



Pucked: Roddy Jackson
clutches the sole survivors
of his flock.

FARMER: MORTGAGE GANG STOLE MY CHICKENS.

REPORT BY PIERS POLLOCK.

CHICKENS usually only have to worry about the wily old fox. But for Northamptonshire farmer Roddy Jackson's flock, an altogether different menace lurked in the darkness – mortgage specialists.

Mr. Jackson, a poultry farmer for 38 years, visited coup Number 5 at daybreak on Sunday morning to discover that only two hens, Cathy and Bernice, were left to disconsolately scratch the ground in their 25 square metre run.

"These were special Barnevelder chickens, which are famous for their lovely large brown eggs. This was definitely not a fox's doing. There were size ten footprints inside the run and I can tell by the look in the eyes of my two remaining gals that humans are responsible."

However, perhaps the most significant clue is a page from a 'Mortgage Conduct of Business' document, which was found caught in the hinges of the cage door.

This may point to the gang of specialist mortgage experts, dubbed 'Bolton's Eleven' by the press, who are still at large after escaping from a West Midlands institution.

Detective Jim Snaper, who is heading the hunt for the escapees, said, "There have been unconfirmed sightings of Michael Bolton and his mortgage gang right across the Midlands from Kidderminster to Cambridge. If they are hiding out they're going to need to eat. We do not know if the code of conduct was left by mistake or as some sort of bizarre joke. But it is obvious that these people will stop at nothing to remain free."

Anyone with information are urged to call the Incident Room on 01759 3399552.