Jolly Boys Outing - Shrewsbury 5th. March 2015.

Shrewsbury is the county town of Shropshire, in the West Midlands of England, on the River Severn. It has a population of approximately 72,000¹ and is the second largest town in Shropshire, after Telford. Shrewsbury is a historic market town whose town centre has a largely unaltered medieval street plan and over 660 listed buildings, including several examples of timber framing from the 15th and 16th centuries. Shrewsbury Castle, a red sandstone fortification, and Shrewsbury Abbey, a former Benedictine monastery, were founded in 1074 and 1083 respectively by the Norman Earl of Shrewsbury, Roger de Montgomery. The Shrewsbury Flower Show is one of the largest horticultural events in the country of England. Today, 9 miles (14 km) east of the Welsh border, Shrewsbury serves as the commercial centre for Shropshire and mid-Wales, with a retail output of over £299 million per year. There are some light industry and distribution centres, such as Battlefield Enterprise Park, mainly on the outskirts. The A5 and A49 trunk roads cross near to the town, as do five railway lines at Shrewsbury railway station. Wikipedia

The Pubs

Exit the station, cross the street at the pedestrian lights and keep going until you are on the busy Smithfield Road. Past the bus station, Premier Inn, Salopian and the Shrewsbury Hotel, all on the left. Cross at the traffic lights, go left then 1st right and you will see:

- Montgomery's Tower, Lower Claremont Bank, SY1 1RT. 01743 239080. A Lloyds No. 1. Leave 1115.
- 2. Armoury, Victoria Quay, Shrewsbury SY1 1HH. 01743 340523. Just behind Montgomery's Tower. Leave at 1200.
- 3. Coach & Horses, Swan Hill, SY1 1NF. 1130. 01743 365661. www.odleyinns.co.uk Salopian and Stonehouse beers plus guests. Set in a quiet street of the main shopping area. Meals and snacks served lunchtime. Leave 1245.
- 4. Nag's Head 22 Wyle Cop, SY1 1XB. 1130. 01743 362455. Large selection of beers. An excellent small pub. Remains of a historic old mansion can be seen from the beer garden at the back. Reportedly haunted. Leave 13.30
- 5. Three Fishes, 3-4 Fish Street, SY1 1UR. 01743 344793. 15th. Century Building. www.realalesshrewsbury.co.uk stands in the shadow of two churches St Alkmund and St Julian's. Also does food. Various beers. Leave 14.00

Note this small historic area also has the **Bull Inn** at 7, Butcher Row (a nice pub which also does food and I don't think has been visited by the Jolly Boys) and the **Loggerheads**, Church Street, an ancient pub with lots of character although it is a Marstons place. Some of the JB's might want to finish at one of these and then head back to the station down the hill past the castle, rather than go to:

6. The Salopian Bar, Smithfield Road, SY1 1PW. 01743 351505. 1100. www.thesalopianbar.co.uk Salopian, Stonehouse, guests. Has won CAMRA Pub of the Year 2 or 3 times in recent years. Usually an excellent range of beers. From here about 5 mins back to the station.

There is a direct train back to Euston by Virgin Voyager at 15.24, otherwise it's Arriva Wales usually at 33 mins past then change for a London train at Wolverhampton, Birmingham New Street or Birmingham International, whichever is best. Trains to Crewe/Manchester (Arriva Wales) are one an hour at around xx.50. The service on the Chester to Cardiff line is sort of twice an hour but varies quite a bit.

