Keller Bier 4.9% & Coulden Carolus Ambrio 8.0%. I apologise if the foreign beers are incorrect, at this point I was even struggling to read & write English. On arrival at the station we found our train was delayed so Pedro & 'Er in doors dragged us all kicking and screaming to **The Hind** just up from the station on London Road. Here there was Pedigree, Theakstons Best Bitter 3.8%, Greene King IPA 3.6%, Courage Directors 4.8% & Wells Bombardier 4.3%. We eventually arrived back in Derby at 9.30-ish and went our separate ways. By my reckoning we visited 12 pubs (8 in the GBG) and had a choice from 59 different beers, ciders & perries, no wonder I'd got a headache. My dilemma now is where to go next??? *Rodders.*

Big Foz's Travels with his Dad

3rd November 2005

Red Lion, Bagthorpe, Nottinghamshire
Deuchar's, Pedigree, Tom Wood Harvest, Landlord

BigFoz says: it's an OAP Eating Club.

Dad says: there must be some point in growing old.

BigFoz says: not if we all end up like you, there isn't.

Dixies Arms, Lower Bagthorpe, Nottinghamshire

Theakstons Best Bitter, Abbot, Gale Trafalgar 200

Dad says: good beer...Nottinghamshire's answer to that pub in Kirk Ireton?

BigFoz says: characterful.

Dad says: now, don't start with that again.

Shepherd's Rest, Lower Bagthorpe, Nottinghamshire

Deuchar's, Abbot, Bombardier

BigFoz says: I think it's very rare that I've been treated with such indifference in a pub.

Dad says: I don't care.

BigFoz says: exactly.



Horse & Groom, Linby, Nottinghamshire

Theakstons Mild, Greene King IPA, Slater Shining Knight, Slater Bitter

Dad says: what do we keep coming here for?

BigFoz says: well since, the Griffin at Papplewick started going downhill; it's the only place around here.

Dad says: 'Going downhill'? Yes, this area has always suffered from subsidence.

BigFoz says: shut up and drink your beer.

10th November 2005

Cheshire Cheese, Hope

Ward Best Bitter, Greene King IPA, Tetley Cask, Black Sheep Bitter, Beartown Kodiak Gold, Budweiser Budvar Black

Dad says: very nice...very oldie-worldie.

BigFoz says: ...and me drinking lager.

Dad says: don't worry, nobody'll ever know.

Little John, Hathersage

Theakstons Best Bitter, Cottage Southern Bitter, Somerset and Dorset Ale, Broadgauge, Howling Ale
BigFoz says: is 'efficient' the word for the service here?

Dad says: no, 'off-hand', 'abrupt' and 'expensive' are better.

BigFoz says: he shouldn't need reminding about topping up, either.

17th November 2005

Bell Inn, Smalley

Fuller ESB, Whim Hartington IPA, Hartington Bitter, Mallard Duckling, Adnam's Broadside, Oakham JHB, Pedigree

BigFoz says: never have particularly liked this pub.

Dad says: good, well-kept ale, though.

BigFoz says: disappointing food, though.

24th November 2005

Royal Oak, Watnall, Nottinghamshire

H & H Bitter, Olde Trip, Gunpowder Plot, William Clarke

BigFoz says: this is a really friendly pub.

Dad says: and it's one of the few places you can get William Clarke.

BigFoz says (glassy-eyed): you might have something there.

Horse & Groom, Linby, Nottinghamshire

Greene King IPA, Theakstons Mild, Caythorpe Stout Fellow, Caythorpe Dover Beck Bitter

Dad says: excellent, fresh-prepared food.

BigFoz says: nice to see local Caythorpe beers back again.

Dad says: where are they from, then?

BigFoz says: I'm not even going to answer that.

25th November 2005

Steampacket Inn, Swanwick

Adnam's Bitter, Jennings Cumberland Bitter, Black Sheep Bitter, Young Bitter, Everards Tiger

Dad says: thought the place was afire when we came in.

BigFoz says: over-enthusiastic chef.

