



# RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

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

## In The Sticks

Welcome to the latest issue of "In the Sticks" the newsletter of RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers. We hope you enjoy reading it.

If you want to receive a copy electronically e-mail [uplonkerrdney2006@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:uplonkerrdney2006@yahoo.co.uk)

Or for back issues log on to

<http://www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk/Rurad.html>

### Number Crunching

In this issue we bring you news of 59 pubs in 33 different locations, 4 Breweries and 31 Beer Festivals.

### Beer and Pub News

The recently refurbished **Greyhound** on Whitemoor Lane **Belper** had two regulars Spitfire and GK IPA with guests Smiles Night Glow 4.5% & Elgood's Snickalmas 5.0%

Rip Van Winkle reports that the Ashfield Beer & Cider Festival will be held at Newstead Miners Welfare, Newstead Village from 7th to 10th of June 07, not in February as before. This is due to a 200% price increase for the hire of the Festival Hall, Kirkby, also the Mansfield Beer & Cider Festival will be held at Mansfield Town Football Club, Mansfield from 29th March to 1st April 07. This change is due to the closure of the Mansfield Leisure Centre. For further info visit [www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk](http://www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk)

The **Hill Top Inn** at **Belper** reopened on the 16th December, looking very smart and comfortable after extensive refurbishment. Ales on offer are Olde Trip 4.3% at £2.30, Rocking Rudolph 5% at £2.50, Greene King Abbot 5% at £2.50 & Greene King IPA 3.6% at £2.30. Food is planned early in the new year, but Steve and Pauline are committed to keeping it as a pub with food, not a restaurant with a bar - Midshiresman

The **Foresters** at **Borrowash** is up for sale.

Roger, Frances and all the staff welcome you to the

### Old Oak Inn

176 Main Street  
Horsley Woodhouse  
DE7 6AW

\*\*\*\*\*

Weekdays 5 (4 Fri) – 11

Saturday 12 – 11

Sunday 12 – 10.30

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

## January 2007

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

**Ockbrook  
Derby  
01332 662378**

\*\*\*\*\*

**4 Cask Ales  
Constantly Available.  
Lunches Served  
Everyday 12.00 – 2.00  
Evening Meals  
Monday &  
Wednesday – Friday  
6.00 – 8.00**

Unconfirmed reports suggest that the former GBG listed **Thorn Tree** on Chesterfield Road **Belper** was sold in late December to a buyer apparently from Leicestershire, at the time of going to print it is thought the pub will remain open as a pub. We would like to take this opportunity to wish outgoing licensees Sue and Bob Starman, who will be leaving in February, good luck in the future.

Champions of Real Ale for **Ripley** Nigel & Mo have recently had Baz's Bonce Blower 12.0% on at the **Nags Head**. Meanwhile both Brock at £1.29 and regular Jaipur at £1.85 a pint from Thornbridge Hall have both been on at the **Red Lion Ripley**.

The **Vernon Arms** at **Spondon**, on a recent visit, had Hydes Jeckyll's Gold, Jennings Redbreast & Pedi. Meanwhile at the **Prince of Wales** at **Spondon** on the same day there was Bass, Pedi, Cotleigh Red Nosed Reinbeer 5% & Elgoods Snickalmas 5%.

Our first Friday Five pub-crawl of the New Year sees pick up on the postponed visit to pubs in **Ripley** and will take place on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January. We will be starting at Amber Ales Brewery in Hammersmith (Subject to Confirmation) at 7.30, then the George Inn on Lowes Hill, Prince of Wales, Nags Head, Red Lion, Hippodrome and finishing off at the Pear Tree at about 10pm. If you are unable to join us at the start call Billy on 07802 914832 to find out where we are - Billy

A new microbrewery is in the planning stages at the **Flowerpot**, Derby.

