

Jolly Boys trip to Bradford on Avon - 26th May

This is a trip along the Heart of Wessex line which runs from Bristol to Weymouth through 87 miles of lovely rural scenery. Our 'trail' consists of 3 pubs in 3 different locations along the North end of the route.

The Three Horseshoes – Frome Road, Bradford on Avon

The town lies partly on the Avon Valley, and partly on the hill that marks the Vale's western edge, eight miles southeast of Bath, in the hilly countryside between the Mendip Hills, Salisbury Plain and the Cotswold Hills.

The Three Horseshoes is a couple of minutes walk. On leaving the station go up to the main road right in front of you and turn right, the pub is a few yards down on the right. Three ever changing ales available but no food.

The Cross Guns – Avoncliff

At the point at which the Kennet and Avon canal crosses the river and railway line via the Avoncliff Aqueduct, which was built by John Rennie and chief engineer John Thomas, between 1797 and 1801. The aqueduct consists of three arches and is 110 yards long with a central elliptical arch of 60 ft span with two side arches each semicircular and 34 ft across, all with V-jointed arch stones.

The Cross Guns, which was built in the late 17th century and is a Grade II listed building, is just outside the station overlooking the River and Railway in the valley and the Canal aqueduct. 5 Box Steam ales plus a guest, food also available from 12:00. <http://www.crossguns.net/index.html>

The New Inn – Freshford

The village is notable in that the houses have names instead of numbers, and was featured in the Ealing comedy The Titfield Thunderbolt, which was filmed in 1952 and where Freshford village served as the set for the idyllic English village under threat.

The New Inn sits beside the River Frome, and is a 5 minute walk. On leaving the station walk up the small lane to the 'main' road, turn left down the hill and round the corner to your right and the pub is on your right. 4 Box Steam ales & guest, food from 12:30 – 14:00. http://www.theinnatfreshford.co.uk/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=21&Itemid=34

Timetable

Depart Bath 10:36 Arrive B-o-A 10:47 – Three Horseshoes opens 10:30

Depart B-o-A 11:50 Arrive Avoncliff 11:52

Depart Avoncliff 13:03 Arrive Freshford 13:05

It's a 20 minute walk along the river from the Cross Guns to the New Inn if you prefer.

Depart Freshford 14:02 Arrive Bath 14:13 or 15:06 arrive Bath 15:17

For early starters a 'Spoons' is available in Bath the King of Wessex, James Street West. BA1 2BX which you will remember from previous trips or you may like to try Trowbridge, which is the first station beyond Bradford on Avon and has two such establishments apparently being Sir Isaac Pitman, 1-2 Castle Place, Market Street or The Albany Place, 1 Park Road.