



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 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 beer-centric publications.

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that "In The Sticks" reports that Colin Hartle (aka Del Boy) and father of Graham (Rodders), passed away on 17th August 2022. His involvement with all things RuRADian dates back to 2004 at about the time that "In The Sticks" was first published. From August 2004 up until June 2018, Del & Rod's Real Ale Rambles were a regular feature of the newsletter. In the early days of RuRAD, Colin was a regular on bus trips and beer festival jaunts and up until recently helped spread the real ale word by distributing copies. Our condolences go out to Colin's family at this time.

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

Beer & Pub News

A new brewery, **beerSocial**, based in the Attercliffe area of Sheffield has started to release its first brews and can be sampled at the **Brunswick**, Derby - at least at the time of writing. Three beers are reported on Untappd: **Out To Launch** (4.5%), **Just The Job** (4.8%) and **Mind The Gap** (4.0%). The following information has been lifted from an article by Dave Pickersgill which appeared on the Sheffield CAMRA web-site:

SEPTEMBER 2022

Head Brewer, Richard Hough gained his brewing experience at **Abbeylea**, **Acorn**, **Lenton Lane** and **Shiny** and was also co-founder of the **Blue Bee** brewery. The brewing kit was formerly used by **Little Ale Cart** whose beers were sold at the **Wellington**, Shalesmore before their change to **Neepsend**. **brewSocial** is associated with the Yes2Ventures (Y2V) group who aim to provide work opportunities for people disadvantaged in the labour market. Y2V also manage **theSocial** which includes a bar where **brewSocial** ales may be found. More details can be found by putting "brewSocial Sheffield" into Google.

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

Charisma Bypass reports that he sampled and approved of two ales at Angels micro-pub, Belper from **Lord's Brewing** which are based in Golcar, outside Huddersfield. These were **Malamute** (4.5%) IPA and **The Bandon Car** (4.8%), an Irish Porter. The brewery was founded in 2015 and contrary to some rumours, has no connection with **Magic Rock**, also based in Huddersfield.

The **Five Lamps**, Derby will be closing for refurbishment by the new licensees (Brown Ales) on the 3rd September and is expected to re-open to the public on the 20th. A soft opening by invitation only on the 19th September is planned.

I've recently heard from the owners of the **Greyhound Inn**, Warslow (Lee and Jenni Wilson), about their new on-site brewery, opening shortly and which will be called **Wilson's of Warslow Brewing Co**. Photos on both the pub and brewery Facebook pages show the brewing space being prepared and brewing equipment ready for installation. It sounds like a visit out to this lovely area will shortly be on the cards. Good luck to all

involved. **The Didler**.

A planning application has been submitted to Buxton Borough Council (22/00537/FUL) to convert a shop on Lawrence Avenue, Awnsworth to a micro-pub.

The **Smithfield**, Derby has won POTY for Derbyshire South with the **Talbot**, Ripley as runner up. The **Smithfield** will now compete with the other regional winners for the East Midlands title.

It is reported that the **Thorn Tree**, Ripley and the **Steampacket**, Swanwick, no longer offer CAMRA discount.

Tom Soar, owner of **Tom Said**, Ripley sent an update regarding his recent brewing and beer festival activities...

Following the purchase of the Bartleby's Brewing kit, the first beer from the newly named **Belper Brewing Co**. has been produced, a 4.1% hazy pale hopped with Cascade and Simcoe and called **One**. This has been distributed to **Tom Said** (Ripley), **Bang In Belper**, **Arkwrights** (Belper), **White Hart** (Bargate), **Flowerpot** (Derby), **Smithfield** (Derby), **Brown Cow** (Mansfield), **Partizan Tavern** (Nottingham), **Shakespeares Ale & Cider House** (Sheffield) and **Kelham Island Tavern** (Sheffield). Further brews, to be called **Two**, **Three** and **Four** are either planned or in production. Apparently, these are test brews and are unlikely to be repeated.



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5 REAL ALES

6 REAL CIDERS

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The Monk Road Taproom will be hosting an event on the 9th & 10 September offering 6 cask ales, 4 keg beers, wine and gin as well as live music on both days. A beer festival will be held at Monk Road on the 6th-9th October and the traditional Imperial Stout Festival will be at **Tom Said**, Ripley on the

week-end of 14th-18th December. More details will follow closer to the time. It is also hoped that an event will be held at the **Belper Brewing Co.** premises later in the year but the dates have yet to be figured out.

