

"RuRAD "In the Sticks"

LEADMILL BREWERY and BOTTLE BROOK BREWERY

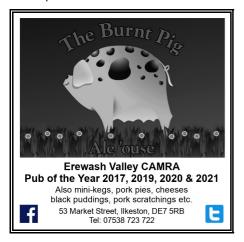
Producers of Traditional Hand Crafted Real Ales

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 snugdaye@outlook.com.

For current & previous issues log on to www.dgmhall.me.uk/rurad. You can also find copies of the newsletter on the Loughborough CAMRA web-site (www.loughboroughcamra.co.uk/newsletters) along with digital copies of other local beercentric publications.



Beer & Pub News

Planning permission has finally been granted to develop the **Honeypot** "mini-pub" behind the **Beehive** on Peasehill Road, Ripley into an independent business. Steve Cresswell informed "In The Sticks" that work would start in late June. The current **Beehive** pub will be converted to a house for Steve and Lisa once the **Honeypot** has opened.

On 6th May, the Kelham Island Brewery in Sheffield announced that it had ceased trading after 32 years. According to reports, sales were badly impacted by Covid and the lockdowns resulting in insufficient cashflow to keep the business alive. Since the company assets exceed its debts, all creditors will be paid. The Fat Cat pub will remain open and will be selling Kelham Island ales while stocks last.

Finally after 791 days, the **Last Post** on Old Uttoxeter Road re-opened its doors on the 6th May - I didn't make that figure up, it's on a notice behind the bar. Not too much has changed, just a lick of paint and some new pictures on the wall. There is also a large shelter at the rear with ample seating. I

JUNE 2022

spoke with landlord Walter Scott (also exlandlord and Queen's Vaults, Ashbourne proprietor) who informed me that it was great to be back and to catch up with so many of the locals. The beers on offer when I called in were Bombardier, Littleover King George (4.0%), Titanic Plum Porter and North Yorkshire XPA (4.6%). Happy days. Trigger.

Regular contributor to "In The Sticks", Sooty also called in and reported that the beers available on the first evening were Titanic Plum Porter (4.9%), North Yorkshire Flying Herbert (4.7%), Purity Pure UBU (4.5%) and Navigation New Dawn (3.9%). He added that Walter hopes to be brewing again very soon so expect to see Walter Scott Brewery beers on the bar in the near future.

After a short period of closure, what was formerly known as the Belper Tap re-opened its doors on Friday 20th May. Now called the Bang In Belper this newish roadside bar has had a spruce up inside and on our visit on the opening night was very busy. Tom of Tom Said micro-pub in Ripley has an interest in the beer side of things so a good selection of quality real ales were available which were Neepsend Bulurru (5.1%), Ashover Coffin Lane Stout (5.0%) Pentrich In Your Dreams (4.1%) and Brass Castle Peach Melba (4.3%) all priced at £3.60. There were also 7 craft beers and a cider available. Street style food is also going to be served. Sooty.

Meadow Road, Derby, DE1 2BH Tel: 01332 986601 Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2018 - 2022 East Midlands Pub of the Year 2019

Tickers Paradise, 9 ever changing ales from across the UK, including 2 Stouts/Porters served all year round

Pork Pies & Fresh Cobs available daily
Fantastic Beer Garden right next to
the river

A new brewery, Treehouse, based in Cavendish Bridge and established in July 2021 started brewing for real in April and now have three ales: Oakey Dokey (5.0%), Root 66 (4.5%) and Beech Party (4.4%). Outlets where their beers may be found include the Smithfield (Derby), Spread Eagle

Free Copy

(Etwall) and The Hoptimist (Spondon).

The Littleover Brewery which was bought from founder Tim Dorrington by Matt Willers and his father Nick, has been rebranded as the Little Brewing Company. They have continued to brew the established ales, eg. Epiphany (4.1%) and The Panther oatmeal stout (4.2%) plus the Boot branded ales for the pub of the same name in Repton. Matt also founded the No.189 micro-pub in Allestree.

The Harrington Arms at Thulston changed hands around the second week of May. Rob Taylor, who was head chef at the Boot in Repton a few years ago has taken it over.

