



RuRAD Rural Real Ale Drinkers

In The Sticks

November 2005

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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 reading it.

If you want to receive a copy electronically 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 51 pubs in 31 different locations, 4 Breweries and 21 Beer Festivals.

Beer and Pub News

The **Grapes in Belper** has been awarded the Cask Marque, something Jonathan Kriek and I can confirm judging by the quality of the Black Sheep Special on Friday 28th October.

The **Fox & Hounds Coxbench** was noted boarded up on Saturday 5th November.

Fullers London Pride has replaced Bass as the Regular at **Denby Lodge**.

Hardys & Hansons William Clark has been appearing on a regular basis at the **Black Swan** in **Crich**.

Jean and John at the GBG listed **Anchor Oakerthorpe** have introduced a unique larger to compliment their excellent range of Cropton beers. An independent brewery in Holland is now supplying a very nice lager which John is very proud of, this being Hottenkoas Blond 4.8% which is nothing like the bog standard larger that everyone thinks of and is well worth a try.

Half Pint called in at **Lumb Farm Marehay** for a belly-dancing bash earlier this month to find Old Speckled Hen 5.2% at £2.40 a pint.

On at the **Hunters Arms Kilburn** recently were Marstons Pedigree 4.5% and Deuchars IPA 3.8%.

The **Bold Forester** in **Mansfield** has been presented with the Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA Pub of the Year award - the presentation visit coincided with the 7th Winter Beer Festival, where up to 30 different beers were available each day!!

On at the **Royal Oak South Normanton** recently were Taylors Landlord 4.3%, Old Speckled Hen 5.2% and two from the Anglo Dutch Brewery Half Nelson 5.0% and Ghost on the Rim 4.5%.

A foray into Duffield on Saturday 29th October found regulars Bass and Pedigree with guest Taylors Landlord at £2.40 on at the **White Hart** whilst the **Pattern Makers** had Bass, Pedigree and Deuchars IPA at £2.30 as the regulars with Jennings Cumberland Ale as the guest together with Westons Old Rosie cider.

Charisma and the Eagle called in at Hardys & Hansons **Gallery Bar** on the main High Street in **Eastwood**. After negotiating the doorway technicians they found a large green bar area with no real ale and promptly left.

Tweedle Dumb reports that the **Railway Hotel** in **Alfreton** has been demolished.

On at the **Thorn Tree Belper** on Saturday 5th November were Greene King IPA, Abbot Ale, Ruddles County and Fullers London Pride. Half Pint, Jonathan Kriek and I all tried the London Pride at £2.20 a pint.

The Bald Eagle recently visited the **George Inn Ripley** at the end of October to find Tower Pale Ale 4.8%, Cottage Howling, Cottage Evening Star and Back Street Heroes 4.8% from Freeminer.

Chesterfield CAMRA has voted the **Old Poets Corner, Ashover** as their Winter Pub of the Season. Kim and Jackie Beresford have completed the purchase of the freehold - they intend to develop the Bed & Breakfast side of the business first, with plans to start brewing by early next year hopefully.

The Tram Inspector visited the model railway exhibitions in Wirksworth on Sunday 23rd October. This was spread over three locations. In the Town Hall, they had a cask ale sat on the bar top with the beer served through a hand pump. The barman advised that the beer was Oakhill Arizona, but I suspect that it was Phoenix Arizona: the taste and colour were right. They get their beer through a dealer so you never know what will turn up.

Colin's "Brewery of the Month" for this month at the **Cross Keys Belper** continues with beers from the Wooden Hand Brewery in Truro Cornwall and includes Smugglers Gold 3.6%, Black Pearl 4.0% and Cornish Buccaneer 4.3%.

Other attractions for the month are Elgood's Barleymead 4.8%, Derby Deliciously Dark 4.2%, Titanic Anchor 4.1%, Crouch Vale Brewers Gold 4.0%, Clarks Classic Blonde 3.9% and Marstons Owd Roger 7.6%.

Half Pint, Jonathan Kriek, Tweedle Dee and I were treated to a sneak preview of Bateman's Victory Ale 5.9% straight from the cellar and prior to it being available as part of Colin's Beer festival-a fine drop it was too!!!!