## Free Copy

Colin's "Brewery of the Month" for January at the **Cross Keys Belper** is back again with beers from Sharp's Brewery in Cornwall and includes Cornish Jack 3.8%, Doom Bar Bitter 4.0% Atlantic IPA 4.8% and Special 5.3%. Other attractions will be Castle Rock Hemlock 4.0%, Adnams Broadside 4.7%, B&T Shefford Bitter 3.8%, Bateman's Middle Wicket 4.2%.

We have been informed that an application for a change of use at the **Black Boy** at **Heage** has been refused.

Charisma reports that the **Woolpack** at **Shirland** is closed and boarded up.

The **Generous Briton** at **Ripley** and the **George** at **Lower Hartsay** are reported to have been taken over by the Admiral Pub Company.

Congratulations are once again in order for Kim and Jackie Beresford at the **Old Poets Corner, Ashover** as it was voted The Publican Magazine's 2<sup>nd</sup> best cask ale pub in Britain. 1<sup>st</sup> place went to the **Dove Street Inn** in Ipswich, whilst 3<sup>rd</sup> went to the **Three Judges** in Glasgow. Keep it up!

At 6.30 am on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2006, Alan Trowman, watched by the entire brewing staff, commenced the final mashing at the 174 year old Kimberley Brewery. The last beer to be brewed at the historic brewery was Kimberley Bitter. Once the process had commenced Martin Armstrong, Head Brewer, presented each member of the Brewing staff with a special commemorative glass to record the final brew and he joined Jonathan Webster, Managing Director, in thanking the staff for their years of service and professionalism.

Rumour has it that 2 former Hardy's & Hanson's employees are starting up a microbrewery in Kimberley and hope to be in production by April.

## Funfair Brewing Company

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

For further details contact Dave Tizard

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

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

Andrew, Dougie and staff welcome you to  
**THE MOSS COTTAGE HOTEL**  
Nottingham Road, Ripley.  
Tel: (01773) 742555.  
[info@mosscottagehotel.co.uk](mailto:info@mosscottagehotel.co.uk)

Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger,  
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plus up to 3 Guest Ales sourced from all  
over the UK.

Food available every day, 2 for £9 menu,  
2-4-1 Steak Night on Wednesday,  
2-4-1 Steak & Carvery on Thursday etc.  
14 En-Suite Rooms - AA 2 Star.  
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## A day out on the Penistone Line

On the morning of Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> Del Boy dropped Cassandra and I off at Derby train station just in time for us to meet up with Charisma and jump on the 10.07 to **Sheffield** (Charisma having got our tickets for us..he's a good 'un y'know). At Sheffield we met up with Shorty, Pac-a-mac and, our guide for the day, Bald Eagle, where we got our tickets for the Penistone Line before being led to the **Olde Queens Head**, which is just down the road from the station. This Thwaites pub had Bomber 4.4%, Original 3.6% & Good Elf 4.9% we all opted for the Good Elf, first Xmas beer of the year, and good it was too. We headed back to the station and got on the 11.37 to **Huddersfield**, which got us there at about 1.00 but it was one of the more enjoyable train rides I've been on, passing through some delightful countryside. Thankfully it wasn't far to the 1<sup>st</sup> pub at Huddersfield as the **Head of Steam** is on the station platform, how handy is that? This typically Victorian hostelry had Phoenix Rip Rap 4.1%, Bradfield Steelers 4.5%, Deuchars 3.8%, Camerons Strongarm 4%, Cottage Western Arches 4.3% & Southern Bitter 3.7%, Blacksheep Bitter 4.4% & Riggwelter 5.9%. As if that wasn't enough the next pub, the GBG listed **Station Tavern** is just a bit further down the same platform. This grade 1 listed pub (with a nice mosaic tiled floor) had Taylor Landlord 4.3% & Ram Tam 4.3%, Salamander Snake Charmer 4.8%, Pictish Brewers Gold 3.8%, Marble GSB 3.8%, Darkstar Hop Head 3.8%, Kelham Island Pale Rider 5.2% & Howard Town Wrens Nest 4.2%. We (sort of) got directions to our next port of call from some friendly locals but Bald Eagle decided a taxi would be better as it had begun to rain and it only cost us a quid each. The **Grove** (not the Globe...or the Grave) on Spring Grove Street is an up and coming real ale pub (it only opened in June) and well worth a visit it is too as we were treated to a choice from Taylor Golden Best 3.5% & Landlord, Allendale Golden Plover 4%, Wards Bitter 4%, Ringwood Forty Niner 4.9%, Heather Froach 4.1%, Ramsgate Dogbolter 5.6%, Adnams Explorer 4.3% & Highgate Old Ember 6.5% all served in lined glasses and reasonably priced at £1.90 - £2.30 it will be a welcome addition to the GBG next year. Next Stop was the GBG listed **Rat & Ratchet** on Chapel Hill, which we found with the aid of some locals, and this Ossett Brewery pub had Taylor Best Bitter 4% & Landlord, Boggart Dark Mild 4%, Elland Midnight Rider