Contributors: Bald Eagle, The Jedi, Rodders, Snug Dave, Sooty, Steve Copestake, Trigger



Beer Festival News

With the arrival of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee holiday week-end this month (God bless you, Ma'am), ale drinkers are spoilt for choice when it comes to beer festivals. Here are details about some of the local festivals this month...

The Holly Bush, Makeney is having a beer festival (2nd-4th June) with 10 ales and 10 ciders. The ales come from 10 different counties including Cornwall (Skinners). There will also be food trucks in the car park daily from 4.00 pm: Let's Taco Bout It (Thursday), Mangiamos Street Food (Friday) and Bush BBQ (Saturday).

The Railway, Belper will be holding a Beer, Cider and Music Festival (3rd-5th June) with 20 beers on offer along with at least 8 real ciders. Breweries represented include Aurora, Dancing Duck, Castle Rock, Welbeck Abbey and Heritage Brewing. Entertainment

will be provided on Friday, Saturday and Sunday (Thursday a possibility) by five, maybe six, bands including Wireless, The Boothill Toe Tappers and Milltown Revelry.

Amber Valley CAMRA are involved in two beer festivals in June: Belper Goes Green (10th-12th June) and the 11th Amber Valley Beer & Cider Festival (30th June to 2nd July). The first will be held at the Belper Meadows Cricket Club (50 ales & 20 ciders) while the latter has moved to the Belper Rugby Club (90 ales, ciders & perries). Music at the AV festival is provided on Friday evening (5.30-11.00 pm) by Kelly's Heroes followed by the Modskas. On the Saturday evening (5.30-11.00 pm) entertainment is from a Northern Soul & Motown Disco followed by the Rollin' Stoned tribute band.

The annual Nottingham Craft Beer Festival will be held in Sneinton Market on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th June and marks the finale of Nottingham Craft Beer Week (11th-18th June). Tickets are £12 per session but at the time of writing, the Saturday afternoon session had already sold out. Around 38 Nottingham pubs will be holding events during the week.

Angels Micro Pub

29 Market Place Belper DE56 1FZ

Serving up to nine (or more) real ales from the barrel and a similar number of ciders & perries

Amber Valley CAMRA Cider POTY Winner 2020

Amber Valley CAMRA Mild Trail Winner 2019

In The Papers

There is a possibility that one of four units in the former Ritz bingo hall on South Street, Ilkeston may be turned into a new micro-pub (Nottingham Post, 8th May). Mind you, a report in the Derby Telegraph 10 days later stated that the owner would like to turn it into a Wetherspoons. So who knows?

The asking price of the Royal Oak in Chesterfield has dropped from £295k to £265k (Derby Telegraph, 22nd April) while that for the Old Bell on Sadlergate, Derby has been reduced from £1.5m to 1.25m (Derby Telegraph, 7th May).

Star Pubs & Bars have submitted plans for a £354k refurbishment of the former **Dog & Moon** on Sadlergate, Derby which closed in March 2020 although it rather hinges on them finding a new licensee (Derby Telegraph, 14th May). The bar, should it reopen) will be rebranded as the **Shakespeare**.

The JDW **Standing Order**, Derby closed on 2nd May for a £1.5m refurbishment which will take about 15 weeks (Derby Telegraph,

4th May). The pub plans to re-open on 23rd August. Plans have also been approved to demolish the former QI Club in Mansfield in order that the two Wetherspoons pubs, the Stag & Pheasant and the Widow Frost can be combined (Nottingham Post, 5th & 6th April). A new large beer garden will be created in the process.



Spotlight On...

Having become increasingly aware of **Totally Brewed** beers in the Derby and Nottingham area, "In The Sticks" contacted the brewery and subsequently met up with Ginny, brewery marketing director and Siân, manager at the **Totally Tapped** micro-pub in Beeston, for a chat. And so we shine the RuRAD Spotlight on the...

