



RURAD

"In the Sticks"

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 dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk

Or for current & previous issues log on to <http://www.mansfield.camra.org.uk>

Beer and Pub News

Congratulations to the Smithfield on winning Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year for the 2nd year running. They have a Birthday Weekender from the 1st - 3rd March with a special birthday beer called Destruction Derby, brewed by Urban Chicken.

Winter Ale Trail 2019

This has now concluded, with the winners and runners-up being as follows:
Amber Valley - Thorn Tree Inn Belper 1st,
What's Your Poison Ale House Alfreton 2nd

Derby - Falstaff 1st, Tap 2nd

Mansfield/Ashfield - Duke of Sussex 1st,
Wrinkly Dog 2nd, both pubs in Sutton - in - Ashfield

Erewash Valley - Redemption Alehouse
Heanor 1st, Observatory, Ilkeston 2nd.

Congratulations to all of them, they will all receive CAMRA Certificates in the near future. Ed

MARCH 2019

THE SMITHFIELD

Meadow Road, Derby DE1 2BH
Tel: 01332 986601

Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year
2018 and 2019

Tickers Paradise, 8 ever-changing ales from right across the UK.

Fantastic beer garden right next to the river.

Discount Mondays - selected ales £2.50 a pint.

Tram Inspector writes; Rachel and Steve have taken the tenancy at the Black Swan, Crich, and we are beginning to see changes in the beer range, with the Ashover Citra, which was one of the two permanent beers on offer, due to be replaced by Oakham Citra. Meanwhile the Blue Bell at South Wingfield is now expected to open in April. Like the Black Swan, it is owned by Steve Seaman but the Stones, who run a restaurant in Matlock, have taken a long lease. It seems that they plan to offer traditional pub style food with a focus on quality.

Bald Eagle spread his wings and flew to the Red Lion at Matlock Green. This pub sells several real ales including 3 own brewed beers from Matlock Moot Oak. On my visit Matlock Best Bitter 3.9, Matlock Blonde 4.3 and Giddy Edge IPA 5.3 were on. There are currently plans for a stout within the next month. Other beers include Forty Niner, Cumberland and Old Speckled Hen. Reasonably priced accommodation and food available. Riber Castle on the hill above is an impressive sight.

Vegan beer and cider fest Cowly Club Brighton 22nd to 25th March. The new micro on Portland Road in Selston opens Thursday. Rumours suggest it's called the Dogs Paws but that may have altered.

Free Copy

Amber Valley CAMRA Update

Mar 28th 8pm Branch Meeting at the Three Horse Shoes, Ripley
Survey Trips - these will resume on Friday March 22nd, please contact Trevor Spencer for details on 07982 943944 or dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk

It was nice to see the Thorn Tree at Waingroves open again at the end of January, with David & Mandy from the Tip Inn at the helm. When I called in the pub was packed, and supported by the locals, which was excellent, and long may it continue. Good luck to Dave & Mandy. It was also nice to see the Hairy Brewers beers on the bar at both the Hollybush at Makeney & the White Hart at Bargate let's hope we see more of it at more of it at more outlets.

Charisma

Hollie & Russ welcome you to

The Bell

35 Main Road Smalley DE76EF
Tel: 01332 880635

Real ales, home cooked food,
self-catering apartments,
marquee for hire.

Wednesday-Quiz & free supper.
Thursday-Fish, chips, peas & a
pint £8.50.

See web site for special occasions.

www.thebellsmalley.co.uk

Philidor Ken writes I received an email from AVBC today, saying the application for change of use at the Yew Tree in Holloway had been withdrawn. Also, I've seen on the council website that the officer recommendation was to refuse the application anyway, that's obviously why the applicants withdrew it. Hi there, just wanted to let you know of plans for some live piano trio music coming to the Bulls Head at Belper Lane End. It's on Sunday 19th May, 4-6pm - free entry. Ian B

Olive, Sally, Jean & Steve
welcome you to the



ROYAL OAK



55 Green Lane Ockbrook,
Country Pub of the Year
2011/12/13/15/16/17

Bass & 4 Constantly Changing
Guest Ales
Available.

