

'Briar & Bothies'

The newsletter of

THE KEARVAIG PIPE CLUB



Stag Bothy Review: Matron's Birthday, Bevvy & Briar Beano, 30/03/13

Five KPC members convened at the superb Stag bothy and sprung a birthday surprise on an unsuspecting Matron. In fact Messrs Matron and Hydrocarbon had been bashing the briar for the previous two nights, first at Sarah's bothy and then at Luibleathan bothy, so they were 'nicely in the groove' when the bairns arrived; namely Messrs Bananas, Bingae, and Dazbo.

Stag is well appointed; wood paneled with a large main room complete with substantial multi-fuel stove, sturdy table and selection of chairs. There are also two bedrooms and a large ante-room. A notable feature is the elegant covered balcony allowing for a protected outdoor bowl with a view. Being in a forest there is also plenty of wood laying about to supplement any coal brought in by the Chaps. In fact on this occasion Matron and Hydrocarbon had opted not to bring any petrified carboniferous forest with them, as they were banking on the fact that a cache left from previous outing at Stag remained insitu, which was the case. However, their collective failure to concoct a plausible story about this sleight-of-hand led to justified condemnation from the bairns who had lugged in their fair share (a note in the ledger & bothy points deducted, Ed.).

Matron was presented with both a birthday cake and a 100g tin of Petersons Special 2012 Reserve – see tobacco of the month in this issue - which he was most grateful for, and of course the chaps did not need a second invitation for a crack at the Peterson's. Another blend sampled at this moot was the easy smoking vanilla aromatic (from 'My Smoking Shop') 'Black Kathy'. Predictably this lead to several twisted and rather dreadful renditions of the Ram Jam hit: 'Black Betty' thus: "Whohoa Black *Kathy*, bamba-lam..." etc. A dreadful new low was attained...

The Splendid Stag Bothy



A special mention must be made of the fine effort from Dazbo for lugging in a 5-litre 'Fyne Ales' (bothy points awarded, Ed.) beer cask to the moot.

However, being cask conditioned this most excellent brew was a tad on the cloudy side, but as the evening became just at hazy nobody noticed or cared, in fact an unbecoming onslaught involving a Swiss Army knife on the 'empty' cask was launched, yielding what could only be described as two mugs of 'yeast-soup'. Ablutions for a couple of Chaps the next morning would be rapid and messy affairs....

Cont. p. 2

Stag Bothy Review: Matron's Birthday, Bevvy &

Briar Beano: Cont.

Joe bananas gets to grips with his 'dottle-smasher'. Fine pipe skills Sir!



The Stag moot in full swing...







Three's a crowd!





"Smoking is one of the leading causes of statistics." - Unknown.

The Pipe Scientific

In this article our guest lecturer, Professor Briar, examines and de-mystifies some of the science that lies behind the art of briar & leaf...

The Dottler Effect

Picture this common scenario: You are perusing your morning paper on a sunny, still, day on the bench by your village duck-pond. Then, without warning, you get a merest whiff of a Chap's pipe tobacco as he's strolling first towards, and then past, your cast-iron and wooden perch. Being a Chap, your mind would obviously be full of enquiry, thus: What pipe is that Chap smoking? In what type of pipe is he smoking it? Is it an aromatic on non-aromatic blend? Are his brogues shiny? Has he left his bottom button on his waistcoat undone? And so on.

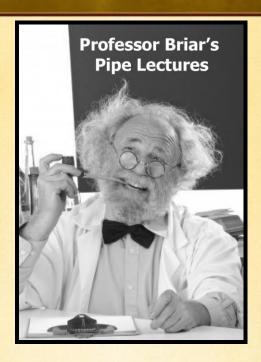
Moreover, have you ever stopped to wonder, on such a calm day, why the strength of the aroma from the perambulating Chap's tobacco starts with the merest whiff through a steadily increasing scent to a full-on room note, only to recede back to the merest petite frisson? Although the answer to this conundrum may at first glance appear obvious, being a Chap you would naturally prefer some objective science-based evidence to explain this phenomenon.

Therefore you will be delighted to hear that the editorial team at B&B, in conjunction with the esteemed Prof. Briar, have been researching this most interesting phenomenon for some time, and after many long afternoons in the reference section of the Science Museum have unearthed an obscure scientific paper from the little-known and now defunct journal 'Tobacco Physics' that explains all; namely 'The 'Dottler Effect'.

