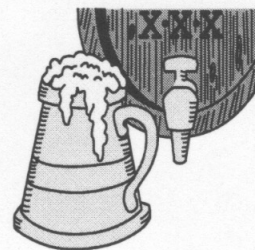


**Jolly Boys GBBF Alternative
Hanging Out By The Thames &
Bopping through Wapping
Thursday 4th August 2005**



For those who seek an alternative to the relatively cheap and interesting beers at the GBBF – a cultural tour along the north bank of the Thames visiting tourist trap pubs with expensive ales of the more common variety.

Culture :-

Once an area of docks, grimy warehouses, inns and opium dens, now filled with expensive apartments and yuppie town pads with river views. Never the less the old “charm” remains and the tour includes a walk across Tower Bridge – a visit to St Katherine’s Dock (now an attractive marina full of huge yachts) – and a stroll down Wapping High Street and Wapping Wall.

Depending on timings and pub suitability we will continue from Wapping Wall to Canary Wharf or Island Gardens as appropriate – the full walking distance (London Bridge – Canary Wharf is about 3 miles).

Of the pubs in Wapping, the Town of Ramsgate is adjacent to Wapping Old Stairs and Grade II listed. Built in the 1600’s it has been known as the Red Cow and the Pride of Denmark. 18th century press gangs used to work the pub. Judge Jeffreys was caught in the pub while trying to free the country and was hanged nearby.

The Captain Kidd is named after the 17th/18th century ship-owner, privateer and pirate (most famous person to come from Greenock before Jim Warwick) who was hanged at Wapping on 23 May 1701. It took two tries to hang him; the first time the rope broke.

The Prospect of Whitby was built in the 1520’s and was originally called the Devils Tavern. Dickens used to dine here apparently and during his time the pub was gutted by fire and rebuilt as the Prospect of Whitby, named after a Whitby collier “The Prospect” which was moored outside for many years. Judge Jeffreys was a pub regular and sat supping pints while watching the hangings at Execution Dock.

Travel :-

For those not fortunate to have one of Mayor Ken’s passes for all London Transport – probably the best ticket to buy will be the priv. day ticket which covers all underground/tube and DLR – it costs £1.90 and means that whatever you do and wherever you finish up - getting back to your departure station is simple.

For the more adventurous don’t forget the river bus which runs from Savoy Pier (Charing Cross) to Masthouse Terrace (Island Gardens) via London Bridge, Tower Bridge and Canary Wharf – a bit pricy but an interesting start or finish to the day out.

Some River Bus Times (for others see Transport for London web site)

Savoy Pier	09.15	09.35	10.20	Masthouse Terrace	14.50	15.30
Blackfriars	09.19	09.39	10.24	Canary Wharf	14.59	15.39
Bankside	09.22	09.42	10.27	St Katherines	15.07	15.47
London Bridge City	09.25	09.45	10.30	London Bridge City	15.11	15.51
St Katherines	09.29	09.49	10.33	Bankside	15.14	15.54
				Blackfriars	15.17	15.57
				Savoy Pier	15.21	16.01

The Pubs :-

Map Code	Pub Name	Pub Address	Pub Notes	Pub Opening times	Visiting Times
1	The Pommeliers Rest	196-198 Tower Bridge Road	A Wetherspoons for Breakfast	10.00 - 23.00	10.00 - 11.00
2	The Dickens Inn	St Katherine's Dock	A converted spice warehouse	11.00 - 23.00	11.10 - 11.35
2a	<i>The Thomas More</i>	<i>Thomas Moore Sq</i>	<i>A possible if needed</i>	<i>11.00 - 23.00</i>	
3	The Town of Ramsgate	62 Wapping High Street		11.30 - 23.00	11.47 - 12.17
4	The Captain Kidd	108 Wapping High Street	Sam Smiths so could be Nitro-keg.	11.30 - 23.00	12.22 - 12.37
5	The Prospect of Whitby	57 Wapping Wall	Best pub for grub.	11.30 - 15.00	12.47 - 13.32
6a	<i>The Grapes</i>		<i>GBG 2005 - call in if open</i>	<i>12.00 - 14.00</i>	<i>13.52 -</i>
6b	<i>The Ledger Building</i>	<i>4 Hertsmere Road, West India Quay</i>	<i>Another wetherspoons</i>	<i>11.00 - 23.00</i>	<i>14.00 -</i>
6c	<i>The Pier Tavern</i>	<i>299 Manchester Road</i>		<i>12.00 - 22.30</i>	<i>14.20 -</i>

For the 21st century Jolly Boys with access to the Internet most of the above pubs can be "viewed" on the internet through a variety of web sites by just typing in the pub names.

NB

Prices of pints vary, other than Wetherspoons, from £2.40 to £3.00. This is a warning for the treasurer so that he doesn't fall off his stool when settling up.

The Itinerary :-

Meet at the Pommeliers for breakfast which is 10 mins walk from London Bridge. Walk to the Dickens which allegedly opens at 11.00 and is 10 mins walk from the Pommeliers. (If no good we try the Thomas Moore). Otherwise on to the Town of Ramsgate – 12 mins walk. It is 5 mins from there to the Captain Kidd and a further 10 mins to the Prospect. Suggested eating pub is the Prospect: subsequent pubs will depend on the time and mood – either call in at the Grapes (18 mins from The Prospect), if earlier than 14.00, or on to the Wetherspoons, or if anyone is really adventurous take the DLR to Island Gardens and the Pier Tavern or the Ferry House. The total walking distance (London Bridge – Canary Wharf) is about 3 miles.