Totally Brewed Brewery & Tap House

After completing his Masters degree in Microbiology, Rob(in) Witt, Totally Brewed founder and head brewer, worked in medical sales but realised it wasn't for him. While deciding what he really wanted to do, he spent a year snowboarding before turning his hand to landscape gardening. Rob started his brewing career at home and after 7 years, decided that perhaps he had what it took to become a commercial brewer. The final nudge was winning a home brewing award for what was to become 4 Hopmen Of The Apocalypse. The scene was set!

With his then partner Ginny, they sold their house to fund the new project - Ginny admitted that Rob is forward thinking and trusts his instincts. The original plan was to use custom-built kit but the supplier pulled out at the 11th hour and at the same time, they found out that they were expecting their first child. However, they managed to buy kit from the local White Dog brewery which was closing down. The brewery was established in what now looks like the Brewery Quarter of Nottingham, near to the River Trent and not too far from Trent Bridge - Navigation, Magpie and Castle Rock breweries are all close by.

Rob admits that establishing the brewery involved a lot of hard work (and a fair dollop luck) but with help from friends at both Magpie and Castle Rock, they were up and running by the beginning of 2015 - in fact

they soon needed to move into a larger unit on the site where they now operate an 8 BBL plant. They quite quickly won Castle Rock New Brewery of the Year in 2015 plus Regional SIBA awards for 4 Hopmen of the Apocalypse (Gold) and Papa Jangles (Bronze) and took part in their first Robin Hood Beer Festival. Oh yes, and Rob and Ginny got married.

Over the next few years, Totally Brewed developed and expanded both in the number of beers brewed but also the styles - Triple IPAs, unfined beers, sour beers, fruit flavours and exotic stouts and porters all being added to the range. Check out Tijuana Build A Snowman which is a Mexican Gose (sour wheat beer) with chillies, limes, cumin and cinnamon which they are hoping to brew again along with Captain Hop Beard, a pale ale brewed with 7 southern hemisphere hops. According to Untappd, Totally Brewed have produced around 200 beers. They also started a canning operation and opened the Totally Tapped micro-pub in Beeston and the OverDraught bar on Canning Circus. And all this while raising two small children.

Sally, Jean & Steve welcome you to the... ROYAL OAK

55 Green Lane, Ockbrook, DE72 3SE Tel: 01332 662378

Current Derby CAMRA
Country Pub of the Year - 2022

CAMRA 50th Anniversary Gold Award Winner - East Midlands

Bass + 3 Constantly Changing Guest Ales Available

Beer garden and separate children's play area Lunches Served: Every Day from 12.00 Evening Meals: Mon to Sat



https://royaloakockbrook.com



Like many other businesses, trading was hit very hard in 2020 & 2021 due to the pandemic. However, using Facebook as their shop window, the team advertised their outstanding stock and the take-up was such that they were making 100+ deliveries every Friday in the local area. They also ventured into mini-kegs, beer boxes and expanded the canning operation which kept the business alive while the pubs were closed. Sadly though, Rob felt obliged to close the OverDraught bar as it was no longer affordable.

Totally Brewed beers can be found countrywide thanks to 3 or 4 wholesalers with whom they work although about 60% of production is sold locally, the majority of which is in casks. Most of the actual brewing is now done by former assistant brewer Tom while Rob focusses more on new ideas and projects and the company finances. In addition to Rob, Ginny and Tom, the current team includes Tom Atkins in sales while Feg takes care of deliveries. And for the distinctive artwork to be found on the cans and in the Totally Tapped bar, thanks go to artist in residence, Max Rock.

Taking care of business at Totally Tapped in Beeston is manager Siân with support from colleagues Charlie and Josh, Siân made the move to the pub after having become disillusioned with her job as a charity shop manager as a result of the ever-increasing workload. Having known Ginny and Rob for 20+ years, she was quick to accept the manager post when the offer came. Sian reported that the pub attracts a good regular crowd with connections to the university and the local NHS clinic plus drinkers also visit from further afield. With such good transport links from Derby and Nottingham (bus, tram and train) Beeston is an obvious destination for a beery day out. Totally Brewed are keen supporters of Nottingham Craft Beer week (11th to 18th June) and Totally Tapped will be hosting the following specialist events during that week:

Sat 11th: Live Art with Max Rock

Sun 12th: Doggie day with the Brewery pups,

Fuggles and Rogue

Wed 15th: Craft beer themed quiz

Thur 16th: Beer/food tasting in conjunction

with Essen (ticket only)

Totally Brewed will also have a stand at the Sneinton Market beer festival (Fri & Sat).