So, fill your bowl with your favourite mixture and don your lab coat and prepare for a physics tour-de-force!

Background

The Dottler effect was named after Austrian physicist Christian Dottler after he first explained the movement of tobacco molecules and subsequent olfactory perception by an observer in his paper 'Tobacco Aroma: Movement and Perception Through the Atmosphere', 1842.



The Dottler Effect is a complex theorem that depends on the position and/or movement of the source of the tobacco scent (e.g. the perambulating pipe smoking Chap) in relation to the position and/or movement of the observer (e.g. the Chap on the park bench). **Cont. p.4**

Health, Safety & Environment advice for Chaps reading this article:





"Tobacco, divine, rare superexcellent tobacco, which goes far beyond all panaceas, potable gold and philosopher's stones, a sovereign remedy to all diseases."

- Robert Burton, Anatomy of Melancholy

The Dottler Effect, cont.

The Dottler Effect Theorem

Dottler's paper in *Tobacco Physics* culminates in a wonderfully elegant equation that explains how our Chap on the park bench experiences the perambulating Chap's tobacco aroma thus: where the speeds of source (i.e. the Chap's pipe) and the receiver relative to the medium (i.e. the air) are lower than the velocity of waves in the medium, the relationship between observed

frequency f and emitted frequency f_0 is given by the equation:

 $f = \left(\frac{c + v_{\rm r}}{c + v_{\rm s}}\right) f_0$

Where:

c is the velocity of tobacco molecules (or waves) in the medium (air);

Vr is the velocity of the observer (Chap on park bench) relative to the medium (air); positive if the observer is moving towards the source and negative if moving away;

Us is the velocity of the source (the perambulating Chap) relative to the medium (air); positive if the source is moving away from the observer (Chap on park bench) and negative if moving toward.

In essence in the above equation the frequency of the tobacco molecules is decreased if either the source and/or the observer are moving away from the other.

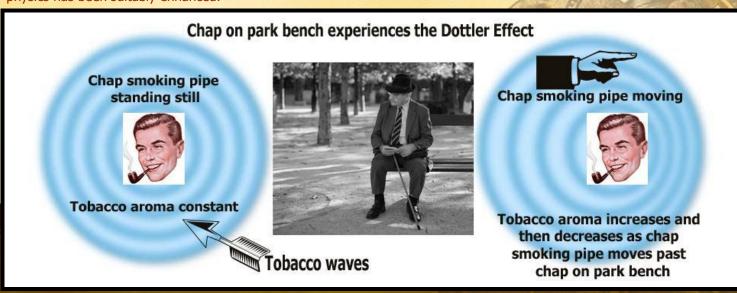
However, the above formula assumes that the source is either *directly* approaching or *receding* from the observer. If the source approaches the observer at an angle (but still with a constant velocity), the *observed* aroma that is first smelt is higher than the object's *emitted* aroma. Thereafter, there is a monotonic decrease in the observed aroma as the source gets closer to the observer, through equality (i.e. equivalent to the room note) when it is closest to the observer and a continued monotonic decrease as it recedes from the observer. When the observer is very close to the path of the object, the transition from high to low aroma is very abrupt (i.e. almost a full room note). When the observer is far from the path of the object, the transition from high to low aroma is gradual.

Of course equations are excellent for the mathematicians among us, but some Chap's may relate more easily to a diagrammatic representation of Dottler's theorem - see below for a diagram of The Dottler Effect that even the simplest juggins could understand.

The Origins of 'Dottle'

As I'm sure that you are aware the remnants in your pipe after a smoke is known as 'dottle'. However, not many Chaps will be aware that the term 'dottle' is derived from Christian Dottler and his theorem! Some Chaps may also have heard of a related theory known as the 'Dottler Shift', which is, of course, simply the act of removing the dottle from your pipe.

Professor Briar hopes that you have found this tutorial useful, and that your appreciation of this crucial aspect of tobaccophysics has been suitably enhanced.



Chap's Corner

In this edition we take a close look at the tiresome problem of under inflated vulcanised pneumatic devices found on your motor car; but with our simple step-by-step guide we help a Chap turn potential defeat into stunning victory!

