



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 snugdave@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

Woodforde's brewery (near Norwich) have established a small storage facility by the John Thompson Inn, Ingleby which could mean that more of their beers will be seen in our local pubs. So not surprising to find Woodforde's Volt (4.5%) on the bar at the John Thompson recently (along with Bass and Doom Bar).

Bartleby's Brewery, the vegan-friendly Cooperative, which re-located to Belper in 2019 and whose ales were seen around Derby at the beginning of the year (2022) has ceased trading ("due to personal circumstances") and are advertising their 5BBL brewing kit for £30k... But hey, they've found a buyer already! Tom Soar, owner of Tom Said micropub in Ripley], wrote to "In The Sticks" recently as follows:

"We [Tom & father Richard] have indeed purchased Bartleby's brewery on Campbell Street in Belper. That will remain where it is but we are unsure what it will be called at this moment in time. We've had a few ideas of Belper Brewery, Derwent Valley Brewing, East Mill Brewing, who knows yet. We have a few weeks to decide while the new licence

AUGUST 2022

goes through. We are doing a brew with Bartleby's on the 2nd August which will be their last brew on the kit as well. This will be a collaboration between us both."

Tom also talked about forthcoming changes regarding their warehouse in Alfreton...

"We are moving exactly 20 metres across the car park from 2a into 3a and 3b. It is ever so slightly smaller but having the two individual units rather than one large unit gives us more scope for events. Slightly more outside space in the summer and it's in the sun in an evening. We move over sometime in August with the first taproom event in the new warehouse on the 9th and 10th of September. Then it will be our 3rd annual beer festival on the 13th to 16th October. Should be between 20 and 25 cask ales and 5 to 8 keg beers."

Now that planning permission has been granted, work on developing the Honeypot (to the rear of the Beehive on Peasehill Road, Ripley) is moving forward. Steve Cresswell reported that the site was being cleared ready for the footings but they had had to wait for a couple of engineering reports. In the meantime, live music events are still being organised at the Beehive.

The **Bear** at Alderwasley is now open for drinks and food all week with breakfasts on Friday to Sunday.

Contributors: Alan Pickersgill, Charisma Bypass, Chris P Duck, Snug Dave, Sooty



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

In The Papers

Derby Brewing will open a new pub in August to be called The Pointing Dogs in the former Nat West Bank on Dale Road in Matlock (Derby Telegraph, 8th July). Expect to find the usual selection of ales, craft beers,

Free Copy

ciders etc. along with "contemporary pub food" in a river-facing restaurant.

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

Right To Reply

In the July 2022 edition of "In The Sticks", in my account of a visit I made to Hucknall, I took issue with the **Station Hotel** who charge a premium for a half pint measures of cask ale. I received an e-mail from Anthony Hughes, founder of the **Lincoln Green Brewery** and Lincoln Green Public House Group which, with his permission, I reproduce below. Readers should note that the opinions expressed are those of Anthony Hughes and are neither endorsed nor refuted by the "In The Sticks" editorial team. **Snug Dave**.

"My objection to the price of a half pint being half the price of a pint is that it doesn't work like that in any other category – a 125ml glass of wine is never half the price of a 250ml glass of wine for example. When one takes into account the investment a pub has to make to buy in half pint glassware, the additional costs of running the glasswasher (half pints take up virtually the same space as pints), it really does mean that some of this cost has to be passed on to the consumer."

RuRAD Snippets

Jolly Sailor, Hemington

I called at the Jolly Sailor, Hemington recently for the first time in years. A bit of refurbishment had been done since my last visit and the current owners have been in place for 2 or 3 years. The car park has been given over to outside seating (a legacy of Covid) with some open seating and some covered. There were 8 hand-pumps on the bar of which 5 were in use: Alter Ego, Wantsum, Portobello, Shiny and Bass. Snug Dave.

Barley Mow, Kirk Ireton

While out and about delivering newsletters, one of my deliveries was to the **Barley Mow** at Kirk Ireton, which I have been visiting for some 35 years and which still remains one of my favourite character pubs. While there I decided it would be rude not to try a beergone had all the barrels at the back of the bar, and the beer is now being served from the cellar in jugs. I sampled an excellent drink of Jaipur, probably the best for a long time. **Charisma Bypass**.