A report on the ROYAL OAK BEER FEST

Thursday 6th of October saw the start of the annual beer festival at the **Royal Oak at Ockbrook** and as usual it was another roaring success (or as Steve would say "steady"). The theme this year (if you don't already know) was beers from Cumbria with at least a couple of brews from 13 breweries: Barnegates, Bitter End, Foxfield, Great Gable, Hawshead & Tirril to name but a few. Unfortunately Loweswater & Abraham Thompson was unwilling to provide any beer and Beckstones didn't materialize. Thursday evening saw a good turn out from the RuRAD contingent and from our friends at Derby Camra, which was nice to see. Friday evening was very busy and saw the first beer, Coniston Bluebird, to be finished, closely followed by Dent Kamikaze & Coniston Old Man Ale. The pub was open all day on Saturday for all those who wanted to watch the England world cup qualifier; personally I didn't want anything to spoil the beer experience. The evening session was quite busy and the beers where finished off at a steady rate and by Sunday morning only 5 beers were left which were finished off at discounted prices. All in all it was another great fest so I think thanks should go to Del Boy, Pedro & Big J for setting up the barrels, Steady Steve for making it all happen & Olive, Jean, Sally & all the staff for just being nice people. Now let's look forward to next year's festival, 5th -8th of October, featuring beers from Norfolk.-Rodders.

Brewery News

Leadmill-Denby

www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

The Bottlebrook Brewery in Kilburn now looks likely to happen at the end of November. The bottling plant supplied by the Leek Brewery due to arrive before Christmas.

Richard and Julie, have a new addition to their family - a son, Harry, who was born on 26th October at home. Richard and Sister Tracy carried out the delivery agreeing that a career change is not on the cards and will continue concentrate on brewing fine ales!!

It is hoped that the **Stables Bar Denby** will be opening on Thursday evenings in the near future, to give everybody an extra opportunity to sample the beers.

Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

www.funfairbrewingcompany.com

Funfair beers now appear on a regular basis in pubs in our area including the **Old Mail House in Ilkeston**, the **Old Poets Corner Ashover**, the **George & Dragon Belper** and the **Old Oak in Horsley Woodhouse**, as well as the **Observatory in Ilkeston** and the **Babington Arms in Derby** following deals struck with Wetherspoons.

Future plans include increasing the size of the brewing plant to 10 barrels, which will mean relocating the brewery to another site in Ilkeston.

New beers in the pipe line include Christmas Cake Walk at 6.5% and Pop Corn with an ABV in the mid 4% region and will be a lager malt pale bitter.

Royal Pale 3.8% is brewed specially for the **Mail House in Ilkeston**.

Danelaw-Chellaston

www.danelawbrewery.co.uk

Danelaw recently had three different ales on at Nottingham Beer Festival, a record for them so far.

The lads brewed a new beer at the end of October, which is a pale ale at 5.0% and called "Revered" in remembrance of the war heroes. The **Durham Ox** on Burton Road **Derby** seems to be a regular cheap Danelaw outlet at the moment, similarly the **Babington Arms**.

Falstaff-Normanton

www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk

News from Curad HQ is that Fist Full of Hops 4.5% was recently voted best beer at the Oxford Beer Festival. Cleopatra's Asp 4.5% has on offer at the **Durham Ox in Derby**.

Visit Reports

Jedediah's Trip to Norwich

In September 2005 I took a trip to **Norwich** with the intention of visiting as many of the GBG listed pubs that I could in one evening. My journey started at the railway station. Turning right and right again I went up Thorpe Road to the **Coach & Horses**. It's barely five minutes' walk, and how better than to start in an excellent brewpub. This is the home of the Chalk Hill Brewery, and I enjoyed a pint of their Best (4.2%), a bargain at £1.80. Others Chalk Hill beers available included Tap Bitter (3.6%), Dreadnought (4.9%), the hefty Flintknapper's Mild (5%) and Old Tackle (5.6%). The pub has modern "alehouse" décor, with wooden beams and floorboards, and you can also see the brewery.

