



RURAD In the Sticks

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

In the Sticks

December 2008

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.mansfieldcamra.org.uk/RuRAD.html>

Number Crunching

In this issue we bring you news of 55 pubs in 20 different locations, 7 Breweries and 16 Beer Festivals.

Beer and Pub News

Greg Duke is rumoured to have bought the Sir Charles Napier at Langley Mill

It has been reported that the Nags Head at Smalley is closed and boarded up

Interest has been shown in the Jolly Colliers at Waingroves, lets hope it is the first step on the road to reopening the pub. We will keep you informed of any further developments

The Tavern at Belper is now having Derby Brewery beers

At the White Post, Stanley Common the guest beers on November 22nd were Northumberland Sheepdog, Funfair Blueberry Stout & Funfair Chaos which were all sampled and well received along with the best pub food in the area

Davo reports that a recent visit to the Hand & Heart, Nottingham revealed a good range of beer including Milestone Loinheart, Nottingham Cock & Hoop, Absolution and Deuchars IPA, carved into the heart of Nottingham it is very ambient & jazzy and well worth a visit

Paul & Lyn welcome you to the

WHITE POST

Belper Rd, Stanley Common

Tel: 0115 930 0194

Opening Times: Mon 6 – 11,

Tue - Thur 12 – 3 & 6 – 11,

Fri & Sat 12 – 1am

Sun 12 – 11

4 Real Ales Inc. Guest Ales.

Home Cooked Traditional

Food From An

Award Winning Chef.

Curry & A Pint £5 – Monday,

Quiz Night – Tuesday.

Regular Live Entertainment

Saturday

The Royal Oak at Belper is still closed, whilst the Old Kings Head at Belper has a new landlord. The departed landlord is now reported to be running the Conservative Club

Congratulations go to the Standing Order and the Babington Arms in Derby for coming 1st and 3rd respectively of the top selling pubs during the JDW beer festival held between October 30th and November 16th in which over 700 pubs participated. Between the 2 they sold over 21,500 pints of real ale, justification I think for Wetherspoons to name Derby "Real Ale Capital of the Country"

The former Shoulder at Clay Cross is now an Indian restaurant and take-away called Zaiqa. It is due to open early this month

We reported last month that Michael at the Black Horse at Hulland Ward has dropped his beer prices to £2 a pint, well he's only gone and done it again!!! Selected beers are now only £1.80 a pint. Michael's atypical actions (with the help of RuRAD) attracted the attention of the Derby Evening Telegraph's Beer Hunter who also commented on the pubs omission from the GBG in a recent article. Still on the price front at the Corner Pin at Westwood beer is £2 a pint weekdays and Saturdays, before 7pm, and all day Sunday. The pub now plans to have 2 real ales on from local micros including Leadmill, Amber Ales and the new Blue Monkey Brewery from Ilkeston. Further plans are to have 3 hand pumps with 2 bitters and a mild being available. A beer festival is also planned for April 2009

Colin's guest beers for December at the Cross Keys Belper include Fugelstou Pride of Fulstow 4.5%, Bateman's Salem Porter 4.7%, Caledonian Elf Esteem 3.9% and Titanic Stuff it 4.4%. From the 12th December the twelve beers of Christmas will be Bateman's Rosy Nosey 4.9%, Black Hole Starry Night 4.4%, White Horse Rudolf the Red Nosed White Horse 4.8%, Riverside Good Swill 5.8%, Clarkes Top O' Tree 4%, Harviestoun Sno' Balls 4.5%, Hook Norton 12 Days 5.5%, Leeds Christ Almighty 4.5%, Mauldons Bah Humbug 4.9%, Phoenix Xmas Kiss 4.5%, Mauldons Micawber Mild 3.5% and Osset Treacle Stout 5%

The White Hart at Bargate has now reopened with Andy & Zoe at the helm. Families and dogs are welcome and food and Sunday lunches will be available shortly. We look forward to receiving more news as they get settled in