Lunches Served:
Everyday 12.00 - 2.00
Evening Meals:
Mon to Sat 6.00 - 8.30

The Handle Bar at Alfreton is closed, and it's not known if there are any plans to reopen it. HH

Tracy and all the staff welcome
you to the

OLD OAK INN

176 Main Street
Horsley Woodhouse
DE7 6AW. Tel: 01332 881299
East Midlands Pub of the Year
2016

Mon to Wed 4 – 11, Thu & Fri 3 – 11
Sat 12 – 11, Sun 12 – 10.30
Serving a wide selection of beers
from BOTTLE BROOK and
LEADMILL plus Guest Beers
RuRAD Bar Open Fri, Sat & Sun

University Challenge - Oxford 12th January

I arrived by coach ahead of schedule so had to immediately change my route to the Jericho area which was about a 15 minute walk northwest. First stop was the **Rickety Press** which was a rustic bar diner where an unusual breakfast was served in tin dishes. An Arkells place, their 3 cask ales were 3B, Hoperation & Moonlight with a larger range of keg taps on the wall. Close by was the **GBG Old Bookbinders** which was a nice old pub but with a disappointing range of cask ales, although I ought to have expected this of **Greene King**. Food is priority here with **Hogs Back TEA** a more interesting alternative to **Tim Taylor**, **Robinsons**, **Oakham** or **GK (2)**. With this area being mainly either gastro or **Marstons** standard range I did not stay long the made a very long walk southeast to the **Iffley Road** on the opposite side of the city through several of the university grounds but only to find that the **GBG Fir Tree** did not open until 4pm on a Saturday, which is ridiculous for a pub with **Sky Sport**. A little further out I was overflowed by a **Red Kite** before reaching the **GBG Chester Arms**. Another decent pub but I was soon approached after entering by a menu wielding waiter but after dismissing him I had some good beer chat with a couple of barmen. After tasting **XT Oyster Stout** and **Loose Cannon Gunners Gold I** plumped for the **Abingdon Bridge** from the latter; this being a new brewery to me. It was one of the best of the day and whilst chatting with one of the friendly barmen I decided to have another before walking back to the city centre. At the **GBG St Aldates Tavern** which I had previously visited I found this to be more of a drinkers pub and watched TV sport with a few locals whilst enjoying a very good **Tring Brock Bitter**. There was also a couple of **XT ales** along with one from **Dark Star**, **Shotover Porter**, **Hooky** and a 7.4% **Mastronauts Luna**. A great pub but better was to come when I tried the nearby **GBG Royal Blenheim** which featured 10 cask ales. Very good bar staff here where I sampled one of the two **Elgoods**, a strange flavoured **Cranbeery** which I did not purchase. Instead I plumped for **Wayland Smithy**, one of three **White Horse** ales and the day's cheapest at £3-75 a pint; the

others being from **Titanic (2)**, **Great Heck**, **Lenton Lane (Atlas Stout)** and **Everards Tiger**. I had more beer per pub than usual but visited less pubs overall with the average price nearly £4-00 so along with the gastro emphasis for up-market hooray students will probably not be back for a good while.

Southwell & Newark 18th January

On arrival in **Southwell** we headed for the **Saracens Head**, an old black & white building with some history. It had many elderly ladies having morning coffee at the front so we went in the back bar and much to our surprise found 3 real ales on the bar. The enthusiastic barmaid was just pulling the first drinks through and we preferred **GK Rock On Rudolph** to **Abbot** or **TT Landlord**. It was not bad at all and we sat in the palatial surroundings until other pubs opened at 1200. This hotel was better than expected but the nearby **Crown** failed to open as advertised and the **Admiral Rodney** was a **Doombar** type place so we power walked to the only **GBG** pub here - the **Final Whistle**. A very impressive pub in many aspects