Market Tavern, South Normanton

Another pub worth a mention is the Market Tavern in South Normanton. In this day and age when prices are continually going up, it was pleasing to find most cask ales at £3.00 a pint which included beers at 5.0% and 5.3%. The only exception was my Team Toxic beer (When Everyone Is Somebody Then No One Is Anybody) at £3.60 for a 6.2% beer. This micro-pub is proving to be popular, and I know why now. Charisma Bypass.

Marlpool Ale House, Marlpool

I called into the Marlpool Ale House during a trip around the Heanor area on 17th June and was pleased to find that this had not changed at all since my previous visit before lockdown. We sat in the garden next to a skeleton in a chair - my companions claimed it had died of boredom from when I was last there but I thought it was better company than them. The beers were of course excellent with their own Otters Pocket, Scratty Ratty, Jack Daw & Harveys Pale alongside guests Blythe Ridware Pale and Deeply Vale Citra Storm. A most enjoyable visit to this proper micro-pub and plenty of banter was exchanged with locals and the landlord. Chris P Duck.

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

Out & About

More tales of derring-do to delight you...

Tremendous! Friday

On the gloriously sunny morning of April 15th I met up with HH & Trigger at Derby train station for the 8.05 train to St Pancras where on arrival we got the tube to Vauxhall, and the Windsor & Eaton train from there. There were no trains in or out of Egham so it was a 10-minute ride on a replacement bus from Staines-Upon-Thames, which dropped us

just around the corner from the train station. We got to the GBG Egham United Services Club just before 12.00 and once we'd signed in, found the accustomed outstanding selection of ales on offer at the festival. We all exercised restraint and limited ourselves to 4 halves, mine being Beerblefish 1820 Porter, Fallen Acorn Sith Faced, Gilbert White's Sullivan Black and Disruption Is Brewing Like Father Like Son, all dark and ranging from 6.6% to 10.6%. It was hardly surprising I felt well oiled when we left!

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



thttps://royaloakockbrook.com



We got the bus back to Staines-Upon-Thames where failing to get a taxi we walked to the GBG Old Red Lion where there were 2 hand pumps on the go and Otter Ale was settled for. HH did his magic with a taxi, which came quite quickly and took us to the GBG Wheatsheaf & Pigeon (or if you're local, the "Wee & Pee") - we arranged a lift back on arrival, which was just as well as there were 3 rather mundane beers on offer with Young's London Original being favoured. The same driver (equally promptly) then took us to the GBG Thames Side Brewery & Tap Room and what a place this is, a proper real ale brewery tap (not like that Leigh on Sea place!). There were 8 of their beers on offer with clips on 5 pumps and another 3 just propped up on the bar (so not sure about those). We all had a couple of halves (mine being Harrier Bitter and Black Swan Porter) as we sat on the bank of the Thames in the sunshine... bliss, and HH even managed to wangle what looked like a full set of pump clips... for charity. We reluctantly left and crossed the river to the GBG Swan Hotel where it was a bit of a come down (but where wouldn't be?) as there were 4 beers on hand-pump and the pick of the lot was Gales Spring Sprinter from Fuller's - nice place though. Finally it was the JDW George (so that HH could get his fix) where alongside the usual suspects, 6 quest beers were on offer with Windsor & Eaton Windsor Knot being favoured by me. From there it was back to the train station and on to St Pancras for the 6.02, which we managed to catch a lot easier than last time. Now for many years I've been of the opinion that calling Good Friday Good Friday does it an immense injustice, as I think all Friday's are good - but one where you get paid not to go to work is Tremendous! Rodders.

Leamington Spa, Kenilworth 12th May

Six of us met at Derby station for the train to Birmingham, where we soon changed for the Leamington Spa train and got off a few minutes before Leamington at Kenilworth. The only worthwhile looking pub here was the GBG Ale Rooms which is about a 10 minute walk from the station. Located in an old shop with an additional upstairs seating area, we found this to be an excellent example of a micro-pub. Local ales were Backyard Brewhouse Blonde and Framework Semper and Noctua London Porter, the latter being one of my best of the day.

