

11:00 Angel

Jolly Boys
do Angel To Old Street
Thursday 18th December 2008

Some of the Culture

The Regents Canal was built to link the Grand Junction canals Paddington Arm with the Thames at Limehouse and was opened from Paddington to Camden in 1816 with the remainder opening in 1820. Of the three tunnels on the canal the Islington Tunnel, over which we will be walking, is the longest at 960 yards. If we are able to walk along the tow path items of interest are City Road lock and the City Road Basin (the second busiest dock on the canal) and the Wenlock Basin.

Islington itself is mentioned in the Domesday Book (as Iseldone) and in an earlier Anglo Saxon charter (as Gislandune) a village in a clearing in the forest and was described by an early writer as a forest "full of the lairs of wild beasts"! From a country village in the 1700s, supplying milk to London and acting as a holding place for cattle being driven to London, it became a bustling suburb to London with the Angel Inn (on the corner of Pentonville Rd and Islington High St) serving as an important coaching stop at the junction of the Great North Road and the City Road.

The Itinerary

The tour commences at the Angel, (that's 1B on the map) either take the tube or bus or walk from Kings Cross (about 12 - 15 mins, but uphill. The meeting point will be the Angel pub a Wetherspoons almost opposite the tube station. Anyone wanting variety can start in The Glassworks, upstairs in the N1 centre, (quieter than the Angel for breakfast) and move on to the Angel for the start of the trip: or buy your relatives a Christmas Present from one of the junk, I mean antique, shops in Camden Passage & environs. For the bibliophiles there is a Borders in the N1 Centre and a Waterstones on Islington Green.

Commencing from the Angel the route then processes, following the line of the Regents Canal some of the way, to terminate, in drinking terms, at the Wenlock Arms or The Old Fountain. From here return to either Angel or Old Street stations for journeys home, or catch a bus on the City Road. Route 205 runs every 7-8 mins and serves Liverpool St, Kings Cross, Euston and Paddington stations or bus 243 from Old Street to Waterloo.

Hopefully part of the itinerary can be accomplished using the Regents Canal towpath adding a bit of nautical interest.

The Island Queen has the best menu for food if you have not had your JD stomach liner or equivalent although order early as it takes about 15 minutes to arrive. Expensive food is available at the Narrow Boat although if the time it takes to get a beer is anything to go by you would need to phone your order in on Wednesday!

Pub positions on the map are approximate, hopefully approximately correct, although 3 is on the wrong corner of Hanover Yard.

Please note beer prices are likely to be high – on average - £2.60/£3.15 is the norm in this area. Wouldn't like any of our Northern members collapsing from shock!

See overleaf for pub details :-

The Pubs

<u>No on Map</u>	<u>Hostelry</u>	<u>Beers @ time of reconnoitre</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Pub Opening Times</u>	<u>Approx Jolly Boy Times</u>
1a.	The Glass Works N1 Centre Islington	A Wetherspoons. Lloyds No 1	Open at 09.00 for breakfast	09.00 – 23.00	
1b.	The Angel 3-5 Islington High Street	A Wetherspoons.	Open at 09.00 for breakfast. The mustering point.	09.00 -23.00	-11.15
Not Shown on some maps 1c.	The York Corner of Islington Hight St & Duncan St	Elgoods Cambridge, London Pride, Landlord & Jennings Cumberland	A Nicholsons House	11.00 – 23.00	11.20 – 11.55
2	The Prince of Wales 1a Sudeley St	Adnams & Spitfire	A CAMRA Heritage Pub. 1930's interior, a proper pub, rare in these parts.	12.00 – 23.00	12.00 – 12.15
3	The Island Queen 87 Noel Road N184D	London Pride, Landlord & Deuchars	A CAMRA heritage pub. "A restored Victorian gem" circa 1889 & 1897. A bistro pub. Best food menu.	12.00 - 23.00	12.20 – 13.00
4	The Narrow Boat 119 St Peters St N1 8PZ	London Pride, Broadside & Speckled Hen	GBG 2009. Another sort of bistro pub. Just a quick one or not!	12.00 - 22.00	13.05 – 13.25
5	Wenlock Arms 26 Wenlock Road N17TA	Up to 8 real ales	GBG 2009	12.00 – 23.00	13.40 – 14.20
Not Shown on some maps 6.	Old Fountain 3 Baldwin St (Just off the City Rd before Old St Station).	London Pride & Guests	GBG 2009 An extra if required for those returning to Old St	11.00 – 23.00	14.30 -