53 Market St,
Ilkeston DE7 5RB
Tel: 07538 723 722
Open



Thursday to Sunday
11 til 11

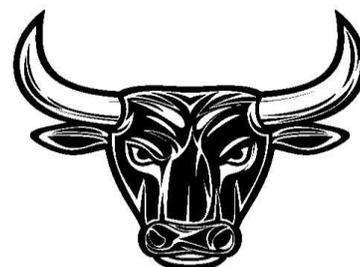


aspects with a superb set of open plan rooms, much railway and local memorabilia, an interesting outdoor yard in railway station format, not to mention a good ale selection. We were made very welcome by the manageress and also chatted with a couple of locals. I had **Yeovil Hopkandi** and **Great Heck Treasure IPA**, both being excellent with the most interesting others from **Marble**, **Brewsters** and **Salopian**. With time at a premium we headed for the bus and after noticing that the **Bramley Apple** (formerly **Springhead**) had closed down we then called very briefly at the **Hearty Good Fellow**. This **Everards** pub was very food orientated with a choice of their **Sunchaser** or **Tiger**. Moving on to **Newark** we visited some of the regular decent pubs, starting at the **GBG Prince Rupert** where **Pickled Egg** had some expensive food with ales from **Beermats Razz Tazz** and **Acorn Gorluka** being sampled; others from **Brains**, **Oakham** and a couple of nationals. Around the corner to the **GBG Flying Circus** the barmaid offered excellent friendly service, the

ale quality was ok where I had **Skinner's Betty Stogs**, with **Oakham JHB** and a couple of other options. From here **Just Beer** was an inevitable **GBG** destination about a 2 minute walk away. Beer is always interesting here and on this occasion they were from **Hambleton**, **Phipps**, **Blue Bee**, **Wylam** and **Shiny**. Back to the river for a quick drink on the **Castle Barge** with just 2 ales available from **Pheasantry** and **Lincoln Green** but not very welcoming here on this occasion. With the bus picking up close by we finished at the **GBG Fox & Crown** with my choice here **Beermats Charismatic**. Decent bar service at this **Castle Rock** pub featuring 3 of their own ales plus **Arbor**, **Lenton Lane**, **Totally Brewed** and **St Austell**. With several good pubs not visited due to lack of time **Newark** is still well worth a visit but the **Final Whistle** had the only good selection making **Southwell** very short of decent pubs open at that time. The **Old Coach House** did not open until late afternoon and should be worth trying.

Beverley 19th January

Because of its earlier opening time we started in the esteemed company of **Sooty & The Old Fowl** at the **Cornerhouse**, formerly a **GBG** pub. Like a café bar with the emphasis on food but still holds 8 cask ales albeit fairly predictable brews from **Tetley**, **Tim Taylor**, **Abbeydale**, **Black Sheep**, **Theakston** and **GK**. On to the obligatory visit to the **White Horse** which has a famous historic interior with gas lighting, uneven floors, wonky furniture and numerous roaring fires. It also has a spectacular upstairs parlour room with lots of old pictures and mirrors. Locally known as 'Nellies', this **Sam Smiths** pub predictably holds just the one cask ale which was decent enough. We then visited the renovated **Beverley Arms** which has been closed in recent years. It is very plush indeed and was again predominately food orientated but is a decent addition to the real ale scene with 4 ales available. These were **Atom Schrodinger's Cat**, **Wainwright** and 2 from



BLACK BULLS HEAD
2 Kilburn Lane, Openwoodgate,
Belper, Derbyshire
DE56 0SF

Thwaites, of which the Twelve Bells was one of the best drinks of the day and served in a stemmed glass on a napkin - how posh is that. The Old Fruit and I then left our pals and after a futile visit to the Cross Keys (JDW) with not much of interest and rammed with diners, went to the **GBG Tiger** for a very good lunch, although the 3 ales were not very exciting and my Brains Rev James was so-so. We moved on to the **GBG Monk's Walk** which held the best ale selection of the day with Great Newsome New Resolution, Isaac Poad 1843, Wold Top Against the Grain, Crafty Little Perky Porter and York Centurion Ghost. Another very historic pub with uneven flag floors and friendly staff and the 3 ales I had were all good. Next I struck off alone to the **GBG Dog & Duck** featuring a typical Yorkshire ale choice from Tim Taylor, Ossett, Black Sheep and John Smiths with Directors also on. A good friendly town centre pub with the TT Boltmakers very good. I had planned to visit the Royal Standard on North Bar Within where I have not been in before which should open at 3pm but it was still closed at 3-30 so still not been inside. Consequently I tried the

