

This trip was devised entirely using What Pub and Google Maps Street view with a recce on Jan 26th. After a talk with the barman at Albion bar I got some recommendations for a future trip the other side of the town centre. The Moon on the Square and Malt Shovel were on our last visit in 2000. The King Billy which we visited then is also still in existence but the others are not in What Pub, since discovered they have been renamed.

Smokers beware: outside facilities are in short supply.

The pubs

There are buses 9/9A at 03,13,23,33,43,53 from the bottom of the steps at the station; two stops to Drapery. Others seem to go to the bus station North Gate round the corner at the top of Drapery; 1 minute walk from JDW.

From the station walk down the steps and straight on into Mare Fair with runs into Gold Street; at the end by All Saints Church curve left into Drapery turn right by Cancer Research, JDW on left in 10 yards. Just over 1/4 mile.

If you are going straight to no 2 go to the right of All Saints Church into George St and ahead into St Giles Square then along front of Guildhall into St Giles St. Pub on left.

1 Moon on the Square JDW Usual fare.

Leave 11:00 Walk diagonally across Market Square,(it is market day) down the side of Paddy Power into Wood Hill left into St Giles Square, along front of Guildhall into St Giles

2 Wig and Pen 19 St Giles St. wigandpennorthampton.com 01604-622178 opens 10:00 CAMRA discount 4 mainstream and 6 changing real ales, Food.

Leave 11:50 Back to corner and 20 yards down Derngate to left is

2 Mail Coach 6 Derngate. mailcoachpub.co.uk 01604376994. opens 10:00. 2 mainstream and 4 changing real ales. Food.

Leave 12:45 back to corner left then next left into Guildhall St, right into Angel St. Left down Bridge St. Keep on left footpath. On right at bottom, where traffic comes up and round to left is No 3 next to King Bills Rock bar visited in 2000 .

3 Albion Brewery Bar Opens at 12:00. 54, Kingswell St. phipps-nbc.co.uk 01604-946606 In part of old Phipps brewery. 6 regular beers. Bar snacks only.

Leave 13:45 back to Bridge St cross at pedestrian crossing no 4 is 100 yards down on left.

4 Malt Shovel 121, Bridge St. maltshoveltavern.com 01604-234212 Visited in 2000, opens 11:30 !0 ales on offer. Baguettes, Sandwiches, Wraps. Leave when you like back straight along to Station.

Walk back to station. Cross road outside Malt Shovel keep round Carlsberg, at next roundabout cross one road then continue up on this side until opposite the station. Allow a good 10 minutes.

Travel overleaf

Travel

From London

Northampton is not blessed with good connections. There is a half-hourly London Midland semi-fast service from Euston to Birmingham taking 56 minutes at :13 and :49 plus an extra just to Northampton at :10 past the hour. An all stations to Northampton which takes 1 hour 12 mins at :54.

	Virgin				Virgin				
EUS	08:49	09:10		09:13	09:49	09:54	10:10		10:13
MKC	09:29	09:40	09:49	09:54	10:29	10:49	10:40	10:49	10:54
NMP	09:44		10:06	10:10	10:45	11:06		11:06	11:10

Through services from East Croydon to Milton Keynes Central leave you with a long wait at Milton Keynes or Watford.

Return

	via Rugby				via Rugby	
NMP	13:55	14:05	14:25	14:50	14:55	
MKC		14:20	14:41	15:04		
EUS	15:14	15:17	15:27	15:48	16:15	

Connection to East Croydon from Milton Keynes at 13 past the hour from the :50 departure from Northampton .

From North, West, Wales and East Midlands

The easy way is via the return Birmingham to Euston at :14, :33, :54 taking approx 1 hour. They all call at Rugby 40 minutes after leaving BHM.

From Crewe 08:07 to Stoke for 08:50 to Milton Keynes Central 09:54 to Northampton.

From Nottingham 08:05 via Leicester, Nuneaton and Rugby has you there for 10:00

Return

Leave Northampton at :16, :25, :55 call Rugby 20 minutes later.

For Crewe the :05 to Milton Keynes will connect to the :41 to Chester/Holyhead