4.4%, Phoenix Snow Bound 4.3%, Litton Goldcrest 3.6%, Moorhouse Pendle Witches Brew 5.1%, Daleside Blonde 3.9% & Ossett Excelsior 5.2%, Silver King 4.3%, Pale Gold 3.8% & Silver Link 4.6%. We met up with the two locals that had given us directions in the Station Tavern (we didn't tell them we got a taxi though) and they were on their way to our next stop, the **Star Inn** on Albert Street, so they escorted us, which was jolly decent of them. Here we were treated to another impressive choice of ales, which included Taylor Best, Tunnel Great Granny Hincks 4.3%, Pictish Brewers Gold, Milestone North Rock 4%, Allendale Golden Plover, Allgates Twist & Stout 4.5% & Reverend Ray 4.6%, Fugelestou Pacific Gem 4.8%, Roosters Nectar 4.1% & Isle of Mull Royal Regiment of Scotland 4.1% and if that wasn't enough there was another 46 odd beers in the beer festival situated in a marquee round the back. We met up with Bagpuss who had been in the beer festival for the best part of the day before being deserted, unannounced, by team leader and his cohorts who left us to fend for ourselves...charming. Fortunately for us Baggers knew the area and directed us to Lockwood station just in time to see our train pulling away. Due to everything going arse-up we decided to walk back to the **Lockwood** for a swift half of Thwaites Lancaster Bomber or Thoroughbred before getting some chips and heading back to the station for the next train. We also decided to omit our next planned stop at Berry Brow and go straight to **Chapel-town** and the GBG listed **Commercial** on station Road, this Wentworth Brewery pub had Oatmeal Stout 4.8%, Needles Eye 3.5%, WPA 4% & Bumble Beer 4.3%, Rudgate Top Up 3.9%, Ossett Ace of Spades 4.5% & Newby Wyke Lord Ancaster 4% and bugger me who should be in there? Shorty, Pac-a-mac & the solicitous (not!) Bald Eagle...what luck. Charisma, Bagpuss, Cassandra & I arrived

The Sinclair Family  
welcome you to the  
**Cross Keys**  
35 Market Place  
Belper  
DE56 1FZ  
Tel: 01773 599191  
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Featured "Brewery of the  
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back in Derby at 9.40-ish and called for a swift half in the **Alex** before going our separate ways all suitably impressed with what Huddersfield has to offer on the real ale front.

