

Jolly Boys Visit to Maidstone

Thursday 21st January 2010

Getting There & Back:-

There are many routes to choose from but the quickest are from Victoria or via the HS line. A selection of train times is shown below for routes via HSL (changing at Strood), Tonbridge (change there or Paddock Wood) or direct from Victoria. Trains from Charing Cross to Strood are not shown as that tedious journey was experienced on our Gravesend trip.

St Pancras	d		08.58		09.25			09.55	
Stratford	d		09.05		09.32			10.02	
Charing Cross	d	08.13					09.13		
Waterloo	d	08.16					09.16		
London Bridge	d	08.21					09.21		
Victoria	d			09.07		09.37			10.07
Tonbridge	a	<u>08.53</u>					<u>09.53</u>		
Tonbridge	d	09.03					10.03		
Strood	a		<u>09.31</u>		<u>09.58</u>			<u>10.28</u>	
Strood	d		09.35		10.05			10.35	
Maidstone Barracks	a	09.41	09.55		10.25		10.41	10.55	
Maidstone East	a			10.01		10.38			11.01

Maidstone East	d		14.55		15.18		
Maidstone Barracks	d	14.34		15.04		15.25	
Strood	a	<u>14.54</u>		<u>16.24</u>			
Strood	d	15.02		15.32			
Tonbridge	a					<u>15.55</u>	
Tonbridge	d					16.02	
Victoria	a		15.51		16.21		
London Bridge	a					16.42	
Waterloo	a					16.48	
Charing Cross	a					16.52	

V.1.	08/06/09						
Stratford	a	15.29		15.59			
St Pancras	a	15.36		16.06			

The Itinerary :-

The nearest station to the first pubs is Maidstone East, but it is a relatively short walk from Maidstone Barracks – just follow the signs to Maidstone East from the Barracks crossing the river by the rail bridge.

See next page for pub descriptions :-

<u>No on Map</u>	<u>Hostelry</u>	<u>Expected Beers</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Pub Opening Times</u>	<u>Approx Jolly Boy Times</u>
1.	The Society Rooms Brenchley House Week Street	A Wetherspoons.	Open at 09.00 for breakfast.	09.00 – 23.00	09.00 – 11.00
2.	The Flower Pot 96 Sandling Road	Free House 6 Handpumps	Opening especially at 11.00 for JB's. CAMRA local pub of the year 2009. GBG 2010.	12.00 -23.00	11.10 -12.10
3.	The Rifle Volunteer 28 Wyatt Street	Goachers Range	GBG 2010. Has been branch pub of the year twice.	12.00 – 15.00	12.25 – 13.05
4.	The Druids Arms 24 Earl Street	Greene King range	The suggested food stop	11.00 – 23.00	13.10 – 13.50
5.	The Swan 2 County Road	Shepherd Neame range	.GBG 2011.	11.00 - 23.00	13.35 – 14.00

A Bit of Railway History:-

The first station in Maidstone was, what is now, Maidstone West. It was opened in 1844 as the terminus of a branch line from Maidstone Road (now Paddock Wood).

Maidstone West became a through station in 1856 when the line was extended by the SER to Strood. Maidstone East was opened as Maidstone by the London Chatham & Dover Railway in 1874 and Maidstone Barracks was opened on the same date.

