

Worcester - the faithful city, home of Royal Worcester porcelain, Worcester Sauce, King John's tomb, the Glover's Needle, Elgar, (that's enough! - Ed)

Arriving

at Worcester Foregate Street station, descend to street level and exit on to Foregate Street itself, turn right and a few yards along on the right, across Pierpoint Street (careful of turning traffic from behind to the left) is the Postal Order (Wetherspoons) with their usual wide range of ales, including several candidates, so suggest we have the first round here.. (TILL 1120)

Leaving the Postal Order turn left and walk back under the railway bridge towards the city centre, crossing to the right-hand side of the road at the earliest opportunity and take the second right - Angel Street - where we find, on the right, the Cricketers Doom Bar, Brains Bitter, Wye Valley HPA, and Bewdley Brewery's Sir Keith Park (the pump clip shewing the loco not the man!) were on when we called on recce. (1125 - 1155)

Out and left, then right at the junction and along to cross Broad Street, then left across the end of the High Street to go down St Swithin's Street. Turn right into the Shambles and continue along to the junction with Pump Street. Turn left, then right into Friar Street and forward, crossing Union Street to reach, on the left, the Cardinal's Hat (4 local Ales on at recce).

This has recently (a week ago) re-opened after many years as an unusual outlet for Austrian Biers. (1205 - 1235)

Out and right to retrace our steps along Friar Street and its continuation (New Street) to reach the Swan with Two Nicks on the right. Doom Bar plus three local ales on when we called. Smokers will appreciate the terrace at the back. Food (1240 - 1325)

Out and right then across the road and left into Mealcheapen Street, then continue to cross the Shambles and back up St Swithin's Street. Cross again the end of the High Street and continue into Broad Street, crossing to the right-hand side, where we reach The Crown - another 'spoons masquerading as a Lloyds No1. Food (1330 - end)

Trains - 0822 ex Paddington arrives 1048, 0949 ex B'ham New St arrives 1030 (via Lickey), 0939 ex B'ham Snow Hill arrives 1040 (via the GW route), Route choices from Newport (Gwent) are so convoluted that I will leave the choice to you, John (but 0936 via Hereford arriving 1122 and joining us in the Cricketers looks favourite?) and for our man in Wakefield, either 0719 or 0726 are supposed to enable a 1030 arrival in Worcester so plenty of time for Eggs Benedict!