## Charisma & Loco's Black Country Tour

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of December a minibus containing Charisma, Loco, Bald Eagle, Pac-a-mac, Shorty, Dodgem, George, Busman, Don Pedro, 'Er in Doors, Cassandra & Myself departed Derby for a long awaited visit to the Black Country. This is what we got up to: **Somers Sports & Social Club-Halesowen**, Bathams Mild 3.8% & Bitter 4.3%, Olde Swan Original 3.5 & Bumble Hole 5.2%, Holdens Golden Glow 3.9%, Purity UBU 4.5%, Enville Ale 4.5% & York Bitter. Excellent selection, very accommodating (good sarnies) a shame the future looks so uncertain for this place. **Waggon & Horses-Halesowen**, Pictish Alchemists Ale 4.3, Kelham Island Pale Rider 5.2, BB Burton Porter 4.5%, Windsor Castle Thin Ice 4.5%, Oakham White Dwarf 4.3%, Kinver Pail Ale 4.4%, Purity Pure Gold 3.8%, Bathams Bitter 4.3%, Bank Top Dark Mild 4%, Bridge of Allen Lomond Gold 5%, Nottingham EPA 4.2%, Salopian Hop Twister 4.5% & Fat Cat Honey Cat 4.5%. Glad we didn't leave this pub til later due to the sloping floor and tables. **Hawne Tavern-Halesowen**, Pictish Quentzlacoatl 4.7% & Centennial 4.5%, Thornbridge Blackthorn 4.4%, Bank Top Dark Mild, Red Lion White Lion 4.3% & Chardonayle 5.1%, Bathams Bitter, Olde Swan Hung Drawn & Quartered 6%. A worthy late addition to the itinerary. **Windsor Castle-Lye**, Windsor Castle Jack's Ale 3.8%, Mild 4%, Worcester Sorcerer 4.3%, IPA 4.4%, White Fire 4.4% & Thin Ice & Teme Valley Mathon Goldings 4.1%. Not a GBG pub bit worth a visit as it is home to the Windsor Castle brewery. **Bull & Bladder-Brierley Hill**, Bathams Mild & Bitter. Only the 2 beers (brewed on the premises) but they are as outstanding as the pub...a classic. **Olde Swan (Ma Pardoe's)-Netherton**, Olde Swan Original, Dark Swan 4.2%, Entire 4.4%, Bumble Hole & Black Widow 6.7%. Another brewpub, another classic...nice ceiling. **Black Bear-Lower Gornal**, Oakham White Dwarf 4.3%, E&S Gold Rush 4.6%, Spitfire 4.5%, Abbeydale Absolution 5.3%, Shugborough Lordships Own 5%, Cottage Stephenson's Rocket 4.7% & Newby Wyke White Squall 4.8%. Small, comfortable & friendly local. **Fountain-Lower Gornal**, Enville Ale, RCH Pitchfork 4.3%, Old Hooky 4.6%, Abbot 5%, Tiger 4.2%, Abbeydale Advent 4.6%, Church End Cracker 5%, 3 Tuns Clerics Cure 5% & Northumberland Winter Gold 4.5%. Leeds 0 The Rams 1 good pub, great result. **Old Bulls Head Inn-Lower Gornal**, Black Country BFG 4.2%, Pig on the Wall 4.3%, Fireside 5%, English Winter Bitter 5.5% & Village Bull Bitter 4%. Home of the Black Country brewery, yes! Another brewpub! **Britannia (Sally's)-Upper Gornal**, Bathams Mild & Bitter. The lack in beer choice here is eclipsed by the character of this outstanding NI pub. **Jolly Crispin-Upper Gornal**, Phoenix Snow Bound 4.3%, York Guzzler 3.6%, Wentworth Fire Cracker 5.1%, Abbeydale Absolution & Advent, Titanic Crispy Nail 4.1%, Oakham Bishop's Farewell 4.6% & Castle Rock Partridge 4.8%. Good service, friendly atmosphere. **Mount Pleasant (Stump)-Sedgley**, Hobsons Town Crier 4.5%, Malvern Black Pear 4.4%, 3 Tuns Cleric's Cure, Kinver Dudley Bug 2%, RCH Pitchfork 4.3%,