Curious as it may seem to a Chap who enjoys his asphalt adventures, when it comes to practical matters of motor maintenance some ladies, rather perversely, find a Chap with a modicum of mechanical proficiency attractive. Therefore, it is highly recommended that a Chap be capable of a few rudimentary repairs, or at least be able to put on a good show before seeking some form of roadside assistance from the RAC. (Naturally, a Chap would never join the 'AA' as that is for members of the underclass and alcoholics, Ed.)

Of course such tiresome burdens of car maintenance should routinely be left to greasy ruffians in dirty overalls at one's garage. But what if you are escorting a lady friend for a day at the races or, more importantly, an afternoon at a discreet hotel and all of a sudden your motor feels somewhat sluggish? It is possible that you have a defect in one or more of your vulcanised pneumatic devices commonly referred to as 'tyres'.

To help a Chap who is presented with this conundrum, the Chaps at B&B have developed a simple tutorial that will assist you on your way, or more importantly, ensure that the discreet liaison you may have had planned is accomplished and that a potentially disastrous pickle is transformed into a romantic adventure, memories of which you and your mistress will cherish forever! Cont. p.6

NO! What the blazes does this Chap think he's doing! On no account should any right-thinking Chap lift his motor's bonnet unaccompanied...





Step 1 — Ascertain that your motor has a flat tyre. Although the tyre only looks flat at the bottom it really is quite unserviceable and corrective action will be required. You may wish to ask your mistress to verify the fault thus ensuring that she appreciates the magnitude of the challenge presented to you — see below.



Page 5

Chap's Corner cont:

The B&B guide to dealing with a flat tyre.

Step 2 – remove your driving goggles.



Step 3 - Remove your driving gloves.



Step 4 - Locate your pipe; fill with your favourite blend and light



Step 5 – Refer to your portmanteau and pour a glass of champagne for you and your lady friend to steady her nerves and transform any uncertainty on your part into winning confidence...





Step 6 – Locate your motor's external pipe rack and place pipe in securely to prepare for Step 7. Cont. p.7







Chap's Corner cont:

The B&B guide to dealing with a flat tyre.

Step 7 – Now we come to the tiresome technical part. However, to ensure admiring glances and feminine approval, a Chap best pay attention to this step that would normally be outside his comfort zone. Locate your car's tyre iron, jack and spare wheel. The tyre iron is used to remove and replace the wheel nuts. The jack elevates your car to facilitate replacement of the wheel with the flat tyre with your spare wheel. If your mistress is of a modern or spunky disposition, she may





Cont. p.8



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Stylish motoring Chaps are recommended to contact the editorial team at B&B for more details about the KPC range of designer driver apparel, all at reassuringly expensive prices to deter 'boy-racers'. (Of course our apparel would be less expensive if all was right in the world where the plebs would not be allowed on our highways in the first place, Ed.)

Chap's Corner cont:

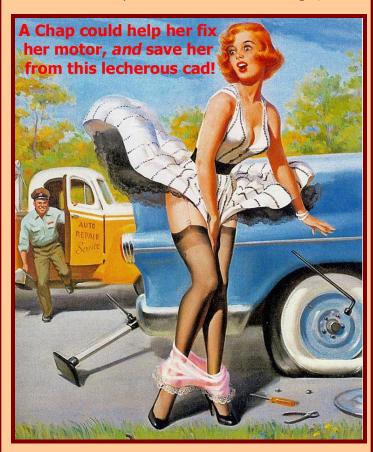
The B&B guide to dealing with a flat tyre.

Step 8 – Now with all that technical nastiness out the way you can stand back, enjoy well-earned admiring glances and finish that hard-earned bowl. Well done Sir!



Conclusion

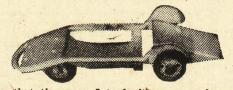
We hope that you have enjoyed and gained valuable wisdom from this guide. Perhaps if driving alone you could use your new found skills to your advantage if you happened on a damsel in distress who may have found herself in a similar predicament..? Food for thought, what!