Dad says: could do with more enthusiasm over beer strengths.

Anchor Inn, Oakerthorpe

Cropton Honey Gold, Autumn Ale, Monkmans Slaughter

BigFoz says: well-kept, unusual beers for the area.

Dad says: 70's disco music's too loud.

BigFoz says: but it beats that local's rendition of 'Danny Boy'.

Dad says: *anything* beats that

27th November 2005

Royal Oak, Wirksworth

Whim Hartington IPA, Bass, Landlord, Rooster Leghorn, Acorn Barnsley Bitter

Dad says: at last we find this place open.

BigFoz says: and such a pleasant and knowledgeable landlord.

Dad says: and such good ale.

BigFoz says: nuff said.

Proposed Trips

Thursday 22nd December Christmas Social at the GBG listed Royal Oak in Ockbrook Contact Charisma on 07974 171243 for further details.

Trip to Sheffield visiting GBG pubs in January 2006 date to be confirmed.

Beer Festival Diary

11th to 18th December Victoria Winter Ales Festival, Union Road-Lincoln.

12th to 25th December Babington Arms Christmas Ales Festival-Derby. www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk

15th to 18th December Old Oak Xmas Beer Festival-Horsley Woodhouse. www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

17th December Fat Cat Beer Festival in the Old Brewery Bar behind the pub-Sheffield. www.thefatcat.co.uk

28th to 30th December 12th Beer Festival at the Paradise Brewery, the Old Creamery -Wrenbury.

6th to 7th January 5th Derby Winter Beer Festival, Assembly Rooms-Derby. <http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/>

6th to 7th January 3rd Frodsham Winter Ales Festival, Church Hall, Church Street, Frodsham.

13th to 14th January 1st Redditch Winter Ales Festival, Centre Point Ipsley Street-Redditch. www.redditchwaf.org.uk

18th to 21st January National Winter Ales Festival, New Century Hall, Corporation Street-Manchester. www.winteralesfestival.org.uk

20th to 22nd January Eagle Beer Festival, West Street-Boston.

27th to 28th January 11th Winter Ales Festival, Town Hall Burton-on-Trent.

3rd to 4th February Chesterfield Beer Festival, Winding Wheel Holywell Street-Chesterfield. www.chesterfieldbeerfestival.org.uk

3rd to 4th February Ashfield Beer & Cider Festival, Festival Hall, Hodgkinson Road-Kirkby in Ashfield. www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk

15th to 18th February Rotherham Oakwood Real Ale & Music Festival, Oakwood Technology College, Moor Road-Rotherham. www.realale.oakwood.yorks.com

16th to 18th February Cleveland's Ale & Arty Beer Festival, Arc, Dovecote Street-Stockton. www.clevelandcamra.btinternet.co.uk

23rd to 25th February Bradford Beer Festival, Victoria Hall, Saltaire. www.bradfordcamra.org.uk

15th to 18th March Leicester Beer Festival, The Charotar Pitidar Samaj, off St Margaret's Way-Leicester. www.camra.org.uk/leicester

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

In the next issue of "In the Sticks" look out for more Del & Rods Real Ale Rambles, the Exadman's column on historic pubs, Big Foz's travels with his Dad, the Bald Eagle's visit to Grantham and the Midshiresman's 25 mile stroll through the Derbyshire Dales.

Well that's all for this issue folks however if you have any information or news which could be included in a subsequent issue please contact Charisma Bypass on 07974 171243 or e-mail: billyonemate2004@yahoo.co.uk by the 8th of the month.

Edited by Billy One Mate

Other contributors and helpers for this issue of "In the Sticks":

Charisma Bypass, Gentle Giant, Half Pint, Tomatoman, Two Gallon Man, Me Owd Conker, Delboy, Rodney, Trigger, Cassandra, Exadman, Big Foz & his Dad, Sooty, Jedediah Trippe, Jonathan Kriek, Field Ape, Chippy Cherry, Bald Eagle, Teddy & Albert-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 Editor.

