

**Friday 1st April: Bloomsbury pub crawl
(you'd be a fool to miss it)**

To ease us back into life after the Circle Line pub crawl, this month I thought I'd do a fairly central pub crawl, taking in some well-known pubs in Bloomsbury. It's a bit of a "best of" pub crawl - most of these pubs have featured in pub crawls before (most notably Chris and Ginny Gilmore's A Few Of Our Favourite Pubs crawl in November 2003 and Suse Hankins' Bloomsbury crawl in July 2007. They are all fairly old-fashioned pubs, which is how I like them!

1. 6 - 6.45: The Friend at Hand, 4 Herbrand Street, WC1N 1HX

Handily placed round the corner from Russell Square tube station, this is a convenient place to meet.
2. 6.50 - 7.30: The Lamb, 94 Lambs Conduit St, WC1N 3LZ

Well known watering hole on Lamb's Conduit Street, this is an old-fashioned boozier in the Victorian style.
3. 7.35 - 8.15: The Duke (of York), 7 Roger St, WC1N 2PB

You don't see too many Art Deco pubs about. Unsurprisingly, it's a bit of an idiosyncratic place.
4. 8.20 - 9:00: Rugby Tavern, Great James St, WC1N 3ES

Tucked away in quiet back street, it's a little hard to believe that this pub is in the centre of London.
5. 9.05 - 9.45: The Dolphin Tavern, 44 Red Lion Street, WC1R 4PF
- 5a. 9.05 - 9.45: Enterprise, 38 Red Lion Street, WC1R 4PN

Let's hope that there will be room for us in the Dolphin Tavern, a charming little pub. If there's not, we'll have to make do with the rather more modern Perseverance just across the road - it's not my kind of pub but it might be yours.
6. 9.45 - 10.25: Old Red Lion, 72 High Holborn, WC1V 6LS

Pleasant enough pub on busy High Holborn. There's an upstairs bar if it's too busy downstairs.
7. 10.25 - 11.00: The Ship, 12 Gate St, WC2A 3HP

I'm not sure that this pub has been on a First Friday pub crawl (certainly not for many years). It may be because it gets rather busy but hopefully by this time it will have quietened down a bit. It really is a glorious place.

8. 11.00 - closing: Shakespeare's Head, 64-68 Kingsway, WC2B 6BG

If you are still feeling thirsty, the Wetherspoons on Kingsway is, of course, open until midnight. I suspect I might leave you to it though!