Stumpy 4.7%, Double Header 5.3% & Firebox 6%. Nice basic bar and a comfy lounge. **Beacon Hotel-Sedgley**, Sarah Hughes Pale Amber 4%, Surprise Bitter 5%, Dark Ruby Mild 6% plus several guest beers. Having been in this excellent NI brewpub before I was far more interested in the chippy over the road...and good it was too! **Waggon & Horses-Tipton**, Coors Brew XI 3.8%, Archers Top Tipple 5%, Banks' Original 3.5%, Toll End Iron Master 4.5% & Tipton Pride 4.6%, Salopian Fox Ache 4% & Olde Swan Entire 4.4%. Bustling open plan pub. **Olde White Rose-Bilston**, Salopian Golden Thread 5%, Hopback Entire Stout 4.5%, Church End Santa's Blotto 5%, Coach House Flintlock Pale Ale 4.2%, Titanic Captain Smith's 5%, E&S IPA 6.5%, Kinver Kyber IPA 5.8% & Milestone Black Pearl 4.3%. Busy Town pub, good choice Dodgem. **Great Western-Wolverhampton**, Holdens Bitter 3.9%, Golden Glow 4.4%, Special 5.1% & Old Ale 7.2%. Far too late in the day to appreciate this pub. Well you can't say that the most wasn't made of the day, 16 pubs, a choice from 90 different beers and 1 throbbing headache. Well done to Charisma (the planner) and Loco (the navigator). When's the next trip?

## Brewery News

### Bottle Brook-Kilburn

The layout of the brewery has been altered with an upper floor going in to make it a tower style with the fermenting vessel on the upper floor feeding the conditioning tanks by gravity. The latest offerings from Bottle Brook are Shandy Belly 5.8%, Black Bess 7.3% & Turpins Tipple 4.5%.

### Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

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

Sunday night is "Jive night" at the **Nunsfield House Community Centre Alvaston** where Half Pint I had a pleasant surprise the other week to find that Dodgem was one of the guest beers available. Dive Bomber 4.6% was on at the **Red Lion Ripley** on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December when JK & I called in. More recently Cake Walk 6.0% and Brandy Snap have both been available. New seasonal beer "Tiz the Season to be Jolly" 5.0% is reported to be going down well at the **Observatory in Ilkeston**.

### Leadmill-Denby

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

Frosted Hops 4.3% is Richard's latest addition of to the Leadmill range.

### Ashover Brewery-Ashover

The trial brew has been put back until January as unforeseen circumstances have delayed brewing.

### Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> of November saw our walk start from the Dimminsdale car park near Staunton Harold Reservoir. We took the Ivanhoe Way via Worthington to Newbold from where we walked through Griffydym to **Peggs Green** and decided to re-visit the **New Inn**. Bass, Pedigree & Deuchars IPA were the beers available but what is lacking in beer selection is more than made up for in character in this pub, which is like a cross between Aladdin's cave and Steptoe's back

yard with all manner of paraphernalia on display. From there we walked down the road to **Swannington** where we called for a quick half of Bateman's XB in the **Robin Hood** (Pedi was the other ale available) before moving on to **Coleorton Moor**. Having been in the Kings Arms before we decided to call in the **Angel**, which wasn't one of our better ideas as this eaterie only had mediocre Pedi. Due to the shortness of the days we decided to take the road back (having our snap in a bus shelter) until we happened upon a path that brought us out right at the car.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of December saw our walk start from Middleton Top car park from where we walked down the High Peak Trail to Lea Bridge. From there we made our way up the Derwent Valley through Starkholmes and down to Matlock Bath. Now if any of you are planning to conquer Mount Everest I can recommend the route between Matlock Bath and Bonsall as good practice as it is interminably UPHILL! Arriving at **Bonsall** (suitably knackered and ready for a sit down) we called in the GBG listed **Kings Head** on Yeoman Street and enjoyed a pint of Batemans XB in friendly and comfortable surroundings, the other beer available was London Pride a 2<sup>nd</sup> Batemans clip (which I couldn't make out) was turned round. From there we made our way to the GBG listed **Barley Mow** on The Dale which had Hartington Bitter and Abbot available, the Whim was very palatable, though this is a "foody" pub it is friendly and full of character. Two more welcoming and comfortable pubs you couldn't wish to find in such a small village. We passed the long lost Pig of Lead in Via Gellia and the Duke of Wellington at Middleton by Wirksworth as we made our way back to the car just before it got dark. Starting a walk from the top of a hill is a bad idea.