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LAUGH AT FLAT TIRES

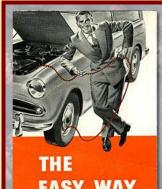


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"Pipe-smokers spend so much time cleaning, filling and fooling with their pipes, they don't have time to get into mischief."
- Bill Vaughan

The KPC Smoking Lounge: Book Review

'Enemy Coast Ahead'

Guy Gibson VC, DSO (bar), DFC (bar)

This is *the* quintessential book about RAF Bomber Command written in 1944 and published in 1946, with a fully uncensored copy only published in 2003. Gibson who joined the RAF in 1936 takes the reader, in plain English, through the development of Bomber Command from the start of WWII when aircraft, equipment and tactics were primitive and indeed some would argue flawed, through to the heroic and thrilling climax of the Dambusters raid.

The description of the spirit, camaraderie, courage and pipe smoking of the bomber pilots and their crews is humbling to the reader. Gibson describes his 'boys' in great detail and his prose is not only highly descriptive but touchingly concerned about all who served with him. He makes no excuses for the numerous stories of partying and the beer-drinking culture that surrounded the crews as their attitude was very much "might as well enjoy today as tomorrow I could be blown to bits!" Parts of the book are superb episodes of Chapish stiff-upper-lip in the extreme, dashed with some jingoism prevalent at the time, that may surprise today's Chaps, but this is a book written during the conflict itself, and so is a very firsthand account.

Gibson was obviously an inspiring leader and rather than rest after his first tour in bombers (mainly in the slow and obsolete Handly Page 'Hampdens') he does a stint in night-fighters, before returning to the 'heavies', his true love, just as the Avro Lancaster was being rolled-out to the bomber squadrons. The Lancaster was the tool that enabled Bomber Command to actually make a difference, as Gibson eloquently describes.

Gibson's story culminates in the formation of 617 Squadron – the squadron of the famed 'Dambuster's raid' (see B&B Vol. 2 Issue 3.), and it was this mission, that he led as Wing Commander, which earned him the Victoria Cross and secured his status as a national hero.

Gibson was killed in action in 1944 whilst flying a Mosquito fighter-bomber over The Netherlands. He is buried in a graveyard in Steenbergen, The Netherlands.

Recommended tobacco when reading this book: Samuel Gawith's 'Squadron Leader' (obviously, Ed.) or other 'English blends' with a stout Latakia content.

Recommended Pipe when reading this book: Straight Apple.

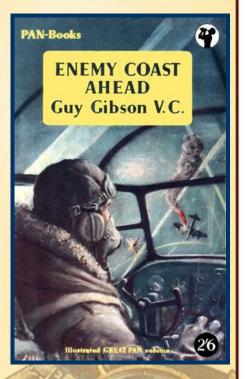
*How Chaptastic is this book?

Y Y Y Y Y

*How pipetastic is this book?







*out of 5

"If there is a Valhalla, Guy Gibson and his band of brothers will be found there at all the parties, seated far above the salt." — Arthur 'Bomber' Harris, introduction to 'Enemy Coast Ahead', by Guy Gibson.

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TOBACCO & PIPE OF THE MONTH

Peterson's Special 2012 Reserve



The Rhodesian

the rounded shank of the Rhodesian against the typical 'diamond' shank of the Bulldog. It can be straight or bent and in

many different finishes.

From the manufacturer:

This marvellous tobacco was specially selected for connoisseurs with high expectations.

Using two kinds of Black Cavendish, one sweet and fresh and the other with a hint of chocolate are blended together with Brown Cavendish and three different Virginias, rounded off with a hint of exclusive, hand cut Virginia and Burley flake.

The aroma of this mixture is delicate, sweet and creamy and results in a fragrance of coffee, chocolate and caramel.

Review:

The tin note is of caramel, toffee and chocolate. The tin is a lovely hinged 100g offering that will no doubt please the collector. This tobacco is also elegantly packed in an inner clear cellophane bag. The cut is coarse of predominantly brown and dark brown leaf. It lights easily and has a sweet aromatic taste of chocolate and toffee throughout the bowl. Aromatic lovers will not be disappointed and Chaps' in the habit of gifting boxes of chocolates to they ladies may consider substituting this fine blend as an alternative.

VV Strength:

VVVV Flavour:

Room note:

VVVV



Whatever the relative merits of the Rhodesian, use as a navigational aid is obviously not one of them. Just look at this hapless Rhodesian smoking Chap who has obviously strayed off course into what would appear to be a 'council estate'...

