

A 'First' Jolly to Andover – 22 Nov 2018

Bit of History

Andover probably gets its name from the old words on dubr, which means ash (tree) stream. It is located on the river Anton, with a population over 52,000. Since 2012 Andover has been the home of the Army Headquarters.

Andover is located equidistance between Salisbury and Basingstoke on the SW Line between London Waterloo and Exeter. Trains run half hourly from Waterloo taking some 70-80 mins to Andover, calling at Clapham Jnc, Woking and Basingstoke. Arriving on Platform 1, which is the station exit. Platform 2 for trains from Exeter, Salisbury to Waterloo. Reading General is probably the central hub with half hourly trains to Basingstoke (20 mins) arrive Platform 5 and then change for Andover.

Itinerary

Andover is predominantly served by Greene King pubs hence today's visit will incorporate other brewers.

The town centre is some 0.9 miles from the station. There is a frequent bus service right outside the station, bus stop on the left, which takes you to Andover bus station (West St.), which is some 5 mins walk from the main high street via the Chantry Shopping Centre (past Waitrose and Boots). Thursday is market day so the high street will be very busy with various stalls etc.

The **John Russell Fox** is the towns Whetherspoon, recently refurbished and located at the far left hand corner of the high street (past Lloyds bank) diagonally opposite The Redbridge (see later notes) in Bridge Street.

You will note the large glass enclosed printing press on the left as you enter the pub which depicts this was formerly the home of the Andover Advertiser newspaper.

Leave at 11:20 and take a 5 min walk to the **Lardie Cake**, Adelaide Road (normally opens at 12 noon) but the landlady said she would open at 11:30 on the day of our visit.

There are several exits from the High Street, heading East (suggest via George Yard car park) leading to Eastern Avenue (a busy arterial route). Cross Eastern Avenue and head for East St/Eastfield Rd., turn left into Adelaide Rd. The Lardie cake is about 100 yards down on the left.

A traditional real ale pub (no food) hence first pub on the list. Normally 3 real ales, Doom Bar, London Pride and Timothy Taylor Landlord (sometimes a further guest ale).

Leave at 12:20 and retrace steps back to the high street you can see the WHETHERSPOON sign in bold white lettering from Adelaide Road.

The Redbridge is only a few yards from the Whetherspoon. Suggested food stop. Thurs is "Grill and A Drink" day (see sample menu attached)

Three main beers, Courage Best, Doom Bar, London Pride plus 3 guests on the day Goffs – Fallen Knight and Joustier plus Listers American Pale ale. (2 ales). Leave 13:15 turn left down Bridge Street.

The **White Hart hotel (Marston Inn)** is just around the corner on the other side of the road. Hobgoblin, Pedigree, Ringwood (session beer) and Directors was the guest on the day. Also does food.

Leave at 13:45, continue down Bridge Street, turn right by the river (Wilkos on the corner).

The Town Mills is set back adjacent to the Help Aged building (anyone want a consultation?)

4 real ales, Walworth's IPA, 6x, Swordfish and Horizon. Also has a good food menu.

For those that want to get off home the bus station is only 4 mins walk towards West Street.

Anyone still thirsty and able to walk back to the train station, suggest heading up Weyhill Road (B3402) 10 min walk (past the Council Offices) and at the junction with Millway Road can be found the **Malthouse**. This is the nearest pub to the station (5 mins) walk down Millway Road, turn right, just after the Rank Hovis McDougall mill, follow pathway through the station car park.

Beers: Butcombe, Southwold + guest. Also Blue Moon craft beer.

ATTACHMENTS

ANDOVER STATION MAP - Showing route to Bus Depot and Town centre

TOWN CENTRE/HIGH STREET MAP - Pubs 1-5 indicated on map.

REDBRIDGE - Food menu (sample)