On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> of December we were joined by Two Pints as we visited Hartington for our Christmas Stilton before, eventually, starting our walk from the car park at Sparklow near Monyash. We walked down the High Peak Trail towards Parsley Hay before heading, via Vincent House, to Pilsbury. We amused ourselves by kicking a battered old dog ball most of the way to Crowdecote. At **Earl Sterndale** we called in the GBG listed **Quiet Woman**, which had Jennings Dark Mild, Marstons Burton Bitter, Pedi & Christmas Ale 5.8% and a beer from Archers, the name of which escapes me, sadly there was no Owd Rodger. The beer was in good order, so were the pork pies and we caught the landlord on a good day...bonus, but unfortunately the band didn't turn up so Del had to go without his festive foot tapping.

## RuRAD Supporting Local Beer Festivals

Del Boy, Uncle Albert & I visited the **Old Oak Inn** at **Horsley Woodhouse** on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of December for the first night of their winter beer festival. A fine selection of ales were available which included Saltaire Aire Raiser 4.3%, Holdens Christmas Blaster 4.8%, Tollgate Red Star IPA 4.5%, Wentworth Rock Spalt 4.5%, Ossett Bah Humbug 5%, Loddon Jungle Juice 4.6%, Battledown Brigand 4.7%, Thornbridge Hark 4.8%, Oakham Oblivion 5.7%, & Mayfields Auntie Myrtles Premium Ale 5% to name but a few plus the usual offerings from Leadmill & Bottle Brook on the bar (I am assuming, I didn't actually go in the bar). Charisma also visited the festival (on the same night, only slightly earlier) and was suitably impressed with the fine selection of ales on offer. He sampled the Battlwdown Brigand 4.7%, Milestone Christmas Ruby 4.7%, Mayfields Auntie Myrtles Premium Ale 5% & Oakham Oblivion 5.7% whilst his better half (who was designated driver) tried Tring Side Pocket for a Toad 3.6% & Loddon Jungle Juice 4.6%. I also bumped into Dodgem who had also recovered sufficiently from the West Midlands trip to attend.

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of December I called in the **Babington Arms** to get away from the crowds of Christmas shoppers. The usual assortment was available along with 12 Festive beers, of which I tried Wyre Piddle Piddlemas 4.2%, Milestone Dasher the Flasher 4.5% & North Cotswold Blitzzen 6% before heading back into the throng.

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> of November our little group decided to embark on a Friday Five-ish around Ilkeston to coincide with the Ilford Beer Festival. We met up in the **Babington Arms in Derby** and sampled a few before catching the 7.15 Ilkeston flyer. On arrival in **Ilkeston** the bus was diverted due to the Christmas lights being switched on so we made the 15 minute walk to the **Dew Drop** where we found Landlord, Bishops Finger & Funfair Gallopers. Next we walked the short distance to the **Ilford Beer Festival** and found a good cross section of beers including Amber Ales, Skinners, Olde Swan, Thornbridge Hall, Hawkshead & Howard Town to name but a few. I tried the Olde Swan Original & Dark Star Hop Head before finishing off with Hawkshead Bitter but that was because the Thornbridge Hall Kipling had already sold out. A good festival always worth a look. Next we went to the **Durham Ox** where we found 4 ales, Greene King IPA & Old Speckled Hen, Everards Tiger & Harviestoun Bitter and Twisted. After a swift half it was on to the **Observatory**, which was packed, Pedigree, Abbot, a stout (the name of which I couldn't see) and Orbit were available. Next on the list was the **Poachers**, Nottingham EPA, Old Speckled Hen (our choice) London Pride had just gone. With time running out we just managed to fit the **Spanish Bar** in where we had Hartington IPA and a wheat beer from Milestone called Somers. We never got chance to visit the Needlemakers as we ran out of time. A good time was had by all with a good choice of real ales at reasonable prices and have you noticed we managed 6 pubs not 5? That's what happens when the ale flows well - Charisma

