

JOLLY BOY'S TRIP TO BROADSTAIRS – 6 FEBRUARY 2020



Broadstairs is probably the furthest east that the Jolly Boys will travel, unless there is a trip onto mainland Europe! It is described by Bradshaw as “very genteel and very dull: the aspect of this exceedingly select place of residence being so imposingly quiet as to make one involuntarily walk about on tip-toe for fear of violating the solemn sanctity of the place. It is however a very agreeable excursion for the day”.

With literary connections to Charles Dickens, he wrote Bleak House here, and stayed in the Royal Albion Hotel, you will find many references to him and his books as you walk, or should I say tip-toe, around town.

On leaving the station from Platform 1 turn left follow path and down steps to the road then turn left again pass under the bridge and just keep walking. Or on leaving from Platform 2 turn right outside the station down the approach road to the main road turn left and just keep walking. On reaching the Royal Albion Hotel go down Sea Approach, on the right hand side, to Victoria Parade turn right and you will find **The Charles Dickens** (No 1) on the right along with fine sea views. Breakfasts are served from 1000hrs at a reasonable price, not as cheap as a ‘Spoons but still good value. Beers on tap were Hobgoblin Gold, Doombur, Gadd’s Seaside, and Adnams Broadside. **Leave at 1125.**

Retrace your steps to the main road and turn right into Albion Street, continue down the road and you will find our next stop **The Magnet** (No 2), a micropub. They are opening at 1130 especially for us. They have a changing selection of beers mainly brewed in Kent. On the recce they had beers from Tonbridge, Westerham and Gadd’s No. 5. **Leave at 1210**

Leave the pub and turn left back down Albion St to the **Dolphin** (No 3). They only have one pump and on recce it was Gadd’s No 5. This is the designated lunch stop

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as it is the only place other than the Charles Dickens that does food. You can get a small selection of panini's, burgers or "good old ham egg and chips". Not a large selection but reasonably cheap. For those who want a meal I would suggest returning the The Charles Dickens. **Leave at 1250**

On leaving the pub cross the road to **The Chapel** (No 4), a former Chapel and latterly a Book Shop, who serve a changing range of beers. On day of recce they had Burning Sky, Tiny Rebel and Wantsum. **Leave at 1320**

On leaving the pub turn left back up Albion Road follow the road round into the High Street and take the first on the left Charlotte Street and our next stop **The Thirty-nine Steps** (No 5) is on the left. They serve a changing selection of beers but try to stay local. On recce they had a full range of North Down beers Pale Ale Mary, Muggy Porter, Papwoth Victory Best Bitter, He-Bru IPA and Merry Margate.. **Leave 1400.**

The station can be found by turning right out of pub back to the High Street and then turning left and walking up the hill. Near the station, if you need another before getting your train, on the right is **Mind The Gap** (No 6) another micro pub that serves a changing selection of beers. On the recce they had Oakham, Gadds and Iron Pier. **Leave when ever**

Travel Outward

Trains to Broadstairs:

London Victoria				0840		0910		0940
Chatham					1006			
St Pancras Int'l		0825	0837		0909		0925	
Broadstairs	1005	1025	1031	1033	1105	1105	1131	

Travel Return

Trains to London:

Broadstairs	1401	1405	1425	1425	1431	1455	1455	1459
Chatham				1532				
London Victoria				1621	1754	1657	1651	
St Pancras Int'l	1521	1558	1610					1621