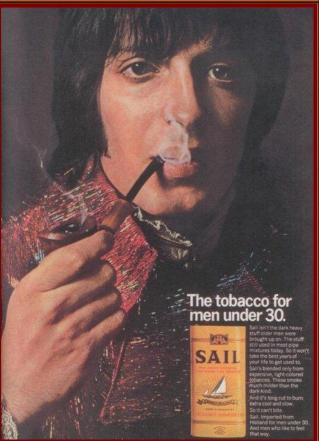


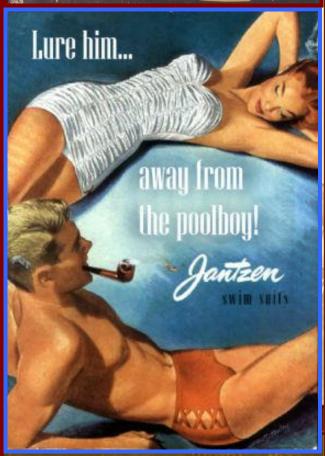
"There are two things a Chap never forgets: his first bike and his first pipe." — Anon.

Pipe Babe of the Month

Our sexy steam-kitten, Victoriana, is a leather clad briar toting devotee of the science-fiction sub-genre known as 'Steampunk'; a group of Chaps and Chapettes dedicated to weird and wonderful steam-powered contraptions. She says she always takes her sturdy briar which adds plenty of aromatic allure to Steampunk gatherings, where she enjoys meeting young Chaps of an evening. We think you'll agree that Victoriana has just the apparatus to bring an ardent Chap some relief when he achieves a full head of steam...







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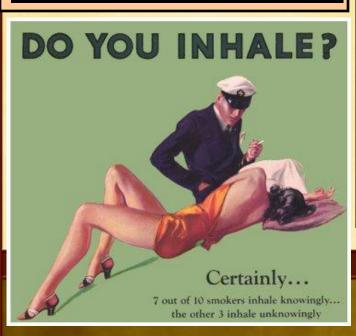
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EXTREME PIPE SMOKING

Up there in Greenland the Chaps know a thing or two about Extremes, and pipe smoking is no exception. This Chap can hunt walrus, paddle his kayak and even do an Eskimo roll all while having a bowl of his favourite blend. Good effort Sir!

Not to be out done the KPC's very own Sergeant Matron has a crack at the Walrus himself on a recent trip off of Scotlands' rugged coast. Some Dunhill 'De-luxe Navy Rolls' helped him with some extreme pipe-action in some testing conditions. No large monsters of the deep, however, were encountered...







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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A forum for KPC members to share their thoughts regarding all things briar, rudimentary shelter, and anything else of pressing import.

OOOER MATRON!

Dear Matron,

Please forgive my tardiness in contacting you since the publication of the last horrendous issue. The reason for this is my sojourn to deepest darkest Africa, where I have been endeavouring to find some new blends of leaf.

I have spent the last two months with a tribe of pygmies who grow the most amazing leaf. The tribe is called the Fukawe, and as their crops grow to five times their height, you can often hear them wandering through the fields shouting: "We're the Fukawe". Well at least I think that was what they were saying.

Back to the matter in hand however; Ooooer Matron the supplement that came with the last issue: brutal, absolutely brutal. In my health and safety pedant capacity, may I suggest that before any more Coonsilling is thrust upon any deserving candidate, you ensure that the Coonsillor has at least a pack of baby wipes on his person, prior to committing the act; failing this, a crevice cleaning foam (available from all major chemists). Such was the quality of the photography, that you couldn't help but observe the staining on dear old Dazbo's internal fuzz. That is of course, if the said staining is what I suspect it is and not just the fallout from an over exuberant Moot. After all we are all aware of the fact that pipe smoke sticks to your person, so why not to the old poopchute?

The greatest description that could possibly have been given to a distorted knacker-sack namely: "a burst space hopper" . That image will live with me forever, and will be used in my darkest moments to uplift my spirits. Matron you are a true wordsmith!

On another note, Bomber Command. What an article, truly an amazing piece of journalism. Your research work is to be applauded. The amazing cobbled together bomb site used by these heroic Chaps was an amazing find, as was the Squadron Crest, both of which we're thought to be consigned to some forgotten archive somewhere in the Imperial War Museum. My best chum Major Bedd also found the entire article fascinating.

Matron you are going to have your work cut out for you to top this issue, but I have every faith that you will give it your very best, as I would expect from such a sterling Chap as yourself.

Regards,

Cpl. Punishment

(Not sent from my smartphone.)

Dear Corporal,

Splendid to hear from you, as ever. Do not be concerned about any tardiness on your part as THAT supplement was bound to be a challenge to any Chap's resolve. Your comment regarding sanitizing wipes is very apposite and I'm sure all KPC members would prefer pre-issue of said wipes prior to the deployment of any Coonsilling. I shall put this down as an agenda item for the AGM.

The exact course of staining of the fuzz is still a matter of conjecture as, for some reason, no volunteers were willing to collect samples for subsequent confirmatory analysis at the time, although the proximity and impedance of a damaged child's inflatable toy may have deterred the stoutest of fellows from taking on such a mission.

I am so glad that you and the Major enjoyed the study of 617 Squadron and their amazing briar-skills. You will therefore be no doubt please to read the book review in this issue that acts as a fitting tribute and follow-up to this most important of historical events.

Ed.

<u>The KPC mentioned in 'Association of</u> Independent Tobacco Specialists' newsletter

Dear Matron,

The latest AITS newsletter has an interesting paragraph:-

"Maclean Dorward, [of] G. T. Coventry in Kirkcaldy sent me a copy of 'Briar & Bothies' the newsletter of the Kearvaig Pipe Club which is a fabulous publication and of which I hope to tell you more about next month."

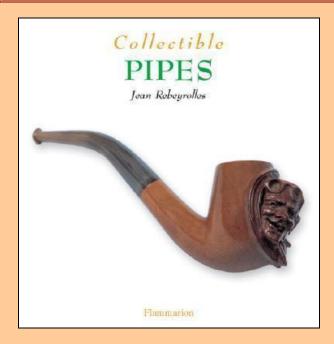
Watch this space as they say.

Maclean Dorward, G T Coventry, Kirkcaldy

Thanks for that Maclean. Nice to have some positive feedback from such an illustrious organization as the AITS. We await developments with interest. Ed.

"Dad tells me my pipe will take all the fire of youth out of me." "Nonsense; it puts fire in, for the old maxim says, "Where there is smoke there is fire." — Anon.

The KPC Smoking Lounge: **Book Review**



A copy of 'Collectible pipes' by Joan Robeyrolles was supplied to the KPC by Maclean at GT Coventry for review.

This lovely little (5 ½ inch x 5 ½ inch) non-fiction book is definitely more of a coffee-table or smoking-lounge book than a comprehensive read, as the 377 pages are chocked full of photos of superb, beautiful pipes from all over the world. However, it also has a fascinating introduction detailing the history of pipes and pipe-making.

The sections detailing the collectible pipes are: 'Classic', 'Figurative', 'Animal', 'Memorable' and 'Unusual', and I think it would be safe to say that most if not all of the pipes pictured in this book could be described as works of art.

Reviewed by Sergeant Matron.

Recommended pipe & tobacco when reading this

Absolutely any tobacco in any pipe, as just about all imaginable pipes are detailed in this book.

How Chapastic is this book?





Want a copy? Just call G T Coventry 01592 263 431 where it is priced at £1.50 + p&p for KPC members.

KPC Notices

KPC t-shirts still available from the Editor at the bargain price of £12-99 + P&P.

All C-mail to the Editor, articles and other correspondence should be addressed to: kearvaigpipeclub@btinternet.com

Website: www.kearvaigpipeclub.co.uk

KPC Future Moots

25th May 2013 The Kearvaig Pipe Club will be performing at Easdale Island. Support: Shooglenifty.

15th June 2013 – Shooglenifty at Fynefest: http://www.fynefest.com/

BEAT THE BAN!

This ingenious Chap shows us some grit; simultaneously sticking it to 'The Man' and enjoying a legal indoor smoke, with a pipe that makes a churchwarden look like a nose-warmer. The world needs more free-thinkers like this Chap. Top Hole, Sir!