## Is this how to run a successful pub?

Is it unreasonable to expect to receive a pint that you are satisfied with? Apparently so at a certain pub in **West Hallam** where a "customer", who (as the pub in question) will remain nameless, requested a round of 4 pints to be topped up to his satisfaction only to be refused not just by the barmaid but by "the landlord" also. When payment was withheld a begrudged top up duly came. Later that night when "the customer" had left "the landlord" asked one of "the customers" friends to tell "the customer" that he was no longer welcome in "the landlords" pub as "the customers" persistent top up requests were costing "the landlord" a small fortune. Granted "the landlord" has now saved his small fortune on top ups but has lost a larger fortune not only on "the customers" patronage but also that of all "the customers" friends and associates. Is

it also common practice for "customers" to have to tell each other they are barred? Answers on a postcard please.

## Tweedle Dee's Last Minute Stocking Fillers

On Friday 22nd December, I paid a quick visit to the **Nags Head** in **Ripley** having been tipped-off that Baz's Bonce Blower from Parish Brewery was on sale. I was not disappointed and sampled a half - it took the best part of half-an-hour to drink it!!!

Amongst the many guest beers available at the **Moss Cottage** in **Ripley** recently have been Moorhouse's Santa's Piste 4.5% and Holland Santa's Clog 5%. Thornbridge

Baboushka 6.6% is in the cellar at the time of writing, along with Theakston Old Peculiar 5.6%.

On Wednesday 27th December, a hastily arranged trip was made to the **Anchor** at **Oakerthorpe** by The Old Man and The Tweedles, where we found the usual range of quality ales from Cropton Brewery available, which were all in fine form as usual. However, of particular interest to The Old Man was Old Goat, which weighed in at an impressive 8.0%!!

Recent visits to the **Red Lion** in **Ripley** have been very pleasant - there is usually at least ONE guest beer from a local micro - Funfair, Thornbridge etc. On our most recent visit (Tuesday 26th December), we tried Dave Tizard's latest offering from Funfair - Tiz the Season to be Jolly at 5.0%, which was very moreish.

## Proposed Trips

26<sup>th</sup> January Friday Five trip to Ripley starting at Amber Ales Brewery, Hammersmith, (TBC) at 7.30 and calling at George Inn, Prince of Wales, Nags Head, Red Lion, Hippodrome and Pear Tree. To join us on route or confirm the starting venue ring Billy on 07802 914832 to find out where we are.

## Beer Festival Diary - 3 Month Look Ahead

4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> January "Twelfth Night" 6<sup>th</sup> Derby Winter Beer Festival, Darwin Suite, Assembly Rooms, Market Place-Derby [www.derbycamra.org](http://www.derbycamra.org)

5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> January 4<sup>th</sup> Frodsham Winter Beer Fest, Church Hall, Church St, Frodsham 20 Ales

11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> January Winter Beer Fest, The Black Horse, Darwin, 40 Ales [www.theblackun.co.uk](http://www.theblackun.co.uk)

17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January National Winter Ales Festival, New Century Hall & Lancashire Suite, Century House, Corporation Street-Manchester

18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January Walsall Cricket Club 3<sup>rd</sup> Winter Beer Festival, Gorway Road-Walsall [www.walsallcricketclub.com](http://www.walsallcricketclub.com)

25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January Bury Beer Festival, Bury FC Social Club, Gigg Lane-Bury [www.fb-beerfestivals.co.uk](http://www.fb-beerfestivals.co.uk)