The Red Lion at Hollington is reported to have closed at the beginning of November

The Punchbowl at West Hallam is now serving the guest beer from the jug

On Friday November 21st (having heard several favourable reports from one or two people) Charisma & Rodders decided to have a run out to Ilkeston to see how the Good Old Days (formerly the Ilford) was coming along under its new stewardship. Some bad timing meant that it was yet to open when we got there so we called in the Dew Drop, here there was Derventio Venus, Taylor Best Bitter, Cottage Full Steam Ahead, Oakham Bishops Farewell and Castle Rock Harvest Pale-Venus and Full Steam were in good order. One of the locals (we'd spoken to at the Needlemakers beer festival) recommended we try the Hawse Buckler 5.6%, a dark bottled beer from Oakham, which was on sale behind the bar. At £1.20 a bottle, as it was slightly out of date, it was very, very drinkable. When we got to the Good Old Days we found Crouch Vale Brewers Gold, Hydes Owd Bill and Oakham Inferno on the bar and all sampled were in excellent form. Charisma revisited the Dew Drop the following day for a tasting session of a new Blue Monkey test brew. The beer was on sale at £2 a pint with all proceeds going to charity and was a 4.5% light in colour, sharp, dry & bitter not particularly to his taste but nothing wrong with it. There was a notepad on the bar where people could write their comments providing the brewer with useful feedback. John the landlord informed our man that there is a function room available for meetings with sandwiches provided alongside the excellent ales

Clare welcomes you to the
PATTENMAKERS ARMS

4 Crown Street Duffield

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4 Real Ales Available

Bass, Pedigree & Landlord plus up to 2
guest beers from the SIBA list
Home cooked food available at
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Friday – Meat Raffle

Sunday – Quiz Night

12 – 2, 5 – 12 Mon – Thu

Fri, Sat & Sun Open All Day

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www.oldoakinn.mainstreet@virgin.net

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Sat 12 – 11, Sun 12 – 10.30

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

Beer Festival 18th to 21st December

Brewery News

Bottle Brook-Kilburn

After sorting out the floor the brewery has sprung into action with 6 new beers. Dark Oak 3.6% (lovely- Ed), Louisiana Smoked Porter 5.6% and Road Runner 4.8% alongside 3 that are yet to be named

Derby Brewing Co-Derby

www.derbybrewing.co.uk

New Derby Brewing beers that have been noted at the **Brewery Tap** recently have been Spookylicious 4.3% for Halloween, Instinctively Pale 4.3% and Blonde Fantasy 4.5%

Falstaff-Derby

www.falstaffbrewery.co.uk

The Latest beers in the Dr Who series that have all featured at the **Babington Arms** in Derby have been Eccleston 4.7%, Anne Droid 4.3% and Doctors Daughter 4.1%

Funfair Brewing Co-Ilkeston

www.funfairbrewingcompany.co.uk

sales@funfairbrewingcompany.co.uk

A new Christmas beer is planned and will be a 4.5% clear wheat beer called Matterhorn

Headless-Derby

Lol at the Headless Brewery has brewed a 4.5% Stout that should be available during the early part of December up until Christmas and the new year, on the bar recently there has been Headless 5 Gates 5%, Ebenezer 6% and the regular beers King Street and First Bloom

Leadmill-Derby

www.leadmillbrewery.co.uk

tlc@leadmill.net

2 new beers were brewed for Halloween, Witches Brew 4.2% and Pumpkin Ale 4.6% also the first 3 beers that Richard brewed, Rolling Thunder, Ingot & Apocalypse Now all reappeared in November. Old Oak Bitter has also reappeared after a long absence due to a lack of hops

Wirksworth-Wirksworth

Following a lot of local interest Wirksworth Brewery have all their regular beers available in 4.5 Gallon casks. The pins contain 36 pints and are

ideal for any party over the winter period. They come with full instructions and everything needed to provide real ale to your home. Cruckbeam 3.9%, First Brew 4.2%, Sunbeam 4% and T'Owd Man 4.9% are all available in the smaller casks or the standard 9 gallon casks. For full details contact Jeff Green 01629 824011 or visit the website www.wirksworthbrewery.co.uk

Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles

On Sunday 16th of November Del Boy and I started our walk from the little village of South Croxton in Leicestershire. We took the path that followed Queniborough Brook (after a fashion) as it wended its meandering course between our start point and it's namesake. We'd driven through **Queniborough** on the way so we knew where the **GBG Britannia** was and found M&B Brew XI, Landlord, Blacksheep Bitter and Titanic Anchor to be available. We both went for the latter and it was one of those that lingers bitterly on the palate, much to our despair, a nice pub though (some of the local were playing dominoes, which becoming increasingly rare). From there we made our way to **Syston** where we called in the **GBG Queen Victoria** on Main St, which we came upon just as I was thinking we were walking in the wrong direction. This Everards pub had Beacon, Tiger, Sunchaser and GK Old Speckled Hen, we went for the Tiger (got to get into training for next years beer festival at the Oak) and it wasn't the best I've ever had. We thought it unusual that in a place the size of Syston we only saw 2 pubs...in hind sight, what with the current trends, maybe it's not unusual...we know a song about that don't we? With a hat trick of **GBG** pubs in our sights we made for **Barkby** and the **Brookside**, unsurprisingly on Brookside (deedoodoedon'tdee) and we had a choice from Jennings Bitter, Pedi and Hobgoblin. Again the latter was chosen and again better has been had though this pub has plenty of character to distract from the prosaic beer selection. On the way back Del attracted the attention of a load of Bullocks (no, it's true) and as we were walking back down the road to the car we noticed the sign for the village had been mischievously truncated to read "SOUTH CROXTON PLEASE REDUCE OUR PEE". An amusing note on which to end the day!

On the wintry morning of Sunday 23rd of November, with the remnants of snow showers slowly being washed away by the rain (now there's a surprise), we headed off to start our walk from the Derbyshire village of Bonsall. We walked up the road, passing the super Barley Mow, to Upper Town, and headed off towards Wensley. While we were having a cup of coffee another shower moved in so the planned route to Darley Bridge was shelved and we headed to Matlock via Snitterton (mind you the shower passed

surprisingly quickly). On arrival in **Matlock** we had a seemingly interminable trudge up Bank St to Smedley St and up Smith Rd to Jackson Rd and the **GBG Thorn Tree Inn**. One of the locals, who was outside having a smoke, said we'd picked a good pub, I said "it's a shame it's not at the bottom of the hill!" he was right too with Bass, Landlord, Blacksheep Bitter, GK Morland Original, Ruddles Best, Ridley's Witchfinder Porter and Exmoor Ale available. The Ridley's and Exmoor were sampled and were in good order and that along with the locals playing dominoes and the comely "little miss trouble" pulling the pints all went to making it an altogether pleasurable experience. Well worth the exertion. We retraced our steps (with gravity on our side) back down to the A6 where we experienced a first for a Sunday walk - we went in a Wetherspoons pub, the **Crown** on Bakewell Rd to be precise. There looked to be 12 ales on offer but on closer inspection Wirksworth First Brew & Towd Man and Exmoor Wildcat were "coming soon" (damned disappointing), GK IPA, Pedi & Abbot had 2 pumps each (pointless), which left Purity Pure UBU, O'Hanlons Goldblade and Cotleigh Honey Buzzard to choose from. The Purity and O'Hanlons were chosen and were quite acceptable, though with Del Boy not being a regular "spoons" visitor he thought there'd been a mistake when he was only charged £3.65, he got the cheap round again the jammy git! From there we got on to the Limestone Way and got back to the car just before it started to rain again

Derek & Staff welcome you to the PRINCE OF WALES

Butterley Hill, Ripley

4 Real Ales Available inc. Marstons Pedigree & Taylor Landlord. Beers for December are Brains Rev James 4.3%, Wadworth Old Timer 5.8%, Hydes Rockin' Robin 4.6%, Robinson Mr. Scrooge Humbug Bitter 4.4%, Marston Ugly Sisters 4.5% and more.

