

## **JOLLY BOYS RETURN TO MALDON 23 October 2008**

Those of you that are making a return visit to Maldon will find that little has changed in rural Essex and to any of the Jolly Boys making a first visit, welcome and enjoy Maldon hospitality and local brews (Other than Greene King).

To reach Maldon from the real world, the easiest journey is via Liverpool Street to Chelmsford, frequent trains with a journey time of 35 minutes approximately. On departing Chelmsford Station, turn right, cross over the road go under the railway bridge to the bus station, buses to Maldon depart from Stand 2 at XX.05 and XX.35, service number 31 or 31X, the 31X is the fast bus and departs at XX.35 or the pretty route on bus 31 at XX.05, journey times 35 or 50 minutes, return from outside the White Horse at XX.04 (31X service) or 34.

For the more intrepid amongst you perhaps a trip from Liverpool Street to Burnham on Crouch and then a trip on the 31X from Burnham Clock Tower at 09.22 or 10.22 to Maldon, 40 minutes approximately, BUT ONLY HOURLY SERVICE, the return service departs opposite the White Horse Maldon High Street at 37 minutes past the hour

**Starting out from the Hythe Quay at the bottom end of the High Street, there are 2 public houses to choose from**

**Queens Head. (10:30. opening).** An old Gray and Sons house with a small front bar used mainly by the locals and a rear bar along with a large outside area overlooking the River Blackwater with views to Bradwell Power station, the Promenade and depending on the tide Maldon barges tied up at the town quay. Beers are normally Mighty Oak Brews (Maldon), Crouch Vale and Adnams with a guest beer

**The Jolly Sailor. (11:00. opening).** A semi free house, overlooking the quay with a large collection of birds on view (Feathered variety only). Various beers served Greene King plus regular guest beers

On departing the Hythe walk up the hill past the church into the High Street, keep on the right hand side and arrive at the **Warwick Arms, (opens at midday).** A smart clean little pub, serving Mighty Oak plus guests

Keep walking up the High Street passing the Swan Hotel built in 1392 and may be worth a quick visit if required, otherwise cross over at the crossing and head for the next port of call

**The White Horse.** A Shepherd Neame tied house and probably the best pit stop for food, as mentioned before buses to Chelmsford depart from right outside and buses to Burnham from opposite the pub

Two other pubs worth a visit are the **Blue Boar** a hostelry since 1632 and now home to **Farmers Brewery** which is situated in the old stable block at the rear of the pub, Farmers brews can usually be found in the Harness Bar along with Adnams and other guest brews, nearly always served by gravity from behind the bar.

Tucked away behind the Blue Boar is the **Carpenters Arms** a traditional Gray & Son public house mainly serves Adnams and Greene King and an occasional guest ale

Time is very much your own and is relatively unimportant in sleepy Maldon, so take your time no rush, so no times dictated for each pub stop, if you want to stay longer in any one bar, don't worry as the High Street is just a straight walk and each pub is visible from its predecessor so nobody should get lost, if you do happen to be split from the harden drinkers, just ask anybody for the White Horse, the local are rumoured to be very friendly and will not bite!

Cheers and enjoy Maldon, you never know the Maldon Oyster might be on the menu in one of the pubs, now that should make your trip really worthwhile, if you don't fancy oysters you might be able to track down Farmers Ales 'Mr Mussel', brewed with extract of local mussels and has a very distinctive taste, told you we are a strange breed here.