April and the team welcome you to the

THORN TREE INN

Winners of the Amber Valley
Winter Ale Trail 2019

21 Chesterfield Road, Belper
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Opening times: 4-11 Mon – Fri

12-11:30 Sat 12 – 10 Sun

Live Music Quiz Nights

Family and dog friendly

Real Ale, Real Cider, a Real

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former **GBG Green Dragon** which I had not had much success with previously. As before it was very busy but at least I got served this time and found Firebird Parody, Leeds Pale, Old Dairy Snow Top and Long Man Old Man available with the latter being excellent. There were 5 more national ales on the bar so it seemed to me to be better than when it was in the guide. My last call was near to the bus pick-up point at the **GBG Chequers Micropub**. I managed a quick half of Half Moon Old Forge which was good but no time for Crafty Little Black Ryeno or others from First Chop and North Riding.

York 22nd January

With Pothole Ady and Mainline Mick for company we headed to the **Cross Keys**, a Nicholson's pub which had been quite good on my last visit. This time Mick & I were conned into having an ale with a pump clip on a handpull. We thought this should have been a keg beer and so it was as the barman pulled our keg lager from the keg pumps. With a 5.6 Siren, a house ale and 2 national ales, this was not the best start. Along the road is the **Old White Swan**, another Nicholson's pub where the

The Angels

29 Market Place,
Belper DE56 1FZ

Now open serving a
selection of real ales
from the barrel and a
selection of ciders

Opening hours:
Thursday to Sunday 12 – 10
(Also bank holidays)

most interesting ale was an unrefined Electric Bear Weirrrd but this ran out before we could all have one and the TT Landlord replacement was £4-50 a pint. At least the barman was ok and had worked in our area. Again not too far away was a new bar not visited before - the **Valhalla**. This was much better than expected with IPA & Amber house beers from Yorkshire Heart which were very good with Sonnet 33 Salty Squirrel also on. It's an interesting place with a lot of Viking (I think) artefacts and worthy of the visit. Straight across is another newish bar, **Pivni**, which I disliked on my only previous visit but was now impressed with better service and a range comprising Cromarty Happy Chappy, Coniston Bluebird, Fyne Maverick, Tapped Mojo and Northern Whisper. An excellent recovery from our below par start and this good run continued in the **Ye Olde Shambles Tavern**. Here they have 3 house ales brewed by Rudgate plus others from Treboom, Bad Seed and Roosters. We had great banter with a local bloke and even conversed with a couple of visiting Forest Red Dogs in an amiable atmosphere in this historic pub. We then had more local chat at the bar in the **Duke of York** nearby. It is a Leeds pub so had 5 of their ales plus Turning Point Sleeping Giant and others from Brass Castle and Saltaire so another great pub. The York Brewery owned **Last Drop** was decent enough from an ale and pub perspective but the barmaid offered a minimal welcome. 5 York beers included Off The Wall, a ginger ale and also on was Tiny Rebel Juicy. Our next call was another bar, **Sutlers** and again it surpassed my previous visit. The bar manager was very keen on his ale and the 2 ales both from Brew York (which is further down the road) were very good. Very close by at the **GBG Blue Bell** we found another historic interior with small wood panelled rooms. I found the Laine Bestest Bitter very good and there were decent alternatives from Half Moon, Bradfield, Rudgate, Roosters, Brew York and Tim Taylor. It is a shame that Brew York is not open until the weekend but we needed to be heading back anyway so next to the **GBG Eagle & Child**. This is another Leeds place again featuring 5 of their ales plus Roosters Yankee, Camerons Old Sea Dog and Hop Studio Blonde so more good beer and 2 ladies off the bus trip joined us here. Nearest to the bus park is the

Gillygate which I had not tried before but turned out to be a very good pub. With Isaac Poad Piccadilly Porter, Rudgate Viking and Bradfield Farmers Blonde this offered a good range of styles to end the day.

