

## Jolly Boys Outing - Shrewsbury - 30<sup>th</sup>. September 2010

The handsome County town of Shropshire stands on a horseshoe bend of the River Severn where ten bridges cross it. It dates from Roman times and has a great history. In the 5<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. Centuries it was the seat of the Welsh Princes of Powys and later became part of the Kingdom of Mercia. Shrewsbury Castle was built in 1083 and rebuilt by Edward I in the 13<sup>th</sup>. Century and it is now home of the Shropshire Regiment Museum. It was a strategic stronghold on the Welsh border.

The 11<sup>th</sup>. Century Abbey survived the Dissolution and is remains a parish church to this day. Shrewsbury public school was founded in 1552 by Edward VI - Sir Philip Sidney and Charles Darwin were both scholars there. During the English Civil War both Charles I and Prince Rupert established their headquarters there for short periods. The town claims 660 listed buildings, many of them half timbered. The medieval street pattern remains including the shuts and passages that weave their way through the town centre.

There are 90 pubs in Shrewsbury of which 30 are within the river loop. Before leaving the station, which is on one of the ten bridges, turn around on the forecourt to look up at the castle and back at the station which celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary in 1998. The station started with only two floors, surprisingly the top two, with the ground floor being added later.

Fifty More Great Pub Crawls - Barrie Pepper - CAMRA Books 2003

The Pubs (all pubs are in GBG 2010 page 398/9)

1. Montgomery's Tower, Lower Claremont Bank, SY1 1RT. 01743 239080. Lloyds No. 1 converted from a former nightclub. Food, Guest Beers. In pub 5 a local suggested this might be closing - if it is revert to Wetherspoons The Shrewsbury Hotel, Bridge Place, SY1 1PU. 01743 236203. You will walk past this on way to 1. Will be leaving at roughly 11:00.
2. Wheatsheaf, 50, High St., SY1 1ST. 01743 272702. Ringwoods, guests seem to be mainly from Marstons. 11:00. Aim to leave here by 11:45. Food.
3. Coach & Horses, Swan Hill, SY1 1NF. 01743 365661. 11:30. [www.odleyinns.co.uk/coach&horses.htm](http://www.odleyinns.co.uk/coach&horses.htm). Food stop. Aiming to get here by 12:00 as it gets quite crowded at lunch times. Salopian Shropshire Gold, Wye Valley, Guest Beers. Leave 13:00.
4. Wheatsheaf, Frankwell, SY3 8JY. Cross the Severn via the Welsh Bridge, go past a pub now flats (Old Crow, Butlers Brewery). 12:00. Guest beers. Leave 13:50.
5. Retrace our steps across the Welsh Bridge and head towards the station. Salopian Bar, Smithfield Road, SY1 1PW. 01743 351505. [www.the.salopianbar.co.uk](http://www.the.salopianbar.co.uk). Guests.

### Trains

There are various ways of getting to Shrewsbury via Birmingham International, Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Crewe. From Crewe 0907, 0926 (slow), 1008, (repeated + 2 hours). Newport 0849, 0950. I am sure you can work out your own trips. Return to Crewe 1426 (slow), 1453, 1553. Newport 1439, 1521, 1539.