Darts, Dominoes & Pool etc

SKY & SETANTA SPORTS

Quiz Night Thurs. Dog Friendly.

Open from 5pm Mon – Fri

Open All Day Sat & Sun

"Often Copied, Never Beaten"

RuRAD Supporting Local Beer Festivals

Straight after work on Friday 14th of November Del Boy dropped me off at Derby train station where I got a Derbyshire Wayfarer and headed off to **Sheffield** on the 5.06. I arrived about 10 minutes late due to a hold up at Chesterfield and set about finding the **GBG Wig & Pen** on Campo St, which I did (relatively easily) but more by luck than judgment. Wandering in roughly the right direction and cutting down past the cathedral. There were quite a few people in, I think most had just finished work, and there was Acorn Crackerjack, Abbeydale Daily Bread and Milestone Raspberry Wheat available, I went for the Abbeydale...well, when in Sheffield! The real reason for this visit was the beer festival at the **GBG Harlequin** on Nursery St, where I arranged to meet Charisma & 2 Gallon Man (who'd been out

since lunchtime with Sooty). The SERIUOS drinkers (along with BabingTom & BabingJohn) had already paid a visit to the beer festival before moving on to the **Riverside, Fat Cat, Kelham Island Tavern, Wellington, Hillsborough Hotel and University Arms**. We all visited the last festival here and were so impressed (you may have read the write up) we vowed a return visit a must. So here we were, minus Sooty and Co who'd got more ticks elsewhere. There were 42 beers on the list including beers from 31 different breweries with 17 available at any one time on the bar of which I tried Mill Green Lovely's Fair 4.2%, Leila's Cottage Leila's Ale 3.8%, Best Mates Scutchamers Knob 4.5% & Satans Sister 4.8%, Brass Monkey Golden Monkey 3.8%, Prospect Clementine 3.6%, Norfolk Square Winklepicker 5% and Tipples Crackle 6.5% and all were in good order, though the Winklepicker was a tad disappointing. With Charisma & 2 Gallon Man suitably lubricated we set off for the 9.00 train and some food. As last year the Hare & Hounds at the end of Nursery St is still empty and as last year 2 Gallon Man speculated acquiring it for the Leadmill estate ...remember, if it happens, you heard it here first. The chippy I passed on my way to the Wig & Pen was closed so it was a Burger King at the station but in the rush to get the train Charisma left his on the counter! - Ed

I called in at the **Cross Keys** beer festival at **Belper** on November 1st to find 12 real ales, 2 ciders and a perry to choose from. Black Country Pig on the Wall and Oakham Bishops Farewell had already sold out leaving Abbeydale Matins & Black Mass, Church End Gravediggers & Vicars Ruin, Durham Magus, Harviestoun 66.6 Number of the Beast, Brunswick Father Mike, Batemans XB, XXXB & Golden Keys and Bass - Charisma

I managed to find time in my busy schedule on Saturday morning to cycle to the **Needlemakers Arms** at **Ilkeston** for their 5th anniversary beer festival. This was a first for me as I missed last years and June's festival as I was in the Lake District-now there's a surprise. When I arrived I had a Thwaites Nutty Black, which was alongside Hanby Shropshire Stout, Harviestoun Bitter & Twisted and Goffs Joustier on the main bar, before going into the back room where Charlie was busy tending to the 12 beers and 2 ciders on a stillage. From the festival beers I tried Little Valley Hebdens Wheat 4.5%, Williams Joker 4.3%, Pot Belly Pigs do Fly 4.4% & Belvior Old Dalby 5.1% before finishing off on Shropshire Stout 4.4% from the bar. I got chatting to a chap who was extolling the virtues of our humble newsletter, which was nice. While I was there Charisma turned up, I'd reminded him about it the night before...we must stop meeting like this, people will say we're in love! He had time to sample the Little Valley and Williams before cramming my bike on to the back of his car and giving me a lift home, well it had started to rain and I needed to get back for the match. I was impressed with the selection, as was Charisma (and Chris P Duck who sent a favourable report), and I did like the Hue column on the menu as

tasting notes are all too often overlooked at pub beer festivals. Congratulations to Charlie for an excellent little festival, I'm already looking forward to the next one...hopefully I'll have more time! - Ed