I left the pub through the back door - by a very pleasant outdoor drinking area - and found myself on Rosary Road. I turned left and walked for about a minute to the **Rosary**. This is a lively and comfortable community pub, with a backstreet rather than city centre atmosphere. It is a free house with a good selection of beers, including Caledonian Deuchars IPA (3.8%), Black Sheep Best (3.8%), Fullers London Pride (4.1%), Gales Summer Hog (3.8%) and Burton Bridge Summer Ale, but I chose the local Icen Roisin Dubh (*spelling correct*) at £2.30.

I then continued down Rosary Road to Riverside Road. I crossed the River Wensum by footbridge, following the footpath keeping the Cathedral on my left and the river on my right. Finally, I crossed Whitefriars and found myself at St Martin's at Palace Plain, identified by St Martin's Church and the Bishop's Palace.

The **Wig & Pen**, so-called because of its proximity to the magistrates' court, also identified it. This is another freehouse, popular with all ages and offering a more unusual selection of beers, so I stopped for two! Beers on offer included Nethergate's Crossborder (4.1%) and Woodforde's Wherry (3.8%), but I opted for Blackfriars Sygnet Gold (£2.10, 3.8%) and their regular Buffy's Hopleaf (£2.60, 4.5%).

Leaving the pub I turned right and walked to the river. I then took the riverside walk on the left until I reached Wensum Street. There I found the **Ribs of Beef**. This old freehouse offered about six beers, and I enjoyed a Mauldens Suffolk Pride (4.8%) at £2.60.

I then walked up Wensum Street away from the river until I reached Tombland that, despite its name, is a lively area with pubs and clubs targeting the young. I found Pottergate on my right, and started walking down this narrow road. It starts as an ordinary little

road, becomes pedestrianised and eventually a footpath with an underpass by which to cross the ring road. I continued along this increasingly unpromising walk and after about half a mile emerged in West Pottergate at its junction with Earlham Road. I then turned sharp right into Heigham Road. Shortly I found Stafford Street on the left and, turning into it, saw the **Alexandra Tavern** on the right. This is a welcoming corner house offering Adnams Bitter (3.7%), Nethergate Swallow and the delicious Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild (6%), but I kept to the local brew and enjoyed Chalk Hill Tap Bitter at a bargain £1.80.

Returning to Heigham Road I turned left and continued over the Dereham Road to Old Palace Road. Soon I found West End Street on the left, and down it Britain's No.1 Pub - CAMRA National Pub of the Year - the **Fat Cat**. With 25 beers on offer, some on handpull and some on gravity, the list is too long to give here - a permanent festival, including a first class range of pressurised and bottled continental beers. The pub is almost a one roomer, with a single bar and what were several rooms now connected but cleverly divided into distinct drinking areas. It was packed, as one might expect, with both merry customers and breweriana. I enjoyed a Woodforde's Wherry at £2.10 and a St Peter's Golden Ale (4.7%) at £2.30.

Leaving the pub by the corner door I crossed West End Street into Nelson Street. After a short walk I reached the **Nelson** on the right. This is a pleasant suburban community pub and on my visit offered Woodforde's Wherry, Goff's White Knight (4.7%), Coach House Summer Sizzler (4.2%) and Wychwood Hobgoblin (5%). Thinking I was due one, I had a Deuchars IPA at £2.30. Basically, this is an excellent pub deserving its place in the GBG, but it is somewhat in the shadow of the Fat Cat and rather quieter. As my evening was drawing to an end decided to forego the remaining GBG listed pubs and returned to the National Pub of the Year to pass the remaining minutes until closing time.

Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

On Sunday 16th October Del Boy & I, along with Uncle Albert, started our walk from Ticknall. We walked through **Smisby**, far too early to call in at the **Smisby Arms**, skirted Blackfordby and arrived at **Woodville** where we visited the 2006 GBG listed **Nelson Inn** on High Street. There were 2 ales available Marstons Pedigree 4.5% and the guest was Greene King Ruddles County 4.3% at £2.10, which we all tried (and which wasn't the best I've ever had). From there it was a short walk to Hartshorne where we opted not to go in the first pub we saw, we couldn't see what it was called but it looked like an eatery, and headed

up to the A514. What a good decision that turned out to be as we came upon **The Admiral Rodney Inn** (an admirable name for a pub even if I do say so myself) on Main Street. Here we were treated to a choice of 4 real ales, **Marstons Pedigree** which is the regular, **Hop Back Summer Lightning** 5.0% which is a semi-regular due to its popularity and the guest beers were **Archers Golden** 4.7% & **Milestone Crusader** 4.2% (which went off and was replaced by **Wentworth Bumble Beer** 4.3%) we tried the **Archers** (£2.30) and nice it was too. There was a list of 13 guest ales for October, which included **Hampshire Pendragon** 4.8%, **Tom Wood Lincolnshire Longwool** 4.4%, **Ossett Fine Fettle** 4.8%, **Roosters Scorcher** 4.3% & **Springhead Leveler** 4.8%. Unfortunately we could only stop for one so we headed back to **Ticknall** discussing the reasons as to why such a good real ale pub isn't in the GBG. The English summer made a welcome if somewhat brief return this afternoon, could it be the last?

The Ex Adman Column

This month we go to **York**, and a real gem of a pub, the **Golden Ball**. There has been a pub on this site for in excess of 200 years, but the current layout is largely due to a 1929 refurbishment on behalf of **John Smiths Brewery**. The pub comprises four rooms, a **Public Bar** which, unusually, is tucked away at the back and has no entrance from the street, a lounge which is a survivor from the Victorian era and was left unaltered during the 1929 refurbishment, a corner alcove and a new room, formerly living accommodation, which has been tastefully fitted out in keeping with the rest of the pub. Delightful cream orange tiles abound in the now - defunct off license and the survery in the public bar. The exterior glazed tiles and brickwork feature the names of both the Brewery and the pub. For summer visitors, the pub has an outside beer garden. The **Golden Ball** is located on **Cromwell Road**, within easy walking distance of **York Railway Station**, and is open 4 - 11 Monday - Thursday, 12 - 11 Friday and Saturday and 12 - 1030 Sundays, subject to change of course with the forthcoming change in legal opening hours. Beers on offer include **Deuchars IPA**, **Pedigree**, **John Smiths Bitter** and **Magnet**, plus guest beers. All in all, a pub well worth visiting on any trip to the area.

Old Boy, Old Girl and Funkeltrumpet with Winston and Nelson in North Devon.

For many years we have been regular visitors to **Woolacombe** on the North Devon coast and during that time we have visited most of the hostelrys in the area so on this visit we felt that a brief report would be appropriate. We must point out that, as most people will be aware that North Devon is a very popular destination for tourists and in peak season

it can be difficult to get into one of the more popular pubs let alone get a drink. For that reason we tend to go out of season when there is hardly a grockle * to be seen.

10th October

Captain Jacks Woolacombe

St Austell Tribute 4.2% and **St Austell HSD** 5.0%.

Pleasant welcoming atmosphere, lots of old pews and settles, music a bit loud.

11th October

The Ship Aground Morteheo

Greene King Abbot Ale 5.0%, **Cotliegh Barn Owl** 3.8% and **St Austell Dartmoor** 3.9%.

Used to be quite "Olde worldy" but has gone the way of most pubs in the area now catering mostly for diners.

Beer in good order though and prompt service.

12th October

The Golden Hind, Beach Road Woolacombe

The "locals local" with a friendly atmosphere, good food and music not too invasive.

Sharps Doom Bar 4.0%, **Cotliegh 25** 4.0% and **Sharps Atlantic IPA** 4.8% -Excellent beer.

14th October

The Red Barn, right on the sea front

Woolacombe

Friday evening quite busy for the time of year.

Dining area very popular with tourists, food is excellent. Big portions and good value.

Whole building is adorned with surf boards and surfing stuff. Popular with regular tourists and surfing dudes alike.

St Austell Tribute 4.2%, **HSD** 5.0%, **Dartmoor** 3.9% and **Admirals Ale**. Ale in good order.

15th October

The Jube Woolacombe

Known for years as the **Jubilee**, now more like a transplant from **Blackpool**.

