

Jolly Boys Trip To Warrington - 7th. June 2012

More is brewed in and around Warrington than anywhere else in Britain, at least it was when my book was published in 1979, and the town has taken over the role of beer capital of Britain from Burton Upon Trent, the traditional centre of the industry. It should be remembered that a lot of this 'beer' was Greenall Whitley. The towns medieval street pattern survived redevelopments of the 18th. Century. Many buildings of this period survive in the town centre. One of the finest Bank Hall was built in 1750, and is now the town hall. It was designed by James Gibbs. The parish church of St. Elphin, mentioned in Domesday Book in 1086, was rebuilt in the 14th. Century. Its 281 foot spire was added in 1860.

The Pubs

1. There are 2 Wetherspoons in Warrington. The Looking Glass, 41-43 Buttermarket St. (2 on the map) 01925 405030. Nearer to Bank Quay Station is The Friar Penketh, 4, Barbauld St., WA1 2LY 01925 237230. Cross on the crossing outside Bank Quay and turn left to Museum St. Go as far as you can down Museum St and the Friar Penketh is opposite. Turn right out of the Friar Penketh and then go left at the pedestrianised area. Lower Buttermarket St. is up on the right. However, if you continue down the pedestrianised area you will come to the Bluebell, not recommended for drinking, Greene King was the only pump on when we went, but they do a good value breakfast for 99p between 0900-1100 Monday to Saturday various add on at 25p each eg fried bread, mushrooms, hash browns. **Either meet in the Looking Glass prior to 1100 or The Lower Angel at 1100 or after.**
2. Lower Angel, 27, Buttermarket St., WA1 2LY, 01925 653326. (1 on the map) 1100. A classic two roomed town centre pub. Look out for the Walker's Brewery memorabilia including the etched glass front windows. Now the home of the Topsy Angel Brewery, both times we have been they have only had Topsy Angel Mild on. Various Guests beer about £2.50. Only do baps and pork pies. Leave about 1200. About 5 minutes to
3. Porter's Ale House, 78, Buttermarket St., WA1 2NN. 01925 632855. 1100. Also known as the Cross Keys. Has 5 real ales. Only does baps. Leave about 1230. 10 minutes to
4. The Albion, 94 Battersby Lane, WA2 7EG. 01925 231 820. 1200. A large brick built community pub featuring several high ceiling rooms. 6 hand pumps. Had Wilson Potter and Irwell beers on when we went, but the beer range changes frequently. Food pub. We will stay until 1350. 10 minutes to
5. The Tavern (aka Wilkies), 25, Church St., WA1 2SS. 07917 730184. Unfortunately this pub doesn't open until 1400. Has its own brewery 4Ts. About 9 hand pumps with a variety of beers usually has at least one 4Ts on. Bank Quay is a good 25 to 30 minute walk from here so allow enough time for your trains. Alternatively you could get a taxi.

Trains

Central Station which is nearest station to most of the pubs at the start is from Manchester Piccadilly.

Bank Quay is direct from Euston xx30 (about 1.45 run) back xx20 or Crewe.

Recce 1. BG, LB, HL, PB, IO, JG. Recce 2 BG, LB. Many thanks to Peter Brawn for pointing us in the right direction.