Back to the station for the short trip to Leamington Spa, followed by a pleasant walk through parkland and tree lined streets to reach the Fizzy Moon. This was a large open plan dining pub with an outside terrace and its own brewery of the same name. Their Sadhu Singh and Jubilee Special were decent drinks with London Pride and a couple from Purity also on. Further along the same street was the GBG Woodland Tavern, a traditional street corner pub dramatically decorated inside with masses of Queen's Jubilee flags and memorabilia. There is also outside cabin seating in the back yard in a building named "The Woodshed". Here we all chose Slaughterhouse Saddleback (which was excellent so had it twice) rather than TT Landlord and enjoyed our time spent chatting with staff and locals. Our next call at the furthest north point of the trip was the GBG White Horse. A very large old hotel type place, laid out inside for diners but with an outside courtyard set out with tables which we used, and featured a full size artificial horse at the entrance. Only 3 of the 6 handpulls were operating and Magic Rock Hat Trick was unsurprisingly selected ahead of London Pride or Doom Bar. However this proved to be one of the poorest drinks of the day and to make it worse, was served by an unwelcoming barman.

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

Quiz Night every Wednesday Live Music at week-ends

Food served until 8.00 pm Family and Dog Friendly

Fantastic Outdoor Garden

Back into the town centre to the GBG Benjamin Satchwell with a typical Wetherspoons interior and more poor service. At least the beer was better with Acorn Old Moor Porter and Silhill Gold Star (honey ale) chosen by the group. Not far away was the Drawing Board, a modern refit in an old building with good bar service this time. The

house beer was excellent but even the barman did not know who brewed it. There was a new for me Purity ale, Jimbo, which was also good and the difficult to pronounce Black Iris Ngaru Iti which none of us dared to ask for except by pointing. Good enough for 2 rounds in here before setting off on what proved to be a mainly keg beer finale. Eventually we found BeerTorrent Taproom under the railway arches and with no sign. The proprietor and brewer explained that virtually every beer he brews is a one-off in very small batches and we could see his miniature kit in this small one-roomed unit. I had a dark beer that was very tasty but only 2.8%, whilst we chatted with the only other patron. Nearby we also visited the Drawing Board Taproom - a small bar belonging to the already visited pub of the same name. This was their keg only bar in a small building, hardly visible through exterior scaffolding. The beer was again good and came from Abyss Dream, Polly's, Twisted Barrel and Verdant whilst I rambled on, probably inanely, with the barman. After this we lost 2 members for the train but the remainder moved on to the Boiler Room. This was a very popular bar but expensive for my round again (!), the 2 cask ales from the barrel were from Black Lodge and Tiny Rebel with a further plethora of keg ales. We then called it a day having enjoyed a good day out with mostly good ale in a worth visiting town. Chris P Duck



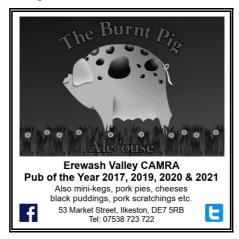
Norwich, 17th-20th June

As was reported in the June 2022 issue of "In The Sticks", Norwich finally hosted its City of Ale event which had been postponed from September 2021. It therefore seemed like a good idea to make a return visit.

On this occasion I decided to let the train take the strain, boarding in Derby and alighting in Norwich some 3+ hours later. It happened to be the hottest day of the year so far with temperatures predicted to go over 30 degrees. I got into Norwich close to 2.30 and went straight to the GBG Coach & Horses, about a 5 minutes walk away (shame about it being uphill). Home to the Chalk Hill brewery, a pint of CHB (4.2%) went down very easily. Six of their ales were on (Tap, CHB, Gold, Old Tackle, Mustard IPA and Black Anna) plus a single guest from Mr Winter's. The pub

has an airy, open-plan main room with wooden tables, chairs and benches. Outside there is a large open area, half covered which was proving popular on this very warm day.

I then walked on to the **Cat & Canary** being on the route to my hotel (Innkeeper's Lodge/Town House) and had a refreshing pint of **Fat Cat** Tom Cat (4.1%). There were 4 **Fat Cat** ales on the bar plus Yakima Gold from **Crouch Vale**. I finally caught a bus to the hotel to get settled in and walked back (unencumbered) for a second visit in the early evening.



The following day didn't start well as I couldn't get the shower temperature under "scalding" and had to ask for a new room, a request that was quickly granted. Apparently, this problem had been reported before but nothing was done about it - did they think I wasn't going to wash? Due to the unreliable bus service, I end up walking into Norwich where I managed to find a nice bakery (Two Magpies) for some breakfast. The City of Ale organising committee had prepared a very professional guide which featured seven ale trails (www.cityofale.org.uk/ale-trails) which criss-crossed the city, each comprising 7 or 8 worthy pubs. I chose the Grocer Trail which included pubs I had not been able to include when I visited with the Jedi last September (see "In The Sticks", Dec 2021 & Jan 2022).