Lincoln 25th January

Having failed to find a decent printable map beforehand it was no surprise when I led Pickled Egg in the wrong direction but this was no detriment as we were waiting for most target pubs up Steep Hill to open at 12 noon. After visiting the tourist office to get a pub map and gasping our way up the aforementioned climb between the cathedral and the castle, we were ready for a drink at the top in the early opening Duke William. This has a very old stone walled interior and has been sympathetically refurbished to create a large dining area in several open plan rooms. The central island bar offered Navigation Rebel and Doombar so no surprise which we chose. The barmaid later offered us a taster of the house beer once she had pulled it through; this was from Ferry Ales and was ok but a rather strange taste. A short walk past the castle to the **GBG Strugglers** where we found only the landlady for company - strange as I had previously struggled to get through the door. - strange as I had previously struggled to get through the door. Very good ale selection apart from no brown bitters with the best being Rat White Rat, Horncastle Eros, Pheasantry Pale Ale, Scribblers Masher in the Rye and Welbeck Wake Up & Smell the Coffee. There were 4 more national ales and we had plenty of chat with the landlady who has visited our area on train trips several times so we had much in common. Around the corner is the **GBG Victoria** which is a Bateman's house and featured their Rosey Nosey & XB along with Brewsters Marquis, Bath Gem, Oakham Citra and TT Landlord. It was ok here but never going to compare with the classic interior and ales of the previous pub. Retracing our steps back to Steep Hill we eventually located **Beerheadz** after first walking by it. Our choice here was the Imperial Classical Bitter. **ChrisPDuck**

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BRIDGE ST BELPER
01773 880210

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5/6 real ales

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Saturday,

Sunday 12 - 10.30

Live music every weekend

3 beer festivals a year

Beer Festivals near and far

1st-3rd March The Smithfield Derby 2nd Birthday Weekend, Special Beer Brewed from Urban Chicken, Music/Beers
7th March 3rd Annual Tiny Rebel Tap Takeover & Meet The Brewer, The Dog Inn, 5 Lichfield Street, Burton-on-Trent
7th-9th March West Bridgford Hockey Club Beer Festival, Loughborough Road, West Bridgford 25 Ales 2 Ciders
7th-9th March 43rd Loughborough Beer Fest, Polish Club, True Lovers Walk off William St, Loughborough 60+ Ales
8th-9th March Indie Beer Feast, Abbeydale Picture House, 383 Abbeydale Road, Nether Edge, Sheffield
8th-10th March The International Festival of Beer, National Brewery Centre, Burton-on-Trent 1000 Beers & Ciders
11th-17th March Sheffield Beer Week, see www.sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk
14th - 17th March Poets Corner -Ashover
14th-16th March Leicester Beer Festival, Haymarket Theatre, 1 Garrick Walk, Leicester 240+ Ales & 40+ Ciders
15th-16th March Nottingham Rugby Club Six Nations Beer Festival, Lady Bay, Nottingham 50 Ales
27th March-7th April Real Ale & Cider Fest, All Wetherspoon Pubs 30 Ales www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk
28th-30th March 40th Burton Beer Festival, Burton Town Hall, Burton-on-Trent 180+ Ales Cider/Perry & Bottled
28th-30th March Holly Bush Inn Beer Festival, Holly Bush Lane, Makeney, Derbyshire 25 Ales
29th-31st March Gardeners Rest Beer Festival, 105 Neepsend Lane, Sheffield, 18 Ales from Coastal Brewery's