On Friday October 31st a visit was paid to the **White Post** Halloween beer festival at **Stanley Common**, which was smaller than usual as it was a bit too cold to have it outside. The idea was to rotate the beers on the bar with 2 additional hand pumps added. The beers available when I called were Falstaff Phoenix, Funfair Rollerghoster, Northumberland Dracula's Soup, Black Hole Hubble Bubble and Milestone Wicked Witch with Pedi and Cocker Hoop also on the bar. I tried the Black Hole and Milestone, which were both in fine form. This was a nice little festival, could there be one for Christmas? Or is that just wishful thinking? - Charisma

**Olive, Sally, Jean & Steve
welcome you to the**

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Derby**

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**Bass & 3 Constantly Changing
Guest Ales Available.**

Lunches Served

Everyday 12.00 – 2.00

Evening Meals:

Mon & Wed to Fri 6.00 – 8.00

**ANNUAL BOXING DAY
STEAM CARNIVAL**

On a trip to **Ilkeston** in early October the **Observatory** had the usual good value of Wetherspoons and the beer that I had (Abbot & a guest Oyster Stout) was as good as elsewhere. After this the **SJW** only had GK IPA & Kimberley Best at normal prices plus loud music so we did not stay. The beers at the **Poacher**, Fullers Chiswick Best & Nottingham EPA were not to my liking but to be fair would probably be ok for other tasters, Holt Pioneer was also on. The **Spanish Bar** continues to impress with guest Falstaff Gallifray alongside the regular ales including Mallard Quackerjack & Pedigree. On 11th October the **George & Dragon** at **Belper** had 2 Abbeydale brews as guests, Moonshine & the superb Absolution 5.3% of which I restricted myself to one pint. Must put in a good word for the **Thorn Tree** at **Belper**, which is always welcoming with good banter and a selection of 5/6 excellent ales with 2 Cottage beers as guests on my last visit on October 21st. Visited the **Tavern** at **Belper** on 2nd October for a meeting. The Pedigree was very good & having given advance notice we were kindly treated to a round of sandwiches - Chris P Duck

Funfair Brewing Company

Established in 2004 we now have a core range of award winning hand crafted beers including Gallopers 3.8%, Showman's Bitter 3.9%, Waltzer 4.5%, Dive Bomber 4.6%, Dodgem 4.7%, Brandy Snap 4.7%, Mighty Mouse 5.0% and Cake Walk 6.0%.

For further details contact Dave Tizard

Tel: +44 (0) 7971 540186 (Mobile)