25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January 16<sup>th</sup> Bent and Bongs Beer Bash, Formby Hall, Alder Street-Atherton [www.bentnbongs.com](http://www.bentnbongs.com)

25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> January Winter Beer Festival, The Swan Inn, Chapel Street, Bignall End-Stoke on Trent. Featuring 10 strong winter ales

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

26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January Redditch Beer Festival Bridley Moor & Batchley Social Club, Bridley Moor Road-Redditch [Note change of dates and venue](#)

26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January 12<sup>th</sup> Burton Winter Beer Festival, Town Hall, King Edward Place-Burton on Trent

26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> January The Mallard 1<sup>st</sup> Winter Beer Festival, Train Station, Worksop. E-mail [themallard@supanet.com](mailto:themallard@supanet.com)

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February Magpies Beer Festival, Meadow Club, Notts County Football Club, Meadow Lane-Nottingham [Note change of dates](#)

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 3<sup>rd</sup> Pendle Beer Festival, The Municipality Hall, Albert Road, Colne [www.pendlebeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.pendlebeerfestival.co.uk)

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 7<sup>th</sup> Chelmsford Winter Beer Festival, Triangle Club, Essex County Council, Duke Street-Chelmsford

2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 12<sup>th</sup> Tewkesbury Winter Beer Festival, Watson Hall, Barton Street-Tewkesbury [www.tewkesburycamra.org.uk](http://www.tewkesburycamra.org.uk)

2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February Chesterfield Beer & Cider Festival, The Winding Wheel, Holywell Street-Chesterfield

Advanced tickets recommended for all sessions contact Pomegranate Theatre Box Office on 01246 345222 or [www.chesterfieldbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.chesterfieldbeerfestival.org.uk)

14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> February Liverpool Beer Festival, Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt, Brownlow Hill-Liverpool

16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> February Lichfield Winter Beer & Wine Festival, Guildhall-Lichfield

19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February Audley FC 6<sup>th</sup> Beer Festival, Audley FC, Old Road, Bignall End-Stoke on Trent

23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February 2<sup>nd</sup> "Febfest" Beer Festival, East Lancashire Railway, Bolton Street Station-Bury [www.east-lancs-rly.co.uk](http://www.east-lancs-rly.co.uk)

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March Bradford Beer Festival, Victoria Hall, Saltaire-Bradford [www.bradfordcamra.org.uk](http://www.bradfordcamra.org.uk)

1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March Booze on the Ouse Beer Festival, Priory Centre, Priory Lane-St Neots

2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 10<sup>th</sup> Bristol Beer Festival, The Brunel Shed, Temple Meads Station Approach-Bristol. Admission by advance ticket only.

14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March Leicester Beer Festival, Charotar Patidar Samaj, St Margarets Way-Leicester [www.camra.org.uk/leicester](http://www.camra.org.uk/leicester)

15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March Darlington Spring Thing Festival, Arts Centre, Vane Terrace-Darlington

15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March Leeds Beer, Cider & Perry Festival, Pudsey Civic Hall, Dawsons Corner, Stanningley-Pudsey [www.leedsbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.leedsbeerfestival.co.uk)

22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March 20<sup>th</sup> Wigan Beer Festival, Robin Park Indoor Sports Centre, Loire Drive, (opp JJB Stadium) Wigan

29<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April Flowerpot Beer Festival, King Street-Derby

29<sup>th</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> April Mansfield Beer Festival, Mansfield Town FC Hospitality Suite, Quarry Lane-Mansfield [www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk](http://www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk)

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

Well that's all for this issue folks however if you have any information or news which could be included in a subsequent issue of "In the Sticks" please contact Charisma Bypass on 07974 171243 or e-mail: [uplonkerrodneym2006@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:uplonkerrodneym2006@yahoo.co.uk) by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the month.

## Edited by Rodders

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Charisma Bypass, Billy One Mate, Two Gallon Man, Sooty, Julian Tubbs, Andrew Ludlow-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.