Not our cup of tea-walk on! Back to the **Golden Hind**.

* Local term for anyone outside the West Country.

Trigger & Cassandra report that on Thursday

27th October the **Hole in the wall**, **Regent Street Long Eaton**, had **Nottingham Rock Ale Bitter** 3.8% £1.95, **Rudgate Autumn Day** 4.2 £2.20 & **Fierce Freki** 4.4 £2.30, **Bass** 4.4% 2.15 and **Old Rosie cider** 7.3% £2.30.

Forthcoming beers include **Milestone Lion's Pride** 3.8% £1.95 and **Nottingham Legend** 4.0% £2.00.

In support of local beer festivals **Charisma** and **Bald Eagle** called in at the 1st ever beer festival at the **Dixies Arms** in **Lower Bagthorpe**.

The pub usually has 3 real ales on (2 regulars and 1 guest) which on this occasion were supplemented by 21 other beers and 2 ciders in the function room at the rear of the pub.

There was a barbecue outside and cobs on the bar.

Most beer tastes were catered for; a mild, **Chocolate Clog** from **Holland, Kimberley**, **Bitters** from various breweries; **Maypole**, **Broadstone, RCH** and **Oakham**: **Wheat beers** **Oakham White Dwarf** and **Raspberry Wheat** from **Iceni**; **Black beers** **Broadstone Black Abbot**, **Street Organ Porter** from **Kimberley**; **Cask Lagers** **Harviestoun Schiehallion** and **Mallard Feather Light** plus two beers from a new brewery in **Warwickshire** called **Tunnel** these being **Trade Winds** and **Fields of Gold**. Several people commented that they were enjoying the festival and the choice; both **Charisma** and I were very impressed, congratulations go to all involved-Brilliant!!!

Midshiresman spent a dirty weekend in **Bristol** (under an HST) didn't get much chance to crawl the pubs, but we stayed in the **Jury's Hotel** on **Prince Street**.

Next door (ish) is the **Shakespeare**, which I can definitely recommend; the beers available were **Abbot** 5.0% at £2.35 **Speckled Hen** 5.2% at £2.40, **Greene King IPA** 3.6%, **Ruddles County** 4.3%!! at too happy to care a pint.

(Sure this used to be 4.8ish wasn't it?)
The **Town** pubs are a bit noisy at the weekend, but this one's quite close (5 mins) to **Temple Meads** and really worth the effort.

On Sunday morning, there appears to be some kind of market along the waterfront, but we hadn't got time to explore due to a pressing engagement with an effluent pipe.

Bigfoz's travels with his Dad

6th October 2005

Royal Oak, Watnall, Nottinghamshire

Hardys & Hansons Kimberley Bitter, **Olde Trip**, **William Clarke**

Dad says: where's this beer festival, then?

BigFoz says: that was last week, dad.

Dad says: when you get to my age, every day seems the same.

BigFoz says: when you get to your age, every day is the same.

13th October 2005

Fox and Hounds, Blidworth Bottoms, Nottinghamshire

Hardys & Hansons Kimberley Bitter, **Olde Trip**, **Guzzlin' Goose**

Dad says: they've done a nice job of modernising this.

BigFoz says: It's as it should be: a lounge for the posh folk and a bar for...

Dad says: ...us.

17th October 2005

Rising Sun, Middleton-by-Wirksworth Pedigree

BigFoz says: not much to say about this pub.

Dad says: At least it was open at lunchtime.

BigFoz says: And not packed out with middle-class rambles.

Dad says: always a plus point, that.

The Bear Inn and Hotel, Alderwasley
Black Sheep Bitter, Landlord, Pedigree, Bass, Old Speckled Hen
Dad says: didn't this place used to be called 'The Old Bear'?
BigFoz says: and what's this 'Helicopter Pad Available By Arrangement' on the business cards?
Dad says: Pretentious.
BigFoz says: Moi?

24th October 2005

Standing Order, George Street, Edinburgh
Deuchars, Caledonian 80/- Sulwath Black Galloway, Sulwath Cail Hill, Everards Tiger, Cairngorm Wildcat
BigFoz says: there's something to be said for Weatherspoons.
Dad says: when you come to a strange city and you know you can get a decent, cheap breakfast.
BigFoz says: that wasn't really what I was thinking of but it'll do.