Email: sales@funfairbrewingcompany.co.uk

Website: www.funfairbrewingcompany.co.uk

On the decidedly dank and wintry morning of November 29th I met up with Don Pedro & 'Er in Doors, Cassandra (who's birthday it was) & Trigger, Davo, Charisma, Loco, Bagpuss, Poirot, & Boghopper at Derby station from where we headed off on the 9.13 to Sheffield. We could have got on the 10.11 to Manchester Airport but it was as Bagpuss so eloquently put it a "sardine special" so we waited to get a sit down on the 10.42. As the train travelled along the Hope Valley line (with Mr Pastry checking tickets) the fog dissipated to reveal clear blue sky and the prospect of a perfect, if somewhat chilly day but it was just a small break. We arrived in a foggy **Stockport** at 11.20-ish and Bagpuss led us off on our merry trail. The first stop was the **GBG Armoury** on Shaw Heath, just a few hundred yards from the train station, a Robinsons pub (the first of many) that had Hatters, Unicorn & Old Tom. Boghopper made a good first impression on some of the locals by knocking his pint over on their table. Most of the group were sensible but a few went for the Old Tom. While we were there I got a text message from Dodgem to say he was following up behind us so we arranged to meet up in the next pub, the **Crown Inn** on Heaton Lane. This is a truly outstanding pub well worthy of the POTY 2008 award with 15 ales on offer including Williams Black, Bazens Milds Better, Millstone Tiger Rut & 3 Shires, Copper Dragon Golden Pippin, Bushy's Helmsman, Dunham Massey Big Tree, 6 Bells Brew 101, Wolf Straw Dog, Empire Valour, Northumberland Legends-Len Shackleton, and Morrisey Fox Blonde (which saw sampled by a few to mixed views). The multi-roomed lay out with lovely open fires and friendly locals is worth the train fare on its own. With Dodgem in the fold we were now 12. We decided to get a few of the 'out of town' pubs next starting with **Ye Olde Woolpack** on Brinksway, which had Cottage Howling Whippet & JT and A N Other. In here we met up with Bagpuss' mate Duncan but lost Davo who went to do a non-leaguer. From there it was a long trek to Heaton Norris and the **GBG & NI Nursery** on Green Lane. This Hydes pub had Mild, Bitter, Mumbo Jumbo & Nursery Nectar, Dodgem commented that the bar made looked like Cheryl Cole (the ever tactful Trigger said "more like Joe Cole"). There is a huge bowling green at the back of the pub and the landlady invited us to return in the summer, Dodgem said we could bring a football! Another hike got us to the **Navigation**

on Lancashire Hill, which I read about in the "Opening Times" magazine, a Beartown pub that had Bruins Ruin, Bearskinful, Kodiak Gold, York Terrier & Goffs Tournament. From there it was back towards town (Mother Superior informed us that the Rams were losing 3-0, no Ju-Ju today!) and the GBG Railway on Avenue St, a Pennine Brewery pub that had Hambleton Bitter, Floral Dance, Pitch Porter, Railway Sleeper, Rossendale Ale, Sunshine alongside Thwaites Nutty Black, Hydes XXXX, Outstanding Stout and a Pictish beer. Don Pedro & 'Er in Doors left us here to get an earlier train and 11 left moved on to the GBG & NI Arden Arms on Millgate. If you want to sit in the snug you have to walk through the bar, which was a first for most of us, where there are push buttons for bar service-outstanding! From there we walked to the GBG Thatched House, passing the Robinsons Unicorn Brewery. To say this pub was an eye-opener is an understatement! We could hear the music before we got to the pub and on entering there was a

bemasked Slip Knott-esque band blasting out what can only be described as "alternative" music, I would have printed some of their repertoire but I haven't got enough asterisks! I think it's a good job Don Pedro & 'Er in Doors had left us! Wychwood Hobgoblin and Copper Dragon Golden Pippin were available, not a classic GBG pub. The GBG Pack Horse on the Market Place was decidedly somnolent in comparison with Copper Dragon Bitter & 1816 and Tetley on the bar. The GBG Bakers Vaults also on Market Place was next where we were rejoined by Davo, who'd returned from his non-leaguer. Yet another Robbo's pub with Hatters, Unicorn and Hartleys XB and again very affable locals. The superb NI Queens Head on Little Underbank was next on the list, a Samuel Smiths pub with, you guessed it, Old Brewery Bitter and lots of little wine taps on the bar and, Trigger reckoned, the

smallest toilets in Britain. Charisma & Loco went straight to Winters, which is a Holts pub just over the road with Mild, Bitter and a seasonal. Charisma & Loco went to the Queens Head and while the others were in Winters Dodgem & I got directions to the NI Swan with 2 Necks on Princes St, Yet another Robbo's house with Hatters Dark (a new one on me), Unicorn and Old Tom another superb pub with loads of character. Charisma & Loco left us to catch the 7.55 train while the remaining RuRADians continued to the Pineapple, which is just round the corner from the Crown Inn on Heaton Lane. The final Robbo's pub of the day had Hatters, Cumbria Way, Unicorn and Spellbound and it was here we parted company with Bagpuss and Duncan. Unfortunately we didn't have time to fit in the Olde Vic, which we had to leave til last as it doesn't open until 7.00. We got the 8.55 train and got back in time for our buses home. What a SUPER day!