Contributors: Bald Eagle, Charisma Bypass, The Didler, The Jedi, Snug Dave, Sooty

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

Beer Festival News

There is no shortage of beer festivals to entertain the ale drinker in September so here are extra details about a couple of them in the local area...

Tamworth Beer Festival (8th-10th, September) will feature 75+ real ales from micro-breweries, including festival specials and many new ales plus a range of ciders and perries. On Friday & Saturday evenings there will be a Gin and Belgian Bottles Bar from 7.00 pm. Open 11.00-11.00 each day. Admission £3.00 except Friday 5.00-11.00 (£4.00). Admission to CAMRA members is £1.00 throughout.

Readers should also know that Lichfield, Sutton & Tamworth (LST) CAMRA have produced an excellent Tamworth Town Ale Trail leaflet which can be downloaded from their similarly excellent web-site - very clear and easy to navigate and, as far as I can tell, all the links work, which is more than can be said for some other CAMRA web-sites I have visited. **Snug Dave.**

The Great Central Railway beer festival returns for its 14th year from the 8th-11th September. There are bars at Loughborough Central, Quorn & Woodhouse, Rothley and Leicester North stations but check the Great Central Railway web-site for details about the opening hours. 70+ beers are promised from breweries near and far including **Blue Bee, Dow Bridge, Goffs, Moonface** and **Tindall**. Also expect 20+ ciders/perries. Cost of entry is £4.00 or it's free with a ticket to travel on one of the trains, which are running on every day of the festival.

RuRAD Snippet

Bell & Harp, 29th July

On recent visits to the **Bell & Harp**, Little Eaton on a Friday afternoon, ales spotted on the bar have included **Bass, Little Rambler, Stancills Stainless, Dancing Duck Release**

The Quacken & Aye Up, Silver Brewhouse Eyup Cockal, TT Landlord, Whim Hartington IPA, Blue Monkey PG Sips and Thornbridge Green Mountain. Plus at least 2 draught ciders from Lilleys. This is a fine looking pub and they also host the currently fashionable pop-up food outlets from the car park. Recent travelling kitchens have included El Capo's, Dine Like A Don and Let's Taco 'Bout It. **Snug Dave.**

Out & About

Regular contributor to "In The Sticks", Chris P Duck, makes frequent trips to west Wales and submits articles about each visit. Here is one from earlier this year...

Ceredigion, April 2022

A long weekend visit to see my brother in mid to west Wales based in Llangeitho enabled a few pub visits but in this area pubs with decent ales are few and far between. At Llangeitho we twice visited the **GBG Three Horseshoe**, having a good quality meal there one evening. The landlord originates from Heage and is a long suffering Rams supporter - he offered 2 ales from **Evan Evans** of which I preferred the darker **Warrior** to the **Ocean Gold**. On one trip out to **Lampeter** where I had not been before and is one of the larger towns, we found a dearth of decent pubs so visited the **Black Lion** which is more of a hotel and eatery. This featured just the one cask ale, **Glamorgan Jemima's Pitchfork** although that was reasonable. The **GBG Nag's Head** is nearby and may have been worth a visit but I did not have enough time. It seems unlikely that I would visit Lampeter again for beer.

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

We also visited **Aberystwyth** and tried a couple of **GBG** pubs that I had been in previously. The **Glengower Hotel** is a proper residential hotel but has a decent bar area and good ale selection with on my visit with **Mantle Rock Steady** and **Moho, Wye Valley Butty Bach, Purple Moose Glaslyn Ale** and **TT Landlord**. It is great to sit outside with bay views when the weather is decent, albeit not on this occasion. The **Wetherspoons Yr Hen Orsaf** is opposite the bus stop so I had time for a quick one before departing. This is one of their more disappointing outlets and quite shabby inside. I tried **Peerless Knee-Buckler**