Caledonian Ale, House Haymarket, Terrace Edinburgh
Stewart Edinburgh No3
Deuchars, Caledonian 80/-, Isle of Skye Black Guillain, Belhaven 80/-
BigFoz says: what an amazing place: atmosphere, people, food...and look at that ale.
Dad says: crystal.
BigFoz says: and yet it's not in the GBG.
Dad says: says a lot about that CAMRA.
BigFoz says: and maybe local politics.

25th October 2005

Oxford Bar, Young Street, Edinburgh
Stewart Edinburgh No3, Belhaven 80/-, Deuchars
Dad says: great place; great ale. Where's this Inspector Rebus, then?
BigFoz says: you haven't the faintest idea who he is, have you?
Dad says: no, not really. No.

26th October 2005

Barony Bar, Broughton Street, Edinburgh
Marston Wicked Witch, Greene King IPA, Caledonian 80/- McEwans 80/-
BigFoz says: this is a bit disappointing because it came highly recommended.
Dad says: ale's good, though...but I can't do this Sod-all-ko.
BigFoz says: that's because it's in *The Scotsman*.
Dad says: that'll explain it, then...because I'm English.

Cask & Barrel, Broughton Street, Edinburgh
Deuchars, St Peter Organic Best, Young's Special, Caledonian 80/- Vale Hadda's Autumn, Stewart Copper Cascade
Ichen Valley Engine Driver, Border Cowie, Harviestoun Bitter & Twisted
BigFoz says: this is better: better choice of beers; exactly same style of pub.
Dad says: I thought we were still in the same pub.

Proposed Trips

Saturday 26th November visit to GBG pubs in Leicester by train: Contact Charisma on 07974 171243 for further details.

Beer Festival Diary

13th to 14th November Blue Bell Beer Festival, Fossgate-York.
15th & 17th to 19th November Dudley Winter Ales Fayre, Dudley Concert Hall (Town Hall)-Dudley. www.dudleycamra.org.uk
17th to 19th November Cask & Cutler Beer Festival, Henry Street, Shalesmoor-Sheffield.
18th to 19th November Erewash Camra 10th Annual Beer Festival Sports Centre-Sandiacre www.erewash-camra.org
18th to 19th November 23rd Bury Beer Festival, The Met Arts Centre, Market Street-Bury. www.robcamra.org.uk
18th to 19th November Otley Beer Festival, Civic Centre Boroughgate-Otley.
21st to 27th November Babington Arms Dark Ales Festival-Derby.
24th to 27th November Ilford Club Beer Festival, Station Road-Ilkeston.
25th to 27th November Queens Head Beer Festival, Chesterfield Road-Belper. www.thequeenshead.net
25th to 27th November Olde White Rose Beer Festival, Lichfield Street-Bilston.
25th to 27th November Cropton Annual Beer Festival, New In-Cropton. www.croptonbrewery.co.uk
30th November to 4th December Star Winter Beer Festival-Huddersfield. www.thestarinn.info
8th to 11th December Suddaby's 10th Annual Beer Festival, Wheelgate-Malton.
9th to 10th December Out of the Vaults Beer Festival, King Street-Leicester. www.outofthevaults.com
9th to 11th December New Britannia Beer Festival, Heatley Street-Preston.
12th to 18th December Babington Arms Christmas Ales Festival-Derby.
15th to 18th December Old Oak Xmas Beer Festival-Horsley Woodhouse. www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk
6th to 7th January 2006 5th Derby Winter Beer Festival, Assembly Rooms-Derby. <http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/>
13th to 14th January 2006 1st Redditch Winter Ales Festival, Centre Point Ipsley Street-Redditch. www.redditchwaf.org.uk
18th to 21st January 2006 National Winter Ales Festival, New Century Hall, Corporation Street-Manchester. www.winteralesfestival.org.uk
27th to 28th January 2006 11th Winter Ales Festival, Town Hall Burton-on-Trent.

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

Edited by Billy One Mate

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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.