Proposed Trips

December 22nd RuRAD Christmas Gathering. Meeting in the Babington Arms at 7.30 and taking it from there. All welcome.

Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

18th to 21st December Old Oak Inn Beer Festival, Main St-Horsley Woodhouse

8th to 10th January 8th Derby 12th Night Beer Festival, Assembly Rooms-Derby www.derbycamra.org.uk

2nd to 6th December Pigs Ear Beer & Cider Festival, Ocean, 270 Mare St-London 100 Ales www.pigsear.org.uk

4th to 6th December Bitter Suite Beer Festival, Bitter Suite, 53 Flyde Road-Preston 25+ Ales www.bittersuitepreston.co.uk

4th to 6th December Red Shed Beer Festival, Wakefield Labour Club, Vicarage St-Wakefield

5th to 7th December Charity Winter Beer Festival, West Riding Refreshment Rooms-Dewsbury Station

11th to 14th December Winter Beer Festival, The New Oxford, 11 Bexley Square, Trinity Way-Salford, Manchester 40 Ales

12th to 14th December Leicester Joint Pub Festival Featuring Out of the Vaults King St & Swan in the Rushes Infirmary Rd-Leicester

2nd to 3rd January 6th Frodsham Beer Festival, Church Hall Church St-Frodsham 20 Ales

21st to 24th January National Winter Ales Festival, New Century Hall-Manchester www.winterales.uku.co.uk

22nd to 24th January 13th Cambridge Winter Ales Festival, University Sports & Social Club, Mill Lane-Cambridge Approx 120 ales www.cambridge-camra.org.uk

30th to 31st January 1st Newark Winter Beer Festival, Town Hall, Market Place-Newark Approx 40 ales www.newarkcamra.org.uk

5th to 7th February 5th Pendle Beer Festival, Municipal Hall, Albert Rd-Colne Over 65 Ales www.pendlebeerfestival.co.uk

6th to 7th 2nd Ilkley Beer Festival, Kings Hall, Springs Lane-Ilkley 100 Ales www.ilkeleybeerfestival.org.uk

6th to 8th Hawkshead Brewery Winter Beer Festival, The Beer Hall, Mill Yard-Staveley 39 Ales www.hawksheadbrewery.co.uk

19th to 21st Liverpool Beer Festival, Crypt Hall, Metropolitan Cathedral, Brownlow Hill-Liverpool www.merseycamra.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 Rodders on 07964492569 or e-mail: uplonkerrodneym2006@yahoo.co.uk by the 23rd of the month.

Edited by Rodders the Red Nosed Reindeer

Other contributors and helpers for this issue of "In the Sticks" (not credited elsewhere)

Charisma Bypass, Two Gallon Man, Billy One Mate, The Tweedles, Sooty-Apologies if I've missed anyone.

The Sinclair Family welcome you to the

CROSS KEYS

35 Market Place, Belper DE56 1FZ Tel: 01773 599191

Range of Bateman's "Good Honest Beers"

Featured "Brewery of the Month" plus guest ales

Real Cider & Perry. Traditional pub games.

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4 Real Ales available including Guest Beers from far & wide

Bed & Breakfast Accommodation. Traditional Pub Games

"HOME OF THE GRUMPIES"

Disclaimer: We try to ensure that the information printed in "In the Sticks" is accurate but no responsibility can be accepted for errors or omissions. The opinions expressed herein are those of individual contributors and not necessarily shared by the Editor.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU, CONSTANT READER.