I'm still a bit early for normal pub openings so I head for the **Trafford Arms** which opened at 11.00. This is a 1930s building featuring a single, U-shaped bar with lots of exposed brick. There are 10 ales on the bar from 10 different breweries and I had the **Lacon** Encore (3.8%) from Great Yarmouth. Simon, ex-Brunswick barman, works here having moved from the Duke of Wellington where a RuRAD group found him a few years ago. I managed to catch him just as he was starting his shift and also chatted to the friendly locals including The Duchess and Frosty Knickers!

It was a bit of a walk on to the **Beehive** which is a very attractive, two-roomed pub, one decorated with 1970s era wallpaper, the other looking very "Joules". They had 5 ales on from **Green Jack**, **Mr Winter's** (x2), **Grain** and **Mighty Oak**. I had an excellent pint of **Mr Winter's** Evolution and chatted to a local,

long-term CAMRA member - in fact, the man who designed the trails. Also "spoke" to another local but he seemed to have been trained at the Singing Postman school of diction and I didn't understand a word he said

Heading back towards Norwich, I called at the Unthank Arms, a very beautiful, cornerplot pub in an otherwise residential area of which there are many in Norwich. Again, the interior decor has that Joules-inspired dark maroon paintwork. Sadly, the cask ale choice was limited to 3 rather predictable choices (Adnams & Oakham) but this is essentially an eating pub. It also has an unexpectedly large garden and covered outdoor seating area. A short distance away is the York, yet another corner-plot pub. Again, it's a fine venue (for food & cocktails) but perhaps not for the committed ale drinker although it did have 3 hand-pumps in action offering Ossett, Lacon and Woodforde's ales, and the Ossett White Rat I had was in very good condition.

I then navigated my way back to the Kings Arms which I'd passed pre-opening (although WhatPub said it would open at 11.00). A spacious pub with a large outdoor seating area. About 11 or 12 ales on offer and the Hophurst Cosmati (mind you, it might have been Vale Gravitas) I had was excellent! The pub deserved more attention but time was getting on.... so I moved on to the Rose Inn which was just round the corner. This is a deceptively large pub and although it only offers 4 cask ales, there were 10 craft beers on offer plus as many beers in bottles and cans. They also have a small chilled cabinet with local Norfolk cheeses and deli items. Much of the pub is given over to settees and lounge chairs. I would have stayed for a second drink but the barmaid was dealing with what seemed to be an incontinent greyhound and I didn't see her wash her hands afterwards.

The following day I returned to some of the pubs which I had explored with the Jedi last year, choosing those which particularly impressed us but they were covered in the previous Norwich report. **Snug Dave**.

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

Amber Valley CAMRA Mild Trail
Winner 2019

The 1066

Travelling on my own as Rodders was incapacitated, I caught the 8.04 train from

Derby to St Pancras, arriving 9.30-ish, and since I had time to kill before the train on to Hastings (with a further change at Ashford International), I had a swift half in the JDW Barrel Vault. Most of the GBG pubs in Hastings are in the Old Town so a £6.00 taxi was called to get me to my first destination, the Crown. There were two sticks on the bar both from Battle brewery and I selected Tostig EPA (3.9%). I had a brief chat with locals and was pointed to other pubs worth visiting in the town.

There now follows an account of the type: "went there, drank that" with little in the way of extra colour. Should any reader wish to follow the route, here is a summary:

Dolphin, 6 ales, Kent Tropic Ale (4.9%), First In Last Out, 4 ales, FILO Churches Pale (4.2%), Jenny Lind, 5 ales, Three Acre Mosaic Pale (4.0%), Albion, 4 ales, Lakedown Spring Ale (3.8%), Imperial, 3 ales, Brewing Brothers Jack In The Green Hazy Pale (4.5%), 12 Hundred Postcards (micro), 3 ales (notes lost)

Of course, there is a good chance that the ales sampled will be long gone by the time you visit. If you wish to try beers you haven't had before from breweries you've never heard of and you live in the Derby area, you can do a lot worse than calling in at the **Smithfield** in Derby – as regular visitors know, the beer list is constantly changing and it's a lot more convenient than travelling all the way to f***ing Hastings**! And if you visit on a Tuesday, you can meet HH

himself. Anyway, back to the story...

Treating myself to another taxi, I headed back towards the station and called at the White Rocks Hotel just by the pier and my final watering hole. From a choice of 4 ales, I selected Well Sprung (4.3%) from Rother Valley. It was then bus and trains back to St Pancras and Derby where I had final pint in the Brunny. A cracking day out with warm weather and a warm welcome in all the pubs! I only missed out on 1 pub (micro), the Jolly Fisherman as it didn't open until 4.00 pm. Original manuscript by HH, interpretation and embellishments by Snug Dave.

** To readers from Hastings, no offence intended. I'm sure Hastings is lovely and has many fine pubs.

Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

19th-20th Aug. Thornbridge Peakender Beer, Cider, Street Food & Music Festival. Bakewell Showground, Derbyshire 25th-28th Aug. Angels Micropub Beer Festival. 26 Market Place, Belper. Lenton Lane Tap Takeover. 24th-28th Aug. Furnace Beer Festival. Duke Street, Derby. 20 cask ales, 10 keg beers, 6 ciders 25th-29th Aug. PotFest (Flowerpot). 19-25 King Street, Derby. 30+ ales & ciders 25th-29th Aug. White Lion Beer Festival. 74 Swingate, Kimberley, Nottingham. 12 ales, 4 ciders 1st-4th Sept. Burton Ale Trail. Around 15 venues. www.facebook.com/groups/burtonaletrail 8th-10th Sept. Ashbourne Beer Festival. Ashbourne Town Hall, Ashbourne. 50+ ales & ciders 8th-10th Sept. 28th Tamworth Beer Festival. Tamworth Assembly Rooms, Corporation Street, Tamworth. 75+ ales

2nd-6th Aug. GBBF, Olympia Exhibition Centre, Olympia Way, Hammersmith Road, London. 1000+ ales 23rd-27th Aug. 43rd Peterborough Beer Festival. The Embankment, Embankment Road, Peterborough 24th-27th Aug. 25th Clacton Beer Festival. St James Church Hall, 56 Tower Road, Clacton-on-Sea 25th-29th Aug. Charters Beer Festival. Lower Deck Charters, Town Bridge, Peterborough 31st Aug-3rd Sept. 40th Durham Beer Festival. Durham Rugby Club, Green Lane, Durham. 30 ales, 6-8 ciders 1st-3rd Sept. Ulverston Beer Festival. Coronation Hall, Ulverston. 70 ales, 8 keg beers, cider/perry 2nd-3rd Sept. Harbury Beer Festival. Harbury Village Hall, Harbury. 40 ales, 10 ciders 2nd-5th Sept. The Rising Sun Beer Festival. Church Road, Shackerstone, Nuneaton. www.risingsunpub.com 3rd Sept. Cheltenham Motor Club Beer Festival. Upper Park Street, Cheltenham. www.cheltmc.com 3rd Sept. Yardley Beer Festival. St Edburgha's Church Hall, Yardley. 20 ales, 20 ciders 3rd-4th Sept. Faversham Hop Festival. Faversham Town Centre and Pubs 8th-10th Sept. Shrewsbury Beer Festival. Church of St Mary, St Mary's Street, Shrewsbury. 100+ ales 8th-10th Sept. Bridgnorth Beer Festival. The Railway Station, Hollybush Lane, Bridgnorth 8th-10th Sept. Newton St Willows Beer Festival. Earlstown Viaduct Sports & Social Club, Earle Street, Newton 9th-11th Sept. 15th Moreton Beer Festival. Moreton Cricket Club, Moreton-in-Marsh

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.

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

SMITHFIELD

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



41 HIGH STREET
SOUTH NORMANTON
DERBYSHIRE DE55 2BP
5 REAL ALES
6 REAL CIDERS
OPEN ALL DAY TUES – SUN
07709 762448



@Market Tavern South Normanton

Disclaimer: The RuRAD Executive would like it known that no current or past member of the group is descended from the race of inter-dimensional, shape-shifting reptilian beings known as Archons (as postulated by David Icke). But then we would say that wouldn't we? [sound of wild reptilian laughter]