

### **Jollyboys' Brockenhurst / Lymington event (Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2012)**

This IS the New Forest so keep an eye out (as William Rufus did?) for the ponies and the deer. A notice in our first venue lists the main historic events that have shaped the area, for those that are interested.

This is a 'spoons desert at present, although they now have planning permission to convert a former furniture store in Lymington, so those who normally need a breakfast will have to make other arrangements - or plan on an early lunch. All the pubs listed do food apart from the Borough Arms (q.v.) and all appeared to be reasonable quality and quantity, but not cheap. We make no specific recommendations but ate and enjoyed the food in the **Kings Head** in Lymington on the recce.

Trains from London Waterloo at xx05 and xx35 take an hour and a half to arrive at (xx+1)37 and (xx+1)04 respectively. Cross-Country trains from the Reading direction (xx46) take 1.12 and arrive at (xx+1)58, with intermediates at xx15 from Reading with a change at Basingstoke, taking 1.22.

Out of the station (noting some unusual features, like the swing-bridge for disabled access to the island platform, and the Victorian post box in the structure of the footbridge) and turn RIGHT, keeping to the RIGHT side of the approach road which is marked as a footway, towards the main road which comes across the level-crossing. Turn LEFT there (Lyndhurst Road) and continue along this main road to find, on the opposite (Right) side the **Rose & Crown**, a Marstons pub with Ringwood Best & Fortyniner plus one or two guests - Wychwood Dirty Tackle when we were there. It appears to have been recently refurbished, and has a large outside garden area for those who wish to emulate Sherlock Holmes or Fidel Castro! **(Opens 1100. We should all be there by 1115 so suggest we stay till 1145).**

Out and LEFT back towards the station, crossing to the Right when safe and convenient to reach the **Forester's Arms** on the Right, serving London Pride, Ringwood Best and Fortyniner. **(till 1230).**

You may wonder why we have ignored the **Snakecatcher**? We took local advice to the effect that the beer is the same as the **Rose & Crown** but 5 degrees colder and 10p dearer, so didn't try it! However, as it has such an evocative name AND it is close at hand - just across the road - we can have a democratic decision on the day and include it by chopping the times at the other pubs, or missing out the third (furthest) one in Lymington and adding back half an hour here. Because this is a two centre event we ARE constrained by the need to fit with the half-hourly train between the two venues.

Back to the station to catch the **1242** train to Lymington Town (**arr 1250**). Out of the station here and walk up Station Street, past the **Bosun's Chair**, which may be worth a look on the day, although we rejected it as it only had one pump on when we peeped in, to the junction and turn LEFT along Gosport Street to the next junction where the High Street rises away to the Right. On the corner opposite as you approach is the **Kings Head**. We were faced with a choice of London Pride, Gales HSB, Ringwood Best, Timothy Taylor's Landlord, and local Flack Manor (Romsey) Double Drop. We ate here. (**till 1400 .....**)

Out and across Captains Row to walk UP the High Street, crossing to the Right-hand side when the opportunity presents itself, to find the **Angel** on the Right. Another Marston's house with Pedigree, Ringwood Best, Wychwood Hobgoblin, and Jennings' Tizzie Wizzie on when we were there. (**till 1435**)

We now have a 10-minute walk to the next watering hole. Out and RIGHT to continue UP the High Street and then RIGHT into New Street, continuing along to the T-junction with Avenue Road. Look diagonally across to the LEFT to see the **Borough Arms**, then cross carefully to get in and try whatever the guest is that accompanies the ubiquitous Ringwood Best and Fortyniner - Marston's EPA when we were in, which the landlord told us was a second appearance, as it had proved popular previously. No food. (**till 1515**)

Out and RIGHT to walk down Avenue Road / East Hill, crossing to the Right-hand side when convenient and safe, to the roundabout and turn Right along Marsh Lane which becomes, at the next roundabout, Gosport Street. Again we need to cross when convenient and safe to the Left side to then turn Left back down Station Street, to arrive back in time for the **1529** train to Brockenhurst.

Return trains from Brockenhurst are at xx29 & 59 to arrive at Lymington at xx38 & 08, whilst onward connections are at xx45 & 15 to Waterloo with the Cross-Country service towards Reading on the hour. Trains westwards are as per the arrivals list above.