



# CROOKHAM TRAVEL

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*More Than 1,000 Brewery Visits!!*

## RAIL ALE RAMBLE No. 192

### “The Windsor Wander”

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021**



Fellow Crookham Travellers: Following your feedback in the recent questionnaire, Gerald and Tony have finished planning our next RAR and we would be very pleased if you could join us. We are aware that many of you are justifiably wary about visiting pubs and breweries so this will be a good, gentle and safe return to some form of normality – and chance to drink some extremely good beer in a small group (maximum of thirty)! Even if some restrictions remain in place, this trip will be able to run entirely safely.

And where will we be going? Well, Will Calvert who is one of the founders of the excellent **Windsor & Eton Brewery** has very kindly agreed to host us. Since we visited them ten years ago as part of RAR 148 “The Thamesider”, they have consolidated their place as one of southern England’s finest brewers. Founder members of the London Brewers’ Alliance, they have expanded their brewery and continue to innovate. They have also formed a subsidiary Craft Brewery arm, trading under the **Uprising Brewery** logo. This allows them to produce an excellent range of delicious Cask Ales under the **Windsor & Eton** name and some yummy Craft Beers in cask, keg, can and bottle trading as the **Uprising Brewery**. Will Calvert will be telling us the interesting story of these two breweries and how they have withstood the difficulties that COVID has thrown up. He is a good speaker and it should prove a fascinating visit.

During these troubled times, they have continued to delight the citizens of East Berkshire by selling their extremely fine ales for home consumption – I for one have been extremely grateful to them for providing their beers throughout the pandemic. They have recently taken over the entire block of their industrial unit and are opening a taproom in their enlarged premises. We were supposed to be the first group to visit their new taproom (we delayed this visit to coincide with their planned opening) but they have had planning and building problems which *may* mean that we will be hosted in the brewery itself.

The day we have chosen is a Tuesday as we can offer a unique optional add-on to the visit – travel from London to Windsor by steam train! Steam Dreams are running the Royal Windsor Steam Express from London Victoria to Windsor & Eton Riverside station, allowing about two hours steam hauled travel behind an ex-LNER B1 class locomotive Mayflower (itself built in 1948). Leaving London at 11:08, the train is due into Windsor at 13:06. We can buy tickets on your behalf but you’re welcome to buy your own (including exploring the dining options available). After taking time to photograph the train in the station and perhaps watch the departure from the lineside, we will head to our first venue – the brewery’s flagship pub **The George** (GBG) just over the river in Eton where we will have an included pint and a light lunch. (As the pub’s kitchen is not currently up to speed following a prolonged COVID closure, they will not be able to provide the food choice until nearer to the time but it is likely to be sandwiches). Alternatively, if you are not interested in travelling on the steam train you can either meet us at the station to look at the locomotive or at the pub at 13:30.

What is included? You will have an included pint and light lunch at **The George**, be escorted in a pleasant riverside walk to the **Windsor & Eton Brewery**, be given a brewery tour and talk by (joint) founder Will Calvert and be served samples from their fine range of Cask Ales. You will be able to buy further beers as you wish. We will also give you details of the best pubs in Windsor that are open in this most pleasant royal town (a “Mini-AVB”).

In order to keep you safe, we will be following the GOV.UK Guidance measures in place at the time of the visit. We are hoping that by 27<sup>th</sup> July there will be no significant social distancing measures in force but we will be keeping the numbers down to just thirty people to allow everyone sufficient space.

As with the visit to Thames Side Brewery last year we are not making any profit on this trip but have priced it to just cover all our costs. The reason we’re running it is because we love the social aspects of these Rail Ale Rambles – we miss you all! We are charging just £26 for this visit. Booking formally closes on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July but as places are *extremely* limited you are strongly recommended to book as soon as possible. Please make payments to our bank account electronically (or cash) to Crookham Travel’s Santander account 87825884, sort code 09-01-27 quoting reference RAR192 – please also return the booking form below by e-mail to [tony.foxgriffith@btinternet.com](mailto:tony.foxgriffith@btinternet.com). Alternatively, you can send the booking form below together with your cheque, payable to Crookham Travel (plus a 9x4" stamped addressed envelope if you want a paper copy of the joining instructions) to **Tony Fox-Griffith, 72 Station Road, Wraybury TW19 5NH**. If booking by post, you are recommended to contact Tony on 01784 482186 to reserve your place.



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### "The Windsor Wander"

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021

To: CROOKHAM TRAVEL

c/o 72 Station Road, Wraysbury TW19 5NH

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: (if used): \_\_\_\_\_

(Note that there is no need to re-send us your contact details if you've previously supplied them)

Please book: \_\_\_\_ places on this tour at £26 per person, *including* lunch

Please book: \_\_\_\_ places on this tour at £21 per person, *excluding* lunch

We can additionally book places on the Steam Dream's [Royal Windsor Steam Express](#) train service from London Victoria to Windsor and Eton Riverside station at cost price of £39. We would be acting on your behalf in booking this and the Steam Dream's [terms and conditions](#) will apply. It is not necessary to travel on this service to join the RAR.

Please book: \_\_\_\_ standard class seats on the Royal Windsor Steam Express train at £39 per person

#### **Social Distancing Measures:**

It is hoped that by this date there will be no social distancing measures in place by 27<sup>th</sup> July. However, in case some measures remain it would be helpful if you could provide the following information which we hope not to have to use!

I wish to be seated with the following people:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If you are booking for more than six people, are you all part of the same household / social bubble? **Yes / No** \*

I am booking for my group and do not wish to share a table with others: **Yes / No** \*

I am booking for myself only and wish to sit by myself: **Yes / No** \*

#### **Payment Details:**

I enclose a cheque for: £\_\_\_\_\_, payable to Crookham Travel, **plus 9"x4" SAE if requiring the ticket letter by post** (Note that if no SAE is enclosed, we will send the joining details by e-mail only). \*

I have used an open Credit Note for: £\_\_\_\_\_, Credit Note Reference: \_\_\_\_\_ \*

I have paid via bank transfer: \_\_\_\_\_ \*

\* Delete as appropriate

Note that by booking on this trip you are agreeing to follow the applicable social distancing regulations to keep you and your fellow travellers safe which may involve wearing a mask inside the brewery