IPA but sent it back as it did not clear, to be replaced by **Ringwood Old Thumper** which was the only option other than the usual 'Spoons beers. The latter was not much better and the barman did not turn round the **Peerless** clip although I asked him to do it. Ironically there was a sign on the bar claiming "Good Beer Guide 2022 - We Are In It" - for the life of me I cannot imagine how. Our only other pub visit was to the **Black Lion** at Llanrhystud where we had an excellent meal accompanied by a decent pint of **Brains Rev James**, which was the only cask ale. I will be back in the area again on a regular basis and hope to find a few more decent pubs but it appears to be a tall order especially as there are some that I have never yet seen open. **Chris P Duck.**



BLACK BULLS HEAD

2 Kilburn Lane, Openwoodgate
Belper, Derbyshire
DE56 0SF

Your editor also has family connections in Wales, having been born in Pembrokeshire and, prior to the Covid pandemic, I would make regular visits to the area (also many times as a child but drinking beer wasn't on the agenda in those days). I generally planned my journey from Derby along a route which included **Ross-on-Wye, Brecon** and **Carmarthen** and I would call in at a couple of **GBG** pubs along the way for lunch and a beer. Based on my own experiences and reading through **CPD's** articles, it's difficult not to come to the conclusion that finding pubs with interesting ales in south-central and west Wales can be hard going. That's not to say that there aren't fine pubs in this area but the beer selection can often be disappointing and even the **GBG** pubs regularly offer no more than 2 (or maybe 3) different ales. This is a shame when as of January 2021 the **Brewery Bible** (www.thebrewerybible.com) lists 78 breweries in the principality including well-known brands like **Bluestone, Evan Evans, Purple Moose** and **Tiny Rebel**. **Snug Dave.**

Liverpool, 7th July 2022

Thirteen aspiring lovable moptops from the Last Drinking Skool (motto: *Veni Bibi Cecidi*) descended upon the Knowledge Quarter of Liverpool on a lucky sunny Thursday in early July not affected by train strikes and also currently devoid of court hearings for any up before the beak. A 10 minute stroll from Lime Street station led us to meet at the **GBG Dispensary** where most opted for a good

pint of **Ossett White Rat** while others chose **Oakham Citra**, **Titanic Plum Porter**, **Weetwood Eastgate** or **Weetwood Southern Cross**. The bar was not yet busy and we managed to all sit around the long table and stayed for another pint.

Pete and Tracey welcome you to
THE RAILWAY
25 King Street, Belper

Serving 8 Cask Ales, 6 Craft Beers
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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

Seven of our number were at Swansea Uni in the 1970s so a photo was taken outside before we moved on to the **Fly In The Loaf**, a converted bakery owned by **Okell's**, based in the Isle of Man. This pub features a long large bar and plenty of seating, where **Okell's Bitter** was enjoyed, along with more **Ossett White Rat** and **Silver King**, **Rat Brewery Rat In Black**, **Rooster's Yankee** and **Thornbridge Jaipur** keg, all while sitting underneath a TV showing a man with unruly blond hair going through the motions of a resignation. Happenstance, our plan went haywire too. As a large group, we had two bankers, each holding a kitty - and while one banker went one way, and t'other, t'other, the group split. Follow the money. Nothing personal, strictly business. A little time was spent in the **Philharmonic Dining Rooms** despite forewarning of high prices, but we hadn't reckoned on it being packed on an early weekday afternoon with new graduates in mortar boards and their proud families. Without stopping for a beer, some went to admire the plumbing, and each faction moved on to other pubs.

The **Caledonian** is a vegan corner pub with beer and food and a stage, but just beer was taken at this time - **Melwood Knowsley Blonde**, **Flagship Parade**, **Happy Hippie Friend of the Devil**, and **Westons Old Rosie** cider were scored. We had passed the **Roscoe Head** as a large group, but now we were whittled down to a size the pub (one of GBG Magnificent Five) could accommodate. **4T's Chocolate & Fudge "Stout Detectives"**, **Mallinsons Wai-iti Golden Ale** and **Timothy Taylor Landlord** were selected from the six cask pumps. Not far away is the **Grapes** (where mortar boards were again fashionable), and space was found in this corner local to enjoy **Wander Beyond Black Arches** and **Cwrw Iâl Community Kia Kaha! (Be Strong!)** were chosen from nine pumps and this pub scored highest at the end of the day.