Let the last word go to Ginny: when asked about their future plans, she said that they had no ambition to take over the brewing world, they had a great team of people working for them who felt like family. In their opinion, Totally Brewed was small but perfectly formed. Snug Dave.

BEEHIVE

151 Peasehill, Ripley Tel: 07510 431414

Selection of 4 real ales plus a wide range of ciders and perries, many sourced from the apple farms where they are made

CAMRA Cider POTY 2022

Darts, Dominoes & Skittles on weekly Quiz night Fridays plus card Bingo

Live music during the summer months plus regular vinyl nights featuring The Groover

Note: the Honeypot bar is currently closed for refurbishment

Out & About

Just a couple of stories this month and thanks go to Rodders and Ginger Baker.

Milton Keynes & thereabouts

On the morning of 12th February I set off from Derby train station on the 8.17 Cardiff train, alighting at Tamworth where, after a short wait, I got the 9.20 Euston train, which deposited me in Milton Keynes Central at 10.15. I then jumped straight on a bus, which took me to the GBG Nut & Squirrel at Westcroft. This Ember Inns house had 3 beers on hand pump and Black Sheep Twilighter was favoured. I then got the bus back to the town centre and on to the

Brewhouse & Kitchen to break the journey. Two of their beers were available and I went for 12th Street before heading back for the bus and continuing on to the GBG Cross Keys at Woolstone. There were 3 beers on and I went for Charles Wells DNA Amber Ale, which was OK but I decided to try and make a bit of time and get back for an earlier bus, which backfired as 1 bus was 2-minutes early, the next bus sailed straight past and a 3rd just didn't turn up.... so I ended up walking back to town.

I called in the JDW Moon Under Water and slaked my thirst with a half of Portobello APA before heading out on the bus again, this time to the GBG Victoria at Bradwell Village only to find it didn't open til 3.00! Decidedly miffed I back-tracked to the bus stop where I ended up waiting 35 minutes for a bus that runs every 20 minutes! When it did arrive (I was decidedly miffeder), I continued on to Stacey Bushes and the GBG Blackened Sun Brewery Tap and my miffed gland was about to go nuclear as the industrial unit it is housed in looked totally lifeless as I approached... until I saw a little sign by the door which said "we are open". Take us back to DefCon 2! I found 5 of their beers on tap, all KeyKeg, and I sampled Hedone, No Quarter & Betrayer. All were decent, typical styles of these modern breweries, not exactly my cup of tea but I needed a break.

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

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

RuRAD Bar Open Fri, Sat & Sun

I headed back on the bus with every intention of getting an earlier train back but when I checked the times I found that there was a train to Bletchley leaving imminently so I jumped on that. It only took a few minutes to get there and I walked to the GBG Chequers at Fenny Stratford where I found 3 beers on offer of which I settled for Vale Red Kite which was very nice. I retraced my steps back to the train station and called into GBG JDW Captain Ridley's Shooting Party which along with the usual suspects had 3 quest beers, 2 of which being Tring Colley's Dog and Death or Glory and both were procured. I had to bottle some of the latter because it was too strong for me to rush and get the train. I returned to Milton Keynes Central and then back on to Tamworth where I had quite a lengthy wait until I got a train back to Derby where I had a quick couple of halves (Flack Manor Romsey Gold & Tractor Shed

Oaked Brown Ale) in the **Brunswick** before heading home. I had to miss several pubs out because of the unreliable bus services but it was still a decent day out. **Rodders**.



The Dew Drop Inn Ilkeston Junction

Traditional, unspoilt,
Victorian Pub in the CAMRA
heritage pub guide
(Ilkeston's best kept secret!)

A selection of the finest cask ales, ciders, craft beers and bar snacks

Two minutes walk from Ilkeston train station

Mon-Thur: 4.00-10.00, Fri: 2.00-11.00 Sat: 12.00-11.00, Sun: 12.00-10.00

Stamford, 7th April 2022

The Last Drinking Skool retired prefects gathered from all directions at **Stamford** in early April. Less "Last of the Summer Wine", more perhaps "First of the Winter Bock". Some cursory research and a straw poll had identified Stamford as a town within reach of many on the rail network, with some recommended pubs and some interesting landmarks and history (Colin Dexter, cruciverbalist and *Morse* author born here, Daniel Lambert, world's fattest man, died here).

A short walk from the station across a park and bridge over the River Welland, found our rendezvous at the JDW Stamford Post, busy on a Thursday early afternoon, but early arrivals had bagged a sufficiently long table inside to seat all eight of us. With CAMRA vouchers soon to expire, a couple of beers were had with Robinsons Hoptimus Prime (4.1%), JDW Hot Night At The Village [Birrificio Foglie d'Erba/Shepherd Neame collaboration] (5.0%), JDW Young Henrys Real Ale [Young Henrys/Banks's collaboration] (4.0%), JDW Terrapin Jazz [Terrapin Beer Co/Adnams collaboration] (5.5%), Brew Dog Punk IPA (5.4%) and Greene King Ruddles Best (3.7%) being sampled. The Ruddles was disappointing, and scored poorest in the whole trip.

Feeling revived, we undertook to walk to the GBG Tobie Norris just north-east of the town centre and time enough on the walk to dip into our large bag of home-made sausage rolls and pasties, it still, being lunchtime somewhere in the world. The Tobie Norris landlord was helpful, and also proved to be patient, as our crew of discerning drinkers chose our drinks, with samples offered. With so many new breweries and new brews this is a welcome offer. Many chose the Hopshackle Hopshackle Bitter (3.8%), brewed by a local and as it happens a friend of Karen and Alan who were enjoying a quiet meal and drink on their 43rd anniversary until we piled in. Others opted for Hopshackle Special Bitter (4.8%), Nene Valley Blond Session Ale (3.8%),

Ossett Voodoo Chocolate Orange Stout (5.0%) and Rooster's Nectar (5.2%). We were told that parts of the building date to 1280, and the establishment was bought in 1617 by a Tobias "Tobie" Norris and used as a bell foundry.

Returning towards Stamford town centre, used as film sets including Pride and Prejudice, we entered the **Kings Head** (jury is still out regards an apostrophe). A small bar and with sufficient seating, we sat ourselves down as we were informed on entry that there would be table service. To taste and score enough beers, many twice ordered two

halves to increase data points. Beers were Bakers Dozen Magic Potion (3.8%) and Electric Landlady (5.0%), Black Sheep Best Bitter (3.8%), Mourne Mountains Cliff Hanger (4.2%), Wild Beer Millionaire Stout (4.7%) and Grainstore Rutland Cider (5.2%). The pub itself was a popular choice, and one of our number went back the following day with his wife, since they were staying the night. And he's picky, I can assure you.

Our next port of call was **Paten & Co**, an interesting pub on three floors, lots of stairs and film posters. Our choices here were **Nene**

Valley Egyptian Cream (4.5%), Meantime Anytime IPA (4.7%), Camden Town Camden Pale Ale (4.0%) and Round Corner Steeplechase (4.4%). As we were approaching our early evening train departure times, we crept again towards the nearby station only stopping at the London Inn where most drank Oakham Bishops Farewell (4.6%) but a determined outlier ordered SALT Jute (4.2%). Scoresheets collected, departures made, we made vain attempts to decide on a venue for our next outing. Due to some fault in the algorithm the best beer scored all day was the cider. Ginger Baker.

Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

2nd-4th June. Holly Bush Jubilee Beer & Cider Festival. Holly Bush Lane, Makeney, Derbyshire. 10 ales, 10 ciders 2nd-5th June. Jubilee Bank Holiday Beer Festival. The Silk Mill, Full Street. Derby 2nd-5th June. Platinum Jubilee Beer Festival. The Old Hall, Market Place, Hope, Derbyshire. 50+ ales 3rd-5th June. Platinum Jubilee Beer Festival. The Railway, King Street, Belper. 20 ales, 8 ciders & music 3rd-5th June. Redfest 2022 Music & Beer Festival. The Red Lion, 3 Burton Road, Repton, Derbyshire 4th June. 1 Valley Beer Festival. Dronfield, Derbyshire. 11 venues. Facebook: onevalleyfestival 10th-12th June. Belper Goes Green Beer Festival. Belper Meadows Cricket Club, The Triangle, Belper 17th-18th June. Nottingham Craft Beer Festival. Sneinton Market, Nottingham 23rd-26th June. 9th Rutland Beer Festival. Rutland County Museum, Catmos, Oakham. 40 ales, 10 ciders 24th-25th June. Cervisium Pop Up Bar Keg Festival. Unit 2a Monk Road Ind. Est, Alfreton, Derbyshire 30th June-2nd July. 11th Amber Valley Beer Festival. Belper Rugby Club, Derby Road, Belper. 90 ales, cider/perry 30th June-2nd July. Bromsgrove Beer Festival. Bromsgrove Rugby Club, Finstall Road, Bromsgrove. 144 ales, 5 craft, cider

26th May-26th June. Norwich City of Ale. www.cityofale.org.uk
1st-4th June. 35th Colchester Ale & Cider Festival. Arts Centre, Church Street, Colchester. 100+ ales, cider & perry
2nd-4th June. Sandford Park Alehouse Beer Festival. 20 High Street, Cheltenham
2nd-5th June. Barleycorn Jubilee Beer Festival. 151 Lower Chippenham Lane, Slough. 50 ales
3rd-4th June. Keswick Beer Festival. Keswick Rugby Club, Davidson Park, Crow Park Road, Keswick
3rd-5th June. Northampton County Beer Festival. Beckets Park, Bedford Road, Northampton. 300+ ales, cider, craft
7th-11th June. Thurrock Beer Festival. Thurrock Civic Hall, Grays, Essex
9th-11th June. Hitchin Beer Festival. Hitchin Rugby Football Club, Old Hale Way, Hitchin
10th-11th June. Twyford Beer Festival. Stanlake Recreation Ground, Waltham Road, Twyford, Reading
14th-19th June. 30th East Anglian Beer & Cider Festival. St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
16th-18th June. Stockport Beer Festival. Edgeley Park, Stockport. 250+ beers, ciders & perries
16th-18th June. Glasgow Beer Festival. The Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow. 150 ales, cider & foreign
24th-25th June. Stratford-upon-Avon Beer Festival@The Racecourse. Luddington Road, Stratford-upon-Avon. 70 ales
24th-26th June. Northern Brews Beer Festival. Didsbury Sports Ground, Ford Lane, Disbury

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

Well that's all for this issue folks. If you have any info or news which could be included in a future issue of "In the Sticks" please contact Charisma Bypass on 07891 365887 or Snug Dave at snugdave@outlook.com by the 23rd of the month.

Edited by Snug Dave

Many thanks to all our contributors and the "In The Sticks" distribution team: Bald Eagle, The Baron, Big Foz, Charisma Bypass, Del Boy, Jedi, HH, Konrad, and Sooty. Apologies if I've missed anyone. Thanks also to our advertisers without whom this newsletter would not get published.



Pete and Tracey welcome you to THE RAILWAY 25 King Street, Belper Serving 8 Cask Ales, 6 Craft Beers and Real Cider Star Bars Cask Ale Finalist 2019

and Real Cider

Star Bars Cask Ale Finalist 2019

Quiz Night every Wednesday
Live Music at week-ends

Food served until 8.00 pm

Family and Dog Friendly

Fantastic Outdoor Garden

April and the team welcome you to the

THORN TREE INN

21 Chesterfield Road, Belper Tel: 07974 470774

Winner of the Amber Valley CAMRA Winter Ale Trail 2019

Live Music --- Quiz Nights Family and dog friendly Real Ale, Real Cider, Real Fire Real Pub

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