

# A 'First' Jolly to Trowbridge – 16 Feb 2017

## Bit of History

Trowbridge is the county town of Wiltshire. The origin of the name *Trowbridge* is uncertain; one source claims derivation from *treow-brycg*, meaning "Tree Bridge", referring to the first bridge over the river Biss which runs through the town, while another states that the true meaning is the bridge by Trowle, the name of a hamlet and a common to the west of the town.

On 5 September 1848, the first train steamed through as the Wilts, Somerset and Weymouth Railway was established.

The Kennet and Avon canal runs to the north of Trowbridge and played an instrumental part in the town's development as it enabled coal to be transported from the Somerset Coalfield and so marked the advent of steam-powered manufacturing in woollen cloth mills. The town was foremost producer of this mainstay of contemporary clothing and blankets in south west England in the late 18th and early 19th centuries by which time it held the nickname "The Manchester of the West".

## The details

Trowbridge is certainly not a mecca for real ale however it has 2 spoons, the Sir Isaac Pitman in Market Street and the Albany Palace in Park Road. Have stuck to pubs in town centre so not much walking.

The **Sir Isaac Pitman** is the nearest of the two to the station, about 10-12 mins walk into the town centre, and suggested place to start, however it had the 'for sale' sign outside!! Opens at 8:00, as does the Albany Palace, normal spoons layout with selection of local brews as well as the normal national offering, however the 'available soon' brew was missing on our visit.

Leave at 11:15 and take a short walk to the **Kings Arms (opens 11:00)** in Castle Street, Doombar, Buttcombe and a local guest ale, Bellringer on our visit, also suggested place for lunch.

Leave at 12:35 and turn left. 2 doors down is the **Courthouse (opens 12:00)**, a newly refurbished pub. Caladonian plus guest. The manager, a very helpful and chatty chap, said he would be happy to put on a third choice if required on the day. No food.

Leave 13:15 back towards station for **Rose and Crown**, Stallard St, which is next to the station itself, just up some steps from the town-side. It is open 10:00 to 24:00 selection of local ales. 3 mins. walk to Station.

## How to get to Trowbridge

Trowbridge is served by the local service from Bristol/Bath to Westbury and also has a service direct from Swindon to Westbury.

### Selection of trains to Trowbridge

Newport	08:44		09:44	
Bristol TM	09:22	09:49	10:22	10:49
Bath	09:36	10:07	10:35	11:07
Trowbridge	09:54	10:29	10:53	11:29

Swindon	08:49	10:47
Trowbridge	09:33	11:24

Southampton	09:10	10:10
Westbury	10:10	11:10
Trowbridge	10:16	11:16

### From Trowbridge

Trowbridge	14:16	14:27	14:44	14:57	15:16
Bath	14:36	14:47	15:08	15:21	15:36
Bristol	14:48	15:05	15:27	15:35	15:48
Newport	15:27				16:25

Trowbridge	14:20
Swindon	15:03

Trowbridge	13:53	14:53
Westbury	14:00	15:00
Southampton	15:04	16:04