Meanwhile our splinter group had hastened

their step, perhaps having realised they had a greater share of the kitty than they should have, and entered **Ye Cracke**. From their two pumps we ordered **Bass Premium Ale** and **Phoenix Dragon IPA** to drink in one of many snugs after the very chatty landlady had delighted/interrogated us long enough. My 1968 Beatles biography mentions this pub as a hangout of John Lennon when an art student. Despite phone calls, messaging and pigeon post, the groups didn't reform. A ten minute stroll along Duke Street led some to the **Bridewell**, Grade II listed local 2022 POTY where the former police cells are now seating areas although we stayed outside in the shaded garden to drink **Brewsmith West Coast Pale** and **Conwy Welsh Pride**.

It was getting into the early evening so the various tribes headed to Lime Street, but those with time to spare stopped at **Dr Duncan's** to have a bite to eat and drink **Cains Best Bitter**, **Neptune Shifting Sands** and **Brains The Rev James** in this large pub with conference rooms where later, had we not already exhausted our polemic, we could have joined Merseyside Skeptics social night. A gallant last stand was made at the **Crown** to taste **Adnams Eastern Edge**, **Oakham Citra** and **Fullers London Pride** before trains home to Bolton, London, Birmingham and Chesterfield. Our unlucky Derby constituent however got stuck at Grindleford behind a broken goods train so hitched to Bakewell where his dutiful spouse collected him and got him home just before midnight. At least he didn't have to spend the night in the 3.5 mile Totley Tunnel but he will have to buy a new rolling pin.

A good day, good beer and good pubs, and plenty more Liverpool and Merseyside real ale to explore another time. The beer of the day was that first **Ossett White Rat**. Our ages mean we know the Mersey Sound from first time around, although memories for Beatle songs are fading. Does anyone remember *Getting Bitter*, *Get Bock*, *Let It Beer* and *Can't Buy Me Lager?* **Ginger Baker**.

Barrie & Sarah would like to
welcome you to the...



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Dart & Dominoes every Tuesday
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Children & dogs welcome
Beer Garden at rear

Yorkshire South & West, 8th July

On a very hot day we caught the train to Barnsley, changing at Sheffield *en route*. We were quite early and we needed to use the JDW **Joseph Bramah** until other target pubs

opened. It was a typical 'Spoons outlet with a local ale offering of **Saltaire Titus & Cascade** and **Ossett White Rat** - I had the **Titus** which was decent. Almost next door is the black and white timbered **GBG Old No.7** which we found to be a pleasant old town pub with friendly staff. Of the 4 **Acorn** ales on offer I chose the traditional **Barnsley Bitter** which was excellent as was the **Rudgate Golden Ale**, with others from **Abbeydale** and **Chin Chin** plus **Old Peculier**. There was also a Cotswold cider on draught. I passed my time conversing with an agreeable local at the bar who always drank **Old Moor Porter** from **Acorn**. An excellent pub but as with many others, perhaps less appealing when busy on week-end evenings. Moving down a pedestrianised street opposite we soon found the **GBG Jolly Tap**, home of the **Jolly Boys Brewery**. Here I had their **Jolly Collier Porter** & **YPA**, served by a great friendly barmaid who took a photo of our "celebrity" team. Superb beer and a most enjoyable visit with **Yorkshire Bitter** & **Supa-Citra PA** completing the range.



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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

It was then a short walk to the station and on to Castleford. Here we found the **GBG Doghouse** amongst a plethora of mainly tacky shops in a modern street. Fortunately the pub itself was great with a couple of very keen lads on the bar where I tried **Redemption Trinity** (only 3.0%) and **Harrogate Best**, both being very good. There were 2 other ales from **Wilde Child**, another from **Harrogate** and an 8.5% ale called **Razz Matazz** (I could not read the brewery name from my picture*), plus plenty of craft keg ales. The walls were decorated with all sorts of cartoons with inscriptions of song lyrics all over the ceiling in this rustic setting. Moving on next to the **GBG Junction** which is famous for serving most of the ales from their own wooden casks backfilled from local breweries. It is a tiled corner pub with the old "Beverley Fine Ales" original raised lettering still displayed. Inside it is very dated with separate rooms and high ceilings - a typical locals pub of a bygone era. Whether the ales we had were from the wood or not I did not ascertain but they were again very good - the bar held 2 ales from **Half Moon** and 2 from **Stancill**.

Back to the train again for the short journey to Darton, where we began at the **GBG Anvil Arms**, one of the two village micro-pubs. With

4 local ales to select from I chose **Mill Valley Mill Blonde** ahead of **Yorkshire Bitter** & **Cardinal Sin** from **Nailmaker** and **Clash Porter** from **Revolutions**. Also on the main road is the **G B G Darton Tap** but with a far less interesting ale selection of **Boltmaker**, **White Rat** and **Wainwright**. The former was still very good and I expect the selection would be better on another occasion.

Our next train stop was at Chapelton where it was a pleasure to visit the very popular **GBG Commercial**. With 8 ales available it was difficult to choose - I recall drinking **TT Ram Tam** which I had not had for ages but forgot to record the other (recurring theme here). Other ales were from **Durham** (x2), **White Rose**, **Abbeylea**, **Neepsend** plus **Landlord** and **White Rat**. Another cracking old fashioned

pub with numerous small rooms and outside tables on the car park. After this we still had time to visit the **Sheffield Tap** but did not record the extensive ale list here before departing for home. **Chris P Duck**.

* **Bosun's**, Huddersfield. The pump clip says Razz Matatz but Untappd seems to think it's Razamatatz?! Ed.

Beer Festival Diary - Near and Not so Near

1st-4th Sept. Burton ale Trail. Around 15 venues. www.facebook.com/groups/burtonaletrail
2nd-3rd Sept. Bolsover Beer Festival. Bolsover FC, Moor Lane, Bolsover, Derbyshire. Real ale, cider, gin, food
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
8th-11th Sept. Great Central Railway Beer Festival. Loughborough Central and outlying stations. 70+ beers, 20+ ciders
1st Oct. Bustler Market Burger & Beer Festival. Siddals Road, Derby. Session 1, 12.00-5.00, Session 2, 6.00-11.00. All tickets £4.50

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-3rd Sept. Windsor Beer Festival. Windsor & Eaton Brewery Taproom, Duke Street, Windsor. www.webrew.co.uk
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
14th-17th Sept. York Beer Festival, York Racecourse, Knavesmire Road, York. 500+ ales, 100 ciders
15th-17th Sept. Cannock Beer Festival. Prince of Wales Theatre, Church Street, Cannock Staffordshire. 15 ales, 15 ciders
16th-17th Sept. 20th Melton Mowbray Beer Festival. Stockyard, MM Market, Scalford Road. 40+ ales, keg & cider
16th-18th Sept. 7th Cleethorpes Rail Ale & Blues Festival. Lakeside Station, Kings Road, Cleethorpes. 30+ ales, cider
16th-18th Sept. Abbfest Beer, Food & Music Festival. Fermoy's Garden Centre, Totnes Road, Newton Abbot. 200+ beers & ciders
16th-18th Sept. 10th Crewe Rail ale Beer Festival. Crewe Heritage Centre, Vernon Way, Crewe. 50+ ales + cider
17th-18th Sept. Torrside Brewery Smokefest Featuring Smoked Beers. The Wharf, Hibbert Street, New Mills, Derbyshire
19th-25th Sept. Harrogate Beer Week. Harrogate, North Yorkshire, www.harrogatebeerweek.co.uk
22nd-24th Sept. Calderdale Beer Festival. 18-20 Powell Street, Halifax, West Yorkshire. 60 ales (20 out the wood) & cider
28th Sept-1st Oct. St Albans Beer Festival. Alban Arena, Civic Centre, St Albans
30th Sept-1st Oct. Ascot Racecourse Beer Festival. 160+ ales, cider/perry. www.ascot.co.uk
30th Sept-1st Oct. St Georges Hall Beer Festival. St Georges Place, Liverpool. 200 ales, craft, cider, gins

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, Jedi, Konrad, and Sooty. Apologies if I've missed anyone. Thanks also to our advertisers without whom this newsletter would not get published.

Tracy and all the staff welcome you to the

OLD OAK INN

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

ROYAL OAK

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Current Derby CAMRA
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  <https://royaloakockbrook.com>

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