

2016 Shrewsbury Trip of Discovery!

Welcome one and all to the 5th annual Kev & Andy trip of discovery.

Previous Trips have taken in English Counties as diverse as Yorkshire & Lancashire (2012), Yorkshire (2013), Derbyshire (2014) and Yorkshire again (2015).

2016 will again see us all travelling North once again but also a bit to the West. Yes we're going to the County Town of Shropshire and one of England's finest medieval market towns - Shrewsbury.



This is the Shrewsbury Coat of Arms - Three Loggerheads. Heraldry fans will know that loggerheads are in fact leopard's heads. Don't expect many leopards where we are going although some cats may reside in some of the larger trees.

First things first. How on earth do you pronounce Shrewsbury?

Well, apparently if you are posh you call it "Shrowsbury", everybody else calls it "Shroosbury".

A recent poll in the Shropshire Star voted thusly

Shroosbury 81.37%

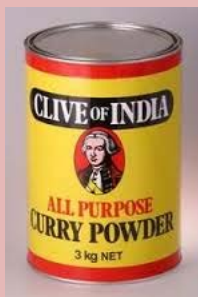
Shrowsbury 18.63%

It's up to you of course but if you decide to boost the 18.63% vote then I will expect you to drink your pints with your little finger raised in the air while being transported in a sedan chair (non portaloos version).

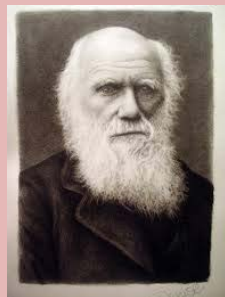
Now I could go on about Shrewsbury and all sorts of historical facts – it's got a lot of history.

- *It used to be the capital of Wales*
- *The 1403 Battle of Shrewsbury between Henry IV and Harry "Hotspur" Percy was the 2nd bloodiest in English History.*
- *The first iron structured building in the world was built in Shrewsbury*
- *Shrewsbury has the tallest Town Cryer, tallest MP and tallest married couple*

And look at the famous and notable individuals who were born in Shrewsbury:



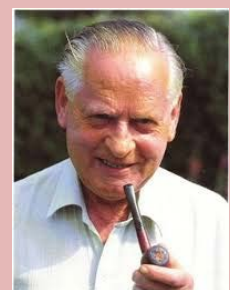
*Charles
Darwin*



*Percy
Thrower*

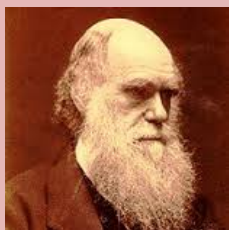


*Clive of
India*



*Carol
Decker*

Shrewsbury has a very famous public school - Shrewsbury school. Just look who went here:



*Nick
Hancock*



*Lord
Heseltine*



*Michael
Palin*



*Charles
Darwin*

If you're looking for the inspiration for Michael Palin's Ripping Yarn entitled "Tomkinson's Schooldays" then look no further than Shrewsbury school.

Nb If we go anywhere near this auspicious body then please be mindful of the school leopard.

I'm sure as we travel round the town you have plenty of questions about Shrewsbury so just fire away as by the 6th August I intend to be the most knowledgeable person about all things Shrewsbury that ever walked the earth.

This is currently the most knowledgeable person on Shrewsbury so I've got a chance:



The Most Knowledgable Man on Shrewsbury – pre August 2016

So what are we going to do today? Well I said earlier that this was an annual trip of discovery. Actually it's mainly about having a jolly good drink. And where better to start than the local brewery.



The Salopian brewery has been open since 1995 and has been in the current location since 2014. In my opinion, their beer is simply fantastic. I hope you agree as we'll be here for a few hours. It'll give us a chance to taste the full range and buy a few souvenirs for our lady folk. There's nowt more that lady folk like than beer related paraphernalia. They love it. Beer towels, branded pint glasses, ash trays, beer mats. The lot.



Beer related paraphernalia so loved by the ladies

I recommend we get here as close to 12 noon as possible as it's opening hours are 12-5pm. While we are here, we will partake of the beers available (probably 8) and maybe have a quick tour round the brewery if available.

I suggest then that we retire to the hotel to check in and drop off all our beer related paraphernalia. There's nowt more that lady folk don't like than damaged, stained or soiled beer related paraphernalia.

Then we can head out into the paradise that is Shrewsbury. There looks to be a lot of nice boozers in the town so we'll head round in this sort of order although I may change my mind before we get there - we'll be fairly flexible about the whole thing.

Pubs & Hostels

- 1) *Three Fishes, Fish Street, SY1 1UR* [MR: 45 3F](#)



Beer and \ or toilet Comments

This was the first public house in Shrewsbury to introduce a no smoking policy on its premises. Warning, fish may contain small bones if not filleted correctly.

- 2) *Nags Head, 22 Wyle Cop SY1 1XB* [MR: 45 4G](#)



Beer and \ or toilet Comments

At the beginning of the 20th century the landlord was John Stubb Woolrich whose customers were described as good. There's a hill involved so we may need a rope and pulley at some point. And a carthorse.

3) *Admiral Benbow, 24 Swan Hill SY1 1NF* - *MR: 45 J4*



Beer and \ or toilet Comments

The most famous incident of Admiral John Benbow's life is known as 'Benbow's Last Fight', a battle off Cape Santa Marta in 1702. As you can probably guess from its title it didn't end well for the Admiral...

4) *Coach & Horses, Swan Hill SY1 1NF* *MR: 45 J4*



Beer and \ or toilet Comments

The internet has a lot of people moaning about the food. We'll be drinking only unless you want a pickled egg.

5) *Vaults, 16 Castle Gates, SY1 2AB* *MR: 45 2G*



Beer and \ or toilet Comments

Depending on what time we get here it may be a bit noisy. It's in the Good Beer Guide for 2016 so that's good enough for me.

- 6) *Salopian Bar, Smithfield Road SY1 1PW MR: 45 2F*



It might be blue or it might be white - we just won't know until we get there..

Beer and \ or toilet Comments

- 7) *Dolphin, 48 St Michaels Street SY1 2EZ MR: 45 1H*



Beer and \ or toilet Comments

Would be nice to get top this but it may be on the wrong side of things...as might we all by this point.

- 8) *Reserves if needed - might be a bit far for some legs*
9) *The Yorkshire House, 2 St Mary's Pl, Shrewsbury SY1 1DX*
10) *The Old Post Office, 1 Milk St, Shrewsbury SY1 1SZ*
11) *Prince of Wales, 30 Bynner Street, Belle Vue, SY3 7NZ yes - maybe a bit far MR: 45 6H*
12) *Woodman 32 Coton Hill, SY1 2DZ yes - maybe a bit far MR: 45 1F*
13) *Bricklayers Arms, Copthorne Road, SY3 8NL yes - maybe a bit far MR: 7 2F*
14) *Montgomery's Tower, Lower Claremont Bank SY1 1RT MAYBE MR: 45 3E*

Eating

Food is widely available in Shrewsbury and these are some delicacies that will be on offer:



Faggots



Shrewsbury Cakes

I think we'll go for a curry

Where are we staying?

Prince Rupert Hotel Butcher Row, Shrewsbury SY1 1UQ [MR: 45 3F](#)



The Prince Rupert Hotel

Breakfast is provided and suits of armour are available on request.

It looks quite fancy. There is a £300 non refundable room stain policy which I have knocked down to £295 after explaining the type of people we are and the medical problems we have.

And that'll be about it.

Next Year we may open this trip up to others to design but I also have an idea which we will discuss...

Any other Comments you would care to make