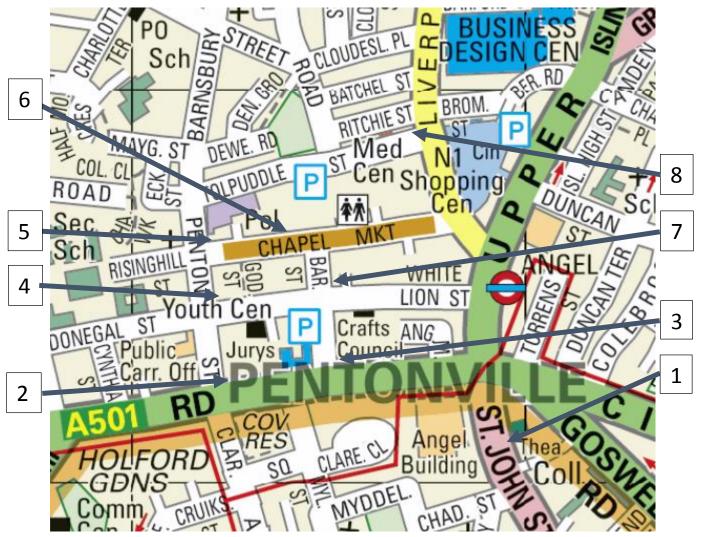
Pentonville Road - Pub Crawl

Friday, 3rd October 2014



Noel Burger is your host for the night.

The Monopoly themed crawl takes us back to the blue squares and Pentonville Road. The nearest tube station is Angel on the Northern Line (Bank Branch) but it is also walkable from Kings Cross. Luckily the Angel end of Pentonville Road hides quite a few really great pubs.

Full details of First Friday pub crawls can now be found at www.marquisdegeek.com/ff

1. 5:45pm – 6:30pm. Old Red Lion Theatre,

418 St John Street, London, EC1V 4NJ

As they name states this pub shares a building with an upstairs theatre. Who says we don't do culture on the pub crawls? The pub is a little shabby but very friendly and serves some good beers. On my visit there was Woodforde's Wherry, Timothy Taylor Landlord and Harvey Sussex Bitter on tap.



2. 6:30pm – 7:10pm. The Lexington, 96-98 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JB



Head down Pentonville Road but don't go straight into pub 3, continue 100m past and on to the Lexington. If we do them in this order we will get to the Lex before it gets too noisy and it also makes a good meeting point for people coming from King Cross. This is a quirky pub with unusual décor described as bordello baroque. The pub surprisingly celebrates the thriving US craft beer scene with its vast range of American bottled beers and Bourbon whiskeys. If you don't fancy any of the American options there are also a few ales from local brewers. As for food they serve crispy pickles!

3. 7:10pm - 7:50pm. The Castle,

54 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9HF

Back up the road to this smallish gastro pub. If the weather allows, head to the large roof terrace where we should be able to gather more easily. Young's beers on offer.



4. 7:50pm – 8:50pm. The Craft Beer Co. 55 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PP



Now things really start to get interesting as we move to the first of the really great pubs on the crawl. The Craft Beer Co. now has a chain of five London pubs. This one has 10 hand-pumps and 20 taps serving craft beers all priced by alcohol content. With beers up to 13% it could get expensive! Food looked good here as well.

5. 8:50pm – 9:40pm. The Joker, 58 Penton Street, Pentonville, London, N1 9PZ

The name comes in part as the Joker is a venue for comedy and the walls adorned with pictures of comedians past and present. The Joker, is owned by Laine's Brighton Brewery and therefore serves its own beers as well as local guests such as locally brewed Redemption Ales. The burgers served here win awards and looked good value. I will almost certainly eat here.



6. 9:40pm – 10:10pm. The Alma, 78 Chapel Market, London, N1 9ET



An old market pub that for good or bad, is changing fast. Although currently still frequented by quite a number of its more traditional customers the recent refurbishment and the introduction of Redemption beers will start to attract a new crowd. Looked a bit scary from the outside but the Landlord made us very welcome and deserves a quick visit. If you don't fancy the look of it just head on to The Three Johns.

7. 10:10pm – 11:00pm. The Three Johns, 73 White Lion Street, London, N1 9PF



Another new craft beer pub run by Barworks with at least three cask beers on offer. It's very large with an impressive copper ceiling and big picture windows. As large as it is, I expect it to be quite busy at this time of night. They were still serving pizzas at this time when I visited. Apparently the Three Johns were three 18th century radicals. Will we have three Mensans named John's on the crawl? Perhaps I'll have to

buy them a beer.

8. 11:00pm – Closing. The Angelic, 57 Liverpool Road, London, N1 0RJ



Angel tube is just 5 minutes away.

Final stop for those still thirsty is the Angelic. Time Out describes it as wonderfully welcoming with its huge windows, high ceilings and sofas by the fireplaces. Open late with Sharp's, Truman's and Sambrook's ales on offer. The house beer, Angel Tears, is brewed specially by Sharp's for the pub.