1st-2nd March 35th Rugby Beer Festival, Arnold House, Elsee Road, Rugby 30+ Ales Cider
1st-2nd March 6th North Sussex Beer & Cider Fest, Drill Hall, Denne Road, Horsham 50+ Ales Cider/Perry
1st-2nd March 10th Chappel Winter Beer Festival, East Anglian Railway Museum, Chappel 60+ Winter Ales
7th-9th March 30th Lancaster Beer Festival, Town Hall, Dalton Square, Lancaster 50+ Ales
7th-9th March Scarborough Real Ale, Cider & Arts Festival, Ocean Room Spa Theatre, Scarborough 80 Ales 20 Ciders
8th-9th March Moseley & Kings Heath Beer Fest, Kings Heath Cricket Club, 247 Alcester Rd South, Kings Heath
8th-10th March Marchington Melee 12 Beer Festival, Dog & Partridge, Marchington, Staffs 20+ Beers & Cider
14th-16th March St Neots Booze on the Ouse Beer Festival, Priory Centre, Priory Lane St Neots 70+ Ales + Cider
15th-16th March Coventry Beer Fest, Coventry Rugby Club, Butts Road, Coventry 80+ Ales
15th-16th March 9th Wantage Beer Festival, The Beacon, Wantage, Portway 28 Ales
21st-23rd March Darlington Beer Festival, Voodoo Café & Bar, Skinnergate, Darlington
21st-23rd March 22nd Bristol Beer Festival, Brunels Old Station, Temple Meads, Bristol 140 Ales 40 Ciders Ticket Only
22nd-23rd March 9th Winchester Beer & Cider Festival, Winchester Guildhall, High Street, Winchester 100+ Ales
22nd-23rd March Hawkshead Spring Beer Festival, The Beer Hall, Mill Yard, Staveley, Cumbria 60+ Ales
22nd-23rd March 29th Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival, Brighton Racecourse, Brighton 150+ Ales 40+ Ciders
22nd-23rd March 5th Cheshire Beer Festival, County Stand, Chester Racecourse, Watergate, Chester 80 Ales, 20 Ciders
27th-30th March La Gothique Beer Festival, John Archer Way, Windmill Rd, Wandsworth, London
29th-30th March 11th Larbert Beer Festival, Dobbie Hall, Larbert, Stirlingshire 60 Ales, Cider/Perry
29th-31st March 1st Worcester Pub Beer Festival, 12 Pubs, 120 Ales www.worcesterpubbeerfestival.com

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

Well that's all for this issue folks however if you have any info or news which could be included in a subsequent issue of "In the Sticks" please contact Charisma Bypass on 07891 365887 or Exadman at dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk by the 23rd of the month.

Edited by Exadman

. Other contributors and helpers for this issue of "In the Sticks" (not credited elsewhere) Nora Harper, Billy One Mate - Apologies if I've missed anyone. Opinions expressed herein by individuals may not be the views of the editor.

BEEHIVE

151 Peashill, Ripley
Tel: 07510431414

Steve would like to invite customers old and new to the Beehive/Honey Pot.

Selection of 3 real ales at the Beehive and 6 real ales at the Honey Pot as well as various ciders and perrys.

Darts, Dominoes and Skittles on weekly.

Quiz night Fridays plus card bingo.

Everyone welcome.

The Tip Inn

Real Ale Bar

60a High St, Loscoe
Bass and 5 constantly changing guest ales available plus a good selection of ciders and perries.

Opening hours:

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Saturday & Sunday 12 - 10

THE TALBOT

Butterley Hill Ripley, DE5 3LT
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A quiet, cosy pub enjoying real ale.
Open Mon - Thu 2pm & Fri - Sun 12pm.

Minimum of 5 changing ales on Mon - Wed & up to 9 Thu - Sun.

Choice of Pork Pies and fresh cobs to enjoy by the fire or in the garden.
Last Wednesday of the month is our Acoustic night.

Cans, Bottles and Keg by Kernel, Magic, Beaver, Siren and Wild etc.
F/B - Talbot Taphouse, Tweet
[@beerattthetalbot](https://